Testimony of Commissioner David M. Frankel

New York City Department of Finance

Before the New York City Council

Committee on Finance

On the Mayor's Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2014

June 5, 2013

Good afternoon, Chairman Recchia and members of the City Council Committee on Finance. I am David M. Frankel, Commissioner of the Department of Finance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on our Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget.

Just as a refresher, the Department of Finance collects revenue for the City, values property, records property-related documents, administers exemption and abatement programs, adjudicates and collects parking tickets, acts as the City's chief civil law enforcement officer, and, through the Mayor's Office of Pensions and Investments, advises the Administration on pension issues. I have appended my testimony from our Preliminary Budget Hearing in March, during which I described Finance's most significant projects and accomplishments from the past year. For brevity's sake, today I will limit my testimony to key issues concerning our completion of the Assessment Roll for the 2014 tax year and the major program changes affecting Finance in the Executive Budget.

Executive Budget

Since March, Finance's proposed budget for the next fiscal year has increased from approximately $225 million to $234 million. Our forecasted head count will be 1,798 — down from more than 1,960 in FY2010. In addition to some technical adjustments, the bulk of this budget increase is the result of our making significant progress on two issues of critical importance to the City: modernizing our property tax assessment and billing computer systems and improving efficiency and customer service when collecting outstanding parking judgment debt.

First, the budget authorizes a temporary headcount increase of 25 staff members to support Finance's transition to a modern property tax assessment and billing system. During this transition, we need to keep RPAD and FAIRTAX — and the staff that supports them — in place, but our headcount will decrease back toward its current levels once the new systems are up and running. At our Preliminary Budget Hearing, I outlined the importance of having property and business tax systems that can be modified to adapt to changes in law or policy — and keep pace with the latest advancements in technology. The limitations of our current, 30-year-old systems

impose unnecessary costs on the City. For example, it has taken over a year of planning, programming, and testing to implement the changed co-op condo abatement, which will appear on the property tax bills going out this week. A new property tax system will be more flexible and simpler to change to incorporate new legislative and policy priorities.

Of course, it is critically important that the new property tax system is accurate. After all, property taxes are the City's largest single source of revenue, and Finance administers 27 exemption and abatement programs that further complicate a system that is not simple to begin with — to say the least. For each assessor-determined value, we must convert it into an assessment, apply exemptions, and generate a tax bill. All of these processes must be calculated accurately and in accordance with law. The temporary increase in staff to work on this project, supported by the $2.4 million provided in the budget, will be assigned throughout the agency — from Property, Exemptions, and Payment Operations, to Legal, and of course to our Information Technology division. We are considering a possible Business Tax System and will keep you informed of our progress on both these projects as they develop.

Second, the budget provides for a $2.5 million pass through expense in Other than Personal Services for the scofflaw booting program, which utilizes boots, or self-release wheel locks, to recover outstanding parking judgment debt. As you know, booting fees are like the marshal's tow fees: they are paid by parking scofflaws, and the cost of the boot is returned to the City's coffers. While this program costs the City nothing, the move from towing to booting drastically reduces the amount of time it takes a scofflaw motorist to pay their debts and get their vehicle back on the road, and we are excited to expand this major customer service initiative throughout every neighborhood in the City. By the end of July, five teams of Sheriff's deputies, as well as 13 Marshal teams, will boot throughout the five boroughs, largely replacing the Marshals' current towing program.

Hurricane Sandy Update

As we discussed in late February, every year Finance assesses all New York City real estate — more than one million properties. Our schedule is set by law: we are required to complete the Tentative Assessment Roll in January and the Final Assessment Roll in May, then send our first

bill of the fiscal year in June. This year, given the extraordinary circumstances brought about by Hurricane Sandy, our staff — and the Property Division in particular — made a tremendous effort to ensure that the Final Roll reflects the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy, both for individual properties and for entire neighborhoods. When we issued the Tentative Assessment Roll this past January, we assured property owners that our final assessments would recognize Sandy's impact, and we kept that promise.

It certainly was not easy: Unlike during a typical assessment cycle, there was limited data available to help us make the revised determinations. Normally, Finance bases its independent assessments on scores of data points, sophisticated data analytics and appropriate valuation models. However, given the magnitude of the storm and its timing during the assessment cycle, for these properties we had to make do with the limited information at our disposal. We will be carefully monitoring our regular economic indicators to recognize the storm's long term impact as these areas recover.

In addition to their typical work during the months between the Tentative and Final Rolls, this year, assessors reviewed Sandy's impact on property values in the surge zones and personally inspected more than 6,100 properties, including all properties tagged red by the Department of Buildings and the almost 5,400 unique properties whose owners submitted Hurricane Sandy related Property Damage Reporting Forms. Assessors reduced the market value for 5,643 properties based on the damage they observed during their field visits and the information reported on the forms.

We also recognized that there were some neighborhood-wide market value impacts above and beyond damage to individual properties. For Class 1 and 2 homeowners in the areas with pervasive Sandy damage, we reduced market values by 15% across the board before we applied any physical reductions.

Class 4 commercial properties, as you know, are valued based on their incomes and expenses. When the tentative roll was produced in January, the most recent income and expense information available for assessors was from calendar year 2011. Needless to say, this data does

not account for the impact of Sandy on the net incomes of properties in the final quarter of calendar year 2012. Realizing that income streams for certain commercial properties were significantly affected by the storm, assessors accounted for major, storm-related damage, and also made an across-the-board reduction of 10% to commercial properties in the most severely impacted areas of the surge zone.

All told, on May 29, Finance sent Notices of Revised Property Values to more than 88,000 properties, indicating a cumulative Market Value decrease of more than $12 billion. Property owners who received revised assessments because of Hurricane Sandy have until June 20 to contest their new values with the Tax Commission.

Lien Sale

On May 17, Finance conducted a successful lien sale in conjunction with the Departments of Environmental Protection and Housing Preservation and Development. Every year, our goal with the sale is for all eligible candidates to pay their outstanding debts and, as a result, avoid the sale. This is our most important tool for collecting taxes and charges, and for ensuring fairness and equity among all property taxpayers.

While the sale is an effective collection tool, we have worked closely with the Council to ensure that homeowners eligible for certain exemptions receive their benefits and avoid the sale. This year, 592 homeowners eligible for the lien sale contacted Finance to inquire about exemptions, and 111 submitted applications. Of those applications, 48 were approved and for 63, we are awaiting a completed application in order to make a final determination. If the property owner is approved, their property will be pulled from the sale. For those lien sale candidates who are unable to afford to pay all of their debts at once, the law provides for a no money down payment plan. This year, 1,318 property owners entered into payments plans with 81% putting no money down.

In the 90 days leading up to this year's sale, Finance collected more than $144 million from eligible properties. While we are still finalizing our numbers, we expect that liens were sold on approximately 6,200 properties, an increase of 53% compared to last year's sale. Part of this

increase is likely the result of the fact that this was the first year that property owners who had defaulted on past payment agreements were ineligible to enter into a new agreement. This accounted for 985 of the 6,200 properties in the sale. I would like to thank the Council, including Finance Committee staff and countless Council Members, for your partnership with this process. The success of the sale would not be possible without the tremendous efforts of our Outreach Unit and all of you, who co-hosted events with us, called individual property owners, and answered countless questions regarding the sale.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

NYC Finance

Testimony of Commissioner David M. Frankel
New York City Department of Finance
Before the New York City Council
Committee on Finance

On the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2014

March 4, 2013

FY2014 Preliminary Budget
Testimony of Commissioner David M. Frankel
Committee on Finance
March 4, 2013 – 1:15P.M.

Good afternoon, Chairman Recchia and members of the City Council Committee on Finance. I am David M. Frankel, Commissioner of the Department of Finance. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on our Fiscal Year 2014 Preliminary Budget.

The Department of Finance collects revenue for the City, values property, records property-related documents, administers exemption and abatement programs, adjudicates and collects parking tickets, acts as the City's chief civil law enforcement officer, and, through the Mayor's Office of Pensions and Investments, advises the Administration on pension issues.

Finance's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014 is approximately $225 million. We have a staff of 1,741 employees. Since we put our senior management team in place in 2009, we have reorganized and streamlined the agency: Finance has increased City revenues and reduced our expenses and headcount — even while insourcing former consultant positions. But the increased revenues and reduced spending are only part of the story. Today I would like to discuss how we have transformed Finance into a more efficient, data-driven, and customer-friendly agency. In doing so, I will also update you on the status of some of our most significant projects and explain how they have improved our agency's operations to benefit the lives of 8.4 million New Yorkers and all our agency's customers.

PEG and New Needs

The FY 2014 Preliminary Budget recognizes that Finance will increase revenues by $19.1 million by collecting more outstanding debt, expanding our tax audits and improving compliance with the tax exemption programs we administer. As I will describe later, requiring tax exemption recipients to verify their tax exempt status ensures that City funds are spent on those who need and qualify for them. The Council — and in particular Council Member Ignizio —

emphasized the importance of this issue by enacting Local Law 31 of 2012, a bill that requires exemption beneficiaries to provide Finance with information that we use to verify eligibility.

The budget also recognizes that we have begun new initiatives. First, we are creating a Property Assessment Defense unit (PAD) to represent Finance at certain Tax Commission hearings. For many years, Finance has not attended these hearings, which leaves the Tax Commission with one-sided information provided only by the person challenging their assessment. Our goal for assessor participation at the Tax Commission is to ensure that Finance's basis for our assessments is heard at the hearings.

In addition, we are continuing to expand our debt collection arsenal. Since 2009, we have seen a tenfold increase in the amount of debt collected by our outside collection agencies— from $6 million to a projected $60 million this year. The collection agencies are going after debt that was once neglected. Our staff at Finance is doing more debt collection as well. The budget recognizes that Finance has increased ECB debt collection activity by $2.6 million annually to nearly $17 million. The budget also authorizes creation of a Tax Warrant Unit in the Office of the Sheriff. The Unit will visit certain debtors to enforce tax warrants. It is another proactive tool used by Finance to encourage those with unpaid tax judgments to settle their debts.

Tentative Assessment Roll

One of Finance's primary responsibilities is to assess properties and, subsequently, collect property taxes. Every year, Finance assesses more than one million properties and calculates their tax bills. As dictated by the City Charter, we released this year's Tentative Assessment Roll in January. The Tentative Assessment Roll showed a 2014 Total Market Value of $873.7 billion, an increase of $35.7 billion (4.3%) over the 2013 Fiscal Year. Market forces accounted for $26.1 billion of the growth, up 3.2% from last year. As we discussed at the hearing last week, we are continuing to review values for certain properties, especially those affected by Hurricane Sandy. The Final Roll will be completed in May.

Given the volume of properties that need to be assessed every year and the complicated formulas set forth in State law, technology plays a critical role in every step of our administration of the

property tax system. From complex data modeling of property values, to applying exemptions and abatements, to calculating the final tax bill, our computer systems empower Finance employees and are critical to our ability to do our jobs well.

The systems that support our administration of property and business taxes, Fairtax — through which property tax billing and all business and excise tax billing and receivables are run — and RPAD — through which property tax assessments are developed — are becoming increasingly difficult to support. Just think: some of the most complex data processing run by our agency is performed on our oldest systems. RPAD dates back to 1983. Using outdated technology means that it is extremely time consuming and expensive to make changes based on new laws or policies, and there is a dwindling pool of programmers to support the systems. It is essential for us to find replacement solutions that can keep up with the latest advancements in technology and with the City's evolving needs. To address these concerns, we issued a Request for Proposals for a new Property Tax System on October 9, 2012, and we are now reviewing the several responses we received. We are considering a possible Business Tax System and will keep you informed of our progress on both these projects as they develop.

I would like to encourage this Committee to approve Introductory Number 906, which would move the deadline to file Real Property Income and Expense statements (RPIE) from September 1 to June 1. An earlier filing deadline would enable us to more thoroughly evaluate the information in the RPIEs prior to the release of the Tentative Assessment Roll. Under the current schedule, the four months between our receipt of these filings in September and our release of the Tentative Roll in January is a very short timeframe to develop guidelines based on individually filed information; check the validity of filed data; and use the data as the baseline for modeling, quality assurance, and development of individual assessments. The short valuation season creates unnecessary risks for completion of the Tentative Roll; during the past two years, severe storms have occurred during the short valuation period. Changing the RPIE date from September to June is in the interests of the City and the property owners, who must pay taxes based on our assessments. I urge you to approve the bill this month, as doing so would enable us to make this change for this year's filing.

External Affairs

Keeping the public informed about assessments, property taxes and other agency functions is a key goal of our agency. On January 11, we launched our improved website at nyc.gov/finance. More than 450 webpages were rewritten, resulting in a site that is clearer, more intuitive, and more user-friendly. There are instructional videos on key topics, social networking icons that allow visitors to share pages, and a "Translate This Page" feature that allows pages to be translated into any of 56 languages. We have been pleased to receive many positive reactions to the new website design.

We also released guides to residential property taxes, which were developed in a collaborative process with you and your staff and are now mandated by Local Law 62 of 2012. I would like to thank this Committee, particularly Chairman Recchia and Minority Leader Oddo, the prime sponsor of the bill, for their support of this initiative. These guides provide a step-by-step roadmap for understanding the property tax system for one-, two-, and three-family homes, as well as coops, condos, and rental buildings. We are proud to say that the brochures have been very well received by the public and by you — so much so that we're trying to keep up with the demands from your district offices for additional copies.

Exemption Processing

Over the past four years, we have reorganized the way we administer property tax exemption and abatement programs. There are 26 such programs, which provide benefits of more than $5.8 billion to New Yorkers.

One of the best examples is our processing of the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption, known intimately well by this Committee as SCRIE. Finance's substantial backlog of SCRIE applications was one of the most vexing problems we faced in 2010. At that time, and before this Committee, I said we would fix the problems with SCRIE administration, and we have. First, we eliminated the backlog: it now takes the SCRIE unit just five days to review an application and send a written response to the applicant. But we have also done so much more.

We fixed the problems with landlord's credits, posted information for tenants and landlords on-line, published a comprehensive SCRIE guide, brought in DFTA staffers to help us run a SCRIE benefit room in our Manhattan Business Center, and created a senior outreach director position. And, any senior who calls us with an inquiry, receives a return call from someone in our SCRIE unit within 48 hours. I am proud of my staff's dogged pursuit of excellence in administering this program.

For SCRIE and all tax benefit programs we administer, we are implementing reviews to be sure that benefit monies — the tax dollars we all pay — are spent on those who qualify based on the law. We have required renewals for recipients of Not-for-Profit, parsonage, CRP, CEP and ICIP/ICAP exemptions. When we require renewals, however, we do so with a focus on customer service. In addition to sending beneficiaries a single statutorily required notice, we have used many different methods to make sure property owners do not lose their exemptions because they missed a piece of mail. Currently, we send multiple mailers to each beneficiary's address, and if we don't hear from them, Finance calls the phone number we have on file or can find through online searches. We are emailing forms to the contact we have for the property based on prior renewal applications. For ICIP, we have also reached out to representatives who filed the initial application to contact their clients about the need to respond. We work with your offices and with community or interest groups to get the word out that renewals have to be submitted. We have posted messages on our website and sent out tweets. Our objective is to make sure that no eligible recipient loses out, and benefits go only to the property owners and tenants who qualify under the law.

Tax Audits

On a related note, tax auditing is one of the most crucial functions of our agency. Tax evasion is unfair not only to those who follow the rules, but also to all New Yorkers who feel the impact of reduced City services or higher tax bills — the result of uncollected revenue. Over the past three years, we have added technological and human capital to our efforts to catch those who do not pay their fair share. In addition to hiring more than 60 skilled auditors and data modelers, we have created sophisticated audit tools to take advantage of enhanced data sharing agreements

with the IRS and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, expanding the Federal and State tax information available to us for data mining purposes.

We have targeted audit resources more efficiently on taxpayers who were likely to owe the City money and reduced the burden of responding to audits on taxpayers who owe nothing. Using evolving technologies, we built models to identify taxpayers who were more likely than most to be underpaying their tax. They have been extremely successful: The number of audits resulting in no change, meaning that the audited taxpayer was found not to owe any additional tax, has dropped from one in three to one in five.

We have created more than 200 unique models to identify potential tax underpayment or non-payment. Some are straightforward data matches to detect discrepancies. For example, if a business is flagged on a sales tax audit for significantly underreporting taxable receipts, we check to ensure that the firm's receipts are accurately reported on its business tax return. We verify that Schedule C filers (filers who claim to be running a business) are complying with the Unincorporated Business Tax. Other data models are more complex. We have developed models to identify anomalous filing positions, which may indicate that a business is hiding taxable income by moving revenue away from — or expense into — New York City for filing purposes.

We are also exploring new ways to use non-tax data sources, such as business licensing data and permit information, to identify audit targets. The data is used to detect small underpayments that are not cost effective to pursue in a full audit but can easily be moved into automated audit tools, such as correspondence audits. The Proposed FY 2014 budget includes an additional $3 million in revenue from the correspondence audit program. Armed with more and better information, our auditors will help ensure a level playing field for all New York City taxpayers.

All told, the many changes we have made to how we audit business taxpayers are resulting in more than $100 million in additional annual revenue compared to earlier projections of City audit revenues. We also believe that our increasingly effective audits drive more taxpayer compliance with the tax laws. Our message to tax evaders is: we will find you, turn you upside down and shake out the money you owe the City.

IT

Our Information Technology division has played a critical role in the projects I have discussed today. They are involved in everything we do: from helping to rebuild the SCRIE database, to supporting our build out of complex databases for audit modeling, to participating in our plan to replace RPAD and Fairtax. The critical point from a budgetary perspective is that we have almost completely eliminated the use of long term IT consultants. In 2009, we had 58 permanent IT consultants working alongside staff in our offices on two projects: NYCSERV — encompassing payments and web interfaces for property — and RES PASS — encompassing audit and data mining. Since then, fifty of those consultants were replaced by City employees, five were eliminated without being replaced, and three remain. Even though we added 50 new employees at an approximate cost of $6.8 million, the City netted a savings of approximately $10.5 million, because each consultant was billed at an average of $345,000 annually.

We continue to use IT consultants to aid with new development, but our IT leadership is firmly committed to keeping consultants on a short leash. As consultants build new projects, they work alongside staff to facilitate knowledge transfer. When a given project is completed and tested and staff is trained, the consultants leave. This business model for consultant use is an important part of how we have been able to reduce our costs while providing more services.

Citywide Payments and Receivables Services

We are also using technology to make it easier for New Yorkers to pay taxes, fees, and fines — another core Department of Finance function, as well as one we are streamlining for other City agencies. As you well know, New Yorkers and businesses across the five boroughs pay for a variety of charges — from business taxes, to block party permits, to dog licenses. The City currently collects roughly $42 billion through 23 million transactions — at an approximate cost to the City of $66 million.

In his 2010 State of the City address, Mayor Bloomberg announced the launch of the Citywide Payments and Receivables Project, an enhanced accounts receivables platform that allows residents and businesses to pay their bills using their preferred method. Finance now allows

other agencies, such as the Fire and Health Departments, to tap into easy payment options, removing payment operations from those agencies and enabling them to focus on their core functions. Finance is performing this task for the City, encouraging movement away from expensive traditional methods like checks and in-person payments and toward web- and electronic check transactions. Though the traditional methods still will be available, we are offering new options to accommodate the behavior of consumers who prefer paying online or over the phone. These options are often more convenient and cheaper for the consumer — and we're making them cheaper for the City, too. Previously, if you paid the City through your home banking site, there were no savings to the City. The bank cut a physical check and mailed it to us, and we had to process it just as if you had written the check yourself. By renegotiating banking and lockbox contracts and streamlining the City's back-office operations, we now process these payments electronically, and in doing so, we have reduced the City's cost of processing an eCheck by 80% and by 95% the cost of making a payment through a home banking site. In turn, we will make eChecks, which used to cost our customers $2 per transaction, absolutely free — and home banking payments are free already.

Office of the Sheriff

We are pleased to announce the hiring of a new class of 20 Deputy Sheriffs, our first new class in more than 15 years. This new class will take on new functions for the Sheriff's Office, and also will provide continuity to the workforce as current Deputies retire over time.

In 2011, the Sheriff's Office established the Tobacco Task Force, consisting of investigators, deputies, and a lieutenant charged with combatting the flow of untaxed cigarettes into New York City. In the past 18 months, the Task Force has performed more than 1,900 inspections and made 233 arrests — 20 of them felony arrests. More than 46% of inspected cigarette retailers were found to be selling unstamped or untaxed product — a staggering number that puts law-abiding businesses at an incredible disadvantage. Through greater interaction with Federal and local law enforcement, as well as cultivated intelligence, the Tobacco Task Force has been instrumental in enforcing these important laws. We are creating a second "tobacco squad" to amplify our efforts in this area.

Parking

We have also begun two programs aimed at improving customer service for those who receive parking violations. Previously, Finance's first notice to people with unpaid tickets informed them they owed the ticket plus a penalty. We have changed that. In June, we began sending notices to individuals before their outstanding violation accrued penalties. We know that some people simply forget about their ticket, and this notice serves as a friendly reminder to pay up. The notice also helps avoid the problem of vehicle owners who state they never received the ticket, which by State law is valid from the date of issuance regardless of whether it flew off the windshield.

For those who still failed to pay their violations, the new Deputy class I mentioned earlier will also spearhead our efforts to crack down on parking ticket scofflaws. Up until this past summer, if vehicle owners exceeded the "scofflaw" threshold of $350 in parking judgment debt, their car was towed. Drivers had to spend the better part of their day traveling to a Marshal's Office or a Department of Finance Business Center to pay their debt, then tracking their car to a tow pound – most of which are inaccessible to mass transit and open only during business hours. Thanks to an innovative technology, this process will get a whole lot easier.

Finance conducted a pilot program from June to December to test whether self-release wheel locks, or boots, could replace towing as our primary means of recovering outstanding parking judgment debt. Deputy Sheriffs booted 4,277 vehicles between June and December, recouping $1.9 million from scofflaws. Under this program, the car stays in place, the motorist calls at any time 24/7 and speaks to a live person to settle their debt and fees, and, by entering a key code into the boot, they release the lock themselves. The whole process from picking up the phone to releasing the boot takes about nine minutes, compared to the hours and hours it takes to redeem a towed vehicle.

The pilot was an unmitigated success. Our Outreach office surveyed 109 motorists whose cars were booted; 94% had positive comments about booting versus towing. Booting is also cheaper for the scofflaw, and we are working to make it even cheaper. Given booting's clear benefits,

Finance will expand the program and boot vehicles instead of towing them as our primary means of scofflaw enforcement in the months ahead.

Conclusion

Throughout this statement, I have tried to share with you what I think are some of our agency's chief accomplishments. These would not be possible if not for the creativity, ambition, intelligence, diligence, and tireless efforts of Finance's 1,741 employees, whom I forever will insist are the best in the City. I am happy to answer your questions.

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Testimony of Ronnie Lowenstein
Director, New York City Independent Budget Office
To the New York City Council Finance Committee
On the Executive Budget for 2014 and Financial Plan

June 5, 2013

Good afternoon Chairman Recchia and members of the City Council Finance Committee. I am Ronnie Lowenstein, director of New York City's Independent Budget Office. I am pleased to be here today to present some of the highlights of IBO's latest economic forecast and reestimate of revenues and expenses under the Mayor's Executive Budget for 2014 and Financial Plan through 2017.

If one takes our latest economic forecast and couples it with our current estimates of revenues and expenditures under the Mayor's budget plan, New York City's fiscal picture looks remarkably bright. We project a relatively small surplus next fiscal year and a modest shortfall the year after. But these bottom line estimates of the city's surpluses or gaps only tell part of the city's budget story.

As you well know, all of the city's 152 contracts with its municipal labor unions have expired—some lapsed more than three years ago, including contracts with some of the largest unions. The Mayor's budget plan assumes there will be no retroactive raises—a fiscal bet that may be hard to win.

To gauge the potential cost of a settlement with the unions, IBO estimated the cost under one plausible scenario. If we assume that the unions for teachers and principals received the same 4 percent raises that other unions agreed to in the previous round of bargaining and that all the unions with contracts that expired in 2010 or later accepted 2 percent raises for two years, and as in the past these raises were passed on to nonunion city employees as well, the cost would total $4.5 billion at the end of this month. These higher salaries would increase the city's labor costs by $1.8 billion in 2014 and each year after.

While the issue of expired labor contracts clouds the background of the city's fiscal outlook, in the foreground the picture seems clearer. On the national level, the economic signals generally appear poised for growth: business profits are strong and housing sales are up while household debt is down and interest rates remain low. Although the expiration of the federal payroll tax cut and the effects of sequestration will temper increases in gross domestic product in calendar year 2013, growth will accelerate in the next two years.

Locally, there has been strong employment growth over the past two years, with an increase of 86,700 jobs in calendar year 2011 and nearly 80,000 more in 2012, although the city's unemployment rate remained high at more than 9 percent. We expect job growth will slow to about 57,000 this year,

affected by weaker national growth during the middle of this year, and then rebound with job increases of more than 72,000 in 2014 and 81,000 in 2015. These increases are expected to be accompanied by a long-awaited decline in the local unemployment rate to 6 percent in 2015.

As we have noted in past months, the growth in jobs is not matched with a commensurate increase in wage gains, as the composition of the city's workforce shifts towards lower paying industries. Employment growth is being led over the 2013-2017 period by sectors such as professional and business services, education and health care, and leisure and hospitality. Average salaries in education and health care are about $47,000 and in leisure and hospitality $41,000. While professional and business services wages average $100,100 annually, even that pales in comparison with Wall Street, where average wages are nearly $338,000. But Wall Street is expected to have only modest job growth in 2013 through 2017.

IBO's forecast of employment and wage growth leads to an expectation of solid, but not exceptional, increases in city tax revenues in fiscal years 2013 through 2017. We project tax revenues will increase at an annual average rate of 4.8 percent, growing from $44 billion this year to $54 billion in 2017. Tax revenues are expected to increase 7.5 percent this year over 2012 as some households and firms shifted capital gains and bonuses into calendar year 2012 in anticipation of federal tax changes. This boosted personal income and real property transfer taxes in the city's current fiscal year, but means that we expect local tax revenues will grow by a far more modest 1.5 percent next fiscal year.

Nonetheless, IBO projects that growth in tax collections will outpace spending growth over the next few years. IBO projects that total city spending will grow from $71.7 billion this year to $79.7 billion in 2017, growing at an average annual rate of 2.7 percent. Spending on most services is expected to be flat over that period, with growth largely confined to a few categories of spending.

One major growth category is spending on health care and other fringe benefits for city employees, which is expected to increase at an annual average rate of 6.9 percent and total $6.4 billion in 2017. Another fast-growing cost is debt service, which is projected to increase at annual average rate of 6.6 percent and total $7.7 billion in 2017. Although not growing as fast in percentage terms, spending by the Department of Education is rising sharply in dollar terms—projected to increase by $2.6 billion through 2017 and total $21.7 billion. A large share of this increase is based on expected growth in state education aid.

IBO's spending estimate for 2014 includes our projection that city agencies will need about $120 million more than the Mayor budgeted. This additional spending includes needs such as $71 million for employee health insurance, $20 million for a likely runoff election this fall, $15 million for overtime for correction officers, and $14 million for shelters for homeless families and single adults.

Our spending estimates for the city do not take into account budget restorations that the Council negotiated just for this year or additional cuts proposed for 2014 for some of these same programs—programs that the Council has typically endeavored to maintain but that are getting increasingly expensive to restore. For example, fully restoring the proposed cut to the subsidy to the city's library systems will cost more than $100 million in 2014 and maintaining the current number of after-school slots in the Out-of-School Time program will require an additional $61 million.

While these and other programs will need additional resources if they are to be maintained at current service levels, other issues may present steeper budget hurdles. Reaching settlements on the expired labor contracts could prove to be very costly depending upon how they are resolved. Additionally, the Mayor's budget plan counts on $1.5 billion in revenue from the sale of new taxi medallions, a proposal buffeted by lawsuits and repeated shifts in expectations of when the revenue will flow. And still emerging plans for increasing the city's resilience to Sandy-like storms in the future may also prove costly. For reasons such as these, the story of the city's budget is likely to be one of more fiscal challenges in the months ahead.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today and I will be pleased to answer your questions.

New York City Independent Budget Office **Fiscal Brief**

May 2013

Reestimating the Mayor's Plan:

An Analysis of the 2014 Executive Budget & Financial Plan Through 2017

Late last month, the U.S. Government Accountability Office issued a report presenting a gloomy picture of the near-term and long-term outlook for state and local budgets across the country. Just a few days later, Mayor Michael Bloomberg presented his Executive Budget for 2014 and Financial Plan through 2017 for New York City. Much like the federal agency's report, the Mayor's comments on the city's fiscal condition included a heavy dose of warnings about the city's ability to meet its expenses. Yet the budget documents themselves tell a somewhat different story.

IBO's latest economic forecast and reestimate of revenues and expenses under the Mayor's new budget plan presents a picture of a city that is in better fiscal condition than many other municipalities. Tax revenues are expected to grow at an average annual rate of nearly 5 percent, outpacing the anticipated growth in expenditures over the same period. IBO projects job growth of nearly 57,000 this calendar year, 72,000 next year, and average growth of 75,000 annually in 2015 through 2017.

Based on these and other factors, we project that under the Mayor's plan the city will end the current fiscal year with a surplus of $2.1 billion—about the same as estimated by the Bloomberg Administration. For 2014, IBO projects a surplus of $476 million. Our projection for 2015 is a relatively modest shortfall of $930 million, just 1.7 percent of city-generated revenue, an amount easily covered by routine end-of-year accounting adjustments.

Still, the budget documents do not tell the whole story of the fiscal issues confronting the city. The budget plan's balance rests on the assumption there will be no retroactive raises for municipal employees, many of whom have been working under contracts that expired three or more years ago. Under one plausible scenario presented by IBO in our report on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for 2014, the cost of a settlement would add $4.5 billion to city expenses through the end of this fiscal year and it would increase annual costs in 2014 and beyond by $1.8 billion. The still unfolding consequences of federal cutbacks along with the still developing plans for how the city will protect itself from the effects of future storms like Sandy could also upend the city's fiscal balance.

The Economy and Taxes

Economic Overview. IBO's forecast for 2013 is for modest economic growth at the U.S. level, with little acceleration from last year. Stronger growth in gross domestic product (GDP) is expected in the following years, particularly 2014 and 2015. (Unless otherwise noted in this section on the economy,

Tables on IBO's Revenue and Expenditure Estimates @ www.ibo.nyc.ny.us

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years refer to calendar years rather than fiscal years.) The expectation of weaker growth this year stems from anticipation that federal fiscal policy—tax increases that took effect in January following the fiscal cliff negotiations and federal spending cuts under the sequester—will be a drag on the economy.

Measured in terms of jobs, the local economy has bounced back strongly since the end of the Great Recession. Although we expect local employment growth to slow this year due in part to this fiscal drag, strong job gains are forecast to resume next year. However, growth in wages and earnings in the city have not kept pace with job growth as the composition of the city's work force shifts towards more lower paying industries. The securities industry—diminished but still central to the local economy—generated strong profits and bonuses in 2012, but these are expected to be smaller in 2013 through 2017.

U.S. Economy. U.S. economic growth picked up in the first quarter of 2013, though slower growth is expected later in the year. Real GDP grew 2.5 percent (initial estimate) in the first quarter, compared with 0.4 percent growth in the fourth quarter of 2012. (Unless otherwise noted, all monthly and quarterly figures are seasonally adjusted.) IBO expects that a combination of payroll tax increases and federal government spending cuts will restrain what was already expected to be only moderate real GDP growth for 2013 as a whole to 2.2 percent, the same rate as last year. With fiscal drag expected to abate by the end of the year, and barring any new shocks, conditions favorable for sustained private-sector growth are forecast to boost economic growth to 3.4 percent in 2014.

Although conditions favorable to sustained growth have been in place for some time, the economy has been slow to recover. Business profits and balance sheets are robust, the banking system has been recapitalized and is increasingly willing to extend credit, households have shed much of the debt built up during the boom years, interest rates remain near record lows, and there is considerable pent-up demand for everything from appliances to cars to homes. But annual growth of real GDP has just been about 2 percent in each of the past three years and real earnings growth has been minimal, constraining demand for output. Similarly, modest job growth in the private sector coupled with continued declines in public-sector employment have only resulted in a very gradual decline in the rate of unemployment, from 9.9 percent at the recession's trough (fourth quarter of 2009) to 7.7 percent in the first quarter of 2013.

One factor behind the slow pace of the recovery has been the prolonged slump in the market for housing. But over time the huge inventory of homes that was a legacy of the housing boom and subsequent recession has been slowly reduced. With increases in home sales and rising prices signaling that the market has turned around, IBO expects the pace of housing starts to accelerate in 2013 and 2014, fueling employment in construction and other sectors, such as manufacturing, trucking, and utilities.

Despite the momentum in the private sector from housing's revival, economic growth is expected to slow in the second and third quarters as the impact of fiscal austerity peaks. Although sequestration began in March, its impact on real GDP growth will increase through the third quarter because it takes time for these across-the-board cuts to actually affect government outlays. The 2 percentage point increase in payroll taxes that took effect on January 1st of this year has already contributed to an annualized 4.4 percent decline in disposable (after-tax) personal income in the first

Total Revenue and Expenditure Projections
Dollars in millions

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Average Change
Total Revenues	**$71,771**	**$70,874**	**$74,499**	**$77,789**	**$80,788**	**3.0%**
Total Taxes	44,412	45,068	48,351	51,186	53,565	4.8%
Total Expenditures	**71,771**	**70,399**	**75,428**	**77,632**	**79,722**	**2.7%**
IBO Surplus/(Gap) Projections	**$-**	**$476**	**($930)**	**$157**	**$1,065**	
Adjusted for Prepayments:						
Total Expenditures	$72,109	$72,381	$75,570	$77,632	$79,722	2.5%
City-Funded Expenditures	$50,191	$52,393	$55,328	$56,941	$58,524	3.9%

NOTES: IBO projects a surplus of $2.093 billion for 2013, $68 million below the Bloomberg Administration's forecast. The surplus is used to prepay some 2014 expenditures, leaving 2013 with a balanced budget. Revenue and expenditures include $1.5 billion in Hurricane Sandy federal categorical funding in 2013. Estimates exclude intra-city revenues and expenditures. City-funded expenditures exclude state, federal, and other categorical grants, and interfund agreement amounts.Figures may not add due to rounding.

New York City Independent Budget Office

quarter, though it will take several quarters for its impact on consumer spending to be fully realized.

Personal consumption spending rose 4.1 percent (annual basis) in the first quarter, fueled by a reduction in household savings and—to a lesser extent—by decreases in gas prices and the wealth effect of rising equity and housing markets. But given the decline in disposable income that results from elimination of the payroll tax cut, it is unlikely that this rate of consumer spending growth will be sustained.

Slow growth in consumption and cuts in government spending will constrain economic growth for the remainder of this year. For 2013 as a whole, IBO forecasts that real GDP will rise 2.2 percent, the same rate as 2012, and (nominal) personal income will increase 3.9 percent. We expect the U.S. to add 2 million jobs in 2013, about 200,000 less than in 2012. The slow pace of employment growth will barely nudge the unemployment rate down over the course of 2013; the unemployment rate is projected to average 7.6 percent for the year, slightly less than the rate in the last quarter of 2012. With a still-high unemployment rate and little inflation—projected to be 2.0 percent in 2013—the Federal Reserve is expected to maintain its accommodative policy of keeping interest rates low and expanding the money supply.

