

Media Advisory

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VACANT PROPERTIES COUNT KICKS OFF ON STATEN ISLAND

Picture the Homeless and Hunter College launch unprecedented survey that will reveal the extent of vacant property in NYC

St. George, Staten Island.— Picture the Homeless (PTH) and Hunter College’s Center for Community Planning and Development (HCCCPD) have begun the first-ever count of vacant buildings and lots throughout the five boroughs. The survey is the first of its kind and is unprecedented in scope. The count will cover Community Board District 1 in Staten Island, as well as 19 other Community Board Districts in the rest of the city. Volunteers and community members will start in St. George and spread out block by block identifying vacant properties.

Pastor Michael Vincent Crea, native of Stapleton, Picture the Homeless member, and long time local human rights activist states, “The housing blight in our Borough impacts both individuals and families directly, while local merchants face dwindling clientele living in our neighborhoods. Borough businesses must partner with all people and demand housing as a human right.”

“I commend Picture the Homeless and the Hunter College’s Center for Community Planning and Development for taking on the arduous task of counting the vacant buildings and lots within the five boroughs for possible conversion into permanent affordable housing. The availability of permanent affordable housing would allow thousands of families who currently live in shelters to remain in the communities where they work and go to school without disruption to their daily routines,” said Staten Island City Council Member Debi Rose.

When: Saturday July 9th at 11:15am

Where: PROJECT HOSPITALITY
100 Central Ave, Staten Island NY

Visuals: Community members surveying vacant buildings on Staten Island

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