



## 2018 Program Activities

### Buildings

485 Gramatan Avenue

*The Modern*

*La Porte Building*

122 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. & 203 Gramatan Ave.

40 Mitchell Place, W.P. (NAHT)

*Intown Towers (NAHT)*

Westchester Plaza T. A.

55 Pennsylvania Avenue

Crestwood Lake Apartments

10-12 Bonnefoy Place, New Rochelle

525-27 Riverdale Avenue, Yonkers

284 S. Columbus Avenue

*Millington Houses (25-43 Millington St./324-42 East 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue)*

*Riverview, Yonkers, (NAHT)*

111 Lockwood Ave., New Rochelle

33 William Street

### Issues

SCRIE/DRIE\*

“Employer Paid Sick Time”\*

Ossining ETPA\*

“Source of Income” (State)\*

R3\*

WRGB\*

Westchester Economic  
Justice Organizing\*

In addition to all of the above efforts we opened up 641 individual landlord/tenant cases. Our singular program is our *Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)*. So far in 2018 we've already stopped over 150 evictions, and helped to rehouse a dozen families. Additionally, we've brought over sixty (60+) families to the *Furniture Sharehouse* where they've gotten anywhere from \$ 2,000 to \$ 3,000 worth of free furniture.

**\*See Reverse Side**

## **Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption/Disabled Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE/DRIE)**

On November 28 the Mount Vernon City Council increased the eligibility level from \$ 40,000/year to \$ 50,000/year after a nearly year-long lobbying effort by *MVUT*. This will enable dozens of more families to access the benefits of *SCRIE/DRIE*, i.e. "Rent Freezes".

## **Employee Paid Sick Time**

After a three (3) year Campaign, the Labor/Community Coalition working on this secured passage by the *Westchester Board of Legislators (W-BOL)* on October 1. *MVUT* was an initial member of the Coalition and played a leadership role throughout the Campaign.

## **Ossining ETPA Campaign**

*MVUT*, along with *Community Voices Heard (CVH)* helped organize tenants in Ossining to adopt the State Stabilization Law – the *Emergency Tenant Protection Act (ETPA)*. On September 5 the Ossining Village Board voted to do so.

## **Source of Income (State)**

*MVUT* initiated and led the successful campaign a few years ago to get Westchester to adopt a non-discrimination ordinance in renting based upon "source of income", most especially *Section 8*. *MVUT* is now working in coalition with groups throughout the state to pass a statewide ordinance.

## **Real Rent Reform (R3) Campaign**

*MVUT* has been the lone non-New York City based tenant's organization in the *R3 Campaign* working to renew and most especially strengthen the state rent laws when they come up for renewal in June 2019. We'll participate in a rally to kick off the intensive campaign on Monday December 10 at New York City's City Hall. Additionally, we've been invited by New York City's City Council Speaker Corey Johnson to participate in a planning meeting on Wednesday December 19 – also at New York City's City Hall.

## **Westchester Rent Guidelines Board (WRGB)**

While we were disappointed by this past year's Guidelines – 2% for a one (1) renewal, and 3% for a two (2) year renewal, we're excited about the future as *MVUT's*, own Tamara Stewart is scheduled to be sworn in as the new Tenant Member of the *WRGB* in January.

## **Westchester Economic Justice Organizing**

*MVUT* worked with numerous groups and individuals on various economic justice issues during 2018. Policies on the national and state level have combined to put increasing negative pressures on low to moderate income people. *MVUT* has been committed to educate and activate tenants and others about the economic threats we're all facing.