Economic growth is expected to accelerate in 2014 as the impact of tax increases and spending cuts diminishes. IBO forecasts real GDP growth of 3.4 percent in 2014, which would be the highest annual growth rate since 2004. Personal income growth will also pick up to a projected 6.5 percent. With the addition of 2.3 million new jobs in 2014, the unemployment rate will fall further, to an average of 7.0 percent.

IBO expects the solid economic growth of 2014 to continue into 2015, when real GDP is forecast to rise to 3.6 percent. Projected employment growth of 3.6 million jobs during the year should bring the unemployment rate below the Federal Reserve's 6.5 percent policy threshold, prompting the Fed to begin winding down its monetary stimulus. After 2015, economic growth will moderate but still be fast enough to reduce the unemployment rate further, from an average of 6.2 percent in 2015 to 5.8 percent in 2016 and 5.5 percent in 2017.

The Mayor's Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) forecast of U.S. economic growth is substantially below IBO's for both this year and next. OMB projects that real GDP growth will slow to 1.6 percent in 2013, well below IBO's forecast of 2.2 percent. The difference between the two GDP forecasts for 2014 is similar: 2.7 percent for OMB compared with 3.4 percent for IBO.

Two of the biggest risks to IBO's macroeconomic forecast continue to be economic problems in Europe and federal fiscal policy here in the United States. The European Union's sovereign debt problems have spread to yet another country (Cyprus) and most countries in the union—including the four largest economies—are either in recession or considered at risk for a recession. The political impasse over near-term federal fiscal policy also poses a major risk to the forecast. Another showdown in Congress over the federal debt limit, or over the budget itself, could undermine consumer and business confidence, similar to what happened when brinkmanship over the debt limit led to the downgrade of U.S. debt in 2011.

Finally, IBO's economic forecast is premised on there being no external shocks to the U.S. economy, such as a disruption in the supply of oil that would cause oil prices to spike.

Local Economy. After Hurricane Sandy brought New York City employment growth almost to a standstill in the fourth quarter of 2012, a large rebound was expected (especially in construction, trade, and leisure and hospitality) early in 2013. Instead, the city has had solid but not spectacular job growth so far this year, with employment increasing by 21,000 in the first quarter. That pace is expected to moderate over the course of the year due primarily to the lagged impacts of the recent federal tax increases and sequester on the local economy. As a result, IBO projects an employment gain of 56,900 (1.5 percent) in the city for 2013. This is almost unchanged from our previous forecast. Employment growth is expected to pick up speed again in 2014, however, with the city's own considerable momentum reinforced by increasing strength in the national economy. IBO forecasts city employment growth of 72,200 (1.8 percent) in 2014, followed by average growth of 75,000 (1.8 percent) per year in 2015 through 2017.

Under this forecast, total payroll employment in New York City would surpass the 4 million mark about midway through 2014. By the end of 2017, IBO expects the city economy to have added 580,000 jobs over an eight-year (32 quarter) stretch dating from the end of the recession in 2009. Moreover, the unemployment rate of city residents, which has remained stubbornly high, is projected to finally respond to the strong job growth. The unemployment rate, which

averaged 9.2 percent in 2012, is expected to fall to 8.5 percent in 2013, 7.3 percent in 2014, and 4.9 percent by 2017. This is a steeper decline than we forecast in March.

Better than half of the job growth over the 2013 through 2017 period will be supplied by professional and business services (19,300 jobs added per year, 27.3 percent of total growth) and education and health care services (17,200 jobs per year, 24.3 percent). Another quarter of the overall growth comes from leisure and hospitality (8,800 jobs per year) and trade (8,300 jobs)—both buoyed by the city's vibrant tourism industry. These four supersectors were also key contributors to the city's employment growth in the 2004 though 2008 period leading up to the recession.

But there are several notable differences in the composition of projected job growth as compared with the prerecession period. In particular, in the earlier expansion the securities sector added 4,800 jobs per year, accounting for 9.1 percent of net city job growth, while manufacturing lost 6,200 per year, offsetting 11.8 percent of the growth. In our current forecast for 2013 through 2017, the manufacturing decline abates to only 500 per year, offsetting 0.7 percent of job growth. But at the same time securities job growth weakens to 1,400 per year, good for only 2.0 percent of the local economy's projected aggregate employment growth through 2017.

The securities sector is also expected to contribute much less to aggregate real wage growth in the city over the 2013 through 2017 period (19.9 percent) than it did in the previous expansion (55.8 percent over 2004 through 2008). This is not just a function of the falloff in securities employment growth: average wages in securities are also growing more slowly. Following an 8.6 percent drop in 2012, real average securities wages are projected to grow 4.5 percent a year from 2013 through 2017. This is less than half the pace of the years before the eruption of the financial crisis. This reflects, in part, the increased use of deferred compensation in lieu of large cash bonuses in the industry.

As the securities sector's contribution to aggregate wage growth shrinks, the contributions from sectors such as education and health care, government, and trade are expected to expand in the forecast period. These sectors all have much lower average wages than securities. The result is that overall wage growth in the city, and also overall personal income growth, will be not be as strong as in past expansions. IBO's forecast calls for average personal income growth of 5.7 percent over the 2013 through 2017 period. This is 3.9 percent per year after adjusting for inflation, lower than the 4.6 percent average rate of real personal income growth in the 2004 through 2008 expansion.

Aggregate wage and personal income growth have also been constrained by the decline in average hours worked since the recession. While private-sector employment in New York City stood 4.3 percent higher in the first quarter of 2013 than in the first quarter of 2008, the average weekly hours of all private employees was 3.6 percent lower. Most of the drop occurred between 2008 and 2009, but there has been renewed downward pressure on the private-sector workweek in 2012 and 2013. As a result, aggregate private-sector hours worked in the city have barely advanced, up just 0.5 percent compared with five years ago.

Another factor affecting personal income growth in 2013 is the expiration of the payroll tax holiday in January. Contributions for social insurance, which are netted out of reported personal income, are expected to jump by $8.0 billion in New York City this year. This is nearly four times the normal annual increase in contributions.

The subdued employment and wage growth in securities reflect the constraints and uncertainties that continue to impact the industry in the aftermath of the financial crisis. With regulatory reform still very much a work in progress (to date fewer than half of the Dodd-Frank regulations have been finalized), we do not anticipate a return to the "old normal" on Wall Street any time soon. Another sign of the change is the post-crisis plunge in broker-dealer revenues of New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) member firms. Revenues as of 2012 ($161.5 billion) were still well under half of their 2007 peak ($352.0 billion). In IBO's forecast, it will be 2017 before revenues again exceed $200 billion.

On the other hand, broker-dealer profits were exceptionally strong last year ($23.9 billion). We expect profits to dip to $15.4 billion in 2013 and then to build incrementally to $17.4 billion by 2017. As we have discussed in prior forecasts, solid or even strong Wall Street profits despite substantially lower revenues are made possible by a steep decline in member firm interest expenses—which in turn has been made possible by the Federal Reserve's decision to keep interest rates at record-low levels.

Tax Forecast. Tax revenues in 2013 have been very strong and by the end of the year are expected to total $44.4 billion, 7.5 percent higher than in 2012. Some of the increase is due to a shift in the timing of capital gains

realizations and bonus payments as taxpayers moved income into tax year 2012 when federal tax rates were lower. The shift means less revenue for subsequent years, particularly 2014 when $45.1 billion in tax revenue is expected, an increase of only 1.5 percent. IBO expects stronger tax revenue growth to resume in 2015, averaging 5.9 percent annually through 2017. IBO's tax forecast is slightly below OMB's for 2013, but thereafter, IBO's outlook exceeds OMB's with the difference widening each year from $664 million in 2014 to $2.7 billion in 2017.

Business Income Taxes. Following 2012, when combined revenue from the city's three business income taxes grew just 1.2 percent over the previous year, IBO forecasts business tax revenue growth of 4.4 percent this year, generating $5.6 billion. Revenue growth will be similar in 2014 (4.3 percent) but then accelerate to an annual average rate of 9.1 percent in the 2015-2017 period, with the fastest growth of each tax coming in 2015 or 2016—years in which IBO's forecasts of national and local economic growth are strongest. By 2017, combined revenue from the three taxes—the general corporation tax (GCT), the banking corporation tax (BCT), and the unincorporated business tax (UBT)—will reach $7.6 billion.

While the GCT generates the most revenue of the three taxes, it is projected to grow the slowest: 2.9 percent this year, to yield $2.5 billion. Annual growth will average 6.6 percent in the next four years, yielding $3.2 billion in 2017 revenue. Although total profits of NYSE-member firms reached their third highest annual total on record in calendar year 2012, the latest available data (through January 2013) on payments by industry indicates that GCT growth this year is being driven by the professional services and information sectors, rather than finance. Many financial corporations appear to have overpaid their calendar year 2011 liabilities, allowing them to reduce payments for 2012 liability. IBO is projecting faster growth for fiscal year 2014 as corporate profits continue to rise, with GCT revenue totaling $2.6 million. GCT revenue growth is expected to accelerate from 2014 through 2016 and continue into 2017 when our GCT forecast reaches $3.2 billion.

Though gross BCT payments are strong this year, especially those made by commercial banks, large refunds in recent months have lowered expected revenue growth in the current year. IBO's forecast for 2013 is $1.3 billion, 4.5 percent higher than in 2012. In 2014 we project a $60 million (3.0 percent) decline in BCT receipts, as banks' revenue potential is constrained by increased capital requirements, regulatory uncertainties, and the maintenance of tight lending standards. After 2014, BCT growth is expected to resume strongly as the regulatory environment becomes clearer and as faster economic growth takes hold. BCT revenue is expected to reach $1.8 billion in 2017.

UBT revenue growth has been the strongest among the three business income taxes so far in 2013. Revenue is expected to be $1.7 billion this year, 6.7 percent more than 2012 collections. IBO is expecting consistently fast—though hardly unprecedented—growth in subsequent years as strong earnings growth in the professional and business service, financial service, and information sectors is expected. UBT revenues in 2014 are forecast to be $1.9 billion—10.1 percent growth over 2013. They will then grow by an annual average of 9.6 percent during the 2015-2017 period, with UBT revenue reaching $2.5 billion in 2017.

There are only modest differences between IBO's and OMB's forecasts of the combined business income taxes in 2013 and 2014, with IBO predicting $164 million (2.8 percent) less than OMB for 2013 and $115 million (2.0 percent) more in 2014. After 2014, IBO's forecasts for each of the taxes are higher than OMB's, due to the faster growth in IBO's economic forecast. By 2017, the difference in projected revenue for the three taxes totals $1.1 billion.

Personal Income Taxes. A surge of estimated payments made in April by taxpayers filing for extensions has led IBO to increase its 2013 forecast of personal income tax (PIT) revenue by $522 million, to $9.2 billion—15.1 percent growth over 2012 collections. In 2014, however, PIT revenue will decline 5.7 percent, to $8.6 billion. This pattern of very strong revenue growth followed by revenue decline is due to a shift of capital gains realizations and year-end bonus compensation into calendar year 2012 in anticipation of increases in federal tax rates, boosting fiscal year 2013 revenue at the expense of 2014 and, to a lesser extent, subsequent years.

IBO's forecast for 2013 estimated payments, the component of PIT collections that includes most capital gains liability, is $2.9 billion, 36.8 percent greater than payments in 2012. Similarly, 2013 payments with final returns, which also reflect capital gains, are forecast to rise 18.0 percent. With a significant amount of gains that would have been realized in calendar year 2013 accelerated into 2012, there will be fewer realizations this year and next, resulting in a 23.4 percent fall-off in estimated payments for 2014. But the strength of the PIT this year is not simply the result of accelerated capital gains realizations fueling

estimated payments and payments with final returns. Based on strong collections to date in 2013—particularly during the winter months when bonuses are typically paid—we also expect a 6.5 percent increase in withholding, reflecting employment gains and personal income growth this past year. For 2014, we anticipate slower withholding growth of 4.2 percent, due to the impact of weaker U.S. growth on the city's economy and the likelihood that next year's bonus season will not be as strong.

With personal income growth in the city expected to double after calendar year 2013 and an average annual gain of 77,000 jobs forecast for calendar years 2014 and 2015, IBO forecasts $9.8 billion of PIT revenue in 2015—13.2 percent greater than in 2014. In 2016 and 2017, IBO projects slower revenue growth at an annual average rate of 3.1 percent, with revenues reaching $10.4 billion in 2017.

IBO's 2013 PIT forecast is only $36 million (0.4 percent) higher than OMB's. The difference between the two forecasts grows to $464 million in 2014, the result of faster income and employment growth in IBO's economic outlook and of OMB forecasting a much sharper drop in estimated payments. The differences in the economic forecasts continue to widen the divergence between the PIT projections, to $725 million in 2015 and roughly comparable amounts thereafter.

Real Property Tax. IBO has made only minor changes to its forecast of real property tax revenue since March. Our 2013 forecast has been increased by $100 million to $18.6 billion—3.4 percent greater than collections in 2012. The revision to our forecast for 2014 is even smaller, a decline of $11 million, with all of the changes in various components of the reserve (prior year collections, cancellations, refunds, delinquencies, and revenue from the lien sale); our levy forecast is unchanged. IBO now expects property tax revenues of $19.5 billion next year, up 4.9 percent from 2013. As in March, our forecast assumes a larger than usual tentative to final roll change, due to expected assessment reductions for properties damaged during Hurricane Sandy. There are also minor changes to our levy and reserve forecasts for 2015 and 2016, resulting in very small changes in the property tax revenue forecast for each year.

For 2014 through 2017, IBO projects that assessed value for tax purposes will grow at an annual rate of 2.8 percent for Class 1, 4.2 percent for Classes 2 and 3, and 6.4 percent for Class 4. The pipeline of assessed value of Class 2 and 4 properties waiting to be phased in is expected to increase throughout the forecast period, from $16.2 billion after the 2014 roll to $20.1 billion after 2017. After 2014, increases in property tax revenue will average 5.1 percent a year, rising from $19.5 billion in 2014 to $20.3 billion in 2015 and reach $22.6 billion in 2017.

IBO's and OMB's forecasts of 2013 property tax revenue are virtually the same. For 2014, the forecasts are also very similar: IBO's revenue forecast is $21 million lower. IBO's forecast of a lower 2014 tax levy than OMB projects is partly offset by our expectation that the coop and condo abatement will cost the city less in foregone tax revenue. For the remainder of the period, IBO's forecast of property tax revenues is higher than OMB's, by a small amount in 2015 ($18 million) and by larger amounts in 2016 ($207 million) and 2017 ($537 million). The growing divergence between the forecasts is attributable to IBO's projection of faster growth in the assessed value of properties for tax purposes.

Transfer Taxes. The city's real estate markets continue to recover after bottoming out in 2010. IBO forecasts an 18.7 percent increase in real property transfer tax (RPTT) receipts in 2013, to almost $1.1 billion, and a 33.8 percent increase in mortgage recording tax (MRT) receipts, to $718 million.

MRT revenues have increased at a faster rate than either taxable real estate sales or the RPTT this year. Both commercial mortgages, which are taxed at a higher rate than residential mortgages, and mortgage refinancing, which generates MRT revenue without a corresponding sale, have been strong. Though New York City-specific data are not available, national data from the Mortgage Bankers Association indicate that from July 2012 through March 2013, refinancing accounted for around three-fourths of the value of residential mortgage originations.

The growth in RPTT revenue this fiscal year has come primarily through commercial real estate transactions—33 percent higher through March than during the equivalent period in 2012. RPTT revenue from residential sales was up 18 percent. In anticipation of higher capital gains tax rates effective January 1, 2013, sales of both commercial and—to a lesser extent—residential properties surged at the end of calendar year 2012. Many transactions that took place late in calendar year 2012 were not recorded until January 2013, including the two largest taxable sales of commercial properties so far in 2013, each greater than $1 billion. The increase in capital gains taxes shifted the timing of some real estate transactions that otherwise would have occurred in fiscal year 2014. As a result, slower revenue growth in

2014 is projected for each tax. IBO forecasts $1.1 billion in RPTT collections—2.4 percent growth—and $746 million in MRT receipts, an increase of 3.9 percent. IBO projects faster revenue growth for the 2015 through 2017 period, at average annual rates of 11.1 percent for the RPTT and 9.8 percent for the MRT. RPTT increases will be fueled by both residential and commercial sales, and mortgage activity will remain strong. IBO expects that mortgage rates will begin to climb in 2015 but will remain low enough by historical standards to encourage mortgage activity. By 2017, RPTT revenue is forecast to reach $1.5 billion and MRT revenue $988 million, for a total of around $2.5 billion—still well below the 2007 peak of $3.3 billion. In general, IBO's forecast for the transfer taxes are slightly higher than OMB's but follow a similar trajectory; IBO's forecast of combined RPTT and MRT revenues over the entire 2013 through 2017 period is 1.3 percent above OMB's.

Sales Tax. In recent months sales tax collections have been strong, and IBO has increased its forecast of sales tax revenue to $6.1 billion in 2013, 4.8 percent over last year's collections. Through March sales tax revenue is up 5.2 percent over the same period last year—an increase that is greater than expected given the expiration of the payroll tax holiday at the start of the calendar year. But revenue growth in the remainder of fiscal year 2013 and in 2014 is expected to slow, as the economic effects of the payroll tax increase and sequestration become more broadly felt. IBO's forecast of sales tax revenue for 2014 is $6.3 billion, 4.2 percent greater than projected for 2013.

Sales tax receipts have grown strongly in part because the flow into the city of record numbers of tourists has continued, even through January and February—months when the number of tourist visits typically fall off. (Tourists not only pay sales taxes on their purchases in stores and restaurants, they also pay sales tax on hotel rooms, in addition to a separate tax on hotel occupancy.) Sales tax receipts in recent months were also likely bolstered by households rebuilding and replacing property and goods lost to Hurricane Sandy.

With the expectation that income and employment growth will accelerate by the end of this calendar year as fiscal drag abates, IBO projects $6.7 billion in sales tax receipts in fiscal year 2015—strong but hardly unprecedented growth of 5.3 percent over the previous year. Increases in sales tax revenues are expected to average 4.8 percent a year over the remainder of the forecast period, with collections reaching $7.3 billion in 2017.

IBO's sales tax forecasts for 2013 and 2014 are only 0.3 percent greater than OMB's, by $20 million and $22 million, respectively. Because differences between OMB's and IBO's projections of employment and income increase over the forecast period, the difference between IBO's and OMB's sale tax forecasts also widens, from $93 million in 2015 to $246 million in 2017.

Expenditures

Based on our latest projections, annual increases in tax collections will outpace IBO's estimate of growth in spending under the Mayor's budget plan. IBO projects that spending in 2014 will total $70.4 billion from all revenue sources, over $600 million more than projected by the Mayor. When we adjust our 2014 estimate to account for the use of the expected 2013 surplus to prepay some of next year's expenses, total spending to meet 2014 needs is $72.4 billion, an increase of 0.4 percent. Looking just at city-funded spending, which excludes the one-time federal funds in the wake of Sandy, expenditures are projected to grow from $50.2 billion this year to $52.4 billion in 2014, an increase of 4.4 percent.

IBO's higher expenditure estimate in 2014 includes our projection that city agencies will need to spend about $120 million more than budgeted under the Bloomberg Administration's plan. This additional spending is in a number of areas such as $71 million for health insurance for city employees, $20 million for a likely runoff election following this September's primaries, $15 million in overtime for correction officers, and $14 million for homeless shelters for single adults and families.

Where Costs Are Rising. While spending for most city functions remains flat under the Mayor's budget plan, there are several expenditure categories that continue to rise. One of the largest and fastest growing city expenditures is the cost of health care insurance and other fringe benefits for city employees. Health and related benefit costs are expected to increase by $136 million in 2014 and total just over $5.0 billion (including the use of the last $1.0 billion left in the Retiree Health Benefits Trust fund). Health costs are expected to climb an additional $403 million in 2015 and total nearly $5.5 billion. By 2017, health care and related benefit costs are projected to reach $6.4 billion—an increase of $1.5 billion from this year—rising at an average annual rate of 6.9 percent.

Rapid growth in health care costs is not unique to New York City. Last month's Government Accountability Office report

on state and local budgets cited rising health care costs as the primary long-term fiscal challenge faced by statehouses and city halls nationwide. The report also notes that the effect of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the growth rate of health care costs for governments remains uncertain.

Another large and fast-growing cost is debt service on the money the city borrows for its capital projects such as building or expanding schools, fixing roads and bridges, and buying sanitation trucks or police cars. The Mayor's plan projects debt service spending to rise by $253 million in 2014 and total $6.2 billion after adjusting for the use of the 2013 surplus to prepay some of the next year's costs. Debt service is expected to increase by an additional $933 million in 2015 and reach nearly $7.2 billion. By 2017, the last year of the financial plan, debt service is projected to reach $7.7 billion—a $1.7 billion increase from this year—rising at an average annual rate of 6.6 percent.

Although low-interest rates over the past few years have enabled the city to borrow at lower-than-expected costs and refinance some existing debt to reduce future costs, debt service spending is projected to continue to rise because of the city's many, and in some cases very costly, capital projects. The Bloomberg Administration's latest Capital Commitment Plan for 2013-2017 spends $44.5 billion on projects, with $34.3 billion of the funds coming from the city. Among the initiatives in the plan are $10.6 billion in school construction projects, $547 million for the design and reconstruction of a new detention center on Rikers Island, and $151 million for the planned renovation of the New York Public Library's central branch on 42nd Street.

While not growing as fast in percentage terms as some other parts of the city's operating budget, spending by the Department of Education is rising sharply in dollar terms. Education spending is expected to rise by $711 million and total nearly $19.9 billion in 2014 and then increase by another $592 million in 2015 when it is expected to reach almost $20.5 billion. By 2017, education spending is expected to reach $21.7 billion—a $2.6 billion increase—rising at an average annual rate of 3.2 percent.

A substantial share of the growth in education spending is largely funded by an expected rise in state aid. This includes the restoration of $250 million in state assistance for 2014 the city lost this year because of the impasse in developing a plan for teacher evaluations. With the state education commissioner now responsible for ensuring the city has an evaluation plan in place for next year, the city will avoid a second penalty of $213 million in aid for 2014. The Mayor's plan also includes an increase of $121 million of state foundation aid in 2014.

Rise in Pension & Medicaid Costs Ease. Although the costs of pensions for municipal employees and the city's Medicaid expenditures continue to be substantial costs in dollar terms, their rate of growth has slowed considerably from past years. The Mayor's financial plan projects the city's pension contributions will grow from about $8.1 billion this year to nearly $8.7 billion in 2017, an annual average increase of 1.8 percent. With pension fund investments earning a return of roughly 12.0 percent this fiscal year to date, well above the current assumption of 7.0 percent, it is likely the city's pension costs will be reestimated downward in 2015 and beyond as the benefit of this year's good returns begin to be phased in.

While the city's budget for Medicaid spending is also substantial, it is no longer growing rapidly. This is largely due to the cap enacted by Albany several years ago to ease the pressure of then fast-rising Medicaid costs on local budgets. Medicaid spending is projected to grow from $6.5 billion this year to just under $6.6 billion in 2017, an average annual increase of 0.3 percent.

Spending Cuts. The budget plan for 2014 includes a $1.0 billion set of proposals to reduce city-funded spending and bring in additional revenue. Much of the Program to Eliminate the Gap (PEGs) remains the same as when first proposed in the November 2012 Financial Plan. The PEG program includes $940 million in reductions of city-funded expenditures and $109 million in new revenue through increases to various fees and fines.

There are several measures previously announced by the Bloomberg Administration and that drew considerable public attention that have been reversed or scaled back in the most recent budget plan. One such measure is the plan to charge large nonprofit organizations for garbage collection. This plan, which has been eliminated, was expected to raise $17 million in 2013 and beyond. The parks department initiative to sell naming rights to dog runs and basketball courts and market other sponsorships has not succeeded. Initially expected to raise $13 million this year, it has brought in no revenue and the projection for 2014 and beyond has been reduced to $7.0 million a year. The expected savings of $2.0 million from the planned implementation of a new eligibility review for single adults

Sandy's Aftermath and Federal Aid

The Mayor's budget plan includes $4.5 billion in federal aid to the city in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Of these funds, $1.5 billion is in the city's operating budget and will virtually all be spent in the current fiscal year. The other $3.0 billion is in the city's capital budget and is expected to be spent over fiscal years 2013 through 2015. Nearly $1.8 billion in additional funding was recently approved by Washington for New York City. These funds, which will come through the federal Community Development Block Grant program, have not yet been recognized in the city's budget.

The $1.5 billion largely comes to the city through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and is intended to reimburse the city for emergency relief, cleanup, and repairs. This includes $192 million in overtime, holiday pay, and other Sandy-related personnel costs for city agencies; two agencies, the police department ($87 million) and the sanitation department ($63 million), account for the majority of these costs. The city had initially received $500 million for its Rapid Repairs program, which made free emergency repairs such as restoring heat or electricity so that residents could stay in their homes while waiting for longer-term repairs. The city has now received $77 million more to cover additional costs incurred under this program.

The capital funds will be used for a range of longer-term infrastructure repair and rebuilding projects. This includes repairs to roads and bridges, schools, hospitals, beaches, boardwalks, and parks as well as housing and other buildings. The largest change since the Mayor's January plan is the redistribution of $477 million that had been allocated for undefined purposes in the city's housing department. These funds have been removed from the housing department and reallocated for other Sandy-related needs. For example, capital funding for beach and boardwalk repairs has been increased by $211 million, various parks repairs by $30 million, and playground repairs by $16 million, bringing total parks department capital funding for Sandy-related repairs to $785 million. The other largest planned areas of spending are $775 million for road and bridge repair and $712 million for hospital repairs.

A substantial portion of the community development funds will be used for housing aid such as providing grants to owners of Sandy-damaged homes, and a combination of grants and loans to renovate apartment buildings and to purchase emergency generators for public housing developments. Some of the community development funds will also be used to aid business recovery efforts.

seeking entry to the city's homeless shelters has also been eliminated for 2013. The City Council challenged and won its case against the new eligibility review, but the Bloomberg Administration may file an appeal and has still budgeted the savings in 2014 and later years.

The budget plan also reveals some early indications of the effects of recent federal cutbacks, the so-called sequestration. The Bloomberg Administration intends to cover the loss of $63 million in federal school aid with the additional funding the city expects from the state. The Bloomberg Administration also has a partial—and temporary—fix for the expected loss of $36 million in federal funding for Section 8 housing vouchers in 2014. The housing department intends to tap a reserve fund for the program next year, but this is a one-time measure that would cover only about half of the expected loss of funding and would mean the city will not be able to issue any new vouchers for rental assistance.

Other losses in federal aid may not be reversed even temporarily. The city expects to lose about $14 million in federal aid from the Child Development Fund, which is used to support child care, child welfare, and related programs. Cuts to federal health funding will cost the city $8.7 million in 2014; nearly $7.0 million of these funds are for AIDS/HIV-related services and the rest for tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases, immunization, and other programs. Additionally, the city will also lose $2.0 million in Workforce Investment Act funds in 2014 on top of a previously anticipated reduction of $5.1 million.

Besides the federal cutbacks, the budget plan for 2014 also does not include about $400 million in City Council restorations and initiatives funded just for 2013. Some of these are among the most controversial cuts embedded in the Executive Budget for 2014. One example is the loss of $102 million in subsidies for the city's library systems in 2014—a combination of restorations funded for just the current year as well as cuts proposed in November for next year—which could lead libraries to reduce services by as much as two days a week. An underlying $51 million cut to the city's largest after-school program, Out-of-School Time, coupled with a

new reduction of $10 million proposed for 2014, would reduce the number of slots in the program from 56,000 this year to 21,500 next year. The Executive Budget would also eliminate 20 fire companies, a reduction that has been proposed and rejected in each of the past three years—restored last year at a stated cost of $44 million.

Challenges on the Horizon? While the city's overall budget picture looks relatively bright as presented in the Executive Budget for 2014 and Financial Plan through 2017, the picture could darken quickly. The largest fiscal challenge facing the city is a settlement of the expired contracts with New York's municipal labor unions. All of the city's labor contracts have expired—three of the city's largest unions have been working under expired contracts for more than three years—and there is virtually no money set aside for raises prior to 2013. The Mayor's latest financial plan continues to assume there will be no retroactive raises unless they are paid for with productivity gains, something that is particularly difficult to do retroactively. The financial plan is placing a fiscal bet that may be hard to win.

To better understand the potential cost to the city from new contract agreements, earlier this year IBO developed a plausible scenario for a settlement with the unions (the terms are detailed in our Analysis of the Mayor's Preliminary Budget released in March). Under this scenario, a settlement would cost the city $4.5 billion by the end of this fiscal year. This scenario would also add $1.8 billion annually to the city's personnel costs in 2014 and in future years.

Another potential challenge, though comparatively modest in scale, is the Mayor's plan to generate revenue through the sale of 2,000 new taxi medallions. Four separate lawsuits have put the plan on hold and the Mayor has repeatedly changed projections of when the city would receive the expected total of $1.5 billion from the sale. The Bloomberg Administration now expects the city to net $300 million from the sale in 2014 (down $300 million from the estimate in the January 2013 plan) and $400 million in 2015 (down $97 million since January), with the balance coming in 2016 and 2017. Given the history of this plan, these expectations seem far from certain.

Another challenge could come from still emerging plans for increasing the city's resilience to Sandy-like storms in the future. Suggestions such as building sea walls are hugely expensive and it remains unclear how much Washington or Albany are willing to invest in helping the city prepare. Additionally, the mounting cost of providing health care for retired city workers will consume an increasingly substantial portion of the city's annual budget and potentially crowd out other spending needs.

There are economic uncertainties abroad and at home that could also lead to increased fiscal challenges locally. Ongoing economic problems in the European Union, with most countries in recession or at risk of recession, could have reverberations here. In Washington, another showdown over the debt limit or federal spending could undermine consumer and business confidence, effecting growth in the national and local economies. Federal regulatory changes for the financial sector, which are still a work in progress, could result in slower job and wage growth on Wall Street than IBO has forecast—and less tax revenues for the city.

A Mixed Message. Mayor Bloomberg has said that one goal of his administration was to not leave the next Mayor facing the level of fiscal duress he inherited. On paper the Mayor's budget plan accomplishes that goal. IBO projects a surplus approaching $500 million in the budget plan for 2014 and our projected shortfall for 2015 amounts to a very modest 1.7 percent of city-generated revenue, a sum easily covered by routine end-of-year accounting actions.

Yet the Mayor's presentation of his last Executive Budget struck a somewhat discordant note. Although he trumpeted such factors as the city's strong job growth, the number of tourists visiting the city hitting a record-high last year, and the city's rising level of housing construction, the Mayor placed even greater emphasis on the city's rising expenses. In particular, he pointed to rising labor costs, including the cost of pensions and health benefits—even absent a settlement of the expired contracts.

Reaching settlements with city unions may require an approach other than simply saying no to retroactive raises. That does not mean the level of raises in our scenario are a given—the high cost underscores just how difficult it would be fiscally. But zeroes for those past years without a new contract may be equally impractical. At the same time, balancing the city's budget largely through spending reductions as has been the practice over the past few years may not be tenable in the future, particularly if federal cutbacks continue to mount. New York City may well be in better fiscal condition that many other cities around the country, but that does not mean the next Mayor and City Council will be free of budget challenges.

Detailed Tables on IBO's Revenue and Expenditure Estimates

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Detailed Tables on IBO's Revenue and Expenditure Estimates

IBO Revenue Projections 2

IBO Expenditure Projections 3

Pricing Differences Between IBO and the Bloomberg Administration 4

IBO Versus Office of Management and Budget Economic Forecast 5

Return to PDF

Return to HTML

Pricing Differences Between IBO and the Bloomberg Administration
Items that Affect the Gap
Dollars in millions

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gaps as Estimated by the Mayor	**$-**	**$-**	**($2,193)**	**($1,899)**	**($1,417)**
Revenues					
Taxes					
Property	($1)	($21)	$18	$207	$537
Personal Income	36	464	725	737	652
General Sales	20	22	93	173	246
General Corporation	(50)	37	50	194	224
Unincorporated Business	(16)	80	194	381	474
Banking Corporation	(98)	(2)	174	361	442
Real Property Transfer	(10)	(2)	11	44	6
Mortgage Recording	9	23	20	43	(12)
Utility	17	31	47	55	68
Hotel Occupancy	(4)	17	33	42	60
Commercial Rent	7	13	11	23	11
Cigarette	2	1	-	1	-
	($87)	**$664**	**$1,376**	**$2,260**	**$2,708**
STaR Reimbursement	-	(1)	(2)	(3)	(5)
Total Revenues	**($87)**	**$663**	**$1,374**	**$2,257**	**$2,702**
Expenditures					
Fringe Benefits:					
Health Insurance - Education	$49	($50)	($17)	($37)	($33)
Health Insurance - City University	(32)	(42)	(52)	(63)	(75)
Health Insurance - All Other Agencies	(1)	21	2	(36)	(39)
Education	-	(7)	(17)	(38)	(47)
Public Assistance	-	4	6	6	7
Homeless Services	(2)	(14)	(14)	(14)	(14)
Correction	-	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)
Small Business Services	5	3	(4)	(4)	(4)
Board of Elections	-	(20)	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	**$19**	**($120)**	**($111)**	**($201)**	**($220)**
Total IBO Pricing Differences	**($68)**	**$544**	**$1,263**	**$2,056**	**$2,482**
IBO Prepayment Adjustment 2013/2014	68	(68)	-	-	-
IBO Surplus/(Gap) Projections	**$-**	**$476**	**($930)**	**$157**	**$1,065**

NOTES: Negative pricing differences (in parentheses) widen the gaps, while positive pricing differences narrow the gaps. Figures may not add due to rounding.
New York City Independent Budget Office

IBO Expenditure Projections
Dollars in millions

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Average Change
Health & Social Services						
Social Services						
Medicaid	$6,523	$6,547	$6,624	$6,593	$6,593	0.3%
All Other Social Services	2,972	2,885	2,909	2,877	2,878	-0.8%
HHC	177	68	69	69	69	-21.1%
Health	1,654	1,345	1,348	1,347	1,347	-5.0%
Children Services	2,813	2,718	2,733	2,733	2,733	-0.7%
Homeless	1,004	950	945	945	945	-1.5%
Other Related Services	597	466	434	433	433	-7.7%
Subtotal	**$15,739**	**$14,978**	**$15,062**	**$14,998**	**$14,999**	**-1.2%**
Education						
DOE (excluding labor reserve)	$19,166	$19,877	$20,469	$21,094	$21,734	3.2%
CUNY	829	870	876	876	868	1.1%
Subtotal	**$19,996**	**$20,746**	**$21,345**	**$21,970**	**$22,602**	**3.1%**
Uniformed Services						
Police	$4,755	$4,578	$4,570	$4,571	$4,572	-1.0%
Fire	1,910	1,763	1,703	1,700	1,702	-2.8%
Correction	1,091	1,080	1,075	1,076	1,075	-0.4%
Sanitation	1,432	1,424	1,461	1,460	1,460	0.5%
Subtotal	**$9,187**	**$8,845**	**$8,809**	**$8,806**	**$8,809**	**-1.0%**
All Other Agencies	**$8,833**	**$7,772**	**$7,859**	**$8,003**	**$8,097**	**-2.2%***
Other Expenditures						
Fringe Benefits	$3,919	$4,055	$5,458	$5,939	$6,422	6.9%**
Debt Service	5,655	4,328	7,037	7,510	7,732	6.6%*
Pensions	8,061	8,192	8,202	8,399	8,653	1.8%
Judgments and Claims	735	768	779	815	851	3.7%
General Reserve	40	450	300	300	300	n/a
Labor Reserve:						
Education	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
All Other Agencies	106	265	465	714	983	n/a
Expenditure Adjustments	(500)	-	111	178	274	n/a
TOTAL Expenditures	**$71,771**	**$70,399**	**$75,428**	**$77,632**	**$79,722**	**2.7%**

NOTES: *Represents the annual average change after adjusting for prepayments.
**The annual average change excludes the Retiree Health Benefits Trust fringe adjustment. Fringe benefits exclude DOE and CUNY expenditures, which are reported within DOE and CUNY budget amounts.
Various agency expenditures include $1.5 billion in Hurricane Sandy federal categorical funding in 2013. Expenditure adjustments include prior-year payable, energy and lease, and non-labor inflation adjustments. Estimates exclude intra-city expenses. Figures may not add due to rounding.

