



# **Building Health into NextGeneration NYCHA**

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**The Fund for Public Housing invests in the well-being of NYCHA residents and their communities.**

**It collaborates with public and private industries to dramatically improve the way public housing works.**



[Fundforpublichousing.org](http://Fundforpublichousing.org)

# NYCHA Houses 1 in 14 New Yorkers



**77,000**  
**SENIORS**  
62 YEARS OLD OR OLDER



**110,000**  
**CHILDREN**  
UNDER 18 YEARS OLD



**40%**  
OF HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS  
ARE 62 YEARS OLD OR OLDER



**25%**  
OF NYCHA EMPLOYEES  
ARE RESIDENTS OF  
PUBLIC HOUSING



**\$23,000**  
AVERAGE  
HOUSEHOLD  
INCOME



**54%**  
ARE EMPLOYED  
(OF NON-DISABLED,  
WORKING AGE ADULTS)



**41%**  
ON FIXED INCOME  
(SOC. SEC., SSI, PENSION, OTHER)



**12%**  
RECEIVE PUBLIC  
ASSISTANCE

# NYCHA's Housing Stock is Aging



THAT CONSIST OF  **178,000** APARTMENTS

CONTAINING OVER  **175 MILLION**  
SQUARE FEET OF SPACE

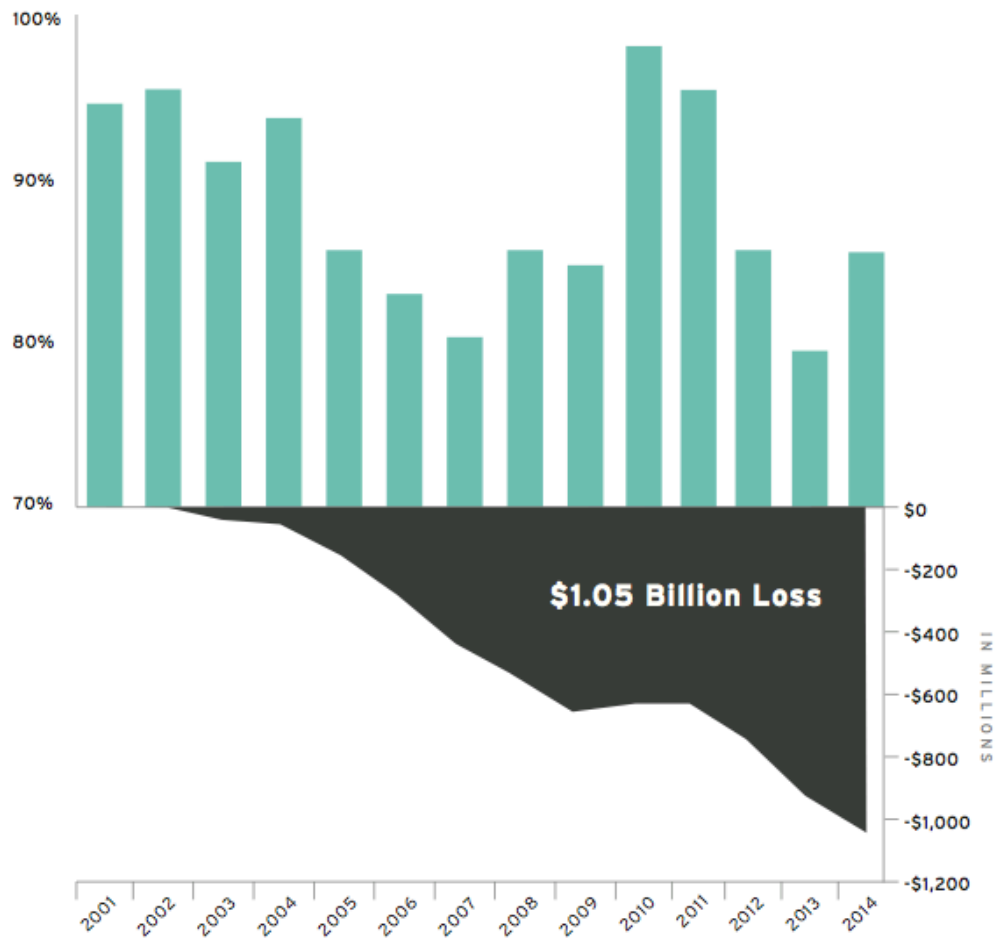
**60%** OF NYCHA'S BUILDINGS  
ARE **50+ YEARS OLD**



