

State announces funding for up to 5,000 supportive housing units



The latest round of awards from a state program will provide funding for as many as 5,000 supportive housing units across New York.

The Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative has given out 125 conditional awards to help organizations provide services and fund operating expenses for supportive housing geared toward senior citizens, domestic violence survivors, military veterans, chronically homeless families, and people with mental illnesses or substance abuse disorders. The awards are part of Gov. Kathy Hochul's five-year, \$25 billion plan to build or preserve 10,000 supportive housing units.

Organizations that received the money from the seventh round of the initiative include 29 in the city. The Bridge, BronxWorks, Comunilife, Community Access and the Institute for Community Living were among the groups that got awards. Comunilife said it will use the money to help fund its Tiebout Residence project, an 83-unit Bronx development that will feature 50 supportive housing units for the elderly, according to the group's chief executive, Rosa Gil.

The Institute for Community Living plans to use the

funds to renovate the Variety Boys and Girls Club of Queens, which focuses on supporting young adults aging out of foster care, according to the organization.

The Hochul administration did not specify how much award money each organization received.

The other winning organizations were split between seven on Long Island, 10 in the Mid-Hudson region, nine in the Capital District, eight in Central New York, five in the Finger Lakes, five in the Mohawk Valley, six in the North Country, three in the Southern Tier, and nine in Western New York.

The awards are conditional and contingent on the projects being able to secure the ability to construct, adapt or renovate a supportive housing development. The award money is meant for rental assistance and services to help ensure housing stability, and the projects might get up to \$25,000 per unit per year in funding.

The initiative has so far provided funding for more than 7,400 units. The first projects to meet the conditions of their award money are expected to spur the creation of up to 1,400 units.