New York City Independent Budget Office

IBO Revenue Projections
Dollars in millions

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Average Change
Tax Revenue						
Property	$18,560	$19,465	$20,346	$21,466	$22,563	5.0%
Personal Income	9,151	8,633	9,770	10,134	10,375	3.2%
General Sales	6,091	6,345	6,683	7,002	7,338	4.8%
General Corporation	2,517	2,623	2,807	3,060	3,247	6.6%
Unincorporated Business	1,746	1,923	2,097	2,328	2,530	9.7%
Banking Corporation	1,335	1,295	1,504	1,701	1,817	8.0%
Real Property Transfer	1,082	1,108	1,277	1,431	1,521	8.9%
Mortgage Recording	718	746	848	949	988	8.3%
Utility	399	425	452	474	491	5.4%
Hotel Occupancy	505	530	569	602	636	6.0%
Commercial Rent	667	699	726	768	789	4.3%
Cigarette	65	64	62	61	59	-2.5%
Other Taxes, Audits, and PEGs	1,576	1,211	1,211	1,211	1,211	-6.4%
Total Taxes	**$44,412**	**$45,068**	**$48,351**	**$51,186**	**$53,565**	**4.8%**
Other Revenue						
STaR Reimbursement	$829	$835	$870	$874	$876	1.4%
Miscellaneous Revenues	4,627	4,998	5,051	5,054	5,164	2.8%
Unrestricted Intergovernmental Aid	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
Disallowances	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)	n/a
Total Other Revenue	**$5,441**	**$5,818**	**$5,906**	**$5,913**	**$6,025**	**2.6%**
Total City Funded Revenue	**$49,853**	**$50,886**	**$54,257**	**$57,098**	**$59,590**	**4.6%**
State Categorical Grants	$11,353	$11,716	$12,055	$12,538	$13,052	3.5%
Federal Categorical Grants	9,008	6,813	6,741	6,721	6,718	-7.1%
Other Categorical Aid	998	924	929	917	913	-2.2%
Interfund Revenues	559	535	515	515	515	-2.0%
TOTAL Revenues	**$71,771**	**$70,874**	**$74,499**	**$77,789**	**$80,788**	**3.0%**

NOTES: Federal categorical grants include $1.5 billion in Hurricane Sandy funding in 2013. Estimates exclude intra-city revenues. Figures may not add due to rounding.

New York City Independent Budget Office

IBO versus Mayor's Office of Management and Budget Economic Forecasts						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
National Economy						
Real GDP Growth						
IBO	2.2	2.2	3.4	3.6	3.3	2.6
OMB	2.2	1.6	2.7	3.4	3.2	3.2
Inflation Rate						
IBO	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.4
OMB	2.1	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8
Personal Income Growth						
IBO	3.6	3.9	6.5	6.8	6.2	5.1
OMB	3.5	2.7	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2
Unemployment Rate						
IBO	8.1	7.6	7.0	6.2	5.8	5.5
OMB	8.1	7.8	7.5	6.8	6.2	5.8
10-Year Treasury Bond Rate						
IBO	1.8	2.2	3.2	4.3	5.0	4.7
OMB	1.8	2.4	3.1	3.5	4.0	4.7
Federal Funds Rate						
IBO	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.7	4.0	4.3
OMB	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.6	3.6
NYC Economy						
Nonfarm New Jobs (thousands)						
IBO	79.5	56.9	72.2	81.1	74.1	69.9
OMB	80.0	54.0	52.0	50.0	49.0	47.0
Nonfarm Employment Growth						
IBO	2.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.8	1.7
OMB	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2
Inflation Rate (CPI-U-NY)						
IBO	2.0	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.7
OMB	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.0
Personal Income ($ billions)						
IBO	464.5	477.8	510.2	545.6	581.3	612.2
OMB	462.8	471.9	488.8	506.7	526.1	547.8
Personal Income Growth						
IBO	2.2	2.9	6.8	6.9	6.5	5.3
OMB	1.6	2.0	3.6	3.7	3.8	4.1
Manhattan Office Rents ($/sq.ft)						
IBO	66.7	67.4	69.7	72.4	74.8	77.8
OMB	67.9	70.8	70.0	74.1	79.0	84.9

SOURCE: Mayor's Office of Management and Budget
NOTES: Rates reflect year-over-year percentage changes except for unemployment, 10-Year Treasury Bond Rate, Federal Funds Rate, and Manhattan Office Rents. The local price index for urban consumers (CPI-U-NY) covers the New York/Northern New Jersey region. Personal income is nominal. For 2012, New York City personal income and growth rates are estimated, pending BEA release.

New York City Independent Budget Office

Testimony of
The United Federation of Teachers
Michael Mulgrew, President

Before the
New York City Council
Committee on Finance

Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget Hearing

June 5, 2013

Good afternoon Chairman Recchia and members of the Finance committee. My name is Michael Mulgrew and I am the President of the United Federation of Teachers. On behalf of our members, I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today concerning the Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget. Given the City Council's history of strong leadership and advocacy on behalf of students and educators, we are especially appreciative of your time and oversight on these matters.

As the mayor's budget is a policy document, it needs to be viewed in the context of whether its priorities and its level of proposed investment fully addresses our city's economic challenges, supports sound education policy or positions our students for long-term success.

NEW YORK CITY'S FAMILIES STRUGGLING TO RECOVER

In the aftermath of the recession, income disparity is now at record levels, and according to the Fiscal Policy Institute, the poverty rate is also up — Over 20 percent of New Yorkers are under the poverty line, including 30 percent of our city's children. The ranks of the working poor have escalated; 400,000 workers in the city don't earn enough to stay above the poverty line. This is the reality for many of the city's 1.1 million students and their families.

REVERSING DISINVESTMENT IN OUR SCHOOLS

I've said this budget is about policy; it's also about choices. As currently proposed, we believe this budget reflects policies and has allocated resources in a manner that falls far short of reversing years of disinvestment in our schools and in important social safety-net services such as subsidized child care slots.

Consider, for example, the Mayor's choice of using state funds to supplant, not supplement, the Department of Education budget. Governor Cuomo and the state Legislature adopted an

executive budget that committed an additional 4.4 percent ($639 million increase) in school aid for New York City next fiscal year, welcome news which should have been a bonus for our school system.

The administration was handed the opportunity to leverage these additional state dollars and help restore our classrooms after the years of cuts to academic intervention, social and emotional learning support and college prep programs. It could fund art and music programs, counseling services, extra-curricular student activities, field trips and professional development for educators. It could apply the additional resources to help mitigate class size increases and reverse the harsh impact of staff attrition.

And when our union went to Albany joined by parents and community members fighting for education funding, the city team focused its efforts on lobbying the state to fund more cameras to combat speeding — not education!

Instead, the Mayor reduced the FY 2014 funding for schools from the original amount budgeted in January.

STOP THE LOSS OF CRITICAL EDUCATORS & STAFF

We testified earlier this year on the loss of teachers and other staff due to attrition. We have lost nearly 6,200 teachers (8% of the workforce) since Oct. 2008. More than 1,000 teaching positions were lost since the start of this school year alone. In addition, during the same time period, over 17% of the school secretary positions have been eliminated, along with 9% of the guidance counselors. The administration's plans to hire about 1,700 positions next year will only cover the expected need for 1,100 additional special education teachers and partially restore 700 of the teachers leaving who were not replaced during 2013. These losses continue to take a toll on our students.

These choices run counter to the years-long battle to gain fiscal equity for our city's schools, and send a lukewarm education policy message to the students and to the public.

TRAINING & IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW TEACHER EVALUATIONS

Despite Mayor Bloomberg's desire for a "gotcha" teacher evaluation system, as Commissioner King noted in his announcement of the new system on June 1, New York City "is not going to fire its way to academic success." That's an important distinction. Four years ago we began a journey to make evaluations about helping teachers develop. There are a lot of positive aspects in the state's plan. The commissioner sided with the UFT on important issues such as due process, multiple measures and teacher voice. Those victories were made possible because throughout these last four years, the UFT held true to what we knew schools and teachers needed to succeed.

Our major concern at this point in time is implementation and training. The size and scope of the state's plan is gigantic, and as our staff continues to analyze the state's ruling, it's clear to us that implementation will be far beyond the capacity or willingness at Tweed.

CAPITALIZE ON AVAILABLE FEDERAL FUNDING

We remain very concerned about the Department of Education's failure to capitalize on available Medicaid reimbursements for special education services, particularly given the gap between the FY '14 forecast and the unmet need. As we've previously testified before this body, the mismanagement in this area means thousands of children have been denied services.

Yesterday, the Chancellor testified before this body indicating that the DOE's own forecasts are lower and now it only anticipates securing about $40 million of these reimbursements for FY '14. Particularly puzzling was his claim that our union — which has advocated relentlessly for these dollars — has hampered the DOE's efforts.

The truth is that hundreds of millions of dollars owed to New York City have been left on the table, unclaimed, even as our schools have endured round after round of budget cuts and as the mayor claims we can't afford all the resources and supports our members need and our children deserve.

SUPPLY EDUCATORS WITH CURRICULUM

Since the roll out of the Common Core Learning Standards, we've appealed to the City Council for help in pressuring the DOE to provide our teachers with the curriculum they need to align their classroom work with the new standards.

While we applaud the DOE for finally recognizing that it needs to supply the curriculum, they've yet again placed the burden on individual school budgets. The money slated to pay for it — approximately $56 million — most likely will only cover the cost of the curriculum itself, not the textbooks and other materials that schools will need to purchase for every student.

Our teachers can't wait any longer for curriculum, which is why the UFT now has teachers writing curriculum that will be posted for everyone on the "Share My Lesson" website, free of charge.

SOLUTIONS THAT WORK

Just two years ago, The City Council was instrumental in stopping the threatened layoff of over 4,000 teachers. As part of that agreement, the UFT agreed to major changes in what is

known as the ATR pool, teachers who had been displaced from their jobs by the closing of schools or due to budget cuts. As of March, some 400 excessed teachers were covering leaves and long term absences, 200 were provisionally placed as substitutes in a try-out for anticipated vacancies or leaves, and another 600 were moving to different schools every week to work as subs. That agreement is working — as are those UFT members — saving millions every year, thanks to your support.

The Council and the leadership of Speaker Quinn were also instrumental in helping the Community Learning Schools Initiative launch its six-school pilot last September, and we are hoping the Council can reaffirm its support for the program by matching last year's $150,000 grant. That funding will help give support to the nine additional schools that have joined our initiative. As covered by recent newspaper articles, students in pilot schools from Coney Island to the South Bronx have received critical services and programs, including much-needed vision care and glasses, which are helping them to succeed and transforming schools into hubs of their communities.

The City Council recognizes that sadly, too few working families in New York can afford good, reliable child care without the assistance to pay for it. For the second consecutive year, Mayor Bloomberg has cut essential child care for 9,000 children. The City Council worked hard last year to restore those cuts and ensure that no child lost his or her care.

However, while those restorations cost $59.6 million last year, that was for only nine months of service. To protect these services for an entire year will certainly cost more, with some estimates as high as $72 million. Of that, $11 million goes directly to Family Child Care which is the home-based care provided by UFT Child Care Providers. It is crucial that these funds are restored, and what's more, your advocacy in placing these services once and for all in the baseline of the Administration for Children's Services budget is critically needed.

We also commend the Council for restoring some of the Teacher's Choice funding last year, to assist teachers in buying much-needed supplies for their classrooms and allowing them to help disadvantaged children obtain some of the basics. We ask your continued support for Teacher's Choice. Ten million ($10 million) would go a long way toward helping teachers supplement the classroom materials that they need.

We also hope the Council will consider providing $100,000 in funding for the citywide BRAVE (Building Respect, Acceptance and Voice through Education) anti-bullying hotline, to add more trained counselors operating the BRAVE phones. This hotline is unique to New York and a vital resource for children and parents.

We will continue to seek your influence over the components that make up the city's Capital Plan, particularly the items that expand class seats to match growing demand and

relieve overcrowding, and those that provide necessary repairs for unsafe conditions in our schools.

Your advocacy on behalf of keeping our schools safe, in particular the Council's support of efforts to address the widespread problem of having lighting fixtures laden with polychlorinated biphenyls — or PCBs — removed from our classrooms, has made a huge difference. The recent announcement expediting the PCB removal from 2021 to 2016 is a clear victory for our children and members who have been in harm's way.

The ill-conceived policies of closing schools without resources and supports and of co-locating multiple schools by shoehorning them into single buildings has contributed to overcrowding and resulted in unrealistic capital plan forecasts. The capital plan's most recent amendment acknowledges an unmet need of 15,500 class seats; we believe this is an under-count and the need for seats far outweighs this conservative estimate. The City Council has always pressured City Hall and its agencies to address the need for class seats with urgency. We ask for your continued support in this matter.

Again, thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of our school communities. Our schools face some very big challenges in the year ahead, but teachers stand ready to face them. They look forward to working in partnership with a new mayor who truly wants to facilitate teaching and learning in our schools and who is committed to championing fiscal policies that invest in our students and position them to compete with their peers across this nation.

The UFT will continue its strong advocacy on behalf of our students and school communities, including working with parents and the community to lower class sizes and to secure more resources and supports for our school buildings. And, as always, the UFT remains committed to working with the Council to help solve these budget issues and improve our schools so every child can receive a quality education.

# # #

TESTIMONY BY CITY COMPTROLLER JOHN C. LIU
ON THE EXECUTIVE NEW YORK CITY FY 2014 BUDGET
AND 2014-2017 FINANCIAL PLAN,
June 5, 2013
(As prepared for delivery)

Thank you, Chairman Recchia and members of the City Council Finance Committee for providing me the opportunity to comment on the Mayor's Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2014.

Deputy Comptroller Ari Hoffnung and our Executive Director for Budget, Jonathan Rosenberg, are here with me today.

I can and will talk to you today about the Executive Budget as it is…But I'd also like to paint a picture for you of the kind of budget we could have, if we focused our priorities to better reflect The New York City Dream. What do I mean by that?

Over the past few months, my office has embarked on an effort to articulate what The New York City Dream means to average New Yorkers. We call it The People's Budget NYC.

I'll go into detail about The People's Budget in a few minutes. First, let's talk about the Executive Budget in front of us.

The Mayor's FY 2014 Executive Budget totals $69.78 billion, $275 million less than the FY 2014 Preliminary Budget Mayor Bloomberg presented to the Council in January.

The FY 2014 Executive Budget is $2.07 billion less than the modified FY 2013 budget of $71.85 billion. But that savings is illusory.

The City will not actually be spending any less in FY 2014 than in FY 2013; it just looks that way because of prepayments and other one-shots. In addition, the FY 2013 budget is inflated by $1.5 billion of Sandy related spending. After netting out these effects, we expect that the City will spend $481 million or 0.7 percent *more* in FY 2014 than in the current fiscal year.

That is not the only sleight of hand in the FY 2014 Executive Budget.

The Mayor, as required by law, must balance the budget and, technically speaking, he has. Yet, as my office has stressed time and again, the Administration's budgeting hides risks which could result in large gaps — $2.524 billion in FY 2013 and $577 million in FY 2014.

The Daily News may only have discovered it last month but, as we have said in testimony here over and over again, *all* City workers are working under expired contracts.

The Mayor has not budgeted sufficiently for even the small wage increases he envisions, and has put aside *bupkis* — as my grandmother in Taiwan would say — for any retroactive wages.

As The News delicately put it, there could be "hell to pay."

The largest risk, as we have pointed out before, is the absence of wage increases for teachers and principals for the 2008–2010 round of collective bargaining.

If the teachers and principals gained an identical contract to the one that the other municipals unions got in that round, the City would need to pay out $2.595 billion in FY 2013, including retroactive wages, and $900 million more each year thereafter.

But this mammoth risk is not the only possible hole on the expense side.

The Mayor's budget also underestimates overtime expenses, which could cost $161 million in FY 2014 and $100 million annually in the outyears.

It also assumes $80 million in Medicaid reimbursements for the Department of Education that my office doesn't think will happen.

On the revenue side, the largest risk we continue to see is the assumption of $1.46 billion of revenues over four years from the sale of taxi medallions starting in FY 2014.

The taxi medallion sale is in court, and it is unclear how the judge will rule. We are also concerned that, even if the sale eventually does go forward, the market for the medallions may not be as robust as the City has assumed.

True, we do see some good news on the revenue side that offsets some of these risks.

My office projects that the City will reap $771 million more in taxes than the Mayor's FY 2014 Financial Plan estimates, largely on the strength of personal income tax revenues.

But my office does not expect that personal income tax revenues will drop as much as the City forecasts, mostly because of the large gains in the stock market during the first five months of 2013.

My office also projects that the City economy will grow more in FYs 2014-2015 than the Mayor thinks it will. Job growth has strengthened considerably, although minority unemployment remains disproportionately and unacceptably high at 11.2 percent compared to 5.9 percent for white New Yorkers. All told, we think the City will collect anywhere from $230 million to $976 million more in taxes, mostly because of commercial-property appreciation.

We also see some potential on the savings side.

Last June, the Administration forecast a budget gap of $2.51 billion for FY 2014, and it closed that gap through a PEG and by rolling over an additional $2.04 billion surplus from FY 2013.

We have identified even more resources that could offset cuts to vital services such as fire companies and child care.

First, significant savings may still be possible in FY 2013, thanks to favorable interest rates, including about $165 million of debt-service savings that are not reflected in this budget.

Second, in FY 2014, debt-service savings could add another $125 million if the budget's variable interest rate assumptions are brought into line with the already conservative assumptions of the FY 2013 budget.

Finally, the Administration has funneled another $150 million into the general reserve for FY 2014, bringing the total for the year to $450 million.

The general reserve is a fund to cover any unforeseen expenses or shortfall in revenues during the fiscal year. It usually is funded at $300 million. It hasn't been used for current-year expenses in recent memory.

But since the Administration has padded it out, maybe the Council could use some of that money to fund what the average New Yorker dreams about when he or she thinks about this City at its best.

Most of us have now been through many budgets, and have observed and participated in what we know as "the budget dance." That's the annual ritual where we fight with the Mayor over $200 million — a mere one-half of 1 percent of the total budget — to restore the fire companies, after-school programs, and all the other worthy things that he cuts every year.

I know some of you agree with me when I say that I've always found the budget dance to be a distraction that kept us from focusing on the larger picture of what New Yorkers really want from City government.

Earlier this year, I asked my staff to comb through the entire budget. I challenged them to identify new resources that could be used to make new investments in New York City.

In April, we released The People's Budget NYC — a comprehensive plan including 68 proposals that could make The New York City Dream a reality by translating our values and priorities into dollars and cents.

These proposals include making City schools great again, building affordable housing, enhancing public safety, housing the homeless, and providing social services to our growing senior population.

We also found $15 billion in revenue to pay for those proposals — including enough to cut the City personal income tax for 99 percent of earners.

Then, early in May, we put The Peoples Budget online, and invited all New Yorkers to discuss our proposals, vote them up or down, and add their own ideas.

In a manner of speaking, we "crowd-sourced" the City budget!

The results of this discussion, which ended on June 3rd, have been illuminating. In the month of its operation, the online tool we created, Peoplesbudgetnyc.com, registered 1,250 users and 10,618 votes on 132 ideas.

Sixty-four of those ideas, about half, came from the public.

New Yorkers of all walks of life used the Peoplesbudgetnyc.com as a way to understand and learn about City spending.

On May 28, I visited a GED class at a youth center in the South Bronx that was using the website to teach civics and government.

I promised New Yorkers that I would bring the top three proposals which received the most votes on the site to your attention today. I am delighted to report that the No. 1 proposal, which is to support more adult literacy programs, comes from the people directly.

The second and third top-rated proposals are included in The People's Budget: longer library hours, and recouping $163 million from Hewlett Packard for its overbilling on ECTP.

The strength of these three proposals show the fervent desire of ordinary New Yorkers to better themselves through education, to share in the riches of our City's cultural resources, and to hold corporations accountable.

They show a need for our budget to focus on basic fairness.

The People's Budget NYC was not the first time any American City tried to crowd-source budget ideas; Chicago also did it last year. Even so, I don't think it is boasting to say that The People's Budget NYC stands out as a signal experiment in participatory democracy and in taxpayer engagement.

I appreciate your time and attention today. Thank you for allowing me to bring some new ideas to the table. I'm happy to take any questions you may have.

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TESTIMONY BY CAPTAIN ALEXANDER HAGAN, PRESIDENT
UNIFORMED FIRE OFFICERS ASSOCATION
BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 5, 2013

My name is Lieutenant Edward Boles, Treasurer of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, testifying on behalf of our UFOA President, Captain Alexander Hagan and the 2,500 active Fire Officers who proudly serve the 8.2 million people of New York City.

For the last four years, this City's administration has tried to close 20 Fire Companies with no just cause. That this proposal is up for discussion again is beyond absurd. The Commissioner of the Fire Department, in his last four testimonies, admitted that closing Fire Companies will have an adverse impact on every neighborhood in this City. This mindset is reckless, unjustified, and worst of all, dangerous.

The Speaker and the City Council have told the Mayor three years in a row that their budget priority is keeping Fire Companies open. The administration has ignored the City Council yet again, indicating "we really don't care what you think, and we are going to close Fire Companies anyway."

That is a deliberate insult to a body of women and men in the Council that try to do the right thing by their constituents, especially since New York City already ranks near the bottom of the top 40 cities in the U.S. for firehouses per capita. Even more disturbing, the Mayor has often asked the City agencies "to do more with less." The FDNY has done that with the lives of New York City civilians hanging in the balance.

The FDNY was a world-class agency that was 3% of the total City Budget in 2001. That percentage has now been reduced to almost 2.5% in 2013, yet Mr. Bloomberg wants to cut more. How much blood can you squeeze out of a pebble that once was a rock?

No one knows why Mayor Bloomberg wants to shrink the Fire Department. In 2002, only a year after 343 brave Firefighters gave their lives at the World Trade Center, he announced that he was closing eight Engine Companies. After a fierce fight, he succeeded in closing six of them. That reduced our quota by 150 members.

And he gleefully eliminated the fifth Firefighter in 60 Engine Companies in February of 2011, further reducing the FDNY quota by 300 members and automatically escalating the time it takes to get water on a fire. Most of these companies were located in the City's poorest neighborhoods.

As a result of these staffing cuts, the FDNY's net roster stands today at 10,200 --- exactly 1,137 fewer uniformed members than we had the morning of the attack on the World Trade Center.

And as this City Council knows only too well, the Mayor has spent all of his third term hounding the Council to close 20 more Fire Companies even as his administration has wastefully spent billions on failed technology projects like the Universal Call Taking System and City Time. But there is a dirty little secret attached to this annual struggle – each year, the Mayor forces the City Council to spend its discretionary money to save the Fire Companies, whose price tag has risen to $60 million for this year. Who are the innocent victims of this yearly outrage? The Parks, the Libraries, the Daycare and Senior Citizen Centers, and all of the treasured things that help to make New York City a great place to live and work.

The UFOA is close to completing a major research project on Civilian Injuries and Firefighter Injuries. Despite the claim that both serious fires and civilian fire fatalities are at an all-time low, civilian fire injuries have actually doubled between 2008 and 2011, with approximately 900 New Yorkers injured by fire annually. We intend to supply our research to every member of the City Council. When considering the current budget decisions, please be advised that in 23 of 51 City Council Districts, civilian injury rates are above average. Council Districts 3, 13, 15, 30, 34, 41, 43 and 50 have some of the highest injury rates, yet these eight districts are all scheduled to lose a Fire Company if the Mayor has his way.

The citizens of New York City that need fire protection the most will suffer severely if Fire Companies are closed. The young, the elderly and the residents of the poorest neighborhoods rely on the exemplary service of our fire units to keep them safe and come to their rescue when they need our assistance. Our units have revived over 1,500 civilians in cardiac arrest in the last five years. Last year was a record year, with 417 pre-hospital saves.

The members we represent continue to answer the call, with herculean efforts to assist and rescue all those in danger during some of the most catastrophic events encountered by New York City over the last several years. When NYC seemed to be brought to its knees during these cataclysmic events, our members rose to the occasion to save this City when things looked dire. Yet, the Mayor's thanks is to close your neighborhood Fire Companies. This is morally repugnant. We will stand with Speaker Quinn & the City Council to make sure that this administration does not further endanger this City's citizens with these preposterous budget cuts to this great Department.

TESTIMONY OF LOCAL 372, DC 37 PRESIDENT SANTOS CRESPO, JR.,

CONCERNING

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FY 14 EXCUTIVE BUDGET BEFORE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

HONORABLE DOMENIC M. RECCHIA, JR., CHAIRMAN

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2013

Good Afternoon.

My name is Santos Crespo, Jr. I am president of Local 372, District Council 37. I want to first thank Chairman Recchia and the members of the Finance Committee for your time and concern in ensuring the needs and concerns of New Yorkers are addressed in the new budget.

Our union represents more than more than 20,000 non-teaching employees within the New York City public school system. Our members are the Parent Coordinators, School Aides, Crossing Guards, and some 300 Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialists (SAPIS) counselors.

We are the men and women who are the bridge that leads our children safely from their homes to the school door; provide the healthy, nutritious meals; ensure hallways and school yards are safe; provide the intervention services to those students who fall to the temptations of drugs and alcohol; and provide the vital link between the school and the local community.

Our members provide the support services necessary to operation of a successful school and school system. Open the dictionary and you will find several definitions for "support." Including one that describes my membership: "To keep from weakening or failing, strengthen."

Our members are the bedrock of the public education system upon which the futures of New York City 1.1 million students are built.

We are proud of our role and our work. Unfortunately, City Hall and the Department of Education too often see us as nothing more than a budget line in a ledger. And an easy target when looking to trim a budget.

Time and again over the past four years we have suffered staff reductions among our SAPIS counselors; our Parent Coordinators, and our School Aides.

And, as bad as those cuts have been, were it not for the work of this committee and others in the City Council, the losses would have been far more severe. Despite your help, and additional assistance from Washington the numbers are distressing.

This is what has happened to us since 2008:

* More than 1,600 School Aides/Health Aides have been lost to layoffs and attrition. And, while some have been recalled we have still not reached 2009 levels.
* The number of SAPIS employees has been reduced from 475 to 300.
* The number of Loaders and Handlers has been reduced from 47 to 31.
* The number of Parent and Community Coordinator positions dropped from 1,704 to 1,681, leaving dozens positions unfilled.
* We have lost more than 200 Family and Paraprofessionals; and more than 100 School Lunch Aides.

These losses have been devastating for those who lost their jobs, many of them single parents, and their families. But the effect of those cuts has been felt and can be seen every time we pick up a newspaper, listen to the radio, or watch a news report.

It seems not a day goes by when we won't hear of some cruel act of bullying or violence; or students abusing prescription drugs or experimenting with some hip, new, designer drug.

And, while these problems have continued to escalate, the Department of Education, which will spend millions on outside agencies and consultants, continues to cut our headcount.

We need our School Aides and Cafeteria Workers to help free our teachers to do their important work, and ensure our students can move safely to their classrooms and arrive prepared to learn.

Just as importantly we need our SAPIS counselors to help those students who have begun to use and abuse drugs and alcohol receive the help and counseling they need to put their lives back on track. As well as provide early intervention for at-risk students before they are drawn into a world of drugs and despair.

Each of our members, no matter what their job title, provides the vital and important role in strengthening our schools. We cannot build a successful school system, if we continue to create budgets built on weakening our vital support services.

Thank you.

FOR THE RECORD

MET COUNCIL

ACTS OF CHARITY • DEEDS OF KINDNESS צדקה וגמילות חסדים

New York City Council

June 5, 2013

Executive Budget Hearing-Finance Committee

Testimony of Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty

Since its inception in 1972, Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty (Met Council) has been a defender and advocate for New Yorkers in need. Services range from crisis intervention to affordable housing and kosher food pantries to benefits enrollment assistance, designed to stabilize individuals and families while giving them tools for continued self-sufficiency.

Together with its network of 25 local Jewish Community Councils, Met Council is able to reach and strengthen well over 100,000 people annually, in every ZIP code in the city, with culturally sensitive services and programs for all ethnicities. Met Council's "no wrong door" policy ensures that no matter which point of entry clients use to access services, they will be assisted with all of their needs in order to solve the root of the problem. These services are especially targeted to communities with a high concentration of working-poor and near-poor households whose unmet needs are not fully addressed by government and other social service agencies, because they hover slightly above the federal poverty threshold.

Economic recovery is still not trickling down to working poor families as the Federal Reserve's expansionary monetary policy is only benefiting the wealthy who own stock. Contrary to public opinion, poverty is increasing especially rapidly among working New Yorkers as revealed by the Census Bureau figures for 2011. One out of four New Yorkers is low-income and can barely make it from month to month, while working as hard as they possibly can. Jewish Poverty in New York is subject to many of the same forces and continues to grow at an alarming rate as well. Presently, one in four New York City Jewish households is poor and one in ten is near-

poor. The need for emergency food, crisis intervention, and other comprehensive social services will continue to increase dramatically.

This alarming rise in poverty underlines the need for policies that provide direct mechanisms to fund grassroots community and neighborhood efforts that fill in service gaps for working-poor and near-poor populations. New York City Council discretionary funding successfully accomplishes this by leveraging private and philanthropic dollars into these underserved communities. **In FY12, Met Council distributed $2,297,399 in Financial Assistance and $647,051 in Food Vouchers, in addition to providing 175,543 units of Information and Referral and giving out 415,425 food packages to approximately 15,000 households per month.** The elimination of New York State discretionary funding, which widened the gap between the supply and demand for social services, has caused Met Council and our JCCs to become even more dependent on New York City Council for support that focuses on our neediest New Yorkers. Public policy must reflect the importance of helping those in need become independent.

We believe that workforce development programs should be an integral part of the New York's poverty alleviation and economic recovery efforts. We hope that in the coming fiscal year, New York City Council would consider investing in Met Council's Career Services Program. Our program grew larger in 2006 following an infusion of new private and public funding, and we were able to serve an average of 1200 individuals every year, offering high end training in health care occupations, middle level training in junior accounting and office skills, and quality career advisement and job search preparation for everyone. However, the abrupt loss of New York State Member Items significantly eroded Career Services' funding and as a result vital programs and services were eliminated over the course of three years. Career Services staffing had decreased from 17 employment specialists and administrators to just five workers. Unfortunately, Met Council Career Services today is able to serve a much smaller percentage of what it had in the past.

With additional funding, our Career Services Department would help more clients obtain employment and achieve lasting self-sufficiency. More specifically, we would like to fund the following job training programs:

1. The Home health Aide training program which is currently funded at 50% of total cost to train 120 low income, low-skilled individuals wishing to become certified Home Health Aides in our Department of Health-Licensed Home Health Aide Training program.
2. The Physical Therapy Aide program, which is fully developed with potential employer partners, would enable low income low skilled individuals onto the first step of a health care career ladder that can lead to a career in physical therapy

We would also like to reinstate funding for:

3. The Handyman training and internship program. This program provides formal handyman training and apprenticeship for low-income New Yorkers interested in building maintenance, environmental service and small home repairs.
4. Met Council's Career Center which when previously funded by NYS State grant served at minimum 400 job seekers per quarter with resume development, career exploration, career transition, interview preparation and focused individual one-on-one counseling

We cannot express more strongly that we would not be able to provide critical social services to over 100,000 New Yorkers each year without the vital partnership of New York City Council through the following four initiatives:

- **Discretionary Funding-** These funds help to sustain our core programs such as Crisis Intervention and handyman services through Project Metropair, which help to keep frail seniors secure and independent in their homes.

- **Extended Services Program/Information and Referral-** Extended Services Program enables Met Council to deliver culturally-sensitive services to assist clients with immediate financial crises such as eviction, utility turn-offs, sudden unemployment, and other emergencies.

- **Immigrant Opportunity Initiative (IOI) -** IOI enables Met Council to provide critically needed services to a wide base of New York's immigrant community through trusted community partners located in diverse neighborhoods.

- **DoVE-Domestic Violence and Empowerment Initiatives-** DoVE enables Met Council's specially-trained staff to provide case management, counseling, financial assistance, legal referrals, client and child advocacy, court escorts, and access to Met Council's holistic support services.

We deeply value your leadership and partnership and look forward to working together to help the needy throughout the New York area.

Thank you.

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Public Hearing on Executive Budget Fiscal 2014
Testimony

Good afternoon: Domenic Recchia Chair of the Finance Committee & Melissa Mark-Viverito Chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee and all Council Members of New York City.
My name is John Medina, and I would like the Council to restore $44 million dollars into the budget for the Park Opportunity Program which has been a successful and key component in the maintenance of the Parks according to the Department of Parks & Recreation Report dated May 30, 2013.
This program not only provides a venue for Low-income individuals to obtain viable work experience skills but also provides sustainable wages enabling families to move away from poverty when provided long term employment opportunities into the Labor Market.
This request for restoring the funding to the Parks Opportunity Program reflects the Fiscal Year 2010 total dollars allocated to the POP at its peak.
Unfortunately, since 2010 Funding for the POP has been steadily decreasing at a rapid rate and being replaced with outrageous numbers of unpaid workers for their respective Labor called (WEP) workers.
I am a decorated soldier with a medical condition currently assigned to perform (WEP) because I receive Food Stamps and $215 rental assistance. Each week I report to the Carver Senior Center to process SCRIE, file income taxes, and answer phones the same work as the case worker, but she gets paid and I don't. I don't receive earned income tax credit, no social security credit and most of all no paycheck for my Labor. It should not be a crime to need help from Social Services and then be forced to do Free Labor just for being poor.
The Job Training Programs should be expanded to other Agencies such as;
Mass Transit Authority, the Sanitation Department, The Department of Aging, El Museo Del Barrio and Department of Citywide Administrative Services.
Demanding unpaid Labor in exchange for Humanitarian and economic social justice when people are in extreme poverty is disgraceful when New York City retains the World's most amounts of Billionaire's & Millionaire's second to the Country of Dubai.
Please restore Park Opportunity Program funding and expand Transitional jobs into all the agencies where there are WEP workers.

Thank you.

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Testimony for Budget Hearing
June 5, 2013

Good afternoon, my name is Joseph Mpa, leader and member of Community Voices Heard. Thank you Chair, Co-Chair, City Council Members and their committed staffs for taking the time to listen to those most impacted by the policies, decisions and attitudes of Commissioner Doar and the current administration. The financial storm which is brewing has been heeded by some, while others seek to ignore it or at least hope it will go away until they are safely out of City Hall and relocated to their new plush surroundings far away from the cries of anguish, pain, despair and the prevailing darkness of hopelessness which the poor have been immersed in.

We make this plea to the Council to continue to show the courage and leadership they have shown in the past to help New Yorkers regain the pride, self-esteem and confidence to succeed and grow with all of this Great City as we recapture what has been denied for 20 years.

