



Council of Senior Centers & Services of NYC, Inc.

49 West 45th Street, Seventh Floor, New York, NY 10036 (212) 398-6565 <http://www.cscs-ny.org>

**ACTION ALERT
NOVEMBER 14, 2008**

**CITY COUNCIL SPEAKER CHRISTINE QUINN HOLDS CITY HALL PRESS
CONFERENCE TO GET THE SENIOR CENTER RFP WITHDRAWN**

**NEXT STEPS NEEDED BY ALL SENIOR CENTERS TO CONTINUE THE
CAMPAIGN OPPOSING THE SENIOR CENTER RFP –
PASS THE WORD TO ALL SENIORS AND OTHERS**

**WE'VE ALL BEEN OPPOSING THIS RFP FOR A LONG TIME
- PLEASE DON'T GIVE UP –
WITH SPEAKER CHRISTINE QUINN AND OTHER COUNCILMEMBERS AGAINST
THE RFP, WE CAN WIN THIS!
(YES WE CAN!)**

What happened at City Hall:

- On November 13th, 100 seniors from senior centers representing all five boroughs descended on City Hall to join Speaker Christine Quinn, Aging Chair Maria del Carmen Arroyo, Chair of the Subcommittee on Senior Centers James Vacca, many other Councilmembers and Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, to strongly oppose DFTA's senior center rfp. Many television and radio stations as well as newspapers covered the story.
- Speaker Quinn and the other Councilmembers sent a strong and clear message to DFTA and the Bloomberg administration that the senior center rfp, which could lead to the closing of as many as 85 senior centers, was unacceptable and needs to be pulled back – especially in these difficult economic times adding pressure to the budgets of individual seniors and senior centers.
- Seniors chanted “don't close our centers and we vote” loudly.
- Go to <http://council.nyc.gov/html/home/home.shtml> to see photos of the press conference and the press release (see “press room” on side) which includes a quote from CSCS. We encourage you to sign up to receive emails from City Council.
- CSCS' memo responding to the senior center RFP, released Nov. 3rd and due back January 23, 2009, can be found on our website – www.cscs-ny.org Keep an eye on our newly designed website as new information is always going up. There is also an alert on budget cuts there.

Next steps:

1. **Collect signatures on this Flyer –**
 - Please have every single senior that comes to your senior center over the next 2-3 weeks sign this flyer. It is important to include their address.
 - We want to get as many flyers as possible signed so adult children, board members, community residents, and others can also sign them.
 - Hold on to the all the flyers at the center (don't mail them). Your Councilmember will be contacting you to come pick them up. If you don't hear from your Councilmember in the next 1-2 weeks, please contact them. These flyers will be brought by your Councilmember to the public hearing to be held on the senior center RFP.

2. **If you don't attend a senior center** please sign this flyer immediately and mail it to your Councilmember. And please pass the word. That is how YOU can help.

3. **City Council Aging Committee Hearing on the Senior Center RFP –**
Date: Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008
Time: 10:00-12:00 (arrive about 9:30)
Location – City Hall, Chambers on 2nd floor (there is an elevator)

Please bring seniors so we can fill the room which holds 300 people. There will not be public testimony. CSCS and some other advocates may testify.

It is really important to fill the room with seniors!

CSCS is proud of its members and senior participants who have continued to stand up for quality services for older New Yorkers! You are the best!

For further information, please contact Bobbie Sackman, (212) 398-6565 x226 or bsackman@cscs-ny.org

CSCS thanks those members who have already paid their dues for this fiscal year. If you have not paid yet, please do so now as this allows us to do our advocacy. Questions about membership dues – call Scharlene Rondon, (212) 398-6565, x223.

CSCS – THE POWER OF AGING!

PROTECT

our SENIOR CENTERS

Dear Mayor Bloomberg,

I am very concerned that the Senior Center Proposal by the Department for the Aging could close as many as 85 senior centers throughout New York City.

Senior centers are second homes for many of us. They give us seniors a sense of community and offer critical core services such as meals, activities and education.

We understand that the city is in an economic crisis that calls for fiscal prudence. While we applaud your efforts to modernize senior centers, we feel that during this crisis, these plans could negatively affect local centers and put many seniors at risk. We ask that you please reconsider your proposal, which endanger these indispensable centers.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Senior Center Name _____

Senior Center Address _____

PROTEJA

NUESTROS CENTROS PARA PERSONAS MAYORES

Estimado Alcalde Bloomberg,

Estoy muy preocupado que la Propuesta para el Centro para Personas Mayores hecha por el Departamento para Personas Mayores podría cerrar no menos de 85 centros para ancianos personas mayores en todas partes de la Ciudad de Nueva York.

Los Centros para Personas Mayores son segundos hogares para muchos de nosotros. Ellos nos dan, a nosotros las personas mayores, un sentido de comunidad y ofrecen servicios principales críticos como comidas, actividades y educación.

Entendemos que la ciudad está en una crisis económica que pide la prudencia fiscal. Mientras aplaudimos a sus esfuerzos para modernizar centros para Personas Mayores, sentimos que durante esta crisis, estos proyectos podrían afectar negativamente centros locales y poner a muchas personas mayores en peligro. Pedimos que usted por favor reconsidere su propuesta, que ponen en peligro estos centros indispensables.

Gracias.

Sinceramente,

Nombre _____

Dirección _____

Telephono _____

Correo Electrónico _____

Nombre de Centro para Personas Mayores _____

Dirección de Centro para Personas Mayores _____