THE LARGEST DEVELOPMENT: A **26-BUILDING**  
APARTMENT COMPLEX WITH **7,000 RESIDENTS**

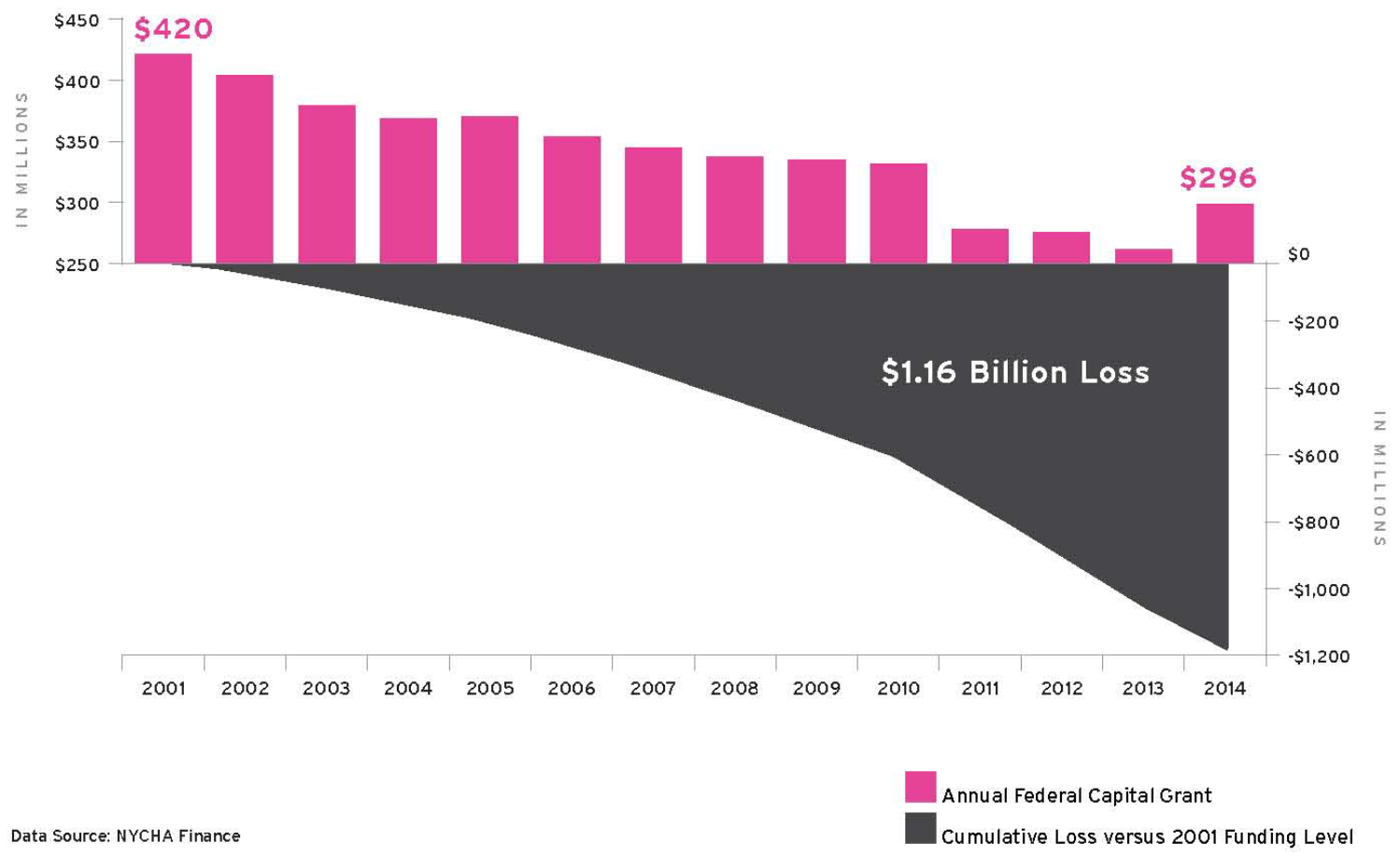
THE SMALLEST DEVELOPMENT: A **SINGLE-STORY**  
SENIOR BUILDING WITH **13 RESIDENTS**

# \$1 Billion Loss in Operating Funding Since 2001



Data Source: NYCHA Finance

# 30% Decrease in Federal Capital Funding Since 2001



Data Source: NYCHA Finance





# NextGeneration NYCHA Vision



**Safe,  
Clean,  
and**

**Connected  
Communities**



# NextGeneration NYCHA Sustainability Agenda

I am  
NextGeneration NYCHA



“Each of these tenants, they could be our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers. I tell my staff: Do the best job possible, what you would do for your own family. When you join the Authority, if you have a great heart, this is where it’s supposed to show.”

—Denise Torres, Technical Resource Advisor,  
Maintenance, Repairs & Skilled Trades

*Grew up in Clason Point Gardens. Recognized by the NYC Department of Health for her “leadership to improve [public] housing quality and protect the health of NYCHA families.”*



A roadmap for building healthy, sustainable and resilient communities

“A safe, clean, and healthy home is the right of every individual regardless of zip code...NYCHA is taking the lead in transforming low-income urban housing into sustainable, healthy communities.”