Let's begin to focus on things that work, programs that have proven to be successful, activities that are essential and services that dramatically impact individuals, families and communities. Let's do what we can to get people working again. There is a formula by which $65 million dollars + current allocated public recipient benefits + funding for useless job search contracts = 15,000 paid transitional jobs which means added tax revenue + increased revenue for businesses and HUMAN DIGNITY.

Programs like POP the Parks Opportunity Program which provides Public Assistance recipients with a real pay check for real work, an opportunity to pay taxes, contribute to their Social Security account and receive Earned Income Tax Credits as well as other benefits. These Transitional Jobs have received high praise from Commissioner Doar (HRA) and Commissioner White from Parks and Recreation. It is an example of what can be, and we sincerely encourage the Council to restore funding for the Parks Opportunity Program, to further set the tone for meaningful work activities which permit people to maintain their dignity, become union members, gain actual experience and have a greater chance to obtain full time employment permitting them to curtail their relationship with HRA. If HRA would put a greater emphasis on Transitional Jobs, Education, Legitimate Training, and Entrepreneurial Endeavors it could successfully put an end to its failed and

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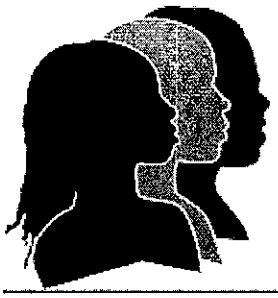

COMMUNITY VOICES HEARD

fighting for our families, fighting for our communities, fighting for ourselves

www.CVHaction.org

Public Hearing on Executive Budget Fiscal 2014
Testimony

Good afternoon. My name is Ann Valdez. I am a leader at Community Voices Heard. As you know, for the last several years CVH has been here fighting to restore funds for the Park Opportunity Program which provides jobs for people who are on public assistance. In New York City every day, over 15,000 people are being forced to do unpaid labor called Work Experience Program or WEP. WEP is about humiliation, degradation and punishment for the lowest income people. Mayor Bloomberg has cut this Park Opportunity Program for the last few years. The City Council has partially restored funding. Community Voices Heard wants transitional jobs to be expanded not reduced. CVH believes WEP is wrong and should be eliminated.

I am the mother of three children, two grown and a 14 year old. I have been off and on public assistance for several years. I am in the WeCARE program due to some physical barriers to employment. I am interested in the transitional jobs like POP but the positions in the Parks are very physically demanding and CVH would like other agencies that have WEP positions to have positions with a pay check such as Department for City wide Administrative Services, Dept of the Aging and the MTA. By restoring funds the City Council could create thousands of jobs for the lowest income New Yorkers.

People on public assistance want a path out of poverty. One path is on the job training like POP transitional jobs with a pay check hopefully leading to permanent employment with a living wage. POP provides jobs with a pay check, training, union membership, social security credit and EITC qualification.

Another aspect of WEP is that currently, precious child care slots are being used so that parents of babies can do forced unpaid labor of WEP instead of letting the baby be cared for at home, and using the child care slot for another parent at a job with a pay check to be guaranteed child care.

Thank you for supporting restoration and please consider expanding and creating more jobs for people on public assistance. Thank you.

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SASF

Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation
Engaging Students' Minds and Bodies

New York City Council Fiscal Year 2014
Executive Budget Hearings
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., Chair

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Presented by
James R. O'Neill
CEO, SASF

Thank you again for your past support of the Sports & Arts In Schools Foundation (SASF). SASF is truly a Council Initiative, having been created 20 years ago at the suggestion of Speaker Peter F. Vallone, Sr., who, at that time, wanted a CBO to create and operate free summer camps throughout the city. From our humble beginnings, we have grown, with the Council's support, to become one of the largest direct providers of school based after-school arts, sports and academic programming in New York City and one of the largest providers in the country.

Mission & History

The mission of SASF is to help bridge the academic performance gap among under-achieving students by extending the school day and year with wholesome, skill-building activities designed to improve New York City children's self-esteem, character and values, attitude toward school, attendance, academic performance, health and wellness, and lifelong employment opportunities.

For the past 20 years, we at SASF have been successfully running programs which engage, both physically and mentally, our city's youth to stem the tide of childhood obesity. None of this would be possible, however, without the funding support of you and your colleagues in the Council.

In FY 2013 SASF received $1 million from the Council as a Citywide Initiative (down from $1.2 million in FY 2011 and $2.1 million in FY 2008). This year, we are seeking a full restoration of our FY 2013 funds in order to sustain our free Council Camps and our After-School Sports and Fitness Programs throughout the five boroughs. Your support is critical!

As the Council begins to negotiate the FY 2014 budget, I would like to share with you some quick facts about SASF:

- **Through our Council Camps and After-School Sports Programs, we serve every Council District.**

- Though all of our programs, SASF annually serves 35,000 students throughout the five boroughs.

- **The overwhelming majority of youth served are Black and Hispanic youth from the highest poverty neighborhoods in the city.**

- Our programs are primarily housed in Title 1 schools.

These programs are vital to low-income families in NYC. Many of the children participating in these programs are living in families whose incomes put them below the poverty line. NYC is being battered by historic cuts in federal and state grants that unfairly fall on the shoulders of the most vulnerable families of our great city.

The summer is the most stressful time for low-income families, when school is out. I have been frequently told by mothers **"that if your program was not in my child's school, I couldn't work."** I urge you, on behalf of thousands of children who depend on our free summer program and after-school sports program to restore the City Council Sports and Arts Summer Camps and our After-School Sports Programs.

New York City Council Sports and Arts Summer Camps

Council Summer Sports and Arts Camp programs for elementary students (grades 1-6) chiefly wrap around summer classes for mandated students to increase students' positive connection to schools, to encourage classroom attendance, and to provide free sports activities in school in the afternoon after the morning academic work. The summer camps also serve students who are not required to go to summer school but who wish to participate in the Camps' free, fun and structured activities. The students lack access to a varied menu of sports and arts activities available to their peers from more affluent neighborhoods. Free summer programs are declining in New York City and SASF remains one of the few sources of free programs for city young people and their families.

These programs are amazingly inexpensive to run as school-based programs that chiefly operate in empty school buildings, most of which are opening only for free breakfast and

lunch programs. The cost is less than $48 per week, per child- [This figure could dramatically change if the DOE implements its new fee policy requiring community-based organizations to pay space usage and security fees.]

Middle School Academics and Sports Camp programs help bridge the academic performance gap for city students in public middle schools (grades 6-8) and prepare them for a successful transition into 9th grade and high school completion 4 years later. These programs address the low-high school completion rates in New York City by helping to provide middle school students with the skills necessary to go on to and complete high school.

Summertime can be a crisis time for many bright, ambitious city youngsters in grades 9-12 or college. During the year, these young people benefit from the structure and relationships with caring adults provided by school and after-school programs. During the summer months, these support systems vanish, and are often replaced by destructive elements of "street culture." Summertime employment of **NYC high school and college-aged young people** will fill this service gap. Instead of experiencing the slide in reading and academics common among urban youth, the summer becomes a time for educational and career opportunities, as well as personal growth and character development.

The Council camps are essential help to families in the long hot summer weeks, when school is out and where few sports and arts opportunities are available to low-income children. **The Hayden Foundation has agreed to provide a match of $325,000 if the Council restores funding for SASF Summer Programming.**

Need for NY City Council Sports and Arts Summer Camps

The Summer Camps address 3 issues.

1. The need for free, safe, structured, skilled-based activities for over 5,000 city children from low-income families during the summer working day when families, especially working mothers, need safe and structured activities for their children.
2. Creation of approximately 700 summer jobs for city teenagers and young adults.
3. The childhood obesity epidemic.

The SASF After-School Sports Leagues

SASF After-School Sports Leagues provide students with:

SASF Sports Leagues:
- Organized, weekly competition among60+ participating schools in basketball, flag football and soccer over 12-week seasons.

SASF Culminating Tournaments and Events:
- Competitive day-long and multi-day organization-wide events in flag rugby, soccer, flag football and SASF's Presidents' Week 3 v. 3 Middle School Basketball Tournament, the largest tournament of its kind in the nation.

SASF Track & Field Program:
- Conducted in cooperation with New York Road Runners Foundation, two regional track meets taking place at the premier facilities at Icahn Stadium, Randall's Island, NYC.

It is now well documented that school-based sports and fitness activities have a positive impact on student's attitude towards school, health and academic performance. The current wave of budget cuts and financial constraints have created an environment of difficult decision-making regarding cutting programs or compromising the level of quality of service to the programs.

Finally, these programs have enormous support: 94% of voters believe that there is a need for children to be engaged (during the after-school period and summer) in sports, arts and academic enrichment activities. Also important is the cost-effective benefits of funding experienced well managed non-profits to deliver these critical programs especially in very difficult economic times.

On behalf of 35,000 participating NYC youngsters, SASF strongly urges your support for the full restoration and long-term expansion of these programs.

Thank you.

TESTIMONY OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD DEFENDER SERVICE

before the

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
FINANCE DIVISION

and

FIRE & CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES COMMITTEE

for the

EXECUTIVE BUDGET HEARINGS
FISCAL YEAR 2014

by

Archana Prakash
SUPERVISING ATTORNEY

June 5, 2013

Funding Request: $250,000

Testimony of Archana Prakash

Introduction

I am Archana Prakash, Supervising Attorney at the Neighborhood Defender Service (NDS) and I am here speaking on behalf of NDS' Executive Director, Rick Jones. NDS is a community-based defender office that provides high-quality legal services to residents of Northern Manhattan. NDS created a model for a neighborhood-based, comprehensive, client-centered approach to service that has led to improvement of defense services throughout New York State. I am proud to inform you that **Philanthropedia, the leading source of information about non-profit organizations, assembled a national panel of foundation professionals, academics, researchers, non-profit senior staff, policy makers and other professionals working in the field, to select and determine the best non-profits in the country and, through that process, NDS was named a top non-profit.**

For fifteen years NDS received funding from the City Council to support our efforts to provide the highest quality services and to foster system-wide improvements. We thank you for that support. It is because of that support that I am happily able to come before you today with the news that, for the first time in its history, NDS has long-term financial security as a result of its success in the RFP process. While that is good news, it comes at a cost. Our cost per case was nearly cut in half and the number of cases we are now obligated to do has almost tripled. But I am not here today to discuss our criminal defense funding, **I am here to seek your support for the holistic and collateral consequences work which has been our hallmark and which the council has so steadfastly supported. Specifically, I seek your support for our work in immigration, youth law, housing defense programs and mental health advocacy. For this nationally admired work, NDS seeks $250,000 in City Council funding for fiscal year 2014.**

Background

The Neighborhood Defender Service is a community-based non-profit organization, and a social justice leader in the effort to improve the quality of criminal defense representation for those unable to afford an attorney. Since 1991, when NDS began full operations, our service model has enhanced the quality of in-court representation and expanded the scope of services that defenders provide to their clients. Consistent with our expanded approach, NDS has engaged in initiatives to help communities address a wide range of criminal justice problems. As a closely watched model law office, NDS has fostered system-wide improvements as well. **NDS' collateral consequences work serves individuals, families, and communities throughout the city with its aggressive commitment to outreach, education, and coalition-based solutions.**

NDS was established to create new techniques in the provision of legal services for the poor. Since its inception, NDS has grown from a pilot project of the Vera Institute of Justice into an independent, full-service legal and social service provider, and remains committed to a broad

approach to help address the criminal justice issues affecting our clients, their families and communities.

FUNDING INITIATIVES

Immigration Services Project

NDS' Immigration Services Project provides advice, counsel and legal representation to NDS clients who are non-citizens, and lends its support to coalitions addressing systemic immigration issues city-wide. NDS began this project in 2008 because – for a significant percentage of our clients – any interaction with the criminal justice system could result in a serious risk of immigration detention and/or deportation. For our clients and their families, the threat of deportation is often more devastating even than the possibility of jail time. The Immigration Services Project at NDS strives to provide equal access to justice for our non-citizen clients. The project currently staffs two immigration attorneys, who consult with NDS criminal defense attorneys and their non-citizen clients in order to minimize the immigration consequences of dispositions.

Many of our immigrant clients are vulnerable to deportation because of an open criminal case or because of a prior criminal conviction. In these cases, NDS' immigration attorneys provide direct legal representation at deportation proceedings in immigration court. We also advocate for our clients who are detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement by providing representation at bond proceedings in immigration court. Additionally, we provide representation to clients on applications for naturalization and adjustment of status to lawful permanent residence.

NDS' Immigration Services Project also conducts outreach activities in the communities we serve. NDS attorneys have conducted Know Your Rights workshops jointly with the Northern Manhattan Immigrant Rights Coalition. The workshops, conducted on weekends and evenings in English and Spanish, aim to educate immigrant communities about the immigration-related risks associated with encounters with the police, arrests, and jail time, and the best methods to minimize these risks.

NDS is a major participant in the "ICE out of Rikers" coalition. This coalition successfully worked with the City Counsel, the Department of Corrections and the Mayor's Office to pass a bill limiting Immigration and Customs Enforcement's access to New York City Jails. NDS works with this coalition to educate the community about the bill and to assist with its implementation.

Finally, NDS continues to participate in both the "Second Circuit Litigation Working Group" and the Immigration Defense Project's monthly roundtable. These groups consist of local immigration practitioners who meet regularly to discuss legal developments in immigration law.

Youth Law Project

Children and young adults are both the most hopeful segment of our population and disparately targeted by the criminal justice system. The Youth Law Project provides the benefits of NDS' team-based representation to those aged 7 through 18 who are criminally accused, whether they are prosecuted as adults in Supreme Court or as delinquents in Family Court. An interdisciplinary entity, the Project consists of two attorneys, a social worker, investigator, and assistant law students.

The Youth Law Project uses each young person's encounter with the criminal justice system as a turning point toward positive life changes. Our young clients often face a number of criminal cases that are the result of crises they are experiencing at home and at school. By representing these young people in every forum in which they face charges - Family Court, Criminal Court, Supreme Court and school suspension hearings - the youth law project is able to focus clients and their families on the underlying problems, rather than on simply resolving each individual case. The holistic team representation that the Youth Law Project provides has allowed NDS to better address and resolve the issues that initially bring upper Manhattan youth into contact with the criminal justice system.

New York is the only state that prosecutes 16 and 17 year olds as adults, no matter the offense charged. Given the harshness with which the New York criminal justice system currently treats young adults accused of crimes, it is particularly important that this population receive zealous holistic representation. The Youth Law Project's goal is to work with the accused young adult, including his or her family and community, in the broadest manner by involving educational advocacy, social services (in partnership with community-based agencies), and the highest quality legal representation.

Housing Defense Practice

Eviction and homelessness are among the most painful collateral consequences that families of individuals who are arrested and charged endure. In FY12 the Housing Defense Practice at NDS provided legal representation and advice to more than 300 families threatened with eviction as a result of a criminal matter. NDS is frequently the only office where individuals can hope to find representation. Startlingly, 85% of unrepresented tenants are reportedly evicted. While, as many as 90% of represented tenants in New York Housing Court avoid eviction. In New York, tenants fight eviction proceedings every day because the tenant, a family member or guest is the subject of a criminal case. **There are few collateral consequences more tragic than the needless eviction of an entire family whose involvement in the criminal matter was non-existent.** Indeed such consequences are unfair, unreasonable, and undeserved. Through comprehensive litigation (representing tenants at the Harlem Community Justice Center, Manhattan Housing Court, in NYCHA proceedings and before the Civil Supreme Court at 60 Centre Street), through direct negotiation (arriving at creative and sensible solutions through discussions with landlords), and through community education events (NDS launched a free legal clinic series for NYCHA

tenants), the Housing Defense Practice is poised to provide an increasing number of NDS clients with specialized and high-quality housing legal services.

Mental Health Advocacy

The Disability Advocacy Project helps clients with psychological disabilities obtain or preserve the support and benefits necessary to maintain stable and healthy lives, focusing on securing supportive housing, disability benefits and access to treatment for clients. The Disability Advocacy Project provides services such as assistance applying for SSI benefits and individual representation in appealing denials, enforcement of discharge planning for clients in city custody approaching re-entry, referrals and assistance accessing appropriate housing and targeted referrals to treatment providers and community resources.

In addition to direct client service, the Disability Advocacy Project provides diversion assistance to NDS criminal attorneys in cases where a client with psychiatric disabilities is facing detention in jail or prison, but would be more appropriately served in a treatment-focused setting.

Needs of Target Population

NDS' collateral consequences work serves communities throughout the city through vigorous advocacy, family involvement and city-wide initiatives. The need for assistance in these constituent neighborhoods is profound. Most of NDS' clients are low-income people of color; many are immigrants. An ever-increasing number are youth, being prosecuted in adult court. In addition to criminal charges, many NDS clients face a host of problems associated with poverty. Among them are medical and mental health issues, substance abuse, housing needs, educational neglect and family violence. All of NDS' collateral consequence programs deal with these issues on a daily basis.

In FY13, NDS will represent 10,000 individuals in a full range of criminal matters. We will also provide limited legal advice and referrals to more than 1200 additional individuals. NDS seeks to help clients tap into the strength within their families and communities, and navigate bureaucratic red tape to access resources available from government and other community-based providers. **NDS' collateral consequences programs will provide legal assistance to over 3,000 clients in FY13** to help them address an array of issues faced as a consequence of criminal charges including: housing evictions and denial of applications, school suspension hearings, deportations and other immigration matters. **With your help, our collateral consequences work will reach nearly 5,000 families in FY14.**

Cost-Effective Services

NDS, with its wide range of services and community-based accessibility to clients, is a cost-effective investment of City resources.

NDS' holistic approach and continued social service involvement with clients even after a case is closed are unique features not accounted for in the Criminal Justice Coordinator's cost-per-case analysis. No other public defender office is able to leverage its government funding as effectively as NDS. **The array of services NDS provides to individual clients, and their families,** in communities acutely affected by criminal justice issues, **is well worth the City's investment.**

In addition, NDS continues to be a leader in fostering innovation and improvement in the provision of indigent defense services, both locally and beyond. NDS' community-based service model is recognized throughout the United States and internationally. In 1997, NDS was profiled by the U.S. Department of Justice in its series on best practices in the field, highlighting the systemic benefits of NDS' approach to service. Over a decade later the Brennan Center for Justice in its 2010 publication, *Community Oriented Defense: Stronger Public Defenders*, praised NDS' innovation and continued commitment to improvement and meeting the needs of its constituent communities. And, as mentioned at the outset, NDS was named a top non-profit by a blue ribbon panel studying non-profits across the country. NDS has consulted with numerous organizations as they reconsider their operational strategies. Delegates have come from as far as Germany, China, Japan, Lithuania and South Africa to consult with NDS. Several organizations have replicated parts of the NDS service model at their own sites: the Youth Advocacy Project in Roxbury, Massachusetts; the Bronx Defenders and the Legal Aid Society in New York City; the Knoxville Public Defender, in Tennessee; First Defense Legal Aid, in Cook County, Illinois; the Maryland State Public Defender and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia.

Conclusion

The collateral consequence work NDS does in immigration, youth law and housing defense programs saves lives and keeps families together. It is admired and replicated around the world. For 15 years the New York City Council has steadfastly supported this work. **Without continued support, the work will eventually cease and thousands of lives will be tragically altered.**

NDS seeks funding of $250,000 for the fiscal year 2014.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in FY14 and beyond, always in the service of our fellow New Yorkers.

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
PUBLIC TESTIMONY
BY ALICE B. OWENS, PRESIDENT
COLONY-SOUTH BROOKLYN HOUSES, INC.
JUNE 5, 2013

Speaker Quinn, Members of the Council,

My name is Alice Owens. I am the President of Colony-South Brooklyn Houses, a social service organization founded in Brooklyn in 1904.

I testified before this Committee last year in the wake of EarlyLearn. I want to thank all the Members of the Council, especially Committee Chairperson Domenic Recchia, and Members Charles Barron, Sara Gonzalez, Letitia James, Darlene Mealy, Annabel Palma and Speaker Quinn for their heroic efforts on Colony's behalf. While we still had to make significant program cuts, we have been able to operate six of our programs serving nearly 400 children and employing almost 100 in staff. Several of our sites have waiting lists.

Unfortunately, I must ask the Council to once again allocate discretionary funds for Colony's child care programs because without this funding, our programs will be forced to close their doors and children, parents and staff will be the losers.

This would be a tragedy obviously for the Agency, but most importantly, for the children - young and vulnerable - to whom we offer a foundation for lifelong learning and a safe, secure place to be during the day. It would be a tragedy for the parents - hardworking, engaged and deeply concerned for their children's welfare, who want as all parents do only the best for their youngsters. Without Colony's programs these parents will not be able to go to school or hold jobs because they have no reliable source of child care. It would be a tragedy for our staff - caring, committed, compassionate, well-trained and properly credentialed academically for the positions they hold.

The centers Colony operates that need discretionary allocations are located in East New York, Williamsburg and Sunset Park - all communities that have a high concentration of need as defined by the Administration for Children's Services. Private day care is not an option and informal child care arrangements do not have the reliability or provide the learning experiences that these families require. No one disputes the positive impact that

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early childhood programs have. Children learn to relate to other children, to settle disputes in a safe and practical way, to play and to exercise their fine and gross motor skills, to respect other people, to practice tolerance and to learn that conflicts can be settled without violence.

Without Colony's centers or provider mother homes, parents can easily become unemployed. Whatever economic improvements have occurred, they are not robust; jobs are scarce. Our parents, no matter how hardworking, are economically fragile. They are sometimes only a paycheck away from being homeless or unable to put food on the table.

With discretionary funding from the Council, this year's experience has been very positive. We have continued to meet all Health Department requirements. Our landlords have been supportive. We have worked closely with the Professional Development Institute at CUNY to strengthen our programs and to plan for a sustainable future.

We have also been able to keep employed our fine staff members who are able to support their families who patronize the businesses in the centers' neighborhoods and help strengthen them. Staff frequently live in the communities in which they work and are often the chief breadwinner for their own families.

I want everyone to be aware, as I know Council Members are, that day care is not a babysitting service that merely places children in front of a television, phone or computer screen. It is a learning experience. Teachers use the nationally recognized Creative Curriculum. The developmental needs of each child are considered. Children are allowed to explore, discover, experiment and be creative.

Meals cooked on-site are served which meet the strict standards of the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Students learns the importance of healthy eating habits. There is no danger of youngsters eating junk food. Parents attend on-site workshops on the value of good nutrition.

There are so many opportunities for service. We have proposed bringing children from transitional housing sites, as we have in the past, to a center to give them the benefits of good day care.

On behalf of the Agency, the children, parents and staff, I wish to thank you again for this year's discretionary funds and ask that they be continued. Our communities need more programs, not fewer. Our children are our future.

Thank you.

Carolyn E. McIntyre
Organizer in Chief

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June 3, 2013

James G. Van Bramer, Chair
Committee on Cultural Affairs,
Libraries and International Relations
250 Broadway, Committee Rm 14th Fl
New York, NY 10017

Re: Council Hearings about New York City Library Budgets And Library Funding/New York City Council Fiscal Year 2014 Preliminary Budget, Mayor's FY '13 City Preliminary Management Report and Agency Oversight Hearings

Dear Committee:

Today the City Council at its committee hearing concerning budgeting for New York City Library budgets and library funding will necessarily be talking about the mayor's deliberate underfunding of New York City libraries and the massive additional proposed cuts the mayor is now proposing. *City Council members will say that this underfunding is unjust and must be reversed.* Citizens Defending Libraries wholeheartedly concurs in calling for an end to such underfunding at a time of substantially increasing library use and city growth. However, we also point out that in the political theater of the annual budget dance whereby the libraries have been abusively underfunded, funding is regarded with cynicism by those partaking in the process and those regarding it from outside.

But as our libraries are being deliberately underfunded this way there's an elephant in the room that must be talked about or these hearings will be irresponsible and meaningless: *The deliberate underfunding of libraries is being used as an excuse to wastefully sell libraries and shrink the library system.*

In this context the City Council cannot simply vote to provide more funds and resources to libraries without intervention because the wasteful sell-offs of library system assets is a *squandering* of publicly paid for and funded assets if it is being done as a result of library official incompetence. If library officials know what they are doing in selling off these assets then it is worse: It is an intentional *plundering* of these publicly paid for and funded assets to benefit the

real estate industry, not the public, and must be investigated.

For example:

- The Donnell Library was a five-story Manhattan library across from MoMA (now proposed to be reduced to less than 1/3 size and placed mostly underground) sold by the NYPL in a rushed secretive sale netting only *$39 million* for a 97,000 square feet building, much of it newly renovated with spectacularly valuable facilities. The 7,381 square foot penthouse in the building going up to replace the library is on the market for *$60 million.*

- The Central Library Plan similarly involves the selling off of the huge amounts of library real estate purporting to be based on a "right-sizing" shedding of library system assets that's highly suspect: The *300,000 square feet* of the Mid-Manhattan and SIBL libraries are proposed to be squeezed into *only 80,000 square feet* of non-expandable space at the 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue Central Reference library. That plan also involves getting rid of the research stacks, another net loss of space and loss of incredibly precious and irreplaceable library assets. The cost of this downsizing to the public will be substantial when measured simply in dollar expenditures: at least $350 million with at least $150 million being paid for by directly out of the New York City budget. *Demolition permits to commence this waste were filed last Friday, before the total potential of the work has been priced out and before an economic impact study has been done to determine the consequences to the public from the downsizing.*

- The wasteful selling of assets is now being exported from Manhattan: for instance to Brooklyn, where the Brooklyn Public Library proposes to *"leverage"* all of its real estate assets and has started with a proposed sale-for-shrinkage of the Brooklyn Heights and Business and Career Library at Cadman Plaza in a transaction closely replicating the Donnell sale disaster. The BPL also wants to sell the very historic Pacific Branch library which is, perhaps not so coincidentally, just yards away from the heavily subsidized "Barclays" arena.

The City Council cannot vote to supply additional city budget funds that will be subject to such squander and/or plundering without intervention and investigation.

Sincerely,

Citizens Defending Libraries

My name is Danielle Reece and I am a senior at Washington Irving High School. I wanted to speak to you today because I cannot imagine what will happen to the kids in my school if they don't have RAPP anymore.

When I first entered RAPP the only thing on my mind was that I needed someone to talk to. I had so much anger inside, and nobody knew. I was on the road to disaster. I was a good kid but I had many issues deep down inside.

When I first had a private session with my RAPP counselor, it was like a breath of fresh air. I knew that my problems wouldn't be solved overnight, but it felt good to have someone there to just listen and voice their opinions and support me no matter what. RAPP made me feel as if I had something to look forward to every day going to school.

After three years of being in RAPP, I can honestly say that I am a different person. I went from being someone who was in an abusive relationship, had major family problems and a lot of pent up anger inside, to someone who now always has a smile on my face, a positive attitude, and someone who cares about others. RAPP showed me that people can really change and that I'm not alone. There are still kids out there with similar issues like me and worse. They all need their RAPP programs.

RAPP is a second family to me. The people there are people that I can count on or just talk to when I need someone to listen. We are all different, but in the end we all joined RAPP for two reasons: We all need someone to talk to and we're all tired of feeling alone. RAPP is our home and no one wants their home to be taken away from them.

Mount Sinai

SAVI
Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program

Testimony for City Council Budget Hearing

June 5, 2013

Good Afternoon. Thank you to all of you on the Council for this opportunity to present on the Sexual Assault Initiative and The Mount Sinai Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program (SAVI). My name is Lynn Frederick Hawley, and I am the Executive Director of the Mount Sinai Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program (SAVI).

The Mount Sinai SAVI Program is a multi-site, multi-program organization dedicated to supporting and serving survivors of sexual violence and intimate partner violence in New York City. Begun in 1984 as a Rape Crisis Program, we have grown to include intimate partner violence, outreach and education, services for Orthodox Jewish survivors, a SAFE Program Center of Excellence at Mount Sinai, and services for sex-trafficking survivors both domestic and international. With 8 clinical staff and more than 100 certified volunteer Advocates, we provide crisis services at 7 hospitals including The Mount Sinai Hospital, Mount Sinai of Queens, Harlem Hospital, Metropolitan Hospital, Elmhurst Hospital Center, Queens Hospital Center, and Lenox Hill Hospital. In the last month we have added Upper West Side Urgent Care as well. Additionally, we offer therapy and support services not only at our main campus at Mount Sinai in East Harlem but at Mount Sinai of Queens, Elmhurst Hospital Center, the Queens District Attorney's Office and the Queens Family Justice Center. Our staff is multilingual and multi-cultural to reflect the diverse populations we serve,

specifically in Queens; languages in which we provide trauma therapy include Spanish, Portuguese, French, Polish, Egyptian Arabic, Hebrew, Yiddish, Hindi, Punjabi, and Gujarati – and, of course, English. All of our services are free and confidential.

Sexual Assault is a serious problem in New York City. A recent survey of over 10,000 people nation-wide by CDC found nearly 1 in 5 women (18.3%) have been raped at some time in their lives. For men, the rate is 1 in 71 men (1.4%). This translates into **785,543 women raped in their lifetime in NYC with 47,220 women experience rape in last 12 mos. For men, 54,000 have experienced rape in their lifetime. Yet in 2012 only 1,100 rapes were report to the NYPD. Sexual Assault is one of the highest unreported crimes as compared to all other crimes with 65% of sexual assaults not being reported to the police.**

Secondly, youth, children, communities of color, immigrants and other disenfranchised groups are at higher risk of sexual assault. Astonishingly, a clear majority of female victims of rape (79.6%) experienced their first rape before the age of 25 and for men, 27.8% experienced their first rape when they were 10 years of age or younger. 22% of Black women have experience rape in their lifetimes; 34% of multiracial women; nearly double the rate of white women.

Unfortunately, while virtually every other crime is in a neutral or downward trend, sexual assault shows no signs of slowing down in our city. The most recent Mayor's Management Report shows a rising 5-year trend in the crime of forcible rape.

For this reason, we believe that resources to address sexual assault must be in the city's budget. The Mount Sinai SAVI Program would like to be sure that adequate funding to address sexual assault is in this year's budget, not just for us but for the 3 programs with which we partner under the umbrella of the Sexual Assault Initiative.

In our program against sex-trafficking in Queens, we have experienced a veritable explosion of new cases and emerging needs that aligns with the statistics of rape and sexually assault generally – the numbers are extraordinarily high and this is a widespread problem. We have had to grown from a one-clinician Department treating survivors of sex trafficking to almost 3, one of whom focuses solely on non-English speaking and international trafficking survivors. Their needs are complex – ranging in age from adolescence to midlife adulthood, services must be tailored to not only their specific constellation of needs (education, child care, job skills training, housing, medical care, immigration advocacy, etc.) but their developmental stage and the range of trauma they have endured.

But I do not just speak here today for our program's needs and experience. When a victim of sex assault, whether a child, or adult, man or woman or transgender, seeks help in our city, the four organizations in the Sexual Assault Initiative, aim to offer high quality, responsive and certified care. **The Mount Sinai Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program** and **St. Luke's Roosevelt Crime Victims Treatment Center** have services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for women, men, and victims of sexual violence and sex trafficking. At the **Kingsbridge Heights Community Center**, child victims and non-offending family members are treated for the longer-term impacts of childhood sexual abuse, through counseling, art therapy and other approaches to help them thrive. **New York City's Alliance Against Sexual Assault's** DOH recognized Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Training Institute (or SAFETI), trains nurses and doctors to provide specialized forensic and medical care to victims in hospitals throughout the five boroughs. For youth, non-English speaking women and men, LGBTQ communities and people living with disabilities, reporting and finding appropriate medical and follow up health care can be especially challenging.

The programs offered by the four organizations in the Sexual Assault Initiative are essential to meeting the changing needs of New Yorkers. We are requesting a 50% increase in the Initiative funding this year – a total of $300,000 which is divided equally among the 4 programs. With additional funding, the Sexual Assault Initiative will expand the ability to serve **Spanish-speaking** families with therapy and support groups. It will maintain vital training and **certification for Emergency Room nurses, doctors and other professionals** treating sexual assault victims in all five boroughs, and expand programs that address the vital health needs of some of the most vulnerable: **child victims, LGBTQ, and children and adults with physical and developmental disabilities**. For **victims of both domestic and international commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking, additional funding will mean greater access to support, safety and sustainable health. And finally, support of the sexual assault initiative will maintain** high quality services to the city's only provider of free care to **men and boys who are victims of sexual assault. Survivors who receive high-quality immediate care and ongoing support are in a much better position to report these crimes and participate in criminal justice processes to apprehend the offenders with the result of making our city safer for all of us.**

Therefore, I respectfully request the restoration of funds to the Sexual Assault Initiative. Victims need timely and sustainable access to care and support services. Criminal prosecution and prevention cannot be fully achieved without addressing the immediate and ongoing needs of New York's sexual assault victims provided through these four organizations.

Thank you for your time and consideration today.

THE NEW YORK CITY SEXUAL ASSAULT INITIATIVE

FISCAL YEAR 2014

The **New York City Sexual Assault Initiative** is comprised of four of the city's leading sexual violence intervention programs. For FY14, the Initiative respectfully requests **$75,000 each, for a total of $300,000** and wishes to be included under a city-wide Sexual Assault initiative.

These unique providers include **New York City's only**:

- Long-term treatment program for sexually abused children in the Bronx (**Kingsbridge Heights Community Center's Child Sexual Abuse Treatment and Education Center**);
- Program to assist young victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Queens (**Mt. Sinai's Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention-SAVI**);
- Sexual Assault Forensic Training program open to all Emergency Department and licensed medical personnel in New York City (**NYC Alliance Against Sexual Alliance's SAFETI training program**)
- Free treatment program for male victims of sexual assault (**St. Luke's-Roosevelt's Crime Victims Treatment Center-CVTC**).

WHY WE NEED YOUR HELP

While virtually all other major felony crimes are in neutral or downward 5-year trend, according to the Mayor's Management Report issued for FY 2012, there is **a 5-year upward trend in forcible rape**, with over 1,000 committed in 2012. To respond to growing needs in NYC's neighborhoods, the Sexual Assault Initiative's four programs are geared to address children, women, and men, people living with physical and intellectual disabilities, LGBTQ communities, and people who are sexually exploited or trafficked.

Sexual Assault is a serious **public health**, **public safety** and **human rights** issue of epidemic proportions:

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly 1 in 5 women have been raped in their lifetime while 1 in 71 men have been raped in their lifetime.
- Children and adolescents are at particularly high risk. Almost 50% of victims experienced the first rape before age 18, and 28% of male victims of rape were first raped when they were 10 years old or younger.
- After homicide, sexual violence is the most costly violent crime in the U.S., costing $151,423 per incident, as measured in acute medical care, mental health services, lost productivity, and pain and suffering.
- Sexual assault is one of the most under reported crimes. 2 out of 3 sexual assault or rape victimizations are not reported to police.

WITH THE FUNDING, WE WILL

- Address waiting lists and provide quicker response to Spanish-speaking families of child survivors of sexual abuse with counseling and support groups
- Respond to increased need for training and certification of Emergency Room nurses, doctors and other professionals treating sexual assault victims in all five boroughs
- Develop programs that provide care to the most vulnerable: child victims, LGBTQ, and people living with physical and developmental disabilities
- Provide rapid response to trafficking victims
- Address the continued need for high quality care to men and boys who are victims of sexual assault

Testimony of Eileen M. Muller
PRESIDENT OF LOCAL 1482/ BROOKLYN LIBRARY GUILD

Good evening members of City Council. Thank you for allowing me to appear at this public hearing on the Executive Budget.

As President of DC 37 Local 1482 (the Brooklyn Library Guild), I represent over 800 members in 60 neighborhood branches across the Brooklyn Public Library system.

