



**Department of
Social Services**

Human Resources
Administration

Department of
Homeless Services

W-1
03/26

Erin Dalton
Commissioner

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May 6, 2026

Community Education Council 24
62-85 Forest Avenue, Room 110
Ridgewood, NY 11385

Dear Community Education Council 24:

Thank you for sharing Resolution #193 adopted on February 11, 2026 highlighting your concerns about the conversion of the City View Inn facility in Long Island City. We acknowledge that this is a complex situation, and we are committed to ensuring the families are treated humanely and provided with the services they need.

On February 19th, the NYC Department of Social Services (DSS) - Department of Homeless Services (DHS) released an Action Plan to move roughly 8,100 families out of emergency hotels and into better equipped shelter units with kitchens, or permanent housing where possible. Hotels are not designed for long-term family shelter use and do not fully align with regulatory standards. New York City also has a legal mandate to provide shelter and services to all New Yorkers needing assistance. To meet this mandate, we sometimes need to make quick adjustments to ensure we have sufficient capacity across our shelter system.

DSS/DHS made every effort to minimize disruption to the families at the City View Inn. We worked closely with each household to understand their needs and borough preferences. While our goal is to connect as many families as possible to Tier II shelters where kitchens are available, transfers are not always feasible due to benefit eligibility limitations for special populations. Through these coordinated efforts, a portion of families (25%) were transferred to DSS/DHS Tier II shelters. For those who did not transition to a Tier II site and instead to other hotels, shelter staff continue to work diligently with families to identify and secure eligible benefits, address barriers and provide support that helps ensure clients move toward greater self-sufficiency and permanency as swiftly as possible.

A majority of the families (88%) remained in Queens while a smaller number of families transitioned to shelters or hotels in other boroughs. All students were eligible to remain in their current school or transfer to a new school closer to their new placement. Transportation has been coordinated, as needed, for all families

regardless of their new shelter placements. Likewise, families who transferred to other schools remain eligible for transportation.

A summary of the placements are as follows:

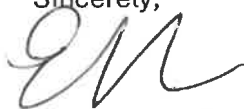
Total: 56 families

- 3 families exited to permanent housing
- 53 families were transferred to other shelters (25% of which were Tier II settings)
 - 47 families stayed in Queens
 - 30 remained at their assigned schools
 - 6 families transitioned to other boroughs,
 - None of the families requested a transfer to a new/different school and are being transported back to the home school.

While transitions such as these can be challenging, we remain committed to doing everything possible to ensure families receive the support they need and are placed in settings that align with their individual circumstances. I also want to clarify that the 60-day shelter time limit referenced in the resolution has never been enforced in the DHS system, so therefore was not a factor with the decisions at City View Inn.

Thank you again for your correspondence, and we greatly appreciate your ongoing support and advocacy.

Sincerely,



Erin Dalton

Cc: Julie Won, NYC Council Member, District 26
Clare Valdez, NYS Assembly Member, District 37
Michael Gianaris, NYS Senator, District 12
Nydia Velazquez, US Congress Member, NY District 7
Donovan Richards Jr., Queens Borough President
Anatole Ashraf, Chair Queens Community Board 2