



## Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies

August 18, 2008

Dear Member Agency Executives:

We are writing to update you on our work on the New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA) funding shortfall. At the end of May, NYCHA officials reported the organization had a structural deficit resulting from decreased operating subsidies from the Federal, State and City Governments. A total of \$30 million is needed to support the continuation of NYCHA based social service programs including DFTA senior centers, day care centers, head start centers, health clinics, community centers and a wide variety of programs including, counseling, afterschool, adolescent services, vocational training, literacy and other educational programs located in NYCHA facilities. As many of you may be aware, \$18 million of the \$30 million necessary to help sustain these programs was allocated in the Fiscal Year 2009 adopted New York City Budget.

FPWA representatives have been involved in advocacy activities on the NYCHA issue since this problem was brought to our attention in late May. Some of the advocacy work that we have undertaken includes signing onto the attached call to action document, developing an action alert, as well as signing onto the attached statement to City Council members recommending a variety of strategies to resolve the NYCHA financial crisis. Lastly, we submitted the enclosed testimony in concert with fellow umbrella organizations for the June 18 City Council hearing and the August 13 NYCHA hearing.

Throughout the last few months, FPWA representatives have also been in communication with federal and state officials to research the issue and advocate for sufficient resources so NYCHA social service programs can continue to operate. We are working with other umbrella organizations as well as collaboratively within FPWA to further analyze the funding situation and execute continual advocacy strategies, both for the short and long term.

We will keep you posted on our progress. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Best Regards;

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