Year after year I've come before the City Council Committee to express the desperate position Local 1482 members feel due to the City's lack of financial support of the Brooklyn Public Library. We worry that our jobs are on the line year after year. We have been asked to do more with less; we have done that, only for the library to receive less and less funding every year.

A recent report by the CUNY Center for an Urban Future shows, circulation, program attendance, and program sessions in the three library systems increased dramatically over the last decade while City funding has decreased by 8%. During that period, the number of front-line library staff in the three systems has declined by approximately 20%.

At Brooklyn Public Library, the operating budget has been cut every year since the financial crisis hit in 2008. Despite these cuts, the members are doing more than they ever have before – circulation is up by 77% and attendance is up by 41%. The City has asked its workers to do more with less. Well, Local 1482 members have clearly done their part.

The members tell me they fear they will no longer be able to longer provide the same service to the very deserving citizens of Brooklyn. You see they really like their jobs, they love helping the patrons who come to the library. These patrons are looking for a favorite book, or to use the computers, searching for a job, to keep in-touch with their family and friends or get information to start a small business. The library is also a safe place to visit for young and old alike. Local 1482 members love working with the people of Brooklyn.

Services at the Brooklyn Public Library are in greater demand than ever, but the library has remained underfunded and understaffed. Over the last number of years the 60 branches of BPL have seen record numbers waiting at the door to get in and use the library. As a matter of fact in FY'11 over 40.5 million people visited the three library systems in NYC. We make a difference in the lives of every New Yorker who walk through our doors every day to use the many services the library provides. We help to improve the lives of each and every person who comes to the library.

The proposed FY'14 budget has short changed BPL and the people of Brooklyn by more than $35 million in library support. This money needs to be restored in order for the members of Local 1482 to keep doing what we love to do, provide library services to all that come through the library doors.

Shorten hours and closed Libraries help no one, especially the many citizens of Brooklyn.

Support Baseline Funding!

Cultural Institutions Group
Testimony to the Committee on Finance, New York City Council
June 5, 2013

Good afternoon, Chairman Recchia and members of the Committee. I am Lynn Kelly, CEO & President of Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden in Staten Island. I am here today to represent the Cultural Institutions Group and the many organizations that are a part of the cultural fabric of New York City.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify—and thank you, as always, for your unwavering support of Culture in New York City. Because of your efforts last year in working with the Department of Cultural Affairs you ensured that there would be no loss to education programs, community engagement initiatives, or world-class exhibitions, performances and events at our institutions. Speaker Quinn, Chairman Van Bramer, Chairman Recchia, the Borough Delegations, we owe an enormous debt of gratitude to each of you for advocating on our behalf.

We know the Council is very familiar with the challenges our organizations face every time there are impending reductions in our budgets. So today, I would like to re-focus the conversation on the positive and stress that - simply put - **Culture is an integral part of the quality of life of the City and we are a small business sector with significant economic impacts.**

Culture is an economic engine for the City of New York. Although our organizations are very different in size, operations and missions, collectively we have a significant economic impact on the City. Our economic impact rivals that of other small business sectors and Culture often cross subsidizes other small businesses in our communities.

- The CIGs alone employ over 9,000 people—residents of every Council district in all five boroughs. Some of us are among the largest employers

in our communities and we spend more than $500 million annually on purchased goods and services.

- Did you know that for every $1 we receive in City funding, we return $8 into the economy? Last year, Culture spent $500 million which helped to support nearly 13,000 vendors (eg. small businesses like print shops, mailing houses, caterers, and contractors.) (eg. SI CIGs alone spent over $2.6M last year – more than 60% of that on SI)
- Just like other small business sectors, Culture also generates millions of dollars in indirect spending locally - restaurants, shops, neighboring businesses.

Culture drives Tourism. Last year, NYC reached a milestone – 52 million tourists. According to NYC&Co, Culture is in the top three reasons tourists visit NYC.

- NYC&Co said "In 2011, over 7.3M international visitors attended a concert, play, musical or opera, went to an art gallery or museum, and/or visited a cultural or ethnic heritage site, zoo/garden or historic site."
- Simply put, NYC's unparalleled culture attracts tourists and tourists spend money. Culture helps to keep 14,000 people in the tourism sector employed and the industry thriving.
- This is yet another example of how Culture as a small business engine supports other vital business sectors in NYC.

Lastly and most importantly, Culture is a vital part of the quality of life for all New Yorkers.

- Investing in Culture means investing in our quality of life. It means supporting the historic and ethnic fabric of our neighborhoods, supplemental education for our children, services for seniors and recreation areas for the public.
    - Culture serves more than 19 million families annually providing critical quality of life services such as free public hours, educational

programming for children, senior programs, and as in the case of Snug Harbor, we provide recreational facilities for our community. Additionally, Culture has outreach programs in shelters, hospitals and in the juvenile justice system.

- Investing in Culture often means investing in important **City assets**. Through public support we are able to steward our City-owned facilities and park land, ensuring that our surrounding communities remain vibrant, safe, clean and accessible to all.

Despite these compelling facts, Culture and the quality of life we provide to our City is at a precipice. As of today, we are facing a loss of $40 million in operating support. This represents as much as a 65% cut since last year for some CIG institutions.

I hope I have demonstrated why Culture is no less essential to the economic and social vitality of our City than it was last year - yet the cuts we face are even more extreme and would be severely devastating, not just to our institutions, but to the New Yorkers we serve—the children, families, seniors, and teachers who participate in our programs – and to the quality of life in our City.

We respectfully ask for full restoration of any proposed reduction to the Department of Cultural Affairs budget which in turn poses a reduction to Culture in NYC – a reduction in investment in our local economy, businesses and more importantly the quality of life for all New Yorkers.

We recognize that the Council has impossible decisions to make in deciding how to allocate City resources and we sincerely thank you for your leadership and commitment to Culture. Thank you.

The New York Public Library Guild
Local 1930

Affiliated with District Council 37, American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
125 Barclay Street New York, NY 10007-2179 • (212) 815-1930 • www.local1930.org

Testimony of Valentin Colon, President – The New York Public Library Guild, Local 1930
June 5, 2013

Good afternoon. My name is Valentin Colon and I represent the members of DC37's The New York Public Library Guild, Local 1930. Allow me to thank you for this opportunity to address you this day on a matter that is of the utmost importance to many in this city. "Libraries" and the financial attack that continues to plague the three New York City Library systems for way too many years.

For too many years we find ourselves holding hearings, demonstration and letter writing campaigns all with one goal in mind, to "Protect and Fund Library Services." Distinguished members of the City Council, we now find ourselves at the cross road of a major event in the history of public libraries in the City of New York. Baseline Funding the budgets of the three public libraries will forever more protect the future of the New York City Public Library Community. It is by the grace of god and by your govern that Baseline Funding could be "A REALITY".

A little over one hundred years ago the Stephen A. Schwartzman Library on 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue was built to create a vast learning and research center to help educate and illuminate the large masses of immigrants coming over from Europe and the rest of the world. One hundred years later we need your help to continue the mission of service and education for all.

This reality will finally establish a stable course of action that will not only allow all current library programs and services to continue but to also be able to expand our services to more of the community that is seeking us

out in ever growing numbers. Baseline Funding will supply the materials, the services, the equipment and most importantly the much needed frontline personnel who administer these services. And this stable funding will allow libraries to offer the expanded hours of operation that our children, young adults and seniors are looking for but these expanded hours of operation will also afford members of the working class an equal opportunity to also utilize the libraries they support, meaning that libraries will truly be for everyone in the community.

Baseline Funding will also allow libraries to effectively and cooperatively partner with other organizations with the same goals as the frontline workers of the neighborhood libraries.

Baseline Funding will allow libraries to not only support the educational needs of the communities being served but also the educational needs of the personnel in a rare Initiative to not leave anyone behind. Baseline Funding will allow libraries to work on securing adequate funding to support the structural integrity of the facilities that house our storehouses of knowledge. To improve the security of not only our facilities but the security of everyone who calls a library their home away from home. To improve the physical appearance of our older facilities in an attempt to make them a more inviting environment for all without having to lose the historical significance of our older library facilities.

And on a personal note; speaking on behalf of the frontline workers that I represent, Baseline Funding will improve the working conditions; physically, mentally and emotionally for all frontline workers. No longer will frontline workers work under the fear and emotional stress from the uncertainty of being an active member of the working class. No longer will these frontline workers struggle with the fear of uncertainty in their day-to-day interactions with the members of the communities they look forward to "Serving with Excellence".

Allow me to once again thank you for this opportunity to address you today.

Fort Greene Strategic Neighborhood Action Partnership

P.O. Box 050226, 324 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, New York 11205 718.694.6957 Fax 718.694.6958 www.fortgreenesnap.org

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Executive Director
Georgianna Glose, OP, DSW
Deputy Director
Henrietta Koffi

June 5, 2013

Testimony for New York City Council Finance Committee Hearing

I am Georgianna Glose, Executive Director of Fort Greene Strategic Neighborhood Action Partnership, a small community based agency in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. Thank you for this opportunity to address the critical issues of public health.

Our organization, along with several others in Brooklyn, work on the infant mortality initiative addressing the critical disparities in birth outcomes among minority women. Laurie, one of the 45 mothers we assisted this year explained that before she received the assistance provided by our programs she was experiencing many stressors that negatively affected her pregnancy. Our program helped her address these issues and she had a healthy full term 7 lb. baby girl. We recognize that the national models demonstrating that healthy women have healthy babies are an important step we need to incorporate in addressing the health disparities in our city.

Each year we have come to the City Council to ask for funds to provide the services to assist our Mothers in improving their birth outcomes. Over the last few years we have experienced several reductions and fewer funds have been available to our important services. Today we are asking for 3million dollars in city funds that will be augmented by state matching funds.

The public health services in our city are the lifeblood of our citizens health. The services of HHC, Child Health Clinics, Child Mental Health Services, Immunization, School Based Health Centers, HIV/ AIDS Supportive Housing, STD Clinics and food and nutrition project Momemtun are all part of the vital services that are needed in our city.

Funded by grants and contracts with
New York City Department of Small Business Services through resources provided by City Councilwoman Letitia James, J.P Morgan Chase Foundation, New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Health, New York Foundation, St. Joseph's College, Zucker Foundation, Sisters of St. Dominic Ministry Fund, and individual donors (in formation.).

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LISA JOHNSON

NYC Clerical-Administrative Employees Local 1549, District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Testimony of

Janice Darden

Chairperson
Police Administrative Clerical Chapter
of

New York City Clerical-Administrative Employees

Local 1549

DC37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

before the

New York City Council
Committee on Finance

Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Chair

June 5, 2013

125 Barclay Street, New York City, New York 10007, Room 415 • (212) 815-1549
www.local1549.com

Testimony of Janice Darden
Chapter Chair, Police Administrative Clerical Chapter of
Local 1549, District Council 37
Before the New York City Council
June 5, 2013

My name is Janice Darden and I am the Chairperson of the Police Administrative Clerical Chapter of Local 1549. I am here to speak about civilianization in the NYC Police Department.

Civilianization is the process of removing full-duty, able-bodied personnel from clerical positions and assigning civilian personnel to those positions.

In 2004, arbitrator Maurice Benewitz ruled that the police department was in violation of the clerical contract and ordered that the department cease and desist from assigning full-duty uniform personnel to clerical duties. Nine years later, we are still waiting. A few police officers were moved, but the change was barely noticeable. Now, we are going backwards as more young officers are taking desk jobs everyday.

The department is being overrun by 'armed clericals' who type, work on computers, complete paperwork on overtime and fill vending machines in precincts and details across the city.

We've been told that the problem is the budget, but how can the department or city justify paying an able-bodied police officer $90,000 per year to do clerical work when a qualified civilian employee can perform the exact duties for less than half the salary? This is not only a waste of taxpayer dollars, but takes away uniformed personnel who could be on the street and in our communities performing patrol and enforcement duties.

Civilianization would save the City millions of dollars, which is why the union is asking that the Mayor, Police Commissioner and City Council act now to hire at least 500 new Police Administrative Aides. The time has come to stop sacrificing civilian hiring in favor of the more costly hiring of police officers.

More police officers inside results in weaker patrol strength. If patrol strength keeps going down-and-down, who is going to answer the call for help?

Support civilianization and help enhance public safety and reduce crime. Take the cop out of the seat and put him back on the beat to do what they took an oath to do - serve and protect.

Let the police department's civilians perform the clerical-administrative functions of the department because "**they do it best for less**".

Thank you for this opportunity to appear today.

Statement of Gladys Dixon, Chairperson

Coler Community Advisory Board

New York City Council Budget Hearing

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Good afternoon everyone. I am Gladys Dixon, Chairperson of the Coler Community Advisory Board of Coler/Goldwater Specialty Hospital and Nursing Facility located on Roosevelt Island. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the consumers who use our City's public health and hospital system – or HHC.

The future of healthcare in general, and for HHC in particular, has many uncertainties. For example, the reductions in Medicaid funding at state and federal levels threaten the viability of the City's public clinics, hospitals and long term care facilities which serve more than a million patients including hundreds of thousands of uninsured and low-income adults and children.

In addition, changes in how long term care services are delivered and paid for will have a significant impact on current residents of facilities like Coler and other New Yorkers in need of long term care. These changes will be especially challenging for our public long term care facilities that accept patients that no other facility will.

I am asking that the Council do whatever it can to address our public hospital system's current budget gap. Because without a strong HHC, many long term care patients will have nowhere to go. I am also asking the Council to restore funding to HHC that was not included in the Mayor's budget. Specifically, funding for child health clinics, HIV testing and mental health programs is needed. Without funding from the Council, HHC has no other source of funding to operate these programs.

I want to thank the Council for your support to HHC in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. As we all know too well, Hurricane Sandy created devastating damage to some of our public hospitals and nursing homes. At Coler, our residents and staff were left without permanent electrical power. Since then the power has now been restored. Thankfully, many of the residents who were moved to Goldwater during Sandy have now returned.

We, New Yorkers, depend on the Council's leadership in providing funding to support quality health care services at our public health care facilities. Your work to ensure that the services that HHC provides are maintained is greatly appreciated.

Once again, thank you.

EDDIE RODRIGUEZ, *PRESIDENT*
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NYC Clerical-Administrative Employees Local 1549, District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Testimony of

Alma G. Roper

Executive Vice President

New York City Clerical-Administrative Employees

Local 1549

DC37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

before the

New York City Council
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Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Chair

June 5, 2013

125 Barclay Street, New York City, New York 10007, Room 415 • (212) 815-1549
www.local1549.com

Testimony of Alma Roper
Executive Vice President, Local 1549, District Council 37
Before the New York City Council
June 5, 2013

Good Afternoon Chairman Recchia and members of the City Council Committee on Finance.

My name is Alma Roper and I am the Executive Vice President of Local 1549 of District Council 37 (DC 37). Local 1549 represents approximately 16,000 clerical-administrative employees in nearly all city agencies.

The recent local and national media coverage of the malfunctions of the newly installed I-Cad Computer system at the New York Police Department's 911 PSAC Center, bears testimony to what the union already knows: 911 provides a crucial, life-saving service to New York City.

My members, the 911 operators, dispatchers, and first-line supervisors, perform a vital service to the Police Department and the City of New York. They are the First of the First Responders, The First voice that one hears when calling 911 in an emergency. 911 is the life line for the City of New York.

The Police Communications Technicians, better known as 911 operators and dispatchers, numbered 1,168 in June of 2009. As of April 2013, there are less than 1,030 operators and dispatchers. It is unthinkable that the headcount has been allowed to decline this greatly, when clearly the number should be increasing. Modern technology, specifically the increased use of cell phones and hand-held devices, has contributed to a huge spike in call volume. In this era of terrorism, the public is urged to say something if they see something. In 2009, there were 10.8 million calls to 911. Presently, 911 operators handle as many as 13 million calls per year.

As a result of the shortage of personnel, the 911 operators and dispatchers are being ordered to perform an unreasonable and unbearable amount of overtime. 911 operators and dispatchers are performing as many as 32 hours of overtime per week, in addition to their regular 35 hour week, and are expected to perform their duties without errors. These operators are physically, mentally, and emotionally exhausted. This situation endangers the 911 operators and the public, while putting the Police Officers on patrol at great risk.

Now is the time to stop putting the health and livelihood of the 911 personnel at risk while the communities in which we live are in danger of not receiving proper and timely assistance when the call is made to 911 for HELP.

On behalf of my members, the 911 operators, dispatchers and first-line supervisors, and for the sake of enhanced public safety, we are urging the Mayor, Police Commissioner and the City Council to immediately make funding available to implement the hiring of more than 400 new 911 operators and dispatchers. The lives of all New Yorkers may very well depend on this action.

Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you. My colleagues and I are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Testimony of Peter Vreeland
President of Local 1559
Museum of Natural History Employees
District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO
Before the City Council Committee on Cultural Affairs, Library and International, Intergroup Relations
FY 2014 Executive Budget
June 5, 2013

Good afternoon Chair Van Bramer and fellow Council members.

My name is Peter Vreeland and I am the President of Local 1559 representing workers at the American Museum of Natural History. I represent approximately 96 members in the titles of maintainers, preparators, photographers, clerical, museum instructors, scientific assistants, artists and technicians at the Museum. These are the people who create and maintain the museum.

I am here today to inform the City Council that if the FY 2014 Executive Budget of approximately $5.6 million in reductions without restorations is allowed to pass, the effect on my members and the institution will be devastating.

My members play an integral role in the education component since some of them work in the professional development programs which help train science teachers by allowing them to use the Museum as a teaching resource.

The other members of Local 1559 are trained on how to handle special specimens and documents. They handle special skins, furs, textiles, as well as irreplaceable cultural artifacts and photographs. They take great care of these items so many future generations may enjoy these treasures for years to come.

Since the Museum's founding in 1869, it has not only become a major tourist destination, attracting more than 4 million visitors a year, it also provides a crucial science and educational component to the many school children who visit.

What many people do not realize is that for every dollar the city provides in funding to the Museum, it returns more than $7 back to the city. The Museum of Natural History is a financial engine of the city economy. Tourists and visitors to the Museum also contribute to the economic vitality of the surrounding community by patronizing the hotels, restaurants and shops in the city.

The Museum's objective continues to be to encourage and develop the study of the natural world, world cultures and the universe. But how can they continue to fulfill its mission when facing an approximate $5.6 million cut to its FY 2014 budget? This is a staggering proposed cut and will have catastrophic effects on the Local 1559 members and The American Museum of Natural History. If the city goes forward with this cut, the Museum might have to reduce hours, shut down the number of exhibits they currently offer and limit the number of educational programs provided to school children. As a result, my members will not be able to provide the same level of exemplary service that the millions of visitors have come to expect from a world-renowned institution such as the American Museum of Natural History. My local continues to suffer losses as a result of each reduction in NYC funding.

Local 1559 is urging the City Council to restore the approximate $5.6 million cut in FY 2014 to the Museum's budget. If these proposed cuts were to become permanent in the budget, it may result in dozens of layoffs further reducing the number of members we represent. Please keep in mind that I represent the people who create and maintain this prestigious institution. These cuts would decimate the services my members provide.

I am urging the City Council to continue its funding support of the partnership between the city's cultural institutions and the Department of Education (DOE). This educational program supports scientific discovery and learning in life science, earth science, space science and physical science.

We understand the city is in troubled economic times, but I cannot stress enough how important the services my members supply is to the many school children who participate in all the vital programs. We are urging the City Council not only to maintain funding, but to also increase funding to this all the extraordinary programs that provides children the opportunity for scientific discovery.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Testimony by Fitz Reid, President, Local 768, Health Services Employees, District Council 37, AFSCME AFL-CIO at the New York City Council FY 2014 Executive Budget Hearing on June 5, 2013

- Please stop any further layoffs in the DOHMH.
- DOHMH's PEG is $27 million, and the layoffs will save only $2 million. Meanwhile, DOHMH has not stopped hiring high-salaried managers or giving promotions and raises to managers. The $2 million is a paltry amount for the agency, but it is a large burden to be borne by those who provide direct care and get paid the least. At this time there are still 5 Public Health Advisors and 5 Laborers on the layoff list. 18 DC 37 represented titles were removed last week, in part thanks to the diligent efforts of the City Council.
- According to the City Record, there have been over 60 hirings, promotions or raises for managerial DOHMH positions since January 2013.
- DOHMH is continuing to cut into direct care in the most vulnerable neighborhoods. For instance, these cuts will particularly affect DOHMH's Immunization program and the East Harlem clinic. Considering the recent outbreaks of meningitis and a new SARS-like virus on the horizon, this is not the time to cut Immunization services. East Harlem has the highest infant mortality in the US, and one of the highest asthma rates.
- DOH is proposing to change the hours of STD clinics from Monday to Friday, with Saturday overtime, to Tuesday to Saturday, closed Monday, no overtime. Some clinics would have increased Saturday hours.

  Four clinics – Central Harlem, Chelsea, Fort Greene and Jamaica would have NO MONDAY service

  Three clinics – Morrisania, Crown Heights and Manhattanville would have NO Saturday service.

  This will disrupt services for many clients, new clients seeking service after a weekend, and many workers, especially public health advisors. This will result in a loss of voluntary overtime income, and seriously disrupt the schedules of workers lives. The proposal is to reduce their OT costs by approximately $600k.

- The Laborers slated for layoff are the go-to staff who deliver Epi-pens, insulin and other medications to schools, not to mention records, paperwork, furniture and other supplies and equipment. DOHMH currently hires an outside contract (at a higher overall cost to the agency) to do the same work at night or on the weekends to avoid OT. This should be brought in-house.
- Since 2009, DOHMH has spent over $14 million in ongoing IT support services contracts with private firms. There is no need to spend so much on what is essentially "help desk" services from outside contractors. This can be brought in-house.

D TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL DE LA FORCE- PUBLIC HEARING CITY COUNCIL BUDGET FY2014 JUNE 5, 2013

SAVE OUR HOMES℠ INCORPORATED

a New York State non-profit corporation

SAVE OUR HOMES, Inc. hosts New York State Assemblyman Denny Farrell's team:

Where: Community League of the Heights, Technology Center
2113B Amsterdam Avenue (Between 164th and 165th Street)
New York, NY 10032

When: Tuesday, June 4, 2013 @ 3:00PM - 4:00 PM

The agenda for discussion is as follows: **HDFC COOPERATIVE APARTMENTS**

1.) HDFD recently held a conference with representatives from Assemblyman Herman Denny Farrell's office regarding Housing Development Fund Corporations (HDFC), what were some of the critical lessons learned from that meeting?

If not addressed above, these are some of the additional concerns of interest to HDFC shareholders:

2.) SHARES: how to obtain shares/leases for people and/or families who have lived in an HDFC cooperative apartment building for over seven years, but have no share certificate and/or lease? Leases and share certificates are the backbone of the housing project.

3.) With whom and how to require that shareholders reside in HDFC apartment corporation buildings as primary residences pursuant to the spirit of the law? How to insure that HDFC cooperative apartment buildings are not simply for short-term rentals, but instead remain as affordable housing, as per HDFC's incorporated purposes pursuant to Article XI of the Private Housing Finance Law as Article XI relates directly to Housing Development Fund Companies?

4.) Do the reasons and purposes for which an HDFC are incorporated expire after the initial Department of Housing Preservation and Development (DHPD) restriction periods expire? Or are HDFC Corporations truly HDFC Corporations as the law states, so long as they are registered as such with New York State? If so, are HDFC Corporations then required to remain as primary residences for families and people of low to moderate income? If so, who enforces this?

5.) Moderate income people and families can sometimes have difficulty with time, and acquiring resources to battle predatory equity in the courts. In some cases predatory equity may be acquiring shares in NYC HDFC corporations from people who did not ever own the shares, and then proceeding to make illegal property ownership changes on the books of the City of New York. These actions may amount to theft, corruption, and white collar crime. Once HPD is aware shares change hands illegally, who at HPD is responsible for enforcement? Does HPD have ~~a criminal arm~~? LAW ENFORCEMENT ARM

6.) Does HPD's maintaining a clause in HDFC certificates of incorporation(even after initial restriction periods expire) wherein some HDFC buildings cannot be sold and the HDFC corporations cannot be dissolved without consent of the Commissioner of the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (DHPD) result in DHPD having a fiduciary relationship to such HDFC Corporations? If so, to what extent? Who is responsible for enforcement at DHPD?

7.) Does the New York State Attorney General have any enforcement power over crimes and fraud in and or against New York State HDFC Corporations? If so who at the Attorney Generals' Office handles these concerns?

A special thank you, for their interests in affordable housing, to Legislative Assistant, Earnestine Bell Temple, and Assemblyman Herman Denny Farrell, who represents the 71st District of New York, which comprises the Manhattan neighborhoods of West Harlem, Inwood and Washington Heights. Assemblyman Farrell was first elected in 1974
Also, thank you to Officer Sharon Robinson-Hewitt and the 33rd Precinct for their continued support, and efforts.

Sincerely, Michael de la Force, President, SAVE OUR HOMES, INC.

(2) REFERENCE TO MICHAEL DE LA FORCE WRITTEN TESTIMONY - CITY COUNCIL; PUBLIC HEARING, BUDGET FY 2014 JUNE 5, 2013

ARTICLE XI
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND COMPANIES

Section 570. Short title.
571. Statement of legislative findings and purposes.
572. Definitions.
573. Incorporation and organization of housing development fund companies.
574. Establishment of fund.
574-a. Municipal housing development fund.
575. Advances; conditions; repayment.
576. Regulatory agreements.
576-a. Acquisition and disposition of real property by municipality.
576-b. Special provisions with respect to state urban development corporation projects.
576-c. Loans to housing development companies by a municipality.
576-d. Master servicing agreement.
576-e. Municipal housing assistance fund.
577. Tax exemptions.
577-a. Adjusting fair rental equalization for the elderly.
577-b. Payment of arrears for certain taxes.
578. Advisory and educational services.
579. Rules and regulations.
580. Examination by comptroller.
581. Inconsistent provisions in other laws superseded.
582. Separability clause.

§ 570. Short title. This article shall be known and may be cited and referred to as the "housing development fund companies law".

§ 571. Statement of legislative findings and purposes. The legislature hereby finds and declares that there continues to exist in the state a seriously inadequate supply of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations within the financial reach of families and persons of low income. This condition is contrary to the public interest and threatens the health, safety, welfare, comfort and security of the people of the state.

The legislature further finds and declares that the ordinary operations of private enterprise cannot provide an adequate supply of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations at rentals which families and persons of low income can afford.

The legislature further finds that eleemosynary institutions, settlement houses, fraternal and labor organizations, foundations and other non-profit associations are desirous of organizing companies to build or rehabilitate housing for low income families; that in order for such organizations to build or rehabilitate housing, such organizations need and can effectively utilize development funds to procure government aided or other permanent financing therefor.

The legislature further finds that such development funds and the provision of technical assistance in the organization and management of housing development fund companies will maximize federal funds and credits which may be available for the provision of housing for low income residents of the state.

It is the purpose of this act to provide temporary financial and technical assistance to enable such companies to participate more effectively in existing municipal, state and federal assistance programs and to make more effective use of other sources of financing which may be available for housing of persons and families of low income.

It is further the purpose of this article to coordinate activities aided under existing municipal, state and federal programs with other public and private actions in order to provide the most effective and economical concentration of federal, state, local, and private efforts to increase the supply of housing accommodations for persons of low income, and thereby improve the quality of life for all the people of the state.

It is further the purpose of this article to provide assistance for existing not-for-profit housing companies by providing advances from the housing development fund to facilitate the rehabilitation or construction of housing for low income families.

It is further the purpose of this article to provide assistance for the improvement of housing for farmworkers by providing advances to local loan administrators to make loans to agricultural producers for the purpose of constructing or improving non-conforming farmworker housing in order to comply with state regulations relating to such housing.

§ 572. Definitions. As used in this article, the following terms shall mean and include:

1. "Commissioner." The commissioner of housing and community renewal of the state of New York.

2. "Comptroller." The comptroller of the state of New York in the context of the housing development fund established by section five hundred seventy-four of this article, or the comptroller or chief fiscal officer of a municipality in the context of the municipal housing development fund established pursuant to section five hundred seventy-four-a of this article, as the case may be.

3. "Development cost." The cost approved by the commissioner or the supervising agency, as the case may be, as appropriate expenditures which may be incurred prior to commitment and initial advance of the proceeds of a mortgage, including but not limited to: (a) payments for options to purchase properties on the proposed housing project site, deposits on contracts of purchase, or, with prior approval of the commissioner or the supervising agency, as the case may be, payments for the purchase of such properties; (b) legal and organizational expenses, including payment of attorneys' fees, project manager and clerical staff salaries, office rent and other incidental expenses; (c) payment of fees for preliminary feasibility studies, advances for planning, engineering and architectural work; (d) expenses for tenant or home ownership surveys and market analyses; (e) necessary application and other fees; (f) bridge loans which shall mean such interim financing as may be necessary for the development of residential properties and which shall be repaid out of equity which may include proceeds from the syndication of the federal low income housing tax credit as established pursuant to the federal internal revenue code; and (g) such other expenses incurred by the housing development fund company or housing corporation as the commissioner or the supervising agency, as the case may be, may deem appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this article.

4. "Division." The division of housing and community renewal in the

Testimony of Mabel Everett
President, Day Care Employees Local 205, DC 1707, AFSCME

6/5/13 City Council Public hearing
On the FY2014 Executive Budget cuts to Child Care

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Mabel Everett and I am the President of Day Care Employees Local 205 of District Council 1707.

We *thank the City Council* for your continued support of our City's subsidized child care system. Unfortunately **the Mayor has once again made devastating cuts to our center-based subsidized child care** programs in his FY 2014 Executive Budget, *He has eliminated ALL the money restored by the Council last June*. This money was used to continue funding the operations of existing programs at dozens of child care centers.

What is particularly cynical about the Mayor's cut is that the centers restored by the Council last year have proven their value by operating efficiently and continuously, in contrast to the so-called "Early Learn" centers, many of which took months to begin operating. Yet, instead of acknowledging the Council's wisdom, this Mayor eliminates your funding. What an outrage!

Working parents rely on quality child care services so that they can go to work and not worry that their child is in the care of someone unqualified and overburdened. The loss of child care services would be a devastating blow to the communities that rely on them. We ask the Council to once again restore these vital services in the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget.

Thank you.

FOR THE RECORD

GOOD SHEPHERD SERVICES

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Testimony of Good Shepherd Services
Submitted by Susan Singh
Director of Public Policy
Before the New York City Council Finance Committee
New York City Council Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget Hearing
June 5, 2013

This testimony is submitted on behalf of Good Shepherd Services, a leading youth development and family service agency that serves over 27,000 program participants through 80 programs each year. We thank Chair Recchia and members of the Finance Committee for the opportunity to testify regarding the FY2014 Executive Budget, and for your continued support of children, youth, and family issues.

Good Shepherd Services leads in the development of innovative programs for youth and families in New York City. Our work consists of comprehensive, integrated community and school-based prevention and intervention programs which focus on positive family and youth development, including after-school programs, school-community partnerships for off-track students, preventive services, and a number of out-of-home and residential programs including foster care, juvenile justice, and transitional/independent-living residences.

Good Shepherd Services is an active partner of the Campaign for Children and the New York City Youth Alliance. We believe that working families in New York City should have access to affordable child care, and that children should have the opportunity to attend quality after-school programs in their community. We join the Campaign for Children and the NYC Youth Alliance to urge the Council to fully restore child care and after-school funds, and to work with the Mayor to baseline these funds.

We consider the following items to be of great concern this year:

Out of School Time (OST) After-School Programs

Good Shepherd Services currently operates 16 OST programs in Brooklyn and the Bronx, serving nearly 3000 young people each year. Every day we see the joy and excitement that our young people experience from learning, working on special science and technology related projects, and being exposed to arts and music. We, like others, are dismayed with the reduction in funding to OST programs every year.

OST programs have faced a 50% reduction in funding since the peak in 2009, from $120 million to $88 million in FY2013. As a result, the program that once served 85,000 young people in

2009, now serves only 52,000 children, and may only serve 27,000 in 2014 under the new DYCD RFP.
We are extremely concerned about the effects of such drastic cuts on children and families in the communities we serve. We know that such a significant loss of slots would mean many parents would no longer be able to work, or would risk losing their jobs because they would have to cut back their hours. We also know that many more at-risk children across the city would not have a safe, nurturing, learning environment to spend their time during after school hours.

We urge the Council to *restore and negotiate with the Mayor to baseline all cuts to OST* to allow the system to preserve the current number of OST after-school slots.

Beacon and Cornerstone Programs

Once again the Mayor's budget proposed a $4.4 million cut to Beacon programs and almost $1 million to NYCHA Cornerstone. This cut would result in the closure of 7 Beacon programs, meaning a loss of after-school for at least 5,600 children. The cut to NYCHA Cornerstone, a program that provides after-school in NYCHA community centers, would result in 733 children losing after-school services.

Good Shepherd Services operates 2 Beacon programs – one in the Bronx and one in Brooklyn – that have both become mainstays of the communities they serve. Beacon programs have become embedded as a support service on which children and families rely for daycare, after-school programming, college counseling, GED classes, and community forums among other services. Our Beacon program in Red Hook, in particular, became a hub for supports and distribution of goods and services for desperate families after storm Sandy.

We also operate a Cornerstone program at the NYCHA Sumner Houses in Brooklyn that serves 120 young people ages 5 – 21, and 40 adults. The Cornerstone program is essential in that it helps young participants acquire the skills and support they need to stay on track, graduate from high school, pursue their chosen career pathways, and contribute to the well-being of their peers, families and communities. Adult programs focus on recreational activities and program that enhance skills and promote social interaction and community engagement.

We greatly appreciate the Council's FY13 restoration of funds for Beacon programs, however, this restoration was not included in the Mayor's FY14 budget. We urge the Council to *restore and negotiate with the Mayor to baseline a total of $4.5 million to the Beacon programs in FY14 and $1 million for Cornerstone programs that would restore full current funding for both programs* and save the elimination of services for those programs set to begin on August 31, 2013, after the summer camp programs end.

Runaway and Homeless Youth

As you are aware, there is a tremendous need for services to homeless and runaway youth in New York City. It is difficult to estimate the number of youth that are runaway and homeless in the city, but various studies have put the number at approximately 3800 at any given time, and as many as 32,000 youth on the street in a given year. Also, this population includes a disproportionate number of LGBTQ youth who have particular needs that many homeless service providers are not equipped to address. Given this need, there are sadly only 113 crisis beds and 122 transitional independent living beds available to homeless youth.

Good Shepherd Services works to meet the needs of runaway and homeless youth through a variety of services offered through our Chelsea Foyer and Edwin Gould Academy. The Foyer provides 40 young adults between 18 and 25, who are aging out of foster care, homeless, or at-risk of homelessness with supported transitional housing in a co-ed setting. Through our Edwin Gould Academy, we just began a federally funded street outreach program aimed at runaway and homeless youth in the Bronx. The tremendous difficulty that we face is that funding for these programs must come from many sources in order for the programs to be sustainable. For example, there is no dedicated funding stream for the Chelsea Foyer. Each year Good Shepherd Services, like other RHY providers, must piece together funding from many other government, foundation, and private sources.

Investing in supportive housing for youth is financially practical since it can save costs by preventing congregate care and/or juvenile justice placement. At the Foyer, it costs approximately $104 a day to house and provide on-site support services to a young person. Comparatively, congregate foster care costs between $323-$370 per day, a homeless shelter, without as many supports, costs $56 per night, and a young person serving a prison sentence costs $238 per day.

The results at the Chelsea Foyer have been extremely positive. About half of the participants that enter the program will complete the program and experience excellent outcomes. For example 87% of those participants will sustain money management skills, 100% will develop a supportive network, 87% will be employed at discharge, 100% will obtain adequate and stable housing, and 93% will obtain health insurance.

