While it is better than the 2% and 4% increases proposed, we need to organize and fight even harder for a rent rollback that we deserve next year!

Bronx RGB Hearing

On June 12th, over 300 tenants from CASA, Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition, Banana Kelly CIA and Mothers on the Move marched on the Bronx Hearing of the Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) demanding lower rents!

At the hearing, over 85 tenants testified at the Bronx Hearing about how much landlords are making and how many working families are being driven out of their homes. The Bronx had the most testimony than any of the other hearings in the City. The RGB decides how much rent goes up or down for the 2.5 million rent stabilized tenants in New York. Last year, we joined with hundreds of tenants across the city to win the second rent freeze for year leases and 2% increase for 2 year leases in a row and the second time in the 47 year history of the RGB!

Final Vote

Because of the testimony from CASA and other tenant groups across the city, the RGB voted for a 1.25% increase for 1 year leases and 2% increase for 2 year leases.

Contact Yeraldi 718-716-8000 ext 117 or y.perez@newsettlement.org to get involved!

Bronx March for Affordable Housing

Almost 600 Bronx tenants, workers and community members from the Bronx Coalition marched down the Grand Concourse on June 6th to demand that any rezoning in the Bronx benefits the people of the Bronx!

Uniting Bronx residents fighting the rezoning on Jerome Ave and the newly announced rezoning on Southern Boulevard, residents shared how rezonings have caused displacement and gentrification across New York. The message was loud and clear—we won’t stop fighting until there is a plan for us!
Building Highlights

Organizing Gets 1652 University Ave Repairs
In 3 months, tenants increased violations from 46 to 143 to pressure their landlord to do repairs. Due to this, they won a building-wide new paint job, a new security system, new front doors, roof doors and individual apartment repairs. On July 3rd, tenants will meet with the owner to discuss a timeline for completing other repairs and how they want the work to be done.

1183 Gerard Ave Files Rent Reduction
Taking action collectively to assert their rights and demand respect from their landlord, tenants worked hard to increase HPD violations to 194 and gather information to file a first building wide rent reduction for decreased services and are planning to file an HP court case.

1485 Macombs Rd Go to Court for Repairs
Tenants at 1485 Macombs are organizing to fight against poor conditions, lack of services, and harassment in their building. After organizing for 3 months, tenants decided to sue their landlord for repairs. On their first court date 13 tenants showed up to court to show their collective tenant power!

CASA’s Third Annual Gala
CASA will host our third annual gala on:
Friday, October 20, 6-10pm
Hostos Community College
475 Grand Concourse, Bronx NY
CASA members tickets are $15 and are available for purchase at CASA events and online at:
casagala2017.eventbrite.com

CASA March Against Displacement
On May 13th, over 95 tenants rallied at 923 Walton Avenue to show our power and to call for an end to displacement through practices like predatory equity, non-rent fees, MCI’s, preferential rent hikes, harassment, and systematic denial of services and repairs to tenants.

The rally also launched our new white paper where CASA members share lessons in tenant organizing, explore the forces of displacement we are up against, and solutions for fighting displacement in the context of an impending rezoning.

Several members also spoke out about feeling empowered and tackling their fears by organizing a Tenant Association, knocking on doors and getting to know their neighbors, and pushing back against unfair landlord tactics through collective action. Leaders also spoke about the vital leadership and variety of roles women play in supporting and building the NYC Tenant Movement.

Leadership Spotlight

Cora Robinson, 1777 Grand Concourse
Cora Robinson has been a tenant leader in her building since she started organizing with her neighbors in November 2016. In her building, Cora offers her home as a meeting space, she flyers and door knocks for meetings, events, or actions, and was a speaker at a recent press conference. During the winter, Cora completed the 5 week Leadership Development Institute, learning about gentrification and organizing skills to continue developing her leadership. Cora moves the work forward but like a great leader she is committed to including others throughout the process. She brings chairs for her neighbors when there are building meetings, she coordinated a tenant association celebration, and also represents her neighbors in CASA meetings. Cora’s leadership is an example of community building.

Social Media Corner
Do you have a Facebook or Twitter account?
Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/CASABronx
Follow us on Twitter
@CASABronx

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