

10/24/09

Dear Assemblyman McEneny &  
Senator Breslin,

My name is Tim Follett and I live at 393 North Pearl Street. This has been my home for about 12 years.

Before I came to this SRO program, I was living in the woods, abandoned buildings, under arrest many times and doing drugs. I spent time in jail. These events were not necessary because I had no place to live - no permanent residency. The woods and vacant buildings were my home.

Since moving to 393 N. Pearl St., I have not been in trouble and even hold down a small job. My disease of alcoholism does continue but my circumstances have improved. I have gone from living outside to having a warm home, friendships & food.

My family is gone - I have been on my own since the age of 10. This is all I have left and is my last chance.

Please do not approve Governor Patterson's plan to cut SRO funding. I need a place to live. This program keeps me alive.

Sincerely,  
Timothy S. Follett

October 22, 2009

Dear Assemblyman/Senator:

My Name is Dan Mc [redacted] and I have lived at the Homeless Action Committee's SRO for ten years.

Before HAC I lived on the streets and in shelters for ten years. When I was accepted into the SRO I was relieved not to have to spend another night on the ground, and another moment worrying about shelter. I had a place to come home to, and no one could tell my time was up or there wasn't enough room.

Before the HAC my life was unpredictable and scary at times- you never know what can happen to you in the streets. Life is very dangerous if you don't live in a controlled environment. Living on the street, you have no motivation to better yourself because being homeless feels so permanent when it's happening. I was depressed and hopeless a lot of the times because I had no where to go and know one to turn to.

Now that I live in the Homeless Action, I have been able to maintain sobriety two years, I travel to see my family out of state. I have quit smoking, and am able to take better care of my health by seeking medical attention which the house provides me.

If this budget was cut I would certainly end up back on the streets. I am not a young man any more and living on the streets would be much harder for me now. Also, I am a diabetic and the HAC helps me keep my supplies in check, and my diabetes in order.

Sincerely,



Dan Mc [redacted]

393 N Pearl St  
Albany NY 12207

October 22, 2009

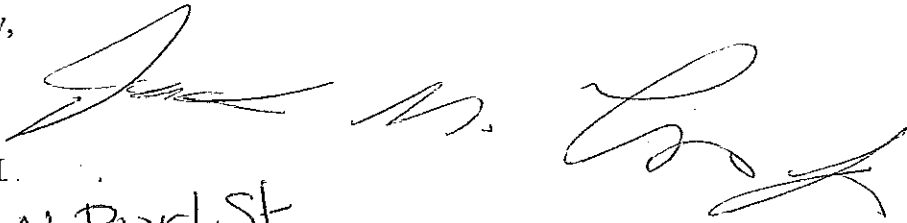
Dear Assemblyman/Senator:

My names is Jack L. and have lived at the Homeless Action Committee for almost 11 years. Before the SRO I bounced around for three years looking to find a permanent home. Lucky for me I found out about the SRO and they were gracious enough to take me in.

If I didn't have the SRO my life would be very different, my nights would be colder and my days longer. It has been brought to my attention that serious cuts will be made in our budget at the SRO. If these cuts are put in place it could jeopardize not only my home but my life as well.

To all the assembly men thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack M. I.", written in a cursive style.

Jack M. I.

393 N. Pearl St  
Albany NY 12207

OCT-09

DEAR ASSEMBLYMAN/SENATOR  
We need your help ALWAYS, HERE  
AT THE SRO. THIS HOUSE HAS HELPED  
ME FOR THE LAST 8 YRS, AND HAS  
HELPED MANY MORE PEOPLE TOO. PLEASE  
DO EVERYTHING YOU CAN, SO WE CAN  
KEEP THIS HOUSE OPEN. MANY OF US  
WOULD BE HOMELESS WITH NO WHERE  
TO GO WITH OUT THIS HOUSE, ITS  
BEEN MY HOME FOR MANY YEARS, AND  
HAS KEPT ME OF THE STREETS. IT  
FURNISHES ME WITH A SAFE AND  
HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT TO LIVE IN.  
I GET FOOD TO EAT, ITS LIKE  
HAVING MY OWN PLACE, I CAN DO  
MY LAUNDRY HAVE CLEAN CLOTHES, TAKE  
A NICE HOT SHOWER, SLEEP IN MY OWN  
BED AND FEEL SAFE, I WENT A  
LOT OF TIMES WITH OUT A SHOWER OR  
A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP, AND THESE ARE  
THE SIMPLE THINGS IN LIFE THAT A LOT  
OF PEOPLE TAKE FOR GRANTED THIS PLACE  
MAKES US FEEL LIKE WE ARE PART  
OF SOCIETY, AND NOT JUST CAST-  
AWAYS. THANK GOD FOR THIS PLACE  
AND DONNA De' MARIA AND THE REST OF  
THE STAFF. Ed. L. - 393 N. Pearl St  
Albany NY 12207