

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced the release of more than \$2.1 million in federal funding from the recently-approved economic recovery measure for local homeless programs. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is administering the funds for Binghamton (\$955,655), Dutchess County (\$654,862), and Union (\$574,661). Hinchey helped pass the economic recovery bill that contained the funding.

"Just ten days after becoming law, critical funds from the economic recovery bill are being distributed to communities throughout New York," Hinchey said. "By providing funds for homeless initiatives we are helping to ensure people will never have to spend a night without a roof over their heads. Additionally, the funds will provide people with much-needed resources to help find employment and stable housing. Investing in homeless prevention and homeless services now will result in the need for less federal funding later."

The federal funds come in the form of a Homelessness Prevention Grant, which will provide financial and other assistance to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The funds are intended to target individuals and families who would otherwise be homeless.

The economic recovery money will provide a variety of assistance, including: short-term or medium-term rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services, including such activities as mediation, security or utility deposits, utility payments, moving cost assistance, and case management.