

**Homeless Services Network Advocacy Workgroup  
Rochester, New York**

**What is HSS?** NYS Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi has introduced legislation, Home Stability Support (HSS), a proposed statewide rental supplement for families and individuals who are eligible for temporary assistance benefits and are facing eviction, homelessness or loss of housing due to domestic violence or experiencing hazardous living conditions. HSS would be a bridge between the current shelter allowance and 85% of the Fair Market Rent (FMR) determined by HUD.

**Why Should I Support HSS?**

- Stable, affordable housing prevents people from becoming or returning to being homeless. Based on data entered into HMIS, in calendar year 2017 in Monroe County 5,493 unduplicated persons experienced homelessness; 2,761 individuals and 2,728 persons in households with children. 3,709 were adults and 1,780 were children (under the age of 18)
- Shelter allowance in NYS hasn't been increased in decades so has failed to keep up the rising cost of housing
- Adults who experience homelessness have significant increases in negative health issues such as anxiety and depression as well as impacting the ability to get or keep a job
- Children who become homeless often miss more school, experience trauma, and are more likely to become homeless as an adult
- HSS will be paid for by the state, so it will not increase local government costs. It will save local tax dollars by reducing the need for emergency shelter and other services that are needed due to homelessness and housing instability

**Impact in Monroe County**

The chart below indicates how helpful the HSS rent supplement would be to households in receipt of Temporary Assistance, depending the household size and the number of bedrooms a household would need.

<b>Household Size</b>	<b>Current Shelter Allowance</b>	<b>85% of FMR with HSS Supplement</b>	<b>Unit Size</b>	<b>Current Fair Market Rent (FMR)</b>
1	\$257	\$531	Studio	\$625
2	\$298	\$626	1 – Bdrm.	\$737
3	\$343	\$778	2 – Bdrm.	\$915
4	\$374	\$973	3 – Bdrm.	\$1145

### How Can I Support HSS?

- Currently all NYS Assembly Members representing Monroe County and NYS Senator Joe Robach are supporting HSS. Call or email them and thank them for their support
- NYS Senator Richard Funke has not signed on. Call or email Senator Funke to encourage him to support HSS
- Go to this link and to sign petition calling on Governor Cuomo to support HSS.  
<http://www.homestabilitysupport.com/get-involved/>
- Encourage everyone you know to do the same

### NYS Legislators Contact Information

NYS Senators		
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Hon. Joseph E. Robach	585-225-3650	<a href="mailto:robach@nysenate.gov">robach@nysenate.gov</a>
NYS Assembly		
Hon. Joseph A. Errigo	585-218-0038	<a href="mailto:errigoj@nyassembly.gov">errigoj@nyassembly.gov</a>
Hon. Mark C. Johns	585-223-9030	<a href="mailto:johnsm@nyassembly.gov">johnsm@nyassembly.gov</a>
Hon. Peter Lawrence	585-225-4190	<a href="mailto:lawrencep@nyassembly.gov">lawrencep@nyassembly.gov</a>
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