**Prioritization Order  
Adoption of HUD Notice CPD 16-11: Approved by full CoC 9/9/16**

1. **Background**

The NY-603 Long Island CoC encompasses many diverse communities whose members’ needs are reflected in the extensive services offered by the agencies in our network. Like many regions across the country, service delivery and access to housing is often implemented on a first-come, first-serve basis. In order to end chronic homelessness and meet all additional goals outlined by Opening Doors, we must ensure that our limited resources are utilized in the most effective way possible and that those most vulnerable in our communities are prioritized for assistance.

1. **Purpose**

On July 25th, 2016, HUD issued Notice CPD 16-11: Notice on Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing.

Hereto forward, the CoC and recipients of CoC funded-PSH shall adopt these prioritization guidelines, which are intended to:

1. Establish an order of priority for dedicated and prioritized PSH beds
2. Inform the selection process for PSH assistance not dedicated or prioritized for chronic homelessness to prioritize persons who do not yet meet the definition of chronic homelessness but are most at risk of becoming chronically homeless
3. **Order of Priority in CoC Program-funded Permanent Supportive Housing**
4. **First Priority–Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the Longest History of Homelessness and with the Most Severe Service Needs.**

A chronically homeless individual or head of household for whom **both of the following are true**:

1. The chronically homeless individual or head of household of a family has been homeless and living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter for at least 12 months either continuously or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, where the cumulative total length of the four occasions equals at least 12 months; **and**
2. The CoC or CoC Program recipient has identified the chronically homeless individual or head of household, who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (1) of the definition for chronically homeless, as having severe service needs
3. **Second Priority–Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the Longest History of Homelessness**.

A chronically homeless individual or head of household for which **both of the following are true:**

1. The chronically homeless individual or head of household of a family has been homeless and living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter for at least 12 months either continuously or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, where the cumulative total length of the four occasions equals at least 12 months; **and**
2. The CoC or CoC program recipient has not identified the chronically homeless individual or the head of household, who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (1) of the definition for chronically homeless, as having severe service needs.
3. **Order of Priority in Permanent Supportive Housing Beds Not Dedicated or Prioritized for Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness**
4. **First Priority–Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability with Long Periods of Episodic Homelessness and Severe Service Needs**

An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who has experienced fewer than four occasions where they have been living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter but where the cumulative time homeless is at least 12 months and has been identified as having severe service needs.

1. **Second Priority–Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability with Severe Service Needs**

An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter and has been identified as having severe service needs. The length of time in which households have been homeless should also be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority, but there is not a minimum length of time required.

1. **Third Priority—Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability Coming from Places Not Meant for Human Habitation, Safe Haven, or Emergency Shelter Without Severe Service Needs**

An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter where the individual or family has not been identified as having severe service needs. The length of time in which households have been homeless should be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority, but there is not a minimum length of time required.

1. **Fourth Priority–Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability Coming from Transitional Housing**

An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who is currently residing in a transitional housing project, where prior to residing in the transitional housing had lived in a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, or safe haven. This priority also includes individuals and families residing in transitional housing who were fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and prior to residing in that transitional housing project even if they did not live in a place not meant for human habitation, an emergency shelter, or a safe haven prior to entry in the transitional housing.

1. **Opening Doors and Target Populations**

As of June 2016, the CoC has been recognized by USICH and the Federal Partners as having effectively ended veteran homelessness.

In a continued effort to meet the goals outlined by HUD and Opening Doors, the CoC plans to:

* End chronic homelessness by 2017
* End family and youth homelessness by 2020
* Ensure that the needs of victims of domestic violence are met and their rights are upheld

In order to support the households that belong to these unique populations, the CoC will utilize four separate, comprehensive assessment tools for:

* Single households-VI-SPDAT
* Family households-VI-SPDAT
* Youth households-Screening tool that determines vulnerability based on high risk of continued trauma or high risk of harm or exposure to very dangerous living situations
* Households affected by domestic violence- Screening tool that determines vulnerability based on high risk of continued trauma or high risk of harm or exposure to very dangerous living situations

These assessment tools will ensure that the priority order outlined in this document is upheld and that households are compared to one another in the most equitable way possible.