



Summer Happenings

Summer was in full swing at our buildings as we resumed outdoor and limited capacity indoor activities. Family Support Program staff led children on roller skating trips, organized outdoor games in the courtyards of our buildings, conducted arts projects in the community rooms, baked, and celebrated birthdays.



In the News

New Destiny continues to make news and shape the local dialogue on the need for permanent housing and resources for domestic violence survivors.

In July, New Destiny was invited by Congressman Ritchie Torres to participate in a press conference to announce his co-sponsorship of a bill for federal universal rental assistance. Joining New Destiny was Sharike Byron, a tenant in one of our permanent, affordable buildings, and other housing advocates.

In an opinion piece in *City Limits*, Nicole Branca, Executive Director, joined Family Homelessness Coalition co-conveners Enterprise Community Partners and Citizens' Committee for Children in outlining solutions to address the family homelessness crisis.

Advocacy Works

After years of tireless advocacy, New York City, thanks to the leadership of Council Member Levin, has finally increased the maximum allowable rent for its main rental subsidy—CityFHEPS—to a level that is adequate for the New York City rental market, enabling homeless families to find apartments. This is an enormous victory for individuals and families who are in shelter. However, two flaws remain that advocates are working to address: the requirement that an individual or family must be in a shelter for at least 90 days to receive a voucher; and a requirement that the household's total

income cannot go over 250% of the Federal Poverty Line to remain eligible for the subsidy.

New Destiny and sister organizations are urging the administration to focus on vulnerability instead of length of time in shelter, and to allow voucher holders to continue receiving rental assistance until 30% of their income equals rent. With these changes, New Yorkers will have a voucher that will truly ensure that domestic violence survivors and other families can access permanent housing and remain housed.

Going Up in New Rochelle

Highgarden Tower, located in New Rochelle, Westchester, is New Destiny's first project outside of New York City. The project, a joint venture with Georgica Green Ventures, will be a 21-story affordable housing development with 219 affordable rental units, with 77 units reserved for homeless families headed by domestic violence survivors. The building will include offices for our Family Support Program staff, two community lounges, a children's playroom, a playground, and other amenities.



Photo: John Hessel, newrochelleddevelopment.