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NEWS BEATS

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Homeless Advocates Take Inventory Of Vacant City Properties

By: NY1 News

A homeless advocacy group is taking inventory of vacant property in the five boroughs.

The organization Picture The Homeless and Hunter College will be conducting the survey that aims to locate all the abandoned lots and buildings, in hopes that the city will turn the properties into affordable housing for low income and disadvantaged tenants.

"We have too many homeless people in the city when we have enough vacant property that can house them. We have families that live two and three families together to afford rent," said housing campaign leader Kendall Jackman.

"It doesn't make any sense for the city to have all these buildings and nothing is being done with them," said Picture The Homeless member Alease Lower.

"These vacant lots and abandoned buildings can be turned over and made into homes for the homeless. We need apartments. Homes and apartments are a human right," said "Indio," a volunteer for Picture The Homeless.

The survey is being launched this month, with the first survey taking place in Brooklyn.