



Council of Senior Centers & Services of NYC, Inc.

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ACTION ALERT

FEBRUARY 8, 2010

**DEVASTATING CITY BUDGET CUTS TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING (DFTA)
NEW CUTS PLUS CITY COUNCIL RESTORATIONS PUT SENIOR SERVICES AT RISK - \$43.3 MILLION**

**CITY'S CONTINGENCY PLAN IF STATE AIM MONEY TO NYC IS ELIMINATED
COULD RESULT IN MORE BUDGET CUTS – SEE BELOW**

**CSCS WELCOMES NEW CHAIRS:
NEW AGING CHAIR IS COUNCILWOMAN JESSICA LAPPIN AND
NEW SENIOR CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR COUNCILWOMAN DEBORAH ROSE**

WHAT IS BEING CUT: City Council restorations are for only one year. That means we must advocate to win funds back again. At this point, about one out of five city tax levy dollars in DFTA's budget are City Council restorations that must be won back each year. The funding is for basic services seniors need to age in place in their community and to assist family caregivers. While we are grateful for the remarkable commitment City Council has shown to aging services, this is not the right way for the City to build a solid infrastructure of services for the our rapidly growing population of older New Yorkers.

\$43.3 MILLION - RESTORATIONS AND NEW BUDGET CUTS TO DFTA:

PROGRAM	FY11 RESTORATIONS	FY11 NEW PROPOSED CUTS
Social Adult Day	\$2.0 million	
Intergenerational	\$850,000	
Senior Centers 5% cut	\$5.0 million	
Senior Centers gap	\$4.5 million	
Elder Abuse	\$849,000	
Borough President funds	\$6.1 million (20% cut per borough)	
NORCs	\$1.0 million	
I&R Extended Services	\$1.5 million	
Food costs	\$4.55 million	
Transportation	\$2.55 million	
Space Costs	\$1.95 million	
Healthy Aging	\$1.1 million	
Homecare Reorganization		\$10.3 million
Refunds from contractors		1.0 million
TOTAL	\$32.0 million	\$11.3 million

1. **PROPOSED DFTA CUTS IN MAYOR'S FY11 PRELIMINARY BUDGET - \$11.3 million:**

- **Homecare Reorganization - \$5.1 million reduction for the second half of this fiscal year, FY10. This becomes a \$10.3 million reduction for next full year, FY11, in EISEP home care services.** The Preliminary Budget proposes to assess EISEP home care clients for a transfer to the Medicaid program if eligible. DFTA will also limit home care hours and reduce underutilized contracts. CSCS supports transferring home care clients to Medicaid if they are eligible and it is appropriate for their situation, but opposes cuts in home care hours. There are waiting lists around the city for home care.
- **Refunds from Contractors - \$1 million** – These are funds that DFTA contractors to not spend during the fiscal year. Accruals used to be re-invested back into services, but now go to fill the budget gap.

2. **MAYOR BLOOMBERG'S CONTINGENCY BUDGET PLAN IF \$301 MILLION IN STATE AIM (Aid and Incentives for Municipalities) FUNDS ARE NOT RESTORED BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE.**

AIM DOLLARS PROVIDE MUNICIPAL AID FOR CITIES AROUND THE STATE. GOVERNOR PATERSON HAS PROPOSED ELIMINATING NYC'S TOTAL AMOUNT WHILE OTHER LOCALITIES AROUND THE STATE TAKE A PARTIAL CUT. IF THE AIM DOLLARS ARE NOT RESTORED, MAYOR BLOOMBERG HAS PROPOSED ADDITIONAL CUTS TO CITY AGENCIES.

DFTA WOULD BE CUT BY AN ADDITIONAL \$9.2 MILLION:

- \$3.4 million reduction in EISEP case management and homecare – would eliminate services for 2000 homebound elderly clients (out of 19,000).
- \$3.5 million – closing of 15 senior centers (specific centers not listed)
- \$2.3 million – reduces home-delivered meals contracts by 10%, eliminating meals for 1750 homebound clients (out of 17,500).

NEXT STEPS: DFTA's budget is 60% city tax levy dollars. The level of proposed restorations, cuts and contingency plan cuts put together would devastate the community-based aging services system. ***The first step is to let your State Assemblymembers and State Senators know that the AIM money must be restored for senior centers and frail seniors depend on in-home services will be harmed.*** Some of these services are life sustaining or would place seniors in danger if they were taken away.

Please see the attached letter – ***READY, AIM, FIRE – SENIORS WILL BE THE TARGET. For English, Spanish and Chinese versions go to www.cscs-ny.org*** Have as many seniors as you can sign the letter and send to your state representatives. Please have one letter to your Assemblymember and one to your State Senator that seniors can sign. You can send all the letters together to each elected official with a cover letter from your agency opposing the state AIM cuts.

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

CSCS – THE POWER OF AGING!

READY A.I.M. FIRE!



If the state eliminates all its AIM funding for New York City, senior citizens could lose funding for meals-on-wheels, 15 senior centers could close, and case management and homecare for homebound elderly New Yorkers could be reduced. PLEASE restore all AIM funds and protect older New Yorkers.

(please print clearly)

Name _____

Address _____
