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**\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

**Care For the Homeless (CFH) and Urban Pathways Host Ceremony  
to Memorialize Homeless New Yorkers Who Died in 2025**

*Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Observance on December 18 Gathers  
NYC Community Members to Pay Tribute to Individuals Lost in 2025*

**New York, NY – December 1, 2025** – Care For the Homeless (CFH), a leading New York City non-profit that provides health care, shelter, and supportive services to people experiencing homelessness, joins fellow non-profit Urban Pathways, which provides outreach, housing, and individualized support to help New Yorkers move toward stability, to host Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on Thursday, December 18.

Held at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in the Schafler Forum at 7 West 83rd Street, the event will be free and available for public attendance. Programming will include a free meal for all attendees at 4:30pm, followed by a ceremony at 5:30pm to honor the New York City individuals who passed away this year while unstably housed or due to the stressors of homelessness. The evening will include eulogies and a reading of the name(s) of each person lost. A bell will toll, and a candle will be lit to honor each name read, marking a reflection for many who will not receive any other commemoration for the lives they lived. Over 200 individuals will be recognized during the observance.

“Each year, against the backdrop of a holiday season meant to exude joyfulness, we are deeply and humbly reminded of the tens of thousands of individuals who still struggle to secure their basic needs across New York,” said George Nashak, CFH President and CEO. “It is our hope that this program not only garners recognition of the lives lost but also helps attendees understand the gravity of this ongoing public health crisis and strengthens collective support for meaningful, long-term solutions.”

Homeless Persons' Memorial Day is a collective grassroots effort born through the partnership between CFH and Urban Pathways to provide a dignified remembrance for the hundreds we lose each year to the trauma of homelessness. It also serves as an opportunity for individuals and families from across New York City to join with others advocating for effective solutions to ending homelessness. The observance convenes service providers, community and faith leaders, policymakers, longtime supporters, and New Yorkers with lived experience of homelessness – underscoring the continuum of care that health, housing, and social service organizations work together to provide.

According to Fred Shack, Chief Executive Officer of Urban Pathways, "It is important to co-host the Homeless Persons' Memorial Day each year. We gather because every person we lost deserved warmth, safety, and dignity. We speak their names because silence is another form of injustice. Humanity demands remembrance—and change. As a City, we must work collectively to end homelessness and ensure that no one's final chapter should be written in the shadows. On this night, we bring their lives into the light."

Those interested in attending the observance can RSVP and submit names to be honored [HERE](#). Alternatively, those interested can email [policy@cfhnyc.org](mailto:policy@cfhnyc.org) with the name(s) of individuals who died this year with any details to be included.

### **About Care For the Homeless (CFH)**

Care For the Homeless is New York City's original "Health Care for the Homeless" program, founded in 1985 as one of 19 pilot programs funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts. Now in its 40<sup>th</sup> year of service, Care For the Homeless believes homelessness is not a defining characteristic, but a temporary condition. By integrating high-quality health care, shelter, and social services, we deliver a proven model – one rooted in dignity, compassion, and respect. Our work goes beyond providing services. We believe that every New Yorker has a right to a place they call home, and we are a committed advocate for policies to ameliorate, prevent and end homelessness. Learn more at [www.careforthehomeless.org](http://www.careforthehomeless.org).

### **About Urban Pathways**

Founded in 1975, Urban Pathways is a nonprofit organization committed to combatting homelessness through housing and support services while advocating for systemic change. Through the operation of street outreach teams, drop-in centers, transitional housing facilities, and supportive housing programs, Urban Pathways meets each person where they are and helps build their capacity to improve various facets of their lives, including their physical health, mental well-being, and employment prospects. Rooted in compassion and a *housing first* approach, the organization empowers more than 2,500 individuals in New York City every year. Get involved at [www.urbanpathways.org](http://www.urbanpathways.org)

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