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THE BIRTH OF
PUBLIC HOUSING

FIRST
HOUSES

70TH
ANNIVERSARY



The New York City Housing Authority
cordially invites you to attend

FIRST HOUSES DAY

***Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of
the Opening of First Houses,
the first public housing development
in New York City and the United States***

Saturday, October 21, 2006

11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

FIRST HOUSES

East 3rd Street

between Avenue A and First Avenue
New York, New York

Public housing was born on New York City's Lower East Side 70 years ago when the New York City Housing Authority opened First Houses, the first public housing development in the United States. The opening of First Houses in 1936 was a watershed event in our nation's history, the culmination of the struggle to bring decent housing to those who could not otherwise afford it. Before First Houses was built, poor people and those of limited means had no option but to live in the deplorable and unsafe conditions of tenement type housing.

First Houses proved, for the first time, that a practical means of providing lower income people with decent housing existed. It became the model for public housing in New York City and the rest of the country.

Join us at the birthplace of public housing to celebrate the countless individuals whose efforts made this dream a reality then and continue to make New York City the City of Opportunity now and for the future.

