

# THE EVICTION CRISIS IN NYS:

## ECONOMIC, GENDER & RACIAL INJUSTICE

As of October 2022, there are **over 260,000 active eviction cases in New York State**.<sup>1</sup> Each of these cases represents a household potentially facing displacement, homelessness, disruptions to their jobs and their children's schooling, harms to their mental and physical health, and an array of other traumas associated with eviction.

Evictions are inhumane, unjust, and violent – and are rooted in long histories of economic, gender, and racial injustice.

**Statistically, low-income women, especially poor women of color, domestic violence victims, and families with children are disproportionately threatened by eviction.** Studies have shown that mothers who experience eviction are subject to higher rates of mental health issues, including depression.<sup>8</sup> As the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to worsen the fear, threat, and devastating impacts that evictions have on our NYS communities, ensuring the wellbeing of women and children must be a top priority.

### ***EVICTON IS AN ECONOMIC, GENDER & RACIAL INJUSTICE***

- Nationally, 1 in 5 renters likely to face eviction are Black women.<sup>9</sup>
- In FY 2018, domestic violence accounted for 41% of the family population entering NYC shelters – the single largest cause of homelessness and a 44% increase in five years.<sup>10</sup>
- Prior to the pandemic, almost 70% of NYC shelter residents were represented by women with children, most of whom are families of color.<sup>11</sup> Now, due to the effects of remote school and child care challenges, 41% of NYC women living with children are unable or not working--putting them at a much higher risk of displacement.<sup>12</sup>

New Yorkers need long-term, transformative solutions to keep us safely and affordably housed. **NYS leadership must pass and fully fund Statewide Right to Counsel (A7570 / S6678) to stop evictions and keep New Yorkers in their homes.**

### ***SNAPSHOTS OF THE EVICTION CRISIS:***

#### **BUFFALO**

- Nearly half of Buffalo renters, 49.3%, pay more than 30% of their income on rent.<sup>2</sup> Rent has risen 16% in Buffalo since 2020.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2019, landlords filed an eviction petition for 1 of every 8 Buffalo tenant households.<sup>4</sup>
- As of October 2022, Erie County issued more eviction warrants than most other counties--3,848--second only to Kings County.<sup>5</sup>

#### **SUFFOLK COUNTY**

- In 2018, ~3,600 evictions were filed in Suffolk County.<sup>6</sup> As of October 2022, 6,000 evictions have already been filed in Suffolk.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2021, Suffolk County issued more eviction warrants than any county in the state--755, despite the eviction moratorium.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Right to Counsel NYC Coalition, [Eviction Crisis Monitor](#)

<sup>2</sup> Local Initiatives Support Corporation Western New York, [2020 Housing Brief](#)

<sup>3</sup> PUSH Buffalo, as reported by [WGRZ](#)

<sup>4</sup> Right to Counsel Coalition, based on 2019 US Census data and [NYS Court Eviction Dashboard](#)

<sup>5</sup> [NYS Court Eviction Dashboard](#)

<sup>6</sup> Eviction Lab, [Eviction Map of NYS](#)

<sup>7</sup> [NYS Court Eviction Dashboard](#)

<sup>8</sup> Eviction Lab, [Why Eviction Matters](#); Stout, [The Estimated Cost of an Eviction Right to Counsel Outside of New York City](#)

<sup>9</sup> National Partnership for Women and Families, [Black Women, the Wage Gap, and Evictions](#)

<sup>10</sup> NYC Comptroller, [Housing Survivors Report](#)

<sup>11</sup> Diana Ayala, [NY Daily News](#), [Homelessness is a women's issue](#)

<sup>12</sup> CCC New York, [Findings from the U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey 2021](#)

