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## **Selfhelp Community Services Applauds Governor Hochul's Commitments to Senior Affordability in State of the State Address**

*Aging services nonprofit lauds Governor's proposals to address housing instability, bolster home- and community-based services, and streamline access to benefits for older New Yorkers*

**New York, NY (January 13, 2025) –** [Selfhelp Community Services](#), a leading nonprofit provider of aging services, issued the following statement from **CEO Stuart C. Kaplan** celebrating Governor Kathy Hochul's commitments to senior affordability in her State of the State address, including investments to build housing, expand access to home and community-based services, and simplify the process for receiving government benefits:

"As older New Yorkers struggle to receive earned benefits and make rent on limited incomes, Governor Hochul's State of the State rightly recognizes that housing stability, affordable care, and ready access to public programs are central to aging with dignity. We applaud the Governor for tailoring her affordability agenda to older adults, and for advancing solutions that respond to the real and urgent pressures confronting older adults all across the state.

"The Governor's proposed investments mark meaningful progress to address economic and housing instability among adults 60+. New capital funding to accelerate affordable housing development will help expand a supply that falls dramatically short of demand for older adults. Increased investments in Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs) and at-home services to address older adults' interest in living independently at home – a desire of virtually all older adults. And new initiatives providing elder abuse prevention training and modernizing EBT cards with secure chip-based technology will protect older adults from financial exploitation at a time when many are especially vulnerable.

"Governor Hochul's agenda also reflects an understanding that affordability depends on systems that are accessible and responsive. A one-stop-shop for earned benefits will help close gaps in access, while clearer, consistent reimbursement guidance for nonprofit providers will strengthen the services we provide to older New Yorkers every day. Together, these proposals represent a comprehensive approach to supporting older adults. Selfhelp looks forward to working with the Governor and state leaders to ensure these investments deliver lasting stability, security, and dignity for New York's older adults."

### **About Selfhelp Community Services**

Selfhelp is dedicated to providing care that is compassionate, trusted, and innovative, always respecting the life experiences of those they serve. Selfhelp's unique approach is rooted in their longstanding work with Holocaust survivors. Each year, they support 25,000 individuals through affordable housing, home care, and community-based services, supporting aging with dignity and independence. [www.selfhelp.net](http://www.selfhelp.net)

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