We ask that the Council *restore and negotiate with the Mayor to baseline $7.17 million* to the budget to support drop-in, street outreach, emergency shelter beds, and transitional independent living beds for at-risk and LGBTQ runaway and homeless youth citywide. We also request an *additional investment of $1.5 million in new, baselined funds* that can be included immediately in the open DYCD RFYP for contracts beginning in FY14.

Summer Youth Employment Program

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) provides critical supports and job experiences to young people during the summer. Many youth in our programs greatly benefit from their experiences in SYEP. Unfortunately, less than 1 of 4 young people who apply for SYEP are able to participate. The funding levels for SYEP have been steadily declining since 2004. Currently, there is $38.5 million in City, State and Federal funding to support 26,000 jobs for young people in New York City, which is the lowest number of youth served since 2004.

We ask that the Council allow for at *least 32,000 young people* across the City to have positive, skill-building employment experiences this year through the *addition of $7 million to the existing $38.7 million allocation.* As our colleagues have pointed out, the additional funds will allow for a modest program expansion or will help to mitigate jobs lost as a result of an increased minimum wage and federal sequestration cuts.

Thank you for support of these critical programs. We welcome any questions that you have.

TESTIMONY OF LILLIAN ROBERTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DC 37
June 5, 2013
Council Chambers, City Hall
City Council Finance Committee
Re: Mayor's FY 2014 Executive Budget

GOOD AFTERNOON, Councilman Recchia, and members of the City Council.

My name is Lillian Roberts. I'm the Executive Director of District Council 37, New York City's largest municipal employees union, representing 120,000 members and 50,000 retirees. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak to you today regarding Mayor Bloomberg's Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget.

First, let me thank Councilman Recchia for helping to call back the already announced layoffs of numerous of our members at the Department of Health and Mental Health. However, other layoffs and job eliminations are still in the Mayor's budget and thousands of jobs have been eliminated though layoffs, attrition, outsourcing during the Mayor's 3 terms in office – representing the loss of solid, middle class jobs that are ladders of opportunity and advancement for our members, many of whom are Black and Latino. Included in these terrible layoffs are disabled workers – cruelly laid off by this Mayor when the City was able to generate billions in budget surpluses.

Layoffs of dedicated public employees and the elimination of thousands of good middle class jobs define the Mayor's philosophy of governance. The Mayor's budget perpetuates the Administration's twelve year policy of balancing the budget on the backs of City workers, starving the City treasury of the funds needed to provide adequate public services, and continues the wasteful spending of billions of dollars on the contracting budget. This budget will slash needed services for New Yorkers, and eliminate over 1,900 jobs this year and next.

We are particularly upset at the job losses and layoffs in the budget given the $2 billion budget surplus this year. Given this enormous surplus, why do there have to be any job losses at all, and cuts to programs and services New Yorkers need and deserve? Meanwhile, our members that have lost their jobs are languishing on preferred and recall lists waiting to be rehired. And, we have labored for over 3 years without a raise, while the Mayor continues to spend billions on outside contractors, where many of these contracts have annual cost escalators!

Cost of A Layoff

The jobs that Mayor Bloomberg has eliminated through layoff or attrition not only are tragedies for our members and their families, but also are terribly damaging to the City's economy. In fact, the loss of single job paying a modest $35,000 annually costs the City $84,000 in unemployment benefits, food stamps, additional health costs and in lost

economic activity. Layoffs hurt everybody but the lost economic activity results in more jobs being lost as well. This kind of budget 'balancing' is sheer folly, and it is wrong.

And while we are talking about a $2 billion budget surplus, let me also say a word about our 911 operators. These dedicated, heroic public servants are handling record call volume, working massive, mandatory overtime because the City refuses to hire enough operators for the number of calls received. The result of this penny-wise and pound-foolish approach is tremendous strain -- physical, mental, and emotional on our members and increases the risk to public safety.

Let's consider other examples of the Mayor's short-sighted budget priorities:

Libraries-The Executive Budget funds libraries at just $130 million – a staggering $169 million cut from the FY 13 Adopted Budget.

Culturals - The Mayor touts that the city is a tourist mecca with over 50 million annual visitors. What sense does it make to cut $37 million from City cultural institutions, which employ thousands of New Yorkers and help drive our tourist economy?

The City's pools – In this budget the City will close all public pools 2 weeks before Labor Day and will also close 4 pools for the entire summer. The extra money required to keep all City pools open for the entire summer is just $1.5 million -- a miniscule sum in a

$70 billion budget while shortening the pool season is a terrible penalty to all New Yorkers that use the pools.

Job Cuts

One-quarter of the Mayor's 1,900 job cuts are in health and welfare services. These are frontline positions dealing directly with the neediest and most vulnerable New Yorkers. How will these services be provided when the line agency is taking such an enormous hit? The Department of Social Services, for example, will eliminate 385 positions by attrition. This means no new workers will be trained to take the place of those who retire and have left.

We see a pattern here. The city, cynically, eliminates good jobs for public servants – jobs that pay a living wage with benefits – then privatizes the services these jobs used to provide. It is a travesty. It is unconscionable.

The Mayor's Budget and Policies Penalize and Scapegoat the City's Workforce

While our members have gone 3 years without a raise, they have performed brilliantly and often heroically during Hurricane Sandy and in the cleanup and recovery efforts. The City's response has been to force our workers to use their own annual leave for time away from work due to Hurricane Sandy. This is shameful and shows the City's lack

of respect to our members. The City's treatment also breaks faith with, and severely demoralizes, the City's greatest asset – its work force.

Conclusion

- The Mayor's Budget is wrong for working class and poor New Yorkers. We urge the Council to restore City services, scale back the contracting budget, and end tax giveaways and subsidies to the rich and well-connected.
- Our hard-earned tax dollars need to stay in New York and support the programs and services that New Yorkers need and deserve. Work with us and send the Mayor a message that the budget needs to put people first.

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Testimony of

Paul Landsbergis, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences

School of Public Health

State University of New York-Downstate Medical Center

Brooklyn, NY

paul.landsbergis@downstate.edu

June 5, 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am an epidemiologist and I have been conducting research on the organization of work, work stress and work-related diseases for the past 30 years. My previous faculty appointments have included Rutgers University Medical School, Cornell University Medical School and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. I have published over 75 articles in scientific journals, and I am the Deputy Editor of the American Journal of Industrial Medicine. I am also co-editor of two textbooks, "The Workplace and Cardiovascular Disease" (2000, Hanley and Belfus) and "Unhealthy Work" (2009, Baywood Publishing). I have been a member of the National Research Council's Committee on the Health and Safety Needs of Older Workers, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Intervention Effectiveness Research Team, the New York State Department of Health Cardiovascular Disease Task Force, and co-chair of the 4th International Conference on Work Environment and Cardiovascular Disease (in 2005).

Diseases and injuries related to a stressful work organization

Scientific research shows that a stressful organization of work can lead to increases in the risk of injuries, and the risk of a variety of diseases, including cardiovascular disease (heart disease and stroke), psychological disorders such as depression and burnout, and musculoskeletal disorders, such as tension neck syndrome and tendinitis (1). In the case of cardiovascular disease, work stress can kill (2). Research also links a stressful work organization to risk factors for cardiovascular disease, such as hypertension (high blood pressure) (3), obesity (4), metabolic syndrome (5), physical inactivity (6) and possibly smoking intensity (7). A stressful organization of work includes factors such as long work hours, shiftwork, downsizing, job insecurity, high job demands combined with low job control, and poor supervisor support (1). Jobs high in demands and low in control have been especially linked to higher rates of heart disease (2) and high blood pressure (3).

Workers in call centers typically face jobs high in demands and low in control (8, 9). New York Police Department (NYPD) 911 emergency response call center workers also work evening and night shifts and have reportedly been working more overtime in recent years.

A stressful work organization can increase the health insurance and workers compensation costs of a workforce due higher rates of illnesses and injuries. We found such a connection in an analysis we conducted of sickness, accident and disability insurance claims made by employees of a major North American automaker. Across 23 facilities and over 50,000 employees, every 10 hours of overtime worked at a facility was associated with 4.4 more claims for psychological disorders, 2.3 more claims for

cardiovascular disease, and 3.3 more claims for hypertension per 1,000 employees per year (10). (And that analysis did not include other health conditions, such as musculoskeletal disorders, or other sources of stress on the job.) Therefore, the benefit costs saved by using overtime instead of hiring new employees may not compensate for the increased costs of medical treatment and lost work time for disease and injury produced by long work hours.

According to a Health Hazard Evaluation Report of NYPD 911 operators conducted in 1997 by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (11), 32% reported experiencing symptoms consistent with major depression (which is also a risk factor for cardiovascular disease (12)) and 22% reported symptoms consistent with anxiety. Musculoskeletal symptoms were most commonly reported for the low back (53%), wrists (43%), upper back (40%), and shoulders (40%-43%).

Indirect costs of a stressful work organization are costs related to turnover and absenteeism, short-term and long-term disability management, and diminished productivity at work in the form of "presenteeism". Indirect costs are more difficult to calculate than direct costs, but it is estimated that they account for more than half of the expenses associated with employee ill health (13, 14). According to the NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation Report of NYPD 911 operators, the annual work absentee rate for participants in this study was approximately two times the rate reported by workers nationwide (NYPD workers 13.7 days vs. 6.2 days nationally). And these data are from a time period before the recent increase in call volume which has occurred without a concomitant increase in staffing.

Long work hours and shiftwork

An important concern among NYPD 911 emergency response operators are long work hours in a workforce also working evening and night shifts. In 2004, NIOSH had conducted a review of scientific research studies (15, 16) and concluded that overtime was associated with ill health and with deteriorating performance:

"In 16 of 22 studies addressing general health effects, overtime was associated with poorer perceived general health, increased injury rates, more illnesses, or increased mortality.....Overtime was associated with unhealthy weight gain in two studies, increased alcohol use in two of three studies, increased smoking in one of two studies, and poorer neuropsychological test performance in one study. Some reports did not support this trend, finding no relationship between long work hours and leisure-time physical activity (two of three studies) and no relationship with drug abuse (one study).

"A pattern of deteriorating performance on psychophysiological tests as well as injuries while working long hours was observed across study findings, particularly with very long shifts and when 12-hour shifts combined with more than 40 hours of work a week. Four studies that focused on effects during extended shifts reported that the 9th to 12th hours of work were associated with feelings of decreased alertness and increased fatigue, lower cognitive function, declines in vigilance on task measures, and increased injuries. Two studies examining physicians who worked very long shifts reported deterioration on various measures of cognitive performance.

"When 12-hour shifts combined with other work-related demands, a pattern of more adverse findings was detected across studies. Six studies examining 12-hour

shifts combined with more than 40 hours of work per week reported increases in health complaints, deterioration in performance, or slower pace of work. Two studies comparing 8- and 12-hour schedules during day and night shifts reported that 12-hour night shifts were associated with more physical fatigue, smoking, or alcohol use..... Another study examining high workloads during 12-hour shifts showed increased discomfort and deterioration in performance as compared with shorter shifts" (15).

In the health care industry, long work hours have been associated with increases in serious medical errors by interns (17) and patient errors by nurses (18). Doctors, nurses and other health care providers working long hours were found to be at higher risk for automobile crashes and as a result could be a danger to other drivers on the road (19).

Since the 2004 report by NIOSH, additional studies have documented the connection between long work hours and heart disease (20), obesity (4) and work injuries (21).

Stress and health among call center workers

Research studies on the working conditions and health of call center workers have been conducted in many countries. A search through the on-line National Library of Medicine revealed close to 40 published studies from 14 countries from 2002-2013.

These studies investigated a variety of stress-related health effects, such as fatigue and psychological distress, musculoskeletal symptoms, eye strain, and voice symptoms, as well as work-family conflict. Musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremities (wrist, elbow, arm, shoulder) and neck are the most common occupational

health problem associated with call center work and account for the majority of work-related lost time (22-24). Call center workers also had higher rates, compared to other groups of workers, of voice symptoms (25) and psychological distress (9).

The studies also identified various features of call center operations that could be improved to improve worker health. For example, workers in call centers typically face jobs high in demands and low in control (8, 9). In a study in two Italian call centers, workers reporting an "unpleasant work schedule" had 2 mm Hg higher mean arterial blood pressure than workers reporting a "pleasant work schedule" (26). In a study of call center workers in northern California, both long shifts and understaffing showed a negative impact on performance (27). In another call center in Northern California, musculoskeletal pain was associated with high job efforts combined with low rewards (support, respect, job security, income and opportunities for advancement) even after taking into account ergonomic workstation design (28). In a study of 34 call centers in England, workload demands and pressures were associated with upper body and lower back musculoskeletal symptoms (29). In a study in Brazil, wrist/hand musculoskeletal symptoms were associated with answering more than 140 calls/day, and neck/shoulder symptoms were associated with fewer rest breaks (30).

Therefore, the research suggests that, among call center workers, an occupational group at increased risk of a variety of health problems, reducing the risk of health problems involves ensuring moderate workload demands, avoiding long shifts and understaffing, and providing adequate rest breaks.

Conclusions

In order to reduce the pain and suffering as well as the costs of chronic disease, changes in stressful working conditions are warranted. Such changes involve avoiding excessive overtime, especially for evening and night shift workers, ensuring moderate workload demands, and providing employees with greater discretion and control on the job. Avoiding excessive overtime can also improve performance. Such changes in the organization of work are especially warranted for employees in call centers, since they typically face jobs high in demands and low in control, and have an increased risk of chronic disease.

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BRONX HEALTH LINK

TESTIMONY OF ROBERT LEDERER,
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, POLICY, AND ADVOCACY FOR
THE BRONX HEALTH LINK, INC.
City Council Committee on Finance - Public Hearing on
The Mayor's Proposed Budget for FY 2014
June 5, 2013

My name is Robert Lederer, and I am the Director of Research, Policy, and Advocacy for Bronx Health Link, Inc., a health education, research, and advocacy organization linking Bronx consumers and providers, residents and researchers, and constituents and policy makers. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

I am here to speak about the importance of providing adequate funding for the Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative (IMRI). Several Council members have played a critical role in preserving this vital program, for which we are grateful. In Fiscal Year 2013, after several years of budget reductions, the IMRI was level-funded at $2.5 million. Despite the gains in reducing infant mortality citywide, the rate in the Bronx remains persistently higher than that of any other borough. In addition, due to unconscionable racial disparities that remain unabated, non-Latino Black and Puerto Rican babies still die at twice the rate of non-Latino white babies.

Using funding from this Initiative, Bronx Health Link is one of 30 agencies citywide that work with health care providers and community-based organizations to provide culturally competent, multilingual health education and case management that especially draw in hard-to-reach women and their families. This year, our program model is being changed to reflect the latest research. A mountain of evidence now shows that the factors that lead to premature births, low birth weight, birth defects, and problems in infant development – all of which can contribute to infant death – begin *long before* the woman becomes pregnant. In particular, conditions like high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, sexually transmitted infections, stress, smoking, poor diet, and many others can lead to complications in the baby's health, not to mention long-term problems for the woman herself.

So this year, the Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative will target its educational work to more effectively reach young women in the vital preconception period. One key strategy will involve ways to encourage those women to enroll in a series of workshops – not just one at a time – to deepen their learning and behavior change that can reduce the drivers of poor birth outcomes later on. More emphasis will be placed on what women can do *before* pregnancy to improve their baby's health, as well as their own. In addition, the program will make active efforts to recruit young men to educate and counsel them on the ways both they and their women partners can improve their health to boost their chances of having a healthy baby.

(Cont'd)

This model of preconception health education has shown favorable results when adopted in other parts of the country. It will be offered in addition to the other highly successful and cost-effective services provided by the IMRI program, including:

- Outreach, screening and service referrals
- Case management to help pregnant women through difficult health issues, and
- The latest health information on pregnancy and child care through conferences, trainings, and newsletters, to hundreds of consumers and providers.

One quote from a Bronx new mother trained through the IMRI speaks volumes. She said: *"I attended 3 workshops on healthy pregnancy and childbirth at Morris Heights Health Center which were sponsored by the Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative. Later, I had to have an emergency C-section due to my high blood pressure. Because of the workshops, I recognized that I was experiencing symptoms that were potentially dangerous and as a result went quickly to the ER. My doctor told me that if I had come any later, both my baby and I might have died. This shows how important it is for women to have knowledge and what a difference this program can make."*

In order to modestly expand our target population to reach more women in the preconception period, we request a restoration of the previous funding level of $3 million.

Finally, as a member of the People's Budget Coalition for Public Health, we urge you to support continued funding of several crucial City Council Initiatives that Mayor Bloomberg has again targeted for reduction or elimination. This includes the Child Health Clinics, Children under 5 Mental Health Initiative, Chemical Dependency and Developmental Disabilities Clinics, STD Clinical Services and Treatment in High Schools.

In closing, we ask that you preserve the already very tenuous health safety net that plays a vital role in preserving the lives of so many Bronxites, particularly those who are most underserved.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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Testimony from the Street Vendor Project before the City Council Finance Committee, Hearing on the Preliminary Budget, June 5, 2013

Hello, my name is Sean Basinski, and I am the director of the Street Vendor Project of the Urban Justice Center. We are a membership-based organization of more than 1,600 people who sell food and merchandise on the streets and sidewalks of our city.

I am here to testify about the Mayor's proposal to hire a new team of lawyers, at the cost of $580,000, to collect unpaid fines from mobile food vendors. We believe this proposal is misguided and unfair. It is also a waste of money at a time when the Health Department is cutting funding for mental health, substance abuse, and immunization clinics.

First, the proposal will not work. A study done by the University of Wisconsin last year showed that vendors were not paying their fines because the majority of fines were $1,000, an amount that someone selling hot dogs or fruits & vegetables or tamales cannot afford. The city could hire the best bankruptcy attorneys in the world – you will not collect money that struggling vendors, 99% of whom are immigrants or US military veterans, do not have.

Moreover, City Council recently passed two bills that will make this new expense unnecessary. The first bill will lower the maximum vendor fine from $1,000 to $500 while also changing the way fines escalate. We estimate that this will lower the amount of unpaid vendor fines each year from about $9 million to about $3 million. A second bill recently passed by City Council will also increase payment rates by tying violations to the permit owners who own the business, instead of the workers who own the cart.

Finally, this proposal has nothing to do with public health. Instead, it shows how the city wants to use fines on small business owners to raise revenue for the city coffers. Enforcement should be geared toward encouraging compliance with health and safety standards, not raising money for the city.

Right now, for example, the Health Department provides no training to vendors, in their own languages, on the many complicated rules they are required to follow. Food vendors come to our office every day with tickets for violations they do not understand. Our small staff tries to train them as best we can, but we are swamped. Instead of hiring a team of lawyers to go after vendors for violations they have already committed, the Health Department should hire a multi-lingual team of trainers to visit vendors on the street, explain the rules, and show vendors how to comply.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

STREET VENDOR PROJECT

URBAN JUSTICE

Fact Sheet re: Mayor Bloomberg's $580,000 budget request for DOH to hire attorneys to collect unpaid fines from mobile food vendors

On January 30, 2013, *the Daily News* ran a story highlighting an otherwise obscure item in Mayor Bloomberg's preliminary budget– a new, $580,000 expenditure to hire a team of seven lawyers to conduct collections enforcement against street vendors with unpaid fines. While few details were provided, the article stated that the Health Department expected the lawyers "to collect at least that much in fines and pay for themselves."

FACTS:

- Licensed vendors receive an average of 25,500 ECB summonses each year from police and health inspectors. The vast majority are for offenses, like failing to visibly display a license or vending more than 18 inches from the curb, that have nothing to do with health or safety.

- A November 2010 report by the NYC Independent Budget Office found that only $1.4 million out of $14.9 million owed for vendor violations for the years 2008 and 2009 had been paid.

- However, since most food vendors only pay their vending fines when their licenses come due for renewal, every two years, the IBO report, which compared tickets paid for 2009 offenses by the end of 2009, significantly underestimated the amount that would be paid the following year.

- The $14.9 million figured for fines owed, cited in the IBO report, has been proven flawed. In March, 2012, the Street Vendor Project brought a class action lawsuit alleging that the ECB had a widespread pattern of illegally charging vendors $1,000 default penalties for tickets that should have been, in some cases, no more than $50. The ECB admitted liability, reducing penalties owed by more than $4 million.

- The recent passage of Intro 434A into law will decrease maximum penalties on vendor offenses from $1,000 to $500 while also cutting fines received on lesser offenses in half. It should increase collection rates substantially. Professor Alfonso Morales from the University of Wisconsin, in a 2012 study entitled *Fining the Hand that Feeds You*, found that lowering vendor fines would likely increase revenue collected by the city because lower fines were paid much more frequently than higher ones.

- Intro 817, recently passed into law, will require *permit owner* to be notified and held responsible for any violation, in addition to the vendor who receives the ticket. This should increase collection rates.

- Street vendor fines pale in comparison to other outstanding fines owed to the city. Compared to an estimated $15 million in vendor fines, the city is currently owed over $500 million in unpaid water bills and $700 million in overdue parking fines.

- If the Health Department has an extra $580,000 to spend on improving health and safety practices for mobile food vendors (rather than suing them for money they cannot pay and it will not collect) it could, for example, translate the Health Code and provide it in languages other than English, so vendors do not violate (and are not ticketed for) offenses they don't understand.

STABILIZING NYC: FIGHTING PREDATORY EQUITY AND TENANT HARASSMENT

TESTIMONY

ON

BUDGET—FIRE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES

PRESENTED BEFORE:

THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES

PRESENTED BY:

Sanman Thapa
Community Organizer
Chhaya Community Development Center

June 5, 2013

Good afternoon. My name is Sanman Thapa and I am the Community Organizer of Chhaya Community Development Center, a member of a new citywide coalition that has come together to fight the depletion of affordable housing in NYC at the hands of predatory equity. Thank you for the opportunity to testify this afternoon.

Our predatory equity coalition is made up of eight community organizations and one civil legal services provider—the Community Development Project at the Urban Justice Center, CAAAV: Organizing Asian Communities, Chhaya CDC, Community Action for Safe Apartments at New Settlement Apartments, Fifth Avenue Committee/Neighbors Helping Neighbors, GOLES, Mirabal Sisters Cultural and community Center, Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition and the Pratt Area Community Council.

Over the past seven years, New York City's affordable housing market has been severely destabilized by private (predatory) equity companies that purchase large number of rent-stabilized buildings at inflated prices and then push out the rent-stabilized tenants so that they can charge market rates, using a wide range of harassing techniques from frivolous lawsuits to failing to provide heat or conduct necessary repairs. Despite these tactics, many companies, such as Vantage, Pinnacle, and Dawney Day went bankrupt, forcing their buildings into foreclosure and leaving rent-stabilized tenants to languish in limbo without repairs. As the market has recovered, new predatory equity companies such as Chestnut Holdings, Urban American, Ocelot and Bluestone have purchased these foreclosed buildings and adopted the same business model, and as a result, the city has lost thousands of rent regulated apartments over the last few years.

As the crisis continues, organizers and lawyers have begun working with tenants in all five boroughs, fighting back against these landlords' aggressive and illegal tactics. The strategies we use include: organizing tenants in predatory equity buildings and educating them about their rights; bringing lawsuits against negligent and abusive landlords to compel them to make repairs, restore essential services and cease

harassment; and intervening in foreclosure proceedings to urge the court to sell foreclosed buildings to responsible owners who respect tenants' rights. We have had some success with these methods, but for every tenant that we are able to help, dozens more are losing their affordable housing at the hands of predatory equity, and the result is that thousands of rent regulated tenants are forced out of their homes each year.

Because predatory equity companies have far more resources than community organizations, the preservation of rent-stabilized units depends on the assistance of the New York City Council. We ask the Council to step in and provide funding to stop the loss of these vital rent regulated apartments. With additional resources, community organizers, supported by attorneys, can powerfully defend tenants against dangerous predatory equity landlords, tenants can begin to fight back, and we can make sure that private investment corporations don't rob the city of its precious affordable housing.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Advocates for Children of New York
Protecting every child's right to learn

Testimony to be delivered to the New York City Council
Committee on Finance
Re: Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget

Advocates for Children of New York
June 5, 2013

Board of Directors
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Matthew Lenaghan

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you. My name is Randi Levine, and I am an attorney and Project Director of the Early Childhood Education Project at Advocates for Children of New York. For more than 40 years, Advocates for Children has worked to promote access to the best education New York can provide for all students, especially students of color and students from low-income backgrounds. Given this mission, we are mystified by Mayor Bloomberg's proposal to cut 47,000 children from early childhood education and after-school programs.

At a time when the city and state are implementing the rigorous Common Core Standards and emphasizing college and career readiness, early childhood education is not negotiable. Under the Common Core Standards, by the end of kindergarten, students are expected to read common words by sight, identify similarities and differences between two texts, and solve addition and subtraction word problems. How can the city expect low-income kindergarten students to master these skills if it shuts down their preschool programs? Long-term research shows that low-income children who are left out of high-quality early childhood education programs not only start kindergarten behind but are more likely to be retained a grade, be placed in

special education classes, and drop out of high school. Citing this research, President Obama and Governor Cuomo recently touted the importance of early childhood education and proposed expanding these programs. Yet, here in New York City, the budget proposes taking away thousands of low-income children's opportunity to go to preschool, thwarting their ability to meet the new, higher standards.

After-school programs help improve children's development, safety, and academic performance. Such programs allow children and youth to engage in academic and developmental enrichment activities in a safe environment after the school bell rings. Slashing the after-school system in New York City would move our schools and communities in the wrong direction.

Depriving 47,000 children of early childhood and after-school programs will be far more expensive in the long run. Leading economists have found that high-quality early childhood education and after-school programs are cost-effective, providing taxpayers with a strong return on our investment by reducing spending on remedial instruction, special education, public assistance, and the criminal justice system.

Approximately $130 million is needed to ensure that we can continue to serve the same number of children in early childhood and after-school programs. To provide stability to families, this funding should be baselined. Furthermore, we continue to be

very concerned that the EarlyLearn rate is insufficient to support the high-quality standards that the program requires, as well as health insurance plans necessary to attract and retain qualified teachers. To meet the promise of EarlyLearn's vision of comprehensive, high-quality programs, it must receive adequate funding.

We are grateful that the City Council worked to restore funding for early childhood and after-school programs last year. We know children who are attending the programs that you saved and who will be on track to succeed in kindergarten this September because their early childhood programs remained open. Once again, we are urging the City Council to work with the Mayor to reject the shortsighted, irresponsible proposed cuts to early childhood and after-school programs. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

THE COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New York City Council
FY2014 Executive Budget
June 5, 2013

Testimony of Karen Yau
Executive Director, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families

My name is Karen Yau, and I am the Executive Director of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF). We would like to thank Chair Recchia and members of the Finance Committee for holding this public hearing on the city fiscal year (FY) 2014 Executive Plan.

Since 1986, CACF is the nation's only pan-Asian children's advocacy organization, and works to improve the health and well-being of Asian Pacific American (APA) children and families in New York City in three key policy areas: education, health and child welfare. CACF challenges the stereotype of Asian Pacific Americans as a "model minority" and advocates on behalf of underserved families in our community, especially immigrants struggling with poverty and limited English skills. We work with our membership of over 40 community based organizations to promote better policies, funding, and services for East Asian, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander children, youth, and families.

CACF also co-leads the 13% and Growing Coalition, a group of over 45 Asian led and serving organizations that work together to ensure that New York City's budget protects the most vulnerable Asian Pacific American New Yorkers. Coalition members employ thousands of New Yorkers and serve hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Currently, the Asian Pacific American community is by percentage the fastest growing group in New York City, nearly doubling every decade since 1970, and is nearly 14% of the population. Unfortunately, current levels of public funding for the Asian Pacific American community remain disproportionate to our community's needs.

- 1 out 2 APA children are born into poverty.
- 26.5% of APA live in poverty, the highest of all racial groups in NYC.
- APAs have the highest rate (28%) of linguistic isolation meaning that no one over the age of 14 in a household speaks English well.
- 1 out of 4 APA high school students does not graduate on time or at all.
- 1 out of 8 APAs in NYC are uninsured.

CHALLENGES & KEY PROGRAMS

Currently, Asian American community is grossly underfunded with the City's health and human service dollars. While City Council discretionary funding provides us the opportunity to be flexible, innovative, and responsive to community needs, City agencies must keep reinventing its policies and approaches in contracting out health and human service funding.

Asian Pacific American led and serving organizations receive less than 1% in public social service contract dollars and City foundation grant dollars yet many organizations have long relied on City Council discretionary dollars to bridge the gap and continue to provide vital services in APA ethnic enclaves in Council districts city-

wide, our analysis of publicly available budget documents from the FY2012 Adopted Budget revealed that **APA led and serving organizations received only 2.25% of City Council discretionary dollars and 0.32%[1] of all initiative funding.**

With this economic downturn, a cut to our community will have detrimental effects because current resources already do not meet current needs. Cutting vital services will only exacerbate existing financial conditions by creating long term economic and human costs. Unfortunately, many vital programs and services targeting APAs were cut and eliminated from the FY 2013 Executive Budget.

- **Restore $66.2 Million to After School programs** – The current Out-of School (OST) system serves over 56,500 children and youth in elementary, middle and high school programs with $121.4 million. The Mayor has proposed cutting it by more than half. Of the slots funded by the 121.4 million budget, 29,700 OST slots ($50.9 million), 5,600 Beacon slots (4.4 million) and 733 NYCHA Cornerstone slots ($1 million) were only made possible because of City Council funding. Then last November, $10 million was cut from this budget, decreasing OST slots by an additional 5,316. Restoring this baseline budget of $66.2 million would allow the system to maintain the after school programs that are crucial to this city.

- **Prevent $59.6 Million in Cuts to Child Care** – These programs not only support working families, but also provide early education, helping to lay the foundation for future school success. The Mayor proclaimed that children are the "future of our world, city and country," highlighted the need for a better education system, and yet proposed a $59.6 million dollars in cuts to child care that will put almost 9,000 children at risk.

- **Restore $3.3 Million to allow Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) to serve an additional 2,500 youth this summer.** In each of the last three years DYCD has had to turn away over 100,000 youth that applied for a job, with last summer's program serving just over 27,000 youth, the lowest number in over a decade. During this time frame, NYC's commitment to the program has shrunk from $23.9M to $20.6M, representing a loss of over 2,000 jobs.

- **Restore $4.6 million to the Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI)** – Two-thirds of all New Yorkers are immigrants or children of immigrants. The Immigrant Opportunities Initiative funds programs that help these New York immigrant families obtain citizenship and language skills necessary for decent jobs, and to protect their legal rights. In FY 2013, IOI was funded at $4.6 million which supported nearly 90 organizations throughout New York City to offer these services along with CUNY's Citizenship NOW program. Even when the City funded IOI at $10 Million a few years ago, this only met 10% of the need for ESOL and legal services programs. We have already seen huge cuts to IOI that has hindered the full integration of immigrants in becoming active New Yorkers who can participate in building a stronger economy and civic foundation for the City's future.

- **Restore $6.7 Million for Adult Literacy Services through the City.** We support the restoration of the City Council's Adult Literacy Initiative to $1.5 million and DYCD's Adult Literacy program to $5.2 million, both of which fund community-based programs that provide Adult Basic Education (ABE), English Classes for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and General Educational Development (GED) classes for immigrant and native-born New Yorkers seeking to become literate or improve their literacy competency. These funding levels would support more than 100 programs serving more than 10,000 adults and out-of-school youth. The lack of funding in the executive budget represents a loss of over $10.2 million in the City funds since FY 10. Without restorations, close to 7,000 people will lose the opportunity to take classes, which will double the total loss of program seats to nearly 14,000 since FY 10. This sharp decrease in funding has come at a time when New Yorkers are most in need of opportunities to build their skills.

- **Expand Community-based adult education classes for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).** We strongly support Speaker Quinn's proposal to invest $12.8 million to expand community-

[1] 13% and Growing arrived at these percentages based on an analysis of publicly available information in Schedule C of the FY2013 Adopted Budget. Initiatives include both City Council sponsored-initiatives and agency programs.

based adult education classes for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) eligible immigrants. This would add a critical 16,000 seats in the City.

- **Restore $6 Million to HHC Unrestricted Operating Subsidy.** Cuts in the budget of the Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) will have a tremendous impact on thousands of the neediest New Yorkers. HHC is the healthcare lifeline for 1.3 million New Yorkers and serves nearly 500,000 uninsured patients. Of these, 104,000 Asian Americans are patients at HHC facilities. HHC already has a budget deficit of $1.2 billion, have closed clinics, lay-off off workers, and privatizing and contracting out their services. Even though federal aid will be given, HHC's budget will be even more strained because of the recovery efforts due to Superstorm Sandy which negatively impacted Bellevue and Coney Island Hospitals and their Ida G. Israel Community Health Center. Despite the progress we have made nationally through the Affordable Care Act, this is not the time to reduce investment into the safety net locally. Many of the uninsured New Yorkers will gain coverage under the Affordable Care Act, but there will continue to be individuals that will not be eligible or exempt from participation for the Health Benefit Exchange. HHC serves as a vital provider to these uninsured patients. The funding of safety net providers must be protected as they will continue to offer affordable care for many low-income individuals and families.

- **Restore Council Discretionary Funds** – In New York City, 73% of all Asian Pacific Americans are foreign born. Forty-eight percent (48%) of all Asian Pacific Americans are limited English proficient, and 77% of Asian Pacific American seniors are limited English proficient. Member items, including discretionary for youth and seniors, are important to meeting the on the ground needs of APA community members. These dollars help to fund vital services in local districts and city-wide. These services are implemented by trusted community based organizations that understand the unique cultural and linguistic, social and economic needs of the diverse Asian Pacific American community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Asian Pacific American community is demanding our fair share in the City budget to ensure that our community does not get left behind. Therefore, we put forward the following principles in how our City government should address the financial crisis.

- **Award 10 percent of points in the Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation process for organizations that demonstrate their capacity to provide culturally competent and language accessible services.** It is important for New York City agencies to increase access to vital services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. The Office of Minority Health proposed Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) as a means to correct inequities that currently exist in the provision of health services and to make the services more responsive to the individual needs of all consumers. These standards provide a common understanding and consistent definitions of culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS)[2] and can offer important guidance for New York City. Awarding 10% of points in the RFP process to culturally competent and language accessible services will ensure that diverse New Yorkers receive effective, quality services from both mainstream providers and people of color/immigrant led organizations. Mainstream providers will be incentivized to hire bicultural/bilingual staff and to serve communities of color and immigrant communities. People of color led organizations and immigrant led organizations will have a better opportunity to compete for social service contracts.

- **Establish New York City Nonprofit Stabilization Fund for People of Color-led Organizations (NSF-POC), to support capacity building that targets our membership.** This request has the support of the premier federated people of color (POC) organizations in New York City, including the Asian American Federation, Black Agency Executives, Coalition for Asian American Children & Families and the Hispanic Federation, along with their respective membership, whose numbers total more than 160 organizations in all five NYC boroughs and who serve millions of mostly low and moderate income children, youth and

[2] US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health-National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care, March 2001.

families.