- NYCHA Chair Shola Olatoye, April 2016



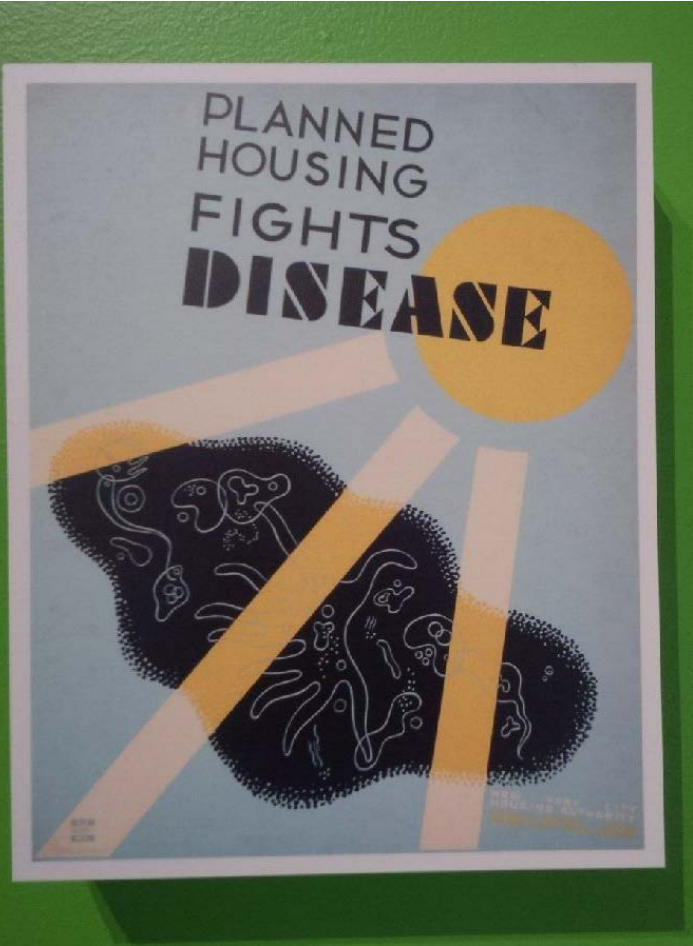
# Health Commitments in Sustainability Agenda

**To create healthy indoor environments NYCHA will:**

1. Implement a comprehensive mold response initiative
2. Require low- and no-VOC caulks, paints, coatings, and adhesives
3. Fully adopt comprehensive Integrated Pest Management
4. Reduce exposure to secondhand smoke at home
5. Implement a healthy home-focused vacancy turnover protocol
6. Train property managers in practices that promote healthy homes

**To support resident- and community-led sustainability initiatives NYCHA will:**

- Promote healthy food access through resident-led urban agriculture





**NYCHA's Department of Health Initiatives** advances internal and external collaboration to build health into NYCHA's vision of safe, clean, and connected communities.

The Department leads and supports partnership strategies that:

1. Connect residents to preventive health resources
2. Create healthier indoor environments
3. Cultivate resident leadership in health



# What does available health data tell us?

1. **NYCHA residents have high rates of avoidable hospitalizations & ED visits**
2. **NYCHA communities are hot spots for many diseases and health conditions**
3. **NYCHA's aging population has a complex set of health needs**
4. **A 2009 study also found disparities in mortality rates**
5. **NYCHA residents have higher rates of health insurance coverage**
6. **Evidence of housing stability as a vaccine**

# Core Projects



NYCHA teens participate in a Sylvia Center cooking program

- *Smoke-Free NYCHA*
- *Farms at NYCHA* and other healthy food access/food justice
- Community Health Worker partnerships
- Cross-systems collaboration with DOHMH and alignment with the Center for Health Equity including:
  - Leveraging data to identify opportunities to build health
  - Programmatic partnership
  - Healthy housing innovation





176

Residents  
Engaged

352

Ideas  
Generated

9

Community Meetings  
On Smoking & Health



# Ideas Wall Activity



54 family days

# SMOKE-FREE POETRY



# BANNER ACTIVITY





# Farms at NYCHA



## Project Goals:

1. Expand healthy food access
2. Provide youth workforce and leadership development
3. Promote sustainable and connected public housing communities



# Farms at NYCHA

Three new farms were established in 2016

**12,400** pounds of fresh produce harvested

Residents contributed **3,000** pounds of food scraps for compost

- Recognized as the 2017 **AmeriCorps Project of the Year**
- Corps Member graduates are leading environmental/health work across NYC



# THANK YOU

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