

Margaret Spellen  
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**March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**RE: New York City Public Advocate**

**Office of the Public Advocate**

**1 Centre Street, 15<sup>th</sup> floor.**

**New York, NY 10007**

**Greetings, Mr. Williams,**

We hoped you could speak for the 70,734<sup>1</sup> adults and children in the homeless shelters waiting for NYCHA residency.

There is a vacancy rate of 500 units from January 2022 to 3,410 in February 2023<sup>2</sup>. This is a significant concern. In addition, families are waiting for NYCHA location transfers due to domestic violence and/or illnesses and cannot remain in their current locations. Because of the delay of turnovers for repairs and maintenance, these families are at risk.

You have served as the Executive Director of NYS Tenants and Neighbors. You fought for affordable, income-targeted housing across New York City and State. Fight for the prevention of homelessness, your presence at the “Albany Day of Action” on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, would be highly appreciated.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and advocating for your supporters.

**Cordially,**

**Margaret Spellen**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Homeless Services [New Daily Report 3-3-23.xlsx \(nyc.gov\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> Evely, J. (2023, February 13). *Wait Times for NYCHA Apartments Doubled Last Year, As Number of Vacant Units Climb*. Citylimits.org. Retrieved February 13, 2023, from <https://citylimits.org/?s=Jeanmarie+Evely>