People of color led nonprofit organizations are those that:

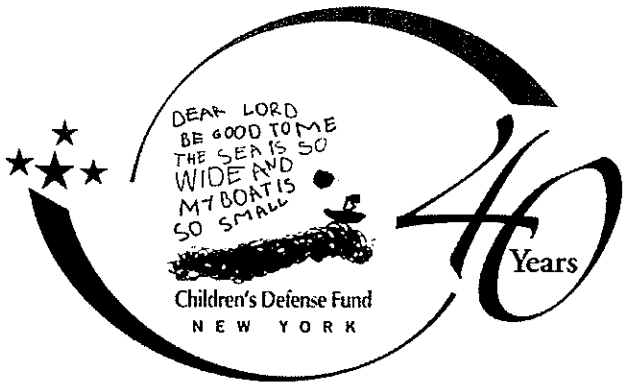
1) At least 51% of an organization's board of directors identify as people of color;
2) The executive leadership identifies as a person of color; and
3) At least 51% of the population served are people of color.

The Nonprofit Stabilization Fund will help secure the long-term viability of community-based human service organizations with majority minority leadership that serve clients in diverse and low-income New York City communities, by providing these nonprofits with resources to bolster back-office capacity and ensure sound infrastructure. The ultimate aim is to ensure long-term viability in service delivery and community development.

- **The most vulnerable members of New York must be protected during these tough financial times.** Budget cuts should not be detrimental to New Yorkers with the greatest needs. According to New York City's Center for Economic Opportunities, Asian Pacific Americans have the second highest rate of poverty at 26%. The City must preserve services to our most vulnerable, including recently arrived immigrants, low-income, limited English proficient, children, and seniors. Services such as workforce development, ESL, adult literacy, and child care all promote economic self-sufficiency. Therefore, cuts to these vital services hinder the participation of these communities to contribute fully to the economic growth of the city.

- **The City should ensure that small CBOs that serve emerging immigrant communities be supported.** These organizations are rooted in and have the trust of their communities. They are often the first to become aware of and respond to the community's needs in a culturally competent and linguistically appropriate manner. However, the funding for services these small CBOs provide are often not base-lined and are the first to be eliminated. These include Council discretionary dollars in the form of member items and initiatives such as Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI), Adult Literacy, and Domestic Violence and other Emergencies (DoVE). A decrease in funding to these grassroots organizations translates into a diminished capacity to address the community's needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony, we look forward to working with the City Council to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the services and support they need to thrive.



Testimony of the Children's Defense Fund – New York

Given by:

Lorraine Gonzalez-Camastra

Director of Health Policy

Before the

New York City Council

Health and Finance Committees

May 28, 2013

Regarding

New York City Council Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget

as it concerns

NYC School-based Health Centers currently slated to lose funding

Children's Defense Fund – New York
15 Maiden Lane, Suite 1200, New York, NY 10038
(212) 697-2323 / www.cdfny.org

Good afternoon. My name is Lorraine Gonzalez-Camastra and I am the Director of Health Policy at the Children's Defense Fund- New York (CDF-NY). I want to thank the Council Chair of the Health Committee, Maria del Carmen Arroyo, and all members of City Council for the opportunity to testify today.

The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. CDF provides a strong, effective voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby or speak for themselves. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, into trouble, drop out of school or suffer family breakdown.

CDF – a member of the People's Budget Coalition – opposes cutting New York City's public health services and programs by more than $25 million in the Executive Budget. Most of these programs serve children and our city's most vulnerable communities. In my testimony today, I will focus specifically on the need to **restore $937,377** in City dollars to four New York City school-based health centers (SBHCs) – namely, Roosevelt High School (Bronx), Franklin K. Lane High School (Brooklyn), George W. Wingate High School (Brooklyn), and The Percy Sutton Educational Campus (Harlem/Manhattan). Combined, these schools provide health care services to over 8,300 students annually. The Children's Defense Fund – New York is gravely concerned about the impact that this loss would have on health outcomes for children and youth who attend these schools.

We strongly urge that the $937,377 in City funds be restored to these centers for the four reasons articulated below:

1. **Without school-based health centers, these communities would likely experience an uptick in emergency room visits.**
   Seventy to 90 percent of students who access school-based health centers rely on them to provide primary and urgent care services. These Centers provide an important, and in many instances, exclusive bridge to healthcare for students. If they are forced to reduce services, or potentially even close their Centers, students who receive care on these campuses would likely access emergency rooms more frequently, which would prove costly to the city over both the short and long-term. This projection is based on a study conducted in the Bronx that concluded ER visits are double for children who attend schools without a SBHC as compared to those in schools with a SBHC.[1] This forecast is alarming, in general, and particularly concerning for Brooklyn students due to local hospital closings. According to the *New York Times*, Brooklyn hospitals are in an "acute stage" of a national struggle to provide sustainable health care to low-income populations. Nearly a dozen of the borough's hospitals have closed since 1980 and there are 41% fewer acute-care beds.

2. **Centers are a means to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities.**
   According to the New York State Department of Health, 33% of students served by SBHCs are African-American and 44% identify as Hispanic or Latino. And, the percentage of racial and ethnic minorities served by each of the Centers in question are much higher. Centers are resources that improve social determinants of health for racial and ethnic minorities living in poverty. According to a study conducted in 2010, published in the *American Journal of Public Health*, school-based health centers have demonstrated,

[1] Webber et al (2005). Impact of Asthma Intervention in Two Elementary School Based Health Centers in the Bronx. *Pediatric Pulmonology*: 40 (6), 497-493.

overall, cost-benefit to the Medicaid system and an effective means for closing health care disparity gaps.[2] As we all know, investments in the health of New York City youth who are racial and ethnic minorities lead to improved health outcomes for this population and cost reductions for care in the long run.

3. **School-based Health Centers promote and support academic advancement for students.** Centers have a proven record of impacting the health and education of New York City students in a profound way, improving classroom attendance and graduation rates. A study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* notes that asthmatic children in elementary schools without SBHCs missed three more days on average compared to those in a school with a SBHC.[3] One Bronx study showed that asthmatic children in schools without a SBHC were fifty percent more likely to be hospitalized than those who attended a school with a SBHC.[4] Those students who used their SBHC were more likely to graduate or be promoted than those who did not. They were less likely to be dismissed from school early due to illness and had three times less loss of academic seat time when compared to students not enrolled in a SBHC.[5] In this time of high-stakes testing, every day of school matters in a high-stakes way. These Centers are one important way of ensuring students can easily access care without missing significant amounts of class time.

4. **Absence of Centers in these four schools would not save money for New York City.** Lack of fiscal sustainability for these programs would result in their closing. In turn, this would require the City Department of Education to provide a minimum set of city-mandated health care services, costing up to $200,000 per school. In a cost-analysis conducted by the New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers, one Registered Nurse (RN) who is responsible for providing first aid care, diabetes monitoring, addressing 504 needs, and sports and new entry physicals costs about $100,000. In schools the size of Roosevelt High School, there would be a need for two RNs at a cost of $200,000 for a much more limited scope of services. Alternatively, for a cost of $185,000 one SBHC can provide a more comprehensive model of service – staffing a family practitioner and a social worker who can offer first aid services; addressing 504 needs; taking responsibility for diabetic monitoring, sports and new entry physicals; offering primary care; managing chronic diseases; offering reproductive healthcare (including all available methods of contraception, STI/HIV management and counseling, and HPV vaccinations); and providing mental health services.

For students who attend school at Roosevelt High, Franklin K. Lane High, George W. Wingate High, and the Percy Sutton campus, the role of the school-based health center is much more than a room or suite staffed with health professionals and aides. Rather, it is a means for effectively addressing severe asthma, as is the case for many students who reside in the Bronx and Harlem. For instance, a young girl at Roosevelt High in the Bronx relies on the care of the center's pulmonary specialist for ongoing care and nebulizer treatments at a frequency of 3 or more

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[2] Jeff J. Guo, Terrance J. Wade, Wei Pan, and Kathryn N. Keller (2010). School-Based Health Centers: Cost–Benefit Analysis and Impact on Health Care Disparities. *American Journal of Public Health*: 100 (9), 1617-1623.

[3] McCord, M.T., Klein, J.D., Joy, J.M. and Fothergill, K. (1993). School-based Clinic Use and School Performance, *Journal of Adolescent Health,* 14, 1-98.

[4] Webber MP, Carpinellos KE, Oruwariye T, Lo Y, Burton WB, Appel DK. (2003). Burden of Asthma in inner-city Elementary Schoolchildren: Do School-Based Health Centers Make A Difference?" Arch. *Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine,* 157, 125-129.

[5] Van Cura M. (2010). The Relationship between School-Based Health Centers Rates of Early Dismissal from School and Loss of Seat Time. *Journal of School Health,* 80 (8) 371-78.

times a week. Her onsite nebulizer treatments ensure that she remains in school, preventing urgent care and emergency room visits, which would contribute to lost time from school.

The centers also provide confidential reproductive health services and education to youth- a critically important and proven effective means of addressing the high rate of teenage pregnancy in Harlem.[6]

Furthermore, it's a means to ensure that immunization rates are on par for students who attend Wingate High school and prevent the reversion to the lower than average rates documented for these students in previously.[7]

Finally, school-based health centers are safe havens and a means of support for children. To quote a young Latina woman and student of Franklin K. Lane in Brooklyn, "I don't need a family. I have the Health Center." This student was raped by her stepfather while in her mother's custody and is now in foster care, following the termination of her mother's parental rights. She visits the Health Center to meet with her bi-lingual social worker, receive oral contraception, and participate in peer leadership activities. This young woman, along with the more than 8,000 students who attend these four school-based health centers, receives critical social and emotional support, along with necessary health services, so that she may succeed in school and in life.

Conclusion

The bottom line is that cutting $937,377 from City dollars and putting these four School-Based Health Centers in jeopardy would not only fail to save the City any money in the short and long run; it would also represent an abdication of our responsibility to these children. City dollars provide a base grant of $100,000 for these centers and additional funding depending on enrollment. The State provides grant monies which are distributed amongst multiple public health programs in the City. Centers may also draw upon Medicaid reimbursements. However, Medicaid reimbursements only cover 50% of the cost of an actual visit. Additionally, because Centers treat students regardless of insurance status, they rely heavily on City funding to provide vitally important services to many of our most vulnerable children.

While the New York City Department of Education is distributing $30 million appropriated via the Affordable Care Act for 18 SBHCs in New York City, these funds are limited to providing for capital expenses only. Sustainability of SBHC program operations is in question given the Mayor's budget. SBHCs are being recognized on a national level for their critical service to children and families in poverty. However, on a local level, we are devaluing the service if we allow these centers to lose funding. We are, indeed, pleased by the national administration's important investment in the infrastructure related to SBHCs and their recognition that these centers matter in the lives of young people. However, we strongly encourage that the City Council ensure that we not only invest in this new infrastructure, but that we sustain funding for programming that is already up and running.

At CDF-NY, we are committed to advocating for serving the needs of the whole child. School-Based Health Centers do just this by meeting children where they are, providing them with physical care, mental health care and, dental care. By offering these preventive health services in schools, we are investing in our young people's ability to be healthy and productive members of our communities.

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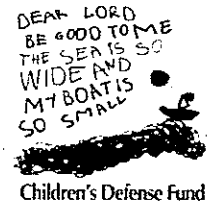
[6] New York City Department of Health Community Health Profiles (2006).

[7] New York City Department of Health Community Health Profiles (2006).

POLICY BRIEF

The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.



Children's Defense Fund
NEW YORK

Restore $937,377 in New York City's Budget for School-based Health Centers

What is a School-Based Health Center?

School-based Health Centers (SBHCs) are partnerships created by schools and community health organizations to provide on-site medical and mental health services that promote the health and educational success of school-aged children and adolescents.

http://ww2.nasbhc.org/RoadMap/PUBLIC/Advocacy_SBHCdefinition.pdf

What is the history of SBHCs in New York City?

SBHCs were first introduced into New York City schools 20 years ago in five schools, one serving each borough. There are now 128 SBHCs operating in New York City:

What is the current citywide landscape?

- 45 in Manhattan
- 42 in the Bronx
- 9 in Queens
- 31 in Brooklyn
- 1 in Staten Island

How do SBHCs operate?

SBHCs are a collaborative effort between the New York City Department of Mental Health and Hygiene and the New York City Department of Education. SBHCs are operated by Article 28, independent institutions which are usually hospitals, medical centers or community-based organizations. They are usually staffed by a multidisciplinary team which consists of a physician's assistant/nurse practitioner, physician, social worker, medical assistant, health aide and health educator.

How do SBHCs benefit students while reducing costs?

Studies have shown that SBHCs increase access to healthcare for minority youth, improve school attendance and performance, reduce emergency room visits, prevent unnecessary hospitalizations, and lower total annual Medicaid expenditures. SBHCs are located in schools in areas of need where there is a dearth of providers. If students did not have access to the SBHCs, they would turn to Emergency Rooms for their healthcare needs. The average ER visit is $1,957, according to a study released by the National Institutes for Health. When students utilize the SBHC, it costs on average $120 per visit. That is a savings of $1,800 per visit.

How do SBHCs address barriers?

SBHCs are vital access points for pediatric and adolescent care among children and youth, particularly in poor and underserved communities. Additionally, they provide confidential services for adolescents who seek necessary medical, mental and reproductive health intervention.

In communities like the South Bronx, where access to pediatric mental health care is obsolete, the provision of services by a SBHC allows for a reduction in emergency referral services for mental health intervention.

Additionally, adolescents often do not seek out the reproductive health services they need for fear they will not be confidential. SBHCs ensure that these services are kept in strict confidence, thus providing a place students feel safe to address these issues.

IMPACTING THE LIVES OF STUDENTS:

Laura came to the clinic for her routine 12 year old annual physical exam. Like nearly 40% of US teenagers, because Laura was growing well and seemed healthy, it is unlikely that her mom would have taken her to her pediatrician for routine care. However, her SBHC recognizes that preventive care and screening are essential for early diagnosis and treatment. As part of Laura's annual exam, she received a recommended screening blood count, which was positive for anemia. The nurse practitioner at her SBHC was concerned and had Laura return for a follow up visit, at which point the anemia was worse. Further testing in coordination with her primary pediatrician led to a diagnosis of Leukemia. Laura is now undergoing treatment and has an excellent prognosis due to this early identification.

http://www.nystatesbhc.org/what-are-sbhcs-75/sbhc-stories.html

Slated Cuts to SBHCs in the Mayor's 2013-2014 Budget

What are the proposed cuts?

The Mayor's preliminary 2013-2014 budget proposes $937,377 to be eliminated from funding four SBHCs in New York City, one in each borough.

- Bk.-Qn: Franklin K. Lane Campus
- Bronx: Roosevelt Campus
- Brooklyn: Wingate High School
- Manhattan: Percy Sutton Campus

How do these funds help New York City students?

These four SBHCs receive a combined total of $937,377 from the City. They serve 8,396 students annually who visited the clinics 23,000 times last year to address their medical, mental and reproductive health needs. This is an average cost of $120 per student. In these four schools, there has been a dramatic reduction in pregnancy rates and students in these schools report that they are more likely to wait until after high school to become sexually active.

How are SBHCs funded?

SBHCs receive funding from the following sources:

- City Grants
- State Grants
- Medicaid Reimbursement
- In-Kind Support from Sponsoring Organizations

SBHCs do not receive funding from:

- Child Health Plus
- Under State Law, SBHCs cannot become Federally Qualified Health Centers to receive enhanced reimbursement
- Employer-sponsored insurance
- Additional dollars from sponsoring organizations

Why do Centers need City Grants to remain operable?

SBHCs do receive reimbursement for students who are enrolled onto Medicaid, but this only accounts for 50% of the visits to the clinic. The other 50% are unbillable, either because they are undocumented and are only eligible for Child Health Plus, or because they are enrolled onto their parents' employer-sponsored insurance. The Center cannot bill either of these insurance plans. Further, if a child comes in for reproductive health, they cannot bill Medicaid because a Statement of Benefits will be sent home to the parents, thus eliminating confidentiality.

This is particularly important in the environment where Medicaid funding – a significant revenue source – is transitioning to managed care. New York State developed the Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) to reduce Medicaid spending in the State by $2.2 billion. The MRT has recommended that one way of achieving this goal is to transition all entities receiving Medicaid reimbursements to managed care. In the current model, SBHCs are carved out of managed care and are fee-for-service which means that they receive a reimbursement for every eligible visit. In October 2014, the carve out will disappear and all SBHCs will fall under the managed care arm of Medicaid. SBHC providers cannot be listed as a child's primary care provider and therefore will receive lower reimbursements for treating the student under managed care. SBHCs will continue to treat students but will be absorbing all costs after October 2014. Because of this, it is critical that the City Grant funding stay intact to these schools.

For more information, contact Lorraine Gonzalez-Camastra, Director of Health Policy at lgonzalez@cdfny.org

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

RESTORE CUTS TO SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS IN *NEW YORK CITY'S* 2013-2014 BUDGET.

SBHCs are an efficient use of City Grant dollars

At minimum, SBHCs provide the following services:

- First Aid
- Addressing 504 needs
- Diabetic monitoring
- Sports Physicals, Working Papers
- Primary Care, including management of chronic illnesses
- Laboratory tests
- Reproductive Health Care
- All available methods of contraception
- STI/HIV counseling, testing and treatment
- HPV vaccine
- Mental Health Services

All of these services are provided at an average cost of **$278,000** per year per school.

Schools without SBHCs are required to employ a Registered Nurse who provides the following:

- First Aid
- Addressing 504 needs
- Diabetic monitoring
- Sports Physicals, Working papers

These basic services will still cost the City **$200,000** per year per school.

www.cdfny.org

New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers

SBHCs funded by the New York City Department of Health

Combined funding $937, 377
Combined number of students in the schools: 8,396
Combined number of annual visits: 23,000

Sponsor	Cohen Children's Hospital	NY Presbyterian Hospital	Montefiore Hospital	SUNY Downstate
School	Franklin K. Lane Campus	Percy Sutton Educational Campus (Mott Hall, Kappa IV, Bread & Roses)	Roosevelt Campus,	Wingate High School
Borough	Cypress Hill, Brooklyn, NY	Harlem, NY	Fordham Road, The Bronx	Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY
School Population	2,700	1,300	2,867	1,529
Annual Visits:	6,656	4,865	5,717	5,693
Other important statistics	-1,536 mental health visits -80 % receive free lunch -105 students overweight, -102 obese, -106 have asthma. - 508 pregnancy tests in 2012 with 28 positive tests - in 2011 with 40 positive tests.	-1,961 for reproductive health -516 Mental Health visits to psychologist	- 4,256 Medical -1,461 Mental Health visits -669 Pregnancy tests, -610 STI screens; -391 Rapid HIV tests; - -110 Mental Health intakes; -203 Community Health engagements; **Dramatic reduction in pregnancy rates:** 2010 – 31 Pos. PTs 2011 – 14 Pos. PTs 10/11 SY - 21 Pos. PTs 11/12 SY – 12 Pos. PTs 1/1 – 6/30/10 – 18+ 1/1 – 6/30/11 – 9+ 1/1 – 6/30/12 – 7+	- 1,500 primary care visits -481 Reproductive Health visits

New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers

NYC funded SBHCs are an efficient way to spend city tax levy dollars

	OSH SCHOOL HEALTH MODEL	SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTER MODEL
Model	NYCDOH Model	Theodore Roosevelt HS/BRONX
Main Provider	2 RNs (Nurse)	Nurse Practitioner
Other providers	3 hours of MD session a month	Fulltime, onsite - Family Medicine MD, Social Worker, LPN, Psychologist, Patient Care Technician, Community Health Organizer, Receptionists
Services	✓ First Aid ✓ Addressing 504 needs ✓ Diabetic monitoring if any ✓ Sports Physicals, Working Papers	✓ First Aid ✓ Addressing 504 needs ✓ Diabetic monitoring if any ✓ Sports Physicals, Working Papers ✓ Primary Care, including management of Chronic illnesses ✓ Laboratory tests ✓ Reproductive Health Care ✓ All available methods of contraception including IUD insertion on site, Depo, Ring, etc. ✓ STI/HIV counseling education and testing and treatment for STI referrals to treatment for HIV + kids ✓ HPV vaccine for boys and girls, plus all other immunizations ✓ Mental Health Services provided by LMSW
Cost to the city	$304,658 unintended pregnancies and births	
Cost to the city	**$200,000**(does not include the salary of the MD)	**$278,000**

Combined funding for the 4 SBHCs slated to close: $937,377
Combined number of students enrolled in the four schools: 8,396
$937,377/8,396= $116 per student
It costs less than $120 per student to have a SBHC
And it saves the city money.

SBHCs are a very efficient way to use city tax levy dollars!

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Greg Berman · *Director*

Center for Court Innovation Testimony
New York City Council
Executive Budget Hearing
June 5, 2013

FOR THE RECORD FOR THE RECORD

Good evening Speaker Quinn and Members of the Council. My name is Alfred Siegel and I am the Deputy Director of the Center for Court Innovation. As you know, the Center is a public/private partnership, an independent not-for-profit organization that works with the courts, government and communities to reduce crime, assist victims and increase public confidence in justice. Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

I am here today to urge the Council to support continuing funding for the Center for Court Innovation and its groundbreaking efforts to tackle chronic challenges like domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness, truancy and juvenile delinquency. Through our demonstration projects located throughout the five boroughs, our provision of technical assistance, and our research, the Center has helped propel New York City to the forefront of the national movement for problem-solving justice. The Center's projects have reduced crime, improved the quality of life in our city's neighborhoods and, most importantly in these very difficult economic times, saved money. Our demonstration projects are nationally and internationally-renowned, serving as models for replication throughout the world. An investment in the Center for Court Innovation is an investment in a more effective – and more cost-effective – way to administer justice.

Many of the most challenging problems facing the residents of our city find their way into the court system each year. New York City criminal and family courts are overwhelmed by high caseloads, many driven, in large part, by drugs, mental illness, homelessness, and family matters. Conventional courts typically approach cases by tackling only the legal issues, failing to adequately address the underlying problems that lead people into the court system in the first place. As a consequence, many of the persons committed to our juvenile correctional facilities, adult jails and prisons are more likely than not to return home far worse-off than when they were initially confined. The recidivism rates of

those coming out of residential confinement are startlingly high. Courts and justice system stakeholders must identify safer, less costly, and more effective approaches to address the challenges presented by the people caught up in the justice system.

The Center for Court Innovation believes that courts, governments, and communities can work together to solve the problems I've just described, to reduce both crime and incarceration, and do so while saving taxpayer dollars. Since the opening of the Midtown Community Court in 1993, the Center has effectively functioned as the court system's independent research and development arm, creating innovative projects like community courts, reentry courts, drug courts, domestic violence courts, and mental health courts. The aim of each of our problem-solving justice initiatives is to combine accountability with help: by using meaningful alternatives to incarceration and linking offenders to social services such as drug treatment and job training, these courts simultaneously hold offenders accountable for their crimes while ensuring that they have the tools necessary to escape the revolving door of the justice system.

Beginning with the award-winning Midtown Community Court, the Center has created more than 20 demonstration projects in all 5 boroughs. Researchers have documented that our projects have reduced recidivism, increased public safety, and enhanced public trust in the justice system. For instance, participants in the Brooklyn Treatment Court re-offend at a rate that is 27 percent lower than offenders who go through conventional courts. Our Bronx Community Solutions project has cut the use of jail by a third and doubled the use of community-based alternatives to detention, increasing compliance by more than 40%. Major crime in Southwest Brooklyn has declined by nearly 50 percent since the opening of our Red Hook Community Justice Center. And our Harlem Reentry Court has reduced reoffending among participants by 19 percent over a three year period. The Center has received numerous awards for its efforts, including the Peter F. Drucker Award for Non-Profit Innovation, the Innovations in American Government Award from Harvard University and the Ford Foundation, and the Prize for Public Sector Innovation from the Citizens Budget Commission.

By sentencing low-level offenders to pay back the neighborhood through community service, our Midtown Community Court saves the city over $500,000 each year in jail costs. But Midtown and our other jail diversion programs are not only cost-effective, they also promote public safety. These

projects offer help to offenders to address problems that often underlie criminal behavior and work in partnership with local residents, businesses and social service agencies to organize community service projects and provide on-site social services, including drug treatment, mental health counseling, and job training. Independent studies have documented that Midtown's compliance rate of 87 percent for community service is the highest in the city. In conjunction with aggressive law enforcement and economic development efforts, the Court has had an impact on neighborhood crime: prostitution arrests have dropped 56 percent and illegal vending is down 24 percent.

Another Center project, the Red Hook Community Justice Center seeks to reduce crime and juvenile delinquency and improve the quality of life in southwest Brooklyn. Red Hook, once infamous for drugs and crime, is now home to one of the safest police precincts in Brooklyn. Instead of jail, the Justice Center sentences low-level offenders to perform visible community service and to receive social services (drug treatment, job training, counseling). This common sense approach – combining punishment and help – has made a tangible difference. Independent evaluators from the National Center for State Courts have just completed a three-year evaluation of the Justice Center. Among other things, they found that the Justice Center reduced the use of jail by 35 percent and reduced re-offending – by 10 percent among adult defendants and 20 percent among juveniles. And by mandating offenders to community service, the Red Hook Community Justice Center contributes over $500,000 in neighborhood restitution projects each year. The research team also found that the benefits of the Justice Center -- including reduced crime and victimization-- far outweigh the costs of operation.

Like the rest of the neighborhood, the Justice Center was profoundly affected by Superstorm Sandy this past year. Five feet of sea water entered the building, rendering the first floor uninhabitable. Even as we tried to get back on our feet (and we're proud to report that we restored full operations after a few weeks), we also worked to help others in Red Hook. Our AmeriCorps program delivered supplies to homebound residents in the Red Hook Houses, cleaned out the debris from area homes, and worked to distribute food and water to those without power. As difficult as the situation was in Red Hook, things never deteriorated into lawlessness – there was no spike in reported crime in the community in the weeks following the storm. We think this is a powerful indication that the Justice Center's work to strengthen the bonds between the community and the justice system makes a difference.

We are bringing this same spirit of innovative collaboration to a number of other neighborhoods, including Jamaica, Harlem, Greenpoint, Staten Island, and the South Bronx. For example, in Brownsville, we are developing a new justice center with the help of capital funding provided by the City Council, the Brooklyn Borough President, and the Mayor's Office. Even as we begin the design process, we are already putting programs in place on the ground, including an innovative, federally-funded violence prevention program that we have launched in concert with the NYPD and the Brooklyn DA's Office.

In general, we have been devoting an increasing amount of energy to the problem of gun violence. This includes operating Save Our Streets Crown Heights, which trains "violence interrupters" to intervene in street conflicts before the cycle of retaliatory violence escalates. A recent evaluation of the program, entitled Testing a Public Health Approach to Gun Violence, found that Save Our Streets had a statistically significant impact on gun violence trends in Crown Heights when compared with three similar precincts in Brooklyn. At a moment when so much public attention is focused on the question of how to reduce gun violence and the challenges of legislative solutions, the success of SOS Crown Heights suggests that ground-level prevention efforts can be an effective complement to enforcement strategies. We are proud to work with the Council to replicate this model in the South Bronx.

This kind of success doesn't happen without the involvement of dozens of partners. Each of our projects is structured as a public-private partnership, involving collaborations among the courts, prosecutors, defense, police, probation, providers, communities and funders. For each dollar the City contributes to the Center, we leverage an additional six dollars in private, state and federal support.

I am here today to request that the City Council continue to support the Center's critical work. The Council's support has been invaluable to the success of the Center for Court Innovation, helping us maintain core operations and launch new initiatives at our problem-solving courts throughout the city, which collectively serve over 60,000 New Yorkers each year.

City Council funding in the last year helped the Center to sustain existing projects throughout the five boroughs and introduce several new programs. Among the Center's newest initiatives are:

- The Adolescent Diversion Program is a pilot initiative to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 18, spearheaded by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman. Center demonstration projects are providing assessments and services to the pilots in all five boroughs, helping to improve the judicial response to 16 and 17 year olds charged with misdemeanors in criminal court. The program provides judges with the tools they need to address offenders' behavior and help young people avoid criminal records and related collateral consequences. The Center is conducting rigorous evaluations of these pilot programs, hoping to demonstrate that a less punitive approach to adolescents will actually promote public safety and provide valuable support to the legislative reform efforts around the age of criminal responsibility. Preliminary research indicates that the number of participants who have been arrested for felonies, and particularly violent felonies, has decreased significantly.
- The Center is planning a new Alternative to Incarceration program to be located in Brooklyn Criminal Court, which will target 16-21 year olds arrested on misdemeanor charges in the Brownsville and Red Hook Community Justice Centers' catchment areas. The project is slated to begin this summer.
- South Bronx Save Our Streets (SOS) was recently launched as a replication of the anti-violence model utilized in Crown Heights. The project treats gun violence as a public health problem, working with offenders and potential victims to reduce the use of firearms when conflict arises.
- In collaboration with the Department of Probation, Justice Community programs in Brownsville and Staten Island provide case management, education and employment assistance, and community service projects to young people involved in the justice system.
- And finally, the Center's research department has released several new studies in the past year, including an evaluation of the aforementioned Crown Heights SOS program, which found a statistically significant reduction of gun violence in the program's catchment area when compared to neighboring precincts.

We request Council funding in the amount of $1,000,000 to continue this work and introduce several new programs designed to improve the city's quality of life while saving money. Council funding will enable the Center to sustain existing programs and introduce new, sorely-needed projects, including:

- City-Wide Prostitution & Trafficking Initiative. The Center currently operates court-based prostitution diversion projects in Manhattan, Queens, and the Bronx. The proposed project

would expand operations to Brooklyn and Staten Island, identify victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, provide trauma-based counseling, substance abuse and mental health services, and linkages to community programs for individuals who have been trafficked and/or charged with prostitution-related offenses. These services will address the underlying victimization that has led individuals to a life of prostitution, such as domestic violence, sexual assault, substance abuse, mental illness, and human trafficking.

- Citywide Youth Court Project. This project will sustain the six teen-led Youth Courts currently operated by the Center in Staten Island, Greenpoint, Brownsville, Red Hook, Queens, and Harlem, and support expansion of Youth Court programming into the Bronx (the only borough currently without a youth court).
- YO SOS (Youth Organizing to Save Our Streets) compliments our anti-gun violence programs. We currently operate YO SOS in Crown Heights. The program empowers young people to become community leaders and organizers, promoting the resolution of conflicts without resorting to gun violence. YO SOS participants work with our Save Our Streets (SOS) Crown Heights program and receive leadership development training, case management, and service learning opportunities while engaging in grassroots anti-violence organizing efforts in the community.
- The Brownsville Community Justice Center will be a neighborhood-based court dedicated to improving public safety, reducing the use of incarceration, and restoring faith in the legitimacy of the justice system. The Justice Center will offer a range of on-site social, educational, and youth development services, and will be home to service providers and municipal agencies, as well as the community court. The Justice Center will include diversion, alternative to confinement and reentry programming and will focus particular attention on the challenges posed by "crossover youths", those concurrently in the child welfare and justice systems. The Center has implemented the initial programs of the Brownsville Community Justice Center: a Youth Court, the aforementioned Justice Community program for young people with a history of justice system involvement, and the Brownsville Anti-Violence Program – a program that engages recently-released parolees in call-in forums that provide an anti-violence message coupled with an offer of community support and services to aid them in successfully reintegrating into the community.

In addition to helping us plan and launch new projects, funding from the Council helps the Center sustain its cost-effective problem-solving projects that address substance abuse, mental illness, homelessness, child abuse and neglect, community disorder and juvenile delinquency.

The Center for Court Innovation looks forward to continuing to work with the New York City Council to improve the justice system's response to the City's most pressing problems. We urge you to support our work and the work of other organizations and government agencies who are improving how courts and their partners tackle the social problems driving the huge caseloads in today's courts and improve the quality-of-life in all neighborhoods in New York. Thank you again. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Testimony Submitted by Danisha Eaddy

Supporting the Relationship Abuse Prevention Program

June 5, 2013

Good Afternoon Everyone,

My name is Danisha Eaddy and today, I'll be sharing with you my experience as a Rapp peer leader. Just a little background information about myself, I'm nineteen years old, love to write poetry, and my passion is working with kids. I have been a part of RAPP for a little more than a year but it feels like eternity due to the amount of achievements I've reached. Before I continue, let me just say that this is my second time testifying to our Council Members on behalf of the program that changed my life for the better. And that program is RAPP. Over the summer of 2012, I was granted the opportunity to become a RAPP peer leader and be educated on various workshops such as teen dating violence and bullying prevention, healthy relationships, and bullying. As you know, these are 3 main issues in society today, just recently a little girl from queens committed suicide because she was being bullied. This is why you can't take away RAPP, this program needs to be in every single school because it is a life saver and a life changer.

Moving on to my experience, I must say that learning about the four types of communication has been beneficial to me because I've gone from communicating passively to communicating assertively. Because of these workshops, I've learned how to work with my peers, respectfully understand life from other's perspectives, and how to become a strong public speaker. These tools have opened a lot of doors for me because I was invited and participated in the Love Right Conference held at Harlem Hospital and co-facilitated a class at Hunter's Graduate School of Social Work with RAPP and Coordinators of STEPS to End Family Violence. I also spoke at the Anti- Street Harassment rally in Washington Square Park where I joined Council Members Julissa Ferreras, Stephen Levin and many others. Reciting a poem I wrote to the crowd based on this issue encouraged pedestrians to stop, listen, and join our fight to end street harassment.

Although we went on a lot of fun trips over the summer, I must say that rock climbing was the most enjoyable. I didn't realize until now that the point of that trip was to challenge me physically and mentally. When I didn't have the strength to pull my body weight up to the next rock, and felt like giving up, my peers encouraged me to keep trying. Because of this challenge, I've learned to climb over obstacles and continue to strive for success no matter how difficult the situation may be. And thanks to RAPP, that's exactly what I did; when I couldn't go away for college due to financial burdens, I almost gave up on my goal to attend college. But RAPP supported me by helping me get back on my feet to continue accomplishing my goal of attending college.

Currently attending Hostos Community College and residing in the Bronx, I take the knowledge I've gained from RAPP to each and every one of my classes. RAPP has enabled me to have a positive impact on my peers as I quote "you are my role model and I admire all the time and effort you have put in to the program". RAPP is not like any other program, it is unique in its own way because it's a place where all of your differences are accepted without judgment. RAPP is the reason why I'm at where I am today. And referring back to what Council Member Leticia James said on May 22nd at our City Hall Press Conference, *"It is the youth as in you guys, who has the power to fight for what's right. It only takes one voice to make a difference."* And I will be that one voice to lead an army of supporters because New York City needs RAPP.

Thank You for your support.

Danisha Eaddy

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Testimony of the Commission on the Public's Health System
Anthony Feliciano, Director
New York City Council Health and Finance Committees
Restoration of Public Health in the Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget
June 5, 2013

Good Afternoon, my name is Anthony Feliciano; I am the Director for the Commission on the Public's Health System (CPHS). CPHS is a facilitator of the People's Budget Coalition, an alliance of 15+ community and labor organizations united around preserving our city's public health programs and services. Even though the Mayor and NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene claim to be committed to improving public health in NYC, over $25 million in public health services and programs were cut in this year's Executive Budget.

CPHS strongly advocates for the inclusion of public involvement in health issues serving the diverse needs of New York City communities. However, the NYC Department of Health does not reach out to communities when they are proposing cuts.

Therefore, CPHS and PBC partners are urging City Council to not adopt the Mayor's and NYC DOHMH's harmful and unjust budget. Instead restore public health programs and services that serve children and our most vulnerable communities in New York City. The Mayor's cuts to public health include de-funding 4 school-based health centers, elimination of immunization teams and East Harlem Asthma Center of Excellence Outreach Staff, $5 million cut to Child Health Clinics, $2.5 million cut to Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative, $1.25 million cut to mental health for children under 5, almost $8 million cut to HIV/AIDS testing and supportive services, and more. See attached talking points for more details on our entire list of restorations.

