

DC Council members,

We, the undersigned organizations, join together to ask you to stop Mayor Bowser from terminating DC residents from the rapid re-housing program for hitting an arbitrary time limit. This year, as many as 913 families are facing time limit terminations. The Bowser Administration estimates that 90% of these families would not be able to afford rent on their own if their subsidy was terminated.

The lack of affordable housing in the District of Columbia is a structural, systemic problem with deep roots that demands comprehensive and sustained solutions. Cutting DC residents from rental assistance for hitting a time limit when they cannot afford market rent on their own is unfair, unjust, and will lead to increased evictions and homelessness--disproportionately harming Black residents and other communities of color.

We ask you to:

- 1) Demand that the Mayor immediately withdraw all time-limit termination notices that have been issued by the Department of Human Services (DHS),
- 2) Devote surplus funds to maintain rapid re-housing rental support until every participant has the resources they need to afford housing,
- 3) Increase permanent affordable housing vouchers in next year's budget so that rapid re-housing participants can transition into a program that better maintains housing stability, including Targeted Affordable Housing for families and Local Rent Supplement Program tenant vouchers, and
- 4) Reform rapid re-housing legislatively so that DC residents cannot be terminated for a time limit until they can afford rent without further assistance.

Sincerely,

- 1) Amara Legal Center
- 2) Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
- 3) Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project
- 4) Black Swan Academy
- 5) Dr. Nia Bodrick, Pediatrician
- 6) Bread for the City
- 7) Cancel Rent DC
- 8) Capital Pride Alliance
- 9) Children's Law Center
- 10) Coalition for Smarter Growth
- 11) DC Action
- 12) DC Asthma Coalition
- 13) DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- 14) DC for Democracy
- 15) DC Fiscal Policy Institute
- 16) DC KinCare Alliance
- 17) DC Tenants' Rights Center
- 18) DC Statehood Green Party

- 19) District Alliance for Safe Housing, Inc
- 20) Empower DC
- 21) Equal Rights Center
- 22) Fair Budget Coalition
- 23) Valerie Schneider, Director, Fair Housing Clinic, Howard University School of Law
- 24) Fay Law Group, P.A.
- 25) Dr. Eduardo Fox, Pediatrician
- 26) Friendship Place
- 27) GLAA
- 28) Yael Cannon, Associate Professor and Director; Marta Beresin, Visiting Professor; Ashley Nyce, Supervising Attorney/Clinical Teaching Fellow; Lillian Kang, Supervising Attorney/Clinical Teaching Fellow (Health Justice Alliance Law Clinic, Georgetown University Law Center)
- 29) Homeless Children's Playtime Project
- 30) Housing Is a Human Right
- 31) Institute for Public Health Innovation
- 32) Jews United for Justice
- 33) Latino Economic Development Center
- 34) Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
- 35) Legal Counsel for the Elderly
- 36) Mother's Outreach Network
- 37) NAACP DC
- 38) National Coalition for the Homeless
- 39) National Homelessness Law Center
- 40) Pathways to Housing DC
- 41) The Platform of Hope
- 42) The Person Center
- 43) Positive Force DC
- 44) Rising for Justice
- 45) Keeshea Turner Roberts, Adjunct Clinical Law Professor
- 46) Save Us Now Inc
- 47) SchoolHouse Connection
- 48) Spaces in Action
- 49) Tzedek DC
- 50) Washington AIDS Partnership
- 51) Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
- 52) The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless
- 53) We Are Family Senior Outreach Network
- 54) Caroline Wick, Practitioner-In-Residence, American University Washington College of Law
- 55) Woodner Tenants' Union
- 56) Yachad