



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
MARCH 29, 2010

YOUR CALLS ARE WORKING – KEEP IT UP! YOU ARE ALL GREAT!

UPDATE: 55 OUT OF 63 NYC ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS SIGN LETTER ASKING FOR FULL RESTORATION OF TITLE XX FUNDS TO SENIOR CENTERS

- 1. PLEASE THANK YOUR ASSEMBLYMEMBERS THAT SIGNED ON AND ASK THEM TO KEEP FIGHTING FOR FULL RESTORATION OF \$18 MILLION AS BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE (\$18 MILLION IS STATE SHARE OF THE \$25 MILLION TOTAL)**

THE MESSAGE IS: “THANKS FOR SIGNING THE LETTER AGAINST TITLE XX CUTS. WE NEED YOU TO KEEP FIGHTING FOR US.”

- 2. CALL ASSEMBLYMEMBERS WHO HAVEN'T YET SIGNED-ON IF YOU ARE IN THEIR DISTRICT AND URGE THEM TO!**

Vivian Cook

Ann-Margaret Carrozza

Vito Lopez

Rhoda Jacobs

Dov Hikind

Kathy Nolan

Danny O'Donnell

Peter Rivera

THE MESSAGE IS: “MOST OF THE OTHER ASSEMBLYMEMBERS HAVE SIGNED THE LETTER OPPOSING TITLE 20 CUTS TO SENIOR CENTERS. PLEASE SIGN ON IMMEDIATELY.”

See who signed on to the letter on next page or on our website – www.cscs-ny.org

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

CSCS – THE POWER OF AGING!

March 25, 2010

Hon. Sheldon Silver
Speaker of the Assembly
932 Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Speaker Silver,

Included in the Assembly's one-house budget resolution for FY 2010-2011 adopted on March 24, 2010 was a restoration of \$27.5 million in discretionary funding to the Title XX block grant, with \$18.4 million being earmarked for New York City. As you are aware, the City of New York has traditionally used its share of the Title XX discretionary funds to provide support for senior centers throughout the five boroughs. In 2009-2010, New York City received \$24.6 million in Title XX discretionary funds.

We feel that it is vital to re-state the essential nature of this funding stream for senior centers throughout New York City. Senior centers provide a much needed destination for seniors in the community by providing daily meals, cultural programs, and socialization which is vital to keep older adults in the community and out of institutional settings.

The restoration included in the Assembly's proposal is an important first step, however it is only a first step. We in the Assembly must take all actions possible to ensure that senior centers in New York City continue to receive the funds necessary to continue their operations. Even the best funded senior centers in New York City are severely under funded. Any reduction in state support will result in the closure of senior centers. The current reduction of \$6 million from the Title XX program will cause at least 15-25 senior centers to close.

In recent days, our offices have been inundated with phone calls from senior citizens that are angry with the Governor's proposal to reduce Title XX discretionary funding. They feel that their way of life is being threatened and their ability to receive a daily meal and a destination may be eliminated with the stroke of a pen. It is our responsibility to advocate for those in our community who are in most need of our assistance. By failing to restore this cut to Title XX we are abdicating that responsibility, which is not what we were elected to do.

Being mindful of the extremely difficult financial situation facing the state, we urge you to keep senior programs in mind in the coming days as the final details of the state budget for FY 2010-2011 materialize. We request that the Title XX discretionary funds be fully restored to previous year levels to ensure that senior programs are able to continue their operations in this increasingly difficult time.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request. Should you like to discuss this matter in more detail, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Dinowitz

Linda Rosenthal
Marcos Crespo
Carl Heastie
Mike Gianaris
Dick Gottfried

Vanessa Gibson
Joan Millman
Jeff Aubry
Michael DenDekker
Michael Benedetto

Nelson Castro	David Weprin
Hakim Jeffries	Grace Meng
Audrey Pheffer	Peter Abbate
Alec Brook Krasny	Jim Brennan
Carmen Arroyo	Daryl Towns
Keith Wright	N. Nick Perry
Felix Ortiz	Rory Lancman
Michele Titus	Adriano Espaillat
Matthew Titone	Nettie Mayersohn
Steve Cymbrowitz	Michael Benjamin
William Colton	Margaret Markey
William Scarborough	Joseph Lentol
Jose Rivera	Micah Kellner
Bryan Kavanagh	Annette Robinson
Janele Hyer-Spencer	Alan Maisel
Deborah Glick	Karim Camara
Barbara Clark	William Boyland
Michael Miller	Inez Barron
Helene Weinstein	Naomi Rivera
Andrew Hevesi	Mike Cusick
Jonathan Bing	Adam Clayton Powell