CPHS believes in several reasons why we need to restore these vital public health programs and services. They are:

Public Health Safety-net and Access

- The public health infrastructure in New York City is critical to the well-being of the city and its residents. HHC, our public hospital system can't sustain further cuts, especially since we know that changes in the Affordable Care Act regarding health care financing may affect the availability of adequate and sustainable funding as HHC will continue to care for people who will still lack insurance, especially people who are undocumented.

- Even with federal healthcare reform going into effect in 2014, our children and communities will have nowhere to go if our public health service infrastructure and safety-net is jeopardized.
- Many of these programs and services are located or are already serving underserved communities. We have a health crisis going on, especially in Central Brooklyn, with looming closures of hospitals and loss of health services. Public Health cuts only exacerbate the problems.
- If some of these programs reduced services and hours, or potentially are forced to closed, people will more likely access emergency rooms and other more costly alternatives.

Accountability to Communities and Their Wellbeing

- Cuts to these kinds of vital public health programs and services represent an abandonment of our responsibility to New Yorkers, especially to the uninsured, low-income persons, women, children, teens, people with HIV/AIDS and other chronic illnesses, people with developmental and physical disabilities, including those suffering from mental health issues.
- Many low-income, immigrant and communities of color rely on all these public health programs and services. And these very same communities rely on them to provide primary, preventive and urgent care services.
- For many of these public health programs and services you see in our talking points, a large percentage of racial and ethnic minorities are served by them. For example, according to the New York State Department of Health, 33% of students served by School Based Health Centers are African-American and 44% identify as Hispanic or Latino.
- They are a resource that improves social determinants of health for people of color and immigrants living in poverty, especially for children and teens.
- New York City is home to more than four million women and girls close to one in four are economically vulnerable, meaning they are likely to live in poverty, have lower earnings and suffer longer unemployment than other women in the City.*
- Poverty and economic insecurity are exacerbated by other community challenges. In New York City, we see a further gap between the poor and rich, and therefore poorer health outcomes than their white counterparts.*
- Contrary to what the Health Department states about health indicators like Infant Mortality rates going down. The maternal mortality rate has increased nearly 30 percent over a 10-year period in the city. When race and ethnicity are taken into consideration, Black women had a maternal mortality rate of 79 deaths per100,000 live births compared to 10 per100,000 live births for White women.*
- With increasing gun violence, we need to focus on mental health issues more than ever. Preventive service like the Mental Health for Children Under 5 is critical.
- Across the boroughs, Brooklyn has the highest rate of new HIV diagnoses among women, at 32 percent, followed closely by the Bronx, at 28 percent. Black women had the highest rate of new HIV diagnoses, at 64.6 percent, followed by Latinas at 27.8 percent.13*

Economic Stability

- These cuts fail to save the City any money in the short and long run.
- We have a critical public health workforce shortage in NYS and NYC. Healthcare is an economic driver, encompassing 11.7 percent of all employment in New York State in 2010*.

These programs and services provide vital jobs in communities, especially where unemployment is high.

- Reducing hours and eliminating Saturdays at STD Clinics will disrupt services for many clients, new clients seeking service after a weekend, and many workers. There is an increase in some sexually transmitted diseases, and this is not the time to cut services.

City Council has an opportunity to use their discretionary funds to protect these public health program and services from the Mayor's and NYCDOHMH's harmful and unjust budget. These preventive services are a vital public resource to New Yorkers, especially low-income, immigrant and communities of color, families and students. Mayor Bloomberg was not willing to ensure these vulnerable communities are cared for, but City Council can still step in and vote to restore these funds.

*http://www.labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/swib/healthcare-subcommittee-report-to-wib.pdf

* Women's Health Foundation Report: Economic Security and well-being index for women in New York City, March 2013

People's Budget Coalition for Public Health

"PUBLIC HEALTH IS THE HEART OF NEW YORK CITY!"

THE PEOPLE'S BUDGET COALITION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH TALKING POINTS- FISCAL YEAR 2014

The People's Budget Coalition for Public Health is an alliance of 15+ community and labor organizations united around preserving our city's public health programs and services. We work together to put the message that city funding for health services is critical and must be at the top of the priority list for the Mayor and for all of our City Council members. The Mayor delivered his Fiscal Year 2014 Preliminary Executive Budget and eliminated funding for important public health services again: new cuts and council restoration funds. While federal health reform, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), will improve access for many New Yorkers, it is important to keep in mind that many parts of the ACA have not been implemented yet. Please help us stop this whittling away of New York City's safety net for our most vulnerable communities- We need all the help to get these issues prioritized and funding restored!

2 NEW FY' 2014 PEGS +1

DISCONTINUED CITY SUBSIDY TO 4 SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS- $937,377

This cut will discontinue city subsidy, and consequently, matching state subsidy, to four School-Based Health Centers, one in each borough except Staten Island. The SBHCs are at Franklin K Lane Campus, Theodore Roosevelt Campus, Percy Ellis Sutton Educational Complex and George Wingate Campus and serve over 6.500 children. SBHCs are a student's medical home during the school day. Many children and families rely on SBHCs as their only source for counseling, health screening, dental care, reproductive care, physical exams, and immunizations.

LAYOFFS TO ONE OF TWO IMMUNIZATION TEAMS AND 3 EAST HARLEM ASTHMA CENTER OF EXCELLENCE OUTREACH STAFF- $700,000

The East Harlem Asthma Center of Excellence has been providing services to families since 2008. They have trained over 1,000 children and families and 150 school staff members, day care centers and community organizations on how to manage asthma. They also provided case management services to over 500 children and families, with 49% of families reporting a reduction in ED visits and 33% reduction in hospitalizations after one year. While asthma hospitalization rates for children and adults have decreased in the past decade, *rates in East Harlem are still higher than in Manhattan and NYC overall*. Therefore it is crucial to continue steady funding and support for this program and community.

INFANT MORTALITY REDUCTION INITIATIVE- $3 MILLION

This initiative targets community districts with high infant mortality rates, preterm birth and low birth weights and works to improve birth outcomes and reduce the severe racial/ethnic disparities. The Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative has been funded by City Council every year, yet the Mayor

persists in not baselining these dollars. Despite the persistent need, funding has dropped drastically over the past four years. Now the Initiative's participating agencies propose to redesign and transition the program into the nationally-recommended model of preconception health education, counseling, and care, that emphasizes what women should do before pregnancy to improve their baby's birth outcomes and their own health. In order to reach more women in the preconception and interconception period, we are asking City Council to restore IMRI to the FY 2011 level of $3 million.

COUNCIL RESTORATIONS

CHILD HEALTH CLINICS- $5 MILLION

Child Health Clinics have been providing primary care and immunizations for all children for over a century. There were 48 Child Health Clinics in 1988. Today, there are only 19, as 5 were closed in FY 2012 (3 in Brooklyn) because of the cuts to HHC's budget! We cannot afford to let this vital resource be ended entirely as a source of local primary care for children, including children with asthma.

HHC UNRESTRICTED OPERATING SUBSIDY- $6 MILLION

HHC is the healthcare lifeline and safety-net for 1.4 million New Yorkers and serves nearly half a million uninsured patients. HHC already has a budget deficit of $1.2 billion and has had to close 5 Child Health Clinics, dental clinics, lay-off workers, and privatize and contract-out their services. Our public hospital system cannot afford to take any more cuts and needs City Council support especially since it is NYC's premier hospital provider for uninsured and Medicaid patients.

CHILDREN UNDER 5 MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE- $1.25 MILLION

This initiative funds 8 community-based outpatient mental health clinics to provide mental health treatment for children, age 5 or under. These programs offer consultation, treatment, training and supervision for children, their families, pediatricians, preschool teachers and child welfare workers. Past cuts to this initiative have already closed programs in previous years. More than 47,000 children under 5 in NYC have a mental health disorder and about 60,000 children 5-17 have a mental health disorder. It is important and cost-effective to address mental health needs early because it prevents more serious and costly interventions later, such as special education and psychiatric hospitalizations. Studies show that the earlier a child's mental health needs are met, the better a child does socially, academically and ultimately, as an adult.

MENTAL HYGIENE CONTRACTED SERVICES PEG- CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY- $525,000
MENTAL HYGIENE CONTRACTED SERVICES PEG- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CLINICS- $806,000

Mental health programs at all ages help avoid the "hidden" costs associated with untreated mental health such as increased family disruption, school truancy, increased crime, abuse, neglect and violence. A portion of these HHC monies fund 3 developmental disability clinics. HHC needs these resources to continue providing mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services for the most vulnerable individuals and their families.

STD Clinic Services and Treatment in High Schools Reduction- $297,000

The Department of Health proposed discontinuing the STD education and testing program in city high schools. The Commissioner said those students could go to city STD clinics or school-based health centers. However, most of the schools with the STD program don't have full health centers and last year, a couple of School Based Health Centers were closed.

DOHMH STD CLINICS

The DOH is proposing to change the hours of STD clinics from Monday to Friday, with Saturday overtime, to Tuesday to Saturday, closed Monday, no overtime. Some clinics would have increased Saturday hours. Four clinics – Central Harlem, Chelsea, Fort Greene and Jamaica would have NO MONDAY service. Three clinics – Morrisania, Crown Heights and Manhattanville would have NO Saturday service. This will disrupt services for many clients, new clients seeking service after a weekend, and many workers. There is an increase in some sexually transmitted diseases, and this is not the time to cut services.

HIV/AIDS Supportive Housing- $5.086 Million

Funding for HASA-contracted supportive housing programs has been restored by City Council each year since 2009. If City Council does not restore funding again in this budget cycle, the cuts will take effect beginning on July 1st. This PEG would impact permanent congregate and Scatter Site programs contracted by HASA. There were 4,535 HASA-contracted supportive housing units, including NY/NY III, as of December 2012.

HHC Rapid HIV Testing- $2 Million

Since 2005, HHC facilities have tested over 1.2 million patients for HIV, diagnosing 12,200 as HIV positive. Of those positively diagnoses, more than 90% have been linked to life-saving HIV medical care and treatment at HHC within 90 days.
HHC currently serves about 19,000 HIV/AIDS patients- nearly 20% of NYC's HIV/AIDS population in New York City.

Food and Nutrition (Project Momentum)- $995,000

Mayor Bloomberg has repeatedly tried to shut down Project Momentum's food and nutrition programs. This funding supports their efforts to provide over 40,000 hot meals per year to homeless and extremely low-income people living with HIV, along with approximately 29,000 pantry bags that provide an additional 353,000 meals. City Council has made one-year restorations for the program, now administered by the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), during the past two years.

PBC Organization Members

Arab-American Family Support Center, Brooklyn Perinatal Network, The Bronx Health Link, The Children's Defense Fund- New York, Citizen's Committee for Children, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families, Commission on the Public's Health System, District Council 37, Doctor's Council SEIU, Federation of County Networks, Inc, Fort Greene SNAP, Gay Men's Health Crisis, Housing Works, Manhattan Borough President's Disability Task Force, New York Immigration Coalition, New York State Nurses Association, Spanish Speaking Elderly Council- RAICES, Village Care, Women's City Club of New York

FOR THE RECORD

Kelvin Tejada | The Struggle Report | Testimony June 5, 2013

I'm Kelvin Tejada. I've been a member of FUREEous Youth for about 2 years and a Brooklyn Resident for about 13 years. FUREEous Youth is a youth-led organizing program in Brooklyn that fights for job opportunities for young people.

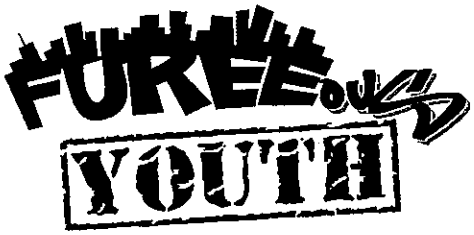
I'm here to forward your attention to the difficulty youth are facing in finding job development programs and jobs. This topic is very important to me because my family struggles to give me the opportunities I need to make it, so I need to be able to provide for myself. These programs help with writing resumes, prepare me for job interviews and provide job experience. Without them, my chances of providing for myself become a lot harder.

I consider myself lucky to have participated in SYEP three times in a row, but I know it's uncommon for most of my fellow youth. I was first pushed by my mom to join SYEP because she wanted me to earn my own money. I was excited to apply again because I liked the paycheck and the work experience.

I worked as a janitor for a non-profit office in my first summer, keeping the facilities neat and clean and handing out fliers. The next year, I worked at the same place, but mainly answered phones for an occupation. Then, for my third job, I was watching 5-8 year-old kids and physically setting up their learning and fun spaces.

Now I'm 19 years-old and unsure of what I want to be when I get older. I know I want to be a part of an industry that puts me in high demand and will help me take care of myself and my family. When I filled out my SYEP application, I said I was interested in office administration and accounting, but SYEP hired me as a janitor and child caregiver. Now I'm looking for a job on my own. I've applied to retail positions because they're hiring, but I'm worried that my experience in SYEP may not be enough for the job or even the right fit for the position I'm applying for. My experience is similar to the 320 youth surveyed for our report. Especially the 54% who said they were unemployed and struggling to find work. I need help creating a resume that will catch the attention of employers. Basically I need support. Especially since interviews are now done through group discussion and no one has been taught how to stick out while your competition is right next to you.

In *The Struggle Report*, we have several recommendations to improve access to jobs. One recommendation is that worksite assignments should be based on the interests of young people and on the current trend of employment opportunities. If I were placed in a worksite of my interest, I would most likely have a job now. I would also have more confidence in my ability to do the job, and would be able to carry that confidence with me in interviews and workplaces. We also recommend for DYCD to provide free job readiness trainings. This would increase my chances of getting a good-paying job and would be convenient for those whose only work



experience is through SYEP.

I call on the City Council and the Mayor to make these recommendations a reality. I want them to create a budget that gives the different agencies the money they need to provide these trainings and meet our needs as young people. If you don't increase the budgets of these programs, there is no way these programs can implement any of these recommendations. It is the responsibility of our elected officials to make sure programs like SYEP are fully funded. Too many youth get turned away from these programs because the funding isn't there. Make sure the funding is there. Invest in us. Support young people in NYC by supporting the recommendations of FUREEous Youth.

FOR THE RECORD

Desireé Marshall | The Struggle report | Testimony June 5, 2013

My name is Desireé Marshall. I am the Senior Organizer at FUREE – Families United for Racial and Economic Equality. I coordinate our youth program, FUREEous Youth. Our current campaign, the *No Money, Mo' Problems campaign*, organizes young people around sustainable employment. As of 2012, the unemployment rate for young people in this city is almost 3 times higher than the rest of the city. Meanwhile, funding for desperately needed job development programs has decreased steadily over the last 5 years. When the mayor puts forth a budget that does not place youth as a priority, it tells me and the members of FUREEous Youth that Mayor Bloomberg does not care about young people.

Since last summer, FUREEous Youth has engaged in a participatory research project with the Community Development Project of the Urban Justice Center. We surveyed 320 young people to help us document employment challenges they face, and to evaluate existing government youth job programs. The findings of these surveys were alarming. 54% of all respondents reported they did not have a job; of that, 97% were looking for one. When asked about challenges they face when searching for work, 63% lacked on-the-job experience or education and training. Another 21% stated they didn't know where or how to find a job. This leads to the importance of youth job development programs that train young people to be ready for the workforce. Unfortunately, many of these programs are missing the mark because young people don't know they exist. Nearly half of the young people we surveyed had only heard of SYEP; they were unaware of other programs available to them. This is sad, considering that the City has decreased funding for SYEP by 36% since 2007; the State has decreased funding by 58%.

I call this to your attention, because my understanding of the budget that Bloomberg put forth does not have an increase in funding in youth services. To not raise the funding is paramount to decreasing funding. Applications for SYEP alone increases every year. With the raising of the minimum wage and effects of the sequester, we know the budget will get balanced on the backs of young people in this city. You cannot expect any of these job development programs to meet an increasing need of youth, if the funds aren't increased to match it.

Just outside this hearing, FUREEous Youth released *The Struggle Report: Findings and Recommendations by NYC Youth for New York Job Development Programs*. In that report we have 7 very simple recommendations, all of which require this mayor and whoever is elected after his last term, and this City Council to prioritize the needs of young people, and most importantly their solutions. At FUREE, we believe that those directly impacted by the issues they face are the real experts when it comes to finding solutions. And FUREEous Youth has some solutions for the issue of sustainable employment for young people. They are:

1. Increase the number of slots available to youth in job development programs.
2. Advertise the employment opportunities available to youth by creating one website to consolidate programs and trainings, and then have an advertising campaign to promote this website.

3. Extend the length of SYEP to 8 paid weeks, so that young people are getting an adequate work experience.
4. Base worksite assignments on the interests of youth who apply.
5. Provide work study programs in high schools.
6. Provide free job readiness trainings designed for young people.
7. Provide career advisors in high schools.

I have several copies of *The Struggle Report* for you to review. I hope all of you seriously consider the ideas of FUREEous Youth. Many times the voices of young people get ignored, simply because they are young. These proceedings ignore youth time and time again when they happen while most young people are still in school or at work. While I work to support young people, I do not work to speak for them because I know they can speak for themselves. If our elected officials want to continue to tokenize young people as the leaders of tomorrow, they will do best by including young people in these hearings each and every time.

My contact info is available below, in case any one of you would like to meet with FUREEous Youth. Shout out to Council Members Jumaane Williams and Annabel Palma for meeting with us back in April. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Desireé Marshall
Senior Organizer – FUREE
dez@furee.org
718-852-2960 ext 307

FOR THE RECORD

CAMBA

where you can

Testimony of Tyesha Branch
Program Director, Education and Youth Development
CAMBA, Inc.

Testimony before the New York City Council Finance Committee
June 5, 2013

RE: The FY 2014 Preliminary Budget and its Impact on Human Services in New York City

Good afternoon. My name is Tyesha Branch. I am the Program Director of Education and Youth Development at CAMBA and I am here today to testify on behalf of our agency.

CAMBA was founded in 1977 and now serves 45,000 individuals each year, including nearly 9,000 youth in six program areas: Economic Development, Education and Youth Development, Family Support, Health, Housing, and Legal Services. The agency runs with a diverse and dedicated staff numbering more than 1,200, located at nearly 70 sites citywide.

Last June, CAMBA testified to restore the 25,000 Out of School Time slots that were on the chopping block. These cuts included over 400 slots at CAMBA OST programs. After our testimony, our staff packed up our program offices and said goodbye to our students. Just a few days after the boxes were packed and computers disconnected, we learned that funding to our programs had been restored. Of course, we were overjoyed that we could again provide this critical resource thanks to the City Council, and especially Council Members Eugene and Gentile. However, we had to quickly hire and train new staff, move back into our offices and notify our students and their families that our programs would continue for the next year.

With no stable, ongoing funding in place, Out of School Time programs are again facing huge cuts - $50 million dollars, or over 31,000 slots. The annual fight for funding consumes much of our time that would be better spent on our programming. The constant uncertainty of funding hurts our ability to maintain quality programs. Moreover, the families we serve are living with disruption, fear and uncertainty. Closing programs for children can lead to lost jobs and financial catastrophe. Comprehensive, high quality afterschool programming cannot be replaced by unsupervised walks home and afternoons in front of the TV – and that's too often the alternative for children of working parents, who have no other options when the afternoon school bell rings.

If the proposed budget passes, CAMBA programs at two schools – P.S 139 and P.S. 249 in Flatbush, Brooklyn – will close entirely, eliminating high quality after-school programming for more than 400 elementary school children. Our other four programs, which already have wait lists, will lose significant numbers of slots. All told, we will lose 612 slots, over 56% of our current service capacity. You must restore funding to these programs.

The OST cuts are not the only budget changes that will adversely impact New York City children and families. We also cannot forget about Beacon Community Centers, also **vital** for their communities as comprehensive resources for children, teens and families. Beacons are facing a $4.4 million cut which would eliminate over 5,600 valuable Beacon slots. At CAMBA, two Beacon Centers would absorb a 12% cut, meaning that we could serve 100 fewer at-risk middle school youth and 700 fewer participants overall. Across the City, seven Beacons would be closed outright. We urge the restoration of **full funding** to these long-established resources.

In addition to these specific programmatic cuts, the Preliminary Budget also eliminates over $7.7 million in Councilmember Discretionary Funds for youth development programs. Councilmembers are intimately familiar with their districts and often they are the ones who know the most pressing needs of the communities they represent. Member items often fill vital gaps and supplement the ability of effective programs to serve their constituencies. We urge the restoration of **full funding** for this critical resource.

Beyond its impact on our children, the Preliminary Budget also affects immigrants and other adult learners who are striving for self-sufficiency. Cuts for Adult Literacy Services total $2.5 million. These funds enable community-based organizations to provide Adult Basic Education, ESOL and GED classes to undereducated adults who are seeking better opportunities for themselves and their families. At CAMBA, this funding allows us to provide ESOL classes for 30 students. We focus our resources on Level 1 students, those learners who struggle with literacy in their native language as well. Without our support, these immigrants will be frozen out of the American Dream. We urge the **full restoration** of these funds.

We ask that funding also be restored for two programs in place to ensure the physical well-being of our youth: the Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program, which CAMBA has run since 2006, and which teaches over 1,000 teens each year how to recognize and prevent abuse at home and among their peers; and our Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative, which since 2003 has been **a pathway to health for underserved pregnant women and children**.

Finally, we ask that funding be restored for a number of invaluable Council initiative that improve the lives of so many:

- Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI). Elimination the $4 million Immigrant Opportunities Initiative means that providers across the City will lose essential funding to provide ESOL classes and legal services for immigrants. CAMBA uses these funds to support the array of legal services – including direct representation from highly-qualified attorneys - we provide to more than 1,000 immigrants each year. Additionally, support from the city council funds ESOL classes for 30 Level 1 students who will otherwise be left at the margins of our economy and our broader society.

- Legal Services for the Working Poor: Since, 2004 this funding has allowed CAMBA to provide 200 individuals and families with no-cost civil legal services in the areas of housing, consumer issues and immigration---these no-cost services are **all the working poor can afford.**

-CAMBA's Security Guard Academy: Council support for Security Guard training enabled CAMBA to certify and place more 160 security guards in the last year, giving many people with little previous

work experience or long term unemployment a foothold a growth sector with meaningful opportunity for advancement.

In order to support New Yorkers who are struggling across our communities, to prevent more costly and serious problems including poverty, homelessness and increased unemployment, and to preserve the health of our city as a whole, we ask that you fully restore all requested cuts to these invaluable programs and services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I look forward to working with the City Council to restore funding.

Testimony

New York City Council

2014 Executive Budget Hearing

June 5, 2013

Submitted by

Ralph Palladino 2nd Vice President DC 37 Local 1549 Clerical-Administrative Employees

Local 1549 represents 16,000 taxpayers and employees of the City of New York working in nearly every city agency, and the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) and the New York City Police Department (NYPD). The 911 Call Center Police Communication Technicians and Supervisors (PCT/SPCT), and the Police Administrative Aides (PAA) and other clerical titles who work in the precincts are all represented by Local 1549.

We support a budget that reflects the needs of the citizens of New York, enhances the public safety and health of New Yorkers, and one the is funded fairly and not balanced on the backs of the vast majority of working and poor in the city. Sadly there are areas of this budget where that must be improved.

You have already heard about the problems our members face every day working in the 911 system due to bad city private contracting and severe short staffing. *This impacts the safety of the city residents and is bad public policy.* **This budget should contain funding for hiring of 400 more PCT/SPCTs that can be paid largely thanks to reducing the need for the large amount of overtime.** This will lead to a workforce whose morale will be higher and whose stress level will be lower, thus leading to more efficiency. These officially designated first responders will cease be treated as second class citizens.

In nearly all the NYPD precincts we see able bodied uniformed employees performing routine clerical work instead of being out in the streets performing community policing keeping our citizens safer. This is a waste of tax dollars that is *not* corrected in the city's budget proposal. The Police Commissioner, City Council and union agree that 500 such positions now exist. **Civilianization of those positions will lead to an annual savings of $45 million and also the lowering of overtime costs.**

The city's proposal also calls for cuts in HHC, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and in childcare funding. These cuts will negatively impact the health of New Yorkers and make it more difficult for them to hold on to their jobs.

Too many business groups, newspapers and political leaders have been saying that it is the public employees who are the problem with the city budget. They call on us to pay more for healthcare and not get raises. But we have fought for and negotiated to get those benefits and sacrificing higher pay increases. Giving up what was earned is not fair!

Fair Budget Solutions

Fairer ways to raise revenues to support new programs in the NYPD and stop the proposed cuts can be found. **The billions of dollars wasted on excessive contracting out of public jobs to the private sector can be used instead to enhance service programs and hire needed public employees like those in the NYPD**. Billions of tax dollars have been wasted on contracts like City Time and the 911 Systems, while other contracts only line the pockets of contractors who hire clericals part-time, pay poverty wages and use the tax funded Medicaid program as their health insurance. This also leads to problems of quality control and efficiency.

The budget is balanced unfairly on the backs of city workers and the public in need of services. The richest 1% of residents are paying more than 1% less in taxes than they did 20 years ago according the Fiscal Policy Institute. According to Forbes Magazine there are currently 70 billionaires living in the city earning over $300 billion. **It is not fair that these New York residents who pay less in taxes that they used to, have been the only ones to really benefit from the present economic crisis, and yet are not be asked to pitch in to balance the budget. The top 1% of the city's population had 10% of the city's income in 1980 and now has almost 45%!**

Fair solutions to the budget problems do exits. End excessive contracting out and tax the very rich in order to maintain and enhance services. Let's keep New York safer and healthier.

Thank you.

Note: Documentation on Civilianization and the 911 Call Center problems, costs and solutions have already been submitted to the City Council Finance Committee.

Anyone wanting a copy can contact Local 1549 by email at: businessoffice@local1549.com

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June 5 2013 – NY City Council Fire Committee
"My Tribe Wears Blue and Rides Red Horses"
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Councilmembers and concerned NYers, thank you for hearing the voices of NYC residents and tax-payers. Just as we rely on the Bravest for help in distress, we now turn to you to save our Bravest from synthetic structure shortfalls caused by Citytime and 911 Dispatch and recruiting candidate lawsuits and understaffing overtime.

SUMMARY – FDNY 2012 Bureau of Fire Investigation - BFI2012
Brooklyn **has no burn unit** and could lose more FDNY companies despite these frightening fire facts:

- Brooklyn had 32% of Fire Fatalities 2007-2012
- Brooklyn had 30% of Fire Injuries 2007-2012
- Brooklyn had 28% of Fire Fatalities 2012
- Brooklyn had 23% of Fire Injuries 2012
- Brooklyn had 33% of Accidental Fires 2012
- Brooklyn had 35% of Incendiary/Arson Fires 2012
- Brooklyn had 34% of Incendiary/Arson Fires in Occupied Buildings 2012

- 911 Unified Call Taking – on May 29-30-31 2013 – NYC's $2billion 911call center crashed so life/death depended on pencils and runners. Intergraph built this 7year-delayed system to centralize NYPD, FDNY/EMS. NYC's previous system also crashed in 2004.
- Response time ignores the time 911operators forward callers to dispatchers or sharpen pencils. LAFC is donating supplies.
- FDNY's crucial 2way call boxes must be repaired and maintained – at Hamilton Bridge/Gowanus Canal-Expy.-Asphalt Plant (hazmat)-Marine Transfer Station – a call box was uprooted, another remains broken +2years
- Columbia University found that FDNY saves +$3billion per year or +$15m per company.
- Community Boards that lost a company in 2003 must not lose another company – double jeopardy is unacceptable
- In 2011 the UFA Roster Staffing Agreement ended and NYC removed the fifth firefighter from engines. During Hurricane Sandy, some fifth firefighters were temporarily restored. If the Council accepts the Mayor's budget, the fully restoring the fifth firefighter will be unfunded for future contracts
- FDNY companies near a closed company must have the fifth firefighter restored. It is hazardous, inefficient and illogical that a life/death incident fire must await a second engine because the first arriving engine is under-staffed to attack a fire. Further, the response time of second-due engines are not publicly tracked or published.
- Closing FDNY Companies – FDNY gives 45days before closing companies protecting airports, bridges, tunnels, transit/traffic hubs, arenas, hospitals, housing, schools, fuel depots, flood zones, vulnerable terrorism targets. NYC Council must mandate ecological, environmental, economic social, health diversity and population density impact studies before FDNY closes/relocates a company impacting the lives and health of the Bravest and civilians, their pets, property, homes.
- Community Boards should obtain monthly reports detailing out-of-district and covering companies and borough statistics on inspections, EMS/fire incidents/fatalities, arson/suspicious fires.

2012 BUREAU OF FIRE INVESTIGATION – BFI 2012
http://www.nyc.gov/html/fdny/pdf/publications/bfi_annual_rep/2012/2012_annual_final.pdf
Noting the 2012 BFI omits Hurricane Sandy references, these are notable fire data compiled by FDNY, with data analysis by J.Sanfeliú

FIRE FATALITIES <2007 – 2012> NYC #440

BOROUGH			
	Bronx	85	19%
	Brooklyn	142	32%=HIGHEST FIRE FATALITIES 2007 – 2012
	Manhattan	86	20%
	Queens	98	22%
	Staten Is.	29	7%

FIRE FATALITIES 2012 – NYC #58

RACE/ETHNICITY – AfricanAmerican▶21...36% +Hispanic▶14...7% = TOTAL#37...64%
STRUCTURE – Multiple Dwelling Residential▶32...55% —— Commercial+MD/PD Dwelling = TOTAL#53...91%
AGE – 01-19▶4...7% – **LaborForce20-59▶25...43%** – 60-90+▶29...50%
GENDER – Female▶24...41% – Male▶34...59%
Cause Electrical ▶15...26%
Smoke Detector NOT Working ▶10...17%
Fire Season – Jan.▶11 + Feb.▶12 +Dec.▶8 = TOTAL#31...53%
Time – hourMid▶7 +hour5am▶7 = TOTAL#14...12% —— Day Tour▶17...29% – Night Tour▶41...71%

BOROUGH				COMMUNITY BOARD HIGH FATALITIES			
	Bronx	18	31%		CB08	4	7%
	Brooklyn	16	28%		CB01	3	5%
	Manhattan	9	16%		CB12	2	3%
	Queens	12	21%		CB12	3	5%
	Staten Is.	3	5%		CB01	2	3%
	TOTAL	58			TOTAL	14	14%

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FIRE INJURIES <2007 – 2012> NYC #4894

BOROUGH	Bronx	1027	21%
	Brooklyn	1460	30%=HIGHEST FIRE INJURIES 2007 – 2012
	Manhattan	1058	22%
	Queens	1123	23%
	Staten Is.	226	5%

FIRE INJURIES 2012 – NYC #853

RACE/ETHNICITY – AfricanAmerican▶224...29% +Hispanic▶257...30% = **TOTAL#501...59%**
STRUCTURE – **Multiple Dwelling Residential▶552...61%** —— Commercial+MD/PD Dwelling = TOTAL #794...93%
AGE – 01-19▶152...18% – **LaborForce20-59▶421...49%** – 60-90+▶180...21% – Unknown▶100...12%
GENDER – Female▶445...52% – Male▶406...48%
Cause Electrical 294...34%
Smoke Detector NOT Working 112...13%
Fire Season – Jan.▶68 + Feb.▶108 +Dec.▶76 = TOTAL#252...30%
Fire Season – Jan.▶68 + Feb.▶108 +Dec.▶76 +Nov.▶91 = TOTAL #343...40%
Time – hourNoon▶62 +hour9pm▶57 = TOTAL#119...14% —— Day Tour▶334...39% – Night Tour▶519...61%

BOROUGH	Bronx	186	22%	COMMUNITY BOARD	CB05	29	3%
	Brooklyn	199	23%=Highest	HIGH INJURIES	CB04	23	3%
	Manhattan	219	26%		CB03	27	3%
	Queens	218	26%		CB12	37	4%
	Staten Is.	31	4%		CB01	19	2%
	TOTAL	853			TOTAL	135	16%

ACCIDENTAL FIRES – ALL NYC #2619 – Brooklyn #864 +Queens #620 = TOTAL #1347...51%

BOROUGH	Bronx	483	18%	COMMUNITY BOARD	CB12	78	3%
	Brooklyn	864	33%=Highest		CB05	78	3%
	Manhattan	514	20%		CB08	57	2%
	Queens	620	24%		CB12	96	4%
	Staten Is.	138	5%		CB01	67	3%
	TOTAL	2619			TOTAL	376	14%

BFI 2012 DOES NOT MENTION SANDY'S IMPACT ON FDNY RESPONSES OR FIRES (example Breezy Point).
Compared 2012 and 2011:

	Structural Occupied Building	Structural Vacant Building	Structural SubTotal	Auto & Transit	Other	TOTAL Accidental Fires
BFI 2012 (Sandy?)	2361	20	2381	100	138	2619
BFI 2011	-2321	-19	-2340	-105	-124	-2569
CHANGE (Sandy?)	**40**	**1**	**41**	**-5**	**14**	**50**

INCENDIARY – Arson FIRES – ALL NYC #1947 —— BFI TOTAL ARRESTS #453

BOROUGH			OCCUPIED—Arson			OCCUPIED—Arson		
Bronx	484	25%	Bronx	348	29%	CB01	70	6%
Brooklyn	688	35%=Highest	Brooklyn	416	34%=Highest	CB05	45	4%
Manhattan	323	17%	Manhattan	248	21%	CB11	59	5%
Queens	338	17%	Queens	143	12%	CB12	30	2%
Staten Is.	114	6%	Staten Is.	53	4%	CB01	35	3%
TOTAL	1947		TOTAL	1208	62%	TOTAL	239	20%

FTR

Madame President and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before the council.

Hi my name is Maajid Newbold, and like many New Yorkers I live in a food insecure household. Like many new Yorkers I decided to apply for food stamps. Like many new Yorkers I needed help.

For 20 years I was a security guard at the Apollo Theater. This job was enough to put food in my fridge and pay my bills.

In 2011, I was laid off. I began to look for work for about a year. Unfortunately in the meantime hunger does not wait until I find my next source of income. Before applying for assistance I would borrow money and open up lines of credits at local bodegas, this put me into a lot of debt. For extra income I would collect bottles. This was not something I was proud of, but it is what I had to do in order to survive. I decided to apply for assistance.

Thankfully, I was able to qualify for emergency snap. Emergency snap is given to those whose income and available resources is less than the sum of rent. The application process was simple but time consuming. Spending all day in HRA was not how I expected to spend my day. I received 200 dollars in SNAP benefits a month. My rent at the time was eight hundred dollars a month. That two hundred dollars a month was the difference between being able to eat, and paying my rent.

Being accepted into the SNAP program was a relief, but I often felt like I was walking on egg shells. I felt like at any moment my SNAP benefits could be cut. I often would receive letters from HRA that I just could not understand. Having to recertify and keep up with appointments became cumbersome and was a constant worry of mine. To fulfill my work requirements I began to attend America Works courses. I spent 45 days there hoping to find employment. I followed their instructions every day and I felt like all I got was more excuses. I was often told there was no work for me because of my gender. This was never encouraging. I have the will to work and to be self-sustaining. To be told there are no jobs for me at the work center that is supposed to assist me in finding work is not encouraging. After being in the program for 45 days, I was sanctioned for laying my head down, this is not true. It's their job to help clients find jobs and when they can't do that, they look for any reason to sanction clients. They told me I was not complying with the program. Being sanctioned made me feel like I had been betrayed and misguided. I came here looking for work, I came here looking to help myself, and instead I get sanctioned and told I was not good enough because of my gender.

After going through this process. I have some questions of my own.

Why does HRA threaten to take away my benefits when the cost of living keeps rising?

Why doesn't the HