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NEW YORK STATE AND CITY OFFICIALS JOIN THE CENTER FOR URBAN COMMUNITY SERVICES TO OPEN THE \$40 MILLION SYDELLE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING RESIDENCE

107 homes created for low-income and special-needs individuals and families

Bronx, NY – The Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS), one of the nation’s largest supportive housing services providers, along with New York State and City today celebrated the opening of the \$40 million Sydelle supportive housing residence. Located at 600 East 181st Street in the Bronx, this newly constructed building provides 107 homes and on-site support services to homeless and low-income individuals and families, including people with complex psychiatric and medical needs.

“For three decades CUCS has been committed to helping families and individuals exit homelessness and rise from poverty. Our integrated support services at the Sydelle will help those who now call it home to rebuild their lives,” **CUCS President and CEO Tony Hannigan** said.

Keynote speakers at the ceremony include: Commissioner Vicki Been, New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development; Commissioner Samuel D. Roberts, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance; Commissioner Ann Sullivan, New York State Office of Mental Health; and Deputy Executive Commissioner Gary Belkin, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

“Building and subsequently operating a residence like the Sydelle would not have been possible without the support of our partners from New York City and New York State, which has been integral throughout each step of the process from construction through daily operations,” Mr. Hannigan continued.

“We are working hard to ensure that all New Yorkers have a safe, secure, and affordable place to live,” said **New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio**. “Special needs New Yorkers face countless daily challenges and finding a safe place to lay their heads each night should not be one of them. Developments like The Sydelle provide life-changing services to people in need – and provide models for supportive housing that we will build on.”

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Commissioner Samuel D. Roberts said: “Supportive housing is a proven tool in helping to stabilize the lives of homeless individuals and families. The housing and services tenants will receive at the Sydelle will have

long-term, positive impacts on their lives. Congratulations to CUCS and all of our partners that were involved in bringing this much-needed project to fruition.”

“These beautiful new homes will offer a safe and supportive environment for more than 100 families and individuals with special needs for decades to come,” **New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development Commissioner Vicki Been** said. “I am deeply moved by the important work we have done here, and the dedication to supportive housing by the Center for Urban Community Services and Breaking Ground. I thank my colleagues at HPD and HDC, along with Sydelle’s development team, and all of our partners for adding to the store of much-needed supportive housing in New York City.”

“New York State is the birthplace of the supportive housing model and with projects like the Sydelle we continue to lead the way in the provision of safe, secure, and affordable housing for individuals with behavioral health concerns,” said **New York State Office of Mental Health Commissioner Dr. Ann Sullivan**. “Under Governor Cuomo’s leadership, the Office of Mental Health has developed over 7,500 units of supportive housing in the last five years, with another 7,000 units in development. Most importantly, I wish the Sydelle’s future residents success in their ongoing recovery!”

"CUCS has long been an anchor and champion for supportive housing in New York City," said **New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Executive Deputy Commissioner Gary Belkin**. "With the addition of these units CUCS is helping to fill the large gap the de Blasio administration has committed to work to further close in supportive housing programs for residents with mental health needs."

“Providing services to New York’s most vulnerable residents is critical to our mission of creating a more affordable and just City. We are proud to finance developments like the Sydelle that provide both important services and critical affordable housing to those in need. I would like to congratulate the Center for Urban Community Services, Breaking Ground, HPD, DOH, OTDR, NYSOMH, and all of our partners who made this project possible,” said **New York City Housing Development Corporation President Gary Rodney**.

The Sydelle offers on-site services, available to all tenants, including crisis prevention and intervention, entitlement and legal assistance, household management and coaching, and employment assistance. Primary medical care and psychiatric services will be provided at the residence’s on-site medical suite through CUCS’ acclaimed Janian Medical Care program. The building also offers amenities such as 24-hour on-site security, laundry facilities, computer lab, a gym, and bike storage.

The Sydelle is a LEED Silver environmentally-certified building with a total development cost of \$40 million. Major funding for the development of the building came from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance’s Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP), the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development’s Supportive Housing Loan Program (SHLP), and the New York City Housing Development Corporation. CUCS received a New York State Energy Research and Development Authority award for the residence. Enterprise Community Investment, Inc. served as the project’s Low-

Income Housing Tax Credit syndicator, providing \$14.8 million in Low-Income Housing Tax Credit equity through JP Morgan Community Capital.

“Affordable housing with on-site supportive services like the Sydelle is a proven and cost-effective solution to chronic homelessness, especially for individuals with additional barriers such as mental illness,” said **Judi Kende, Vice President and New York Market Leader, Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.** “Thanks to this great public-private partnership, 107 low-income and formerly homeless individuals and families now have the stability they need in order to lead healthy, successful lives.”

Operating support is from the New York State Office of Mental Health and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Breaking Ground will serve as the building’s property manager.

The Sydelle was named in recognition of the ongoing support of the Ostberg Foundation. Sydelle and Henry Ostberg founded their family foundation, The Ostberg Foundation, in 1980. The Foundation has provided assistance to local and international individuals with a special focus on individuals in need living in African and European nations, and residents of the Caribbean island of Haiti.

About the Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)

The Center for Urban Community Services’ mission is to rebuild the lives of homeless and disadvantaged individuals and families. It has been providing integrated programs that link housing, health, and social services for New York’s most vulnerable people for over three decades. Each year more than 50,000 are served by CUCS. www.cucs.org

Photos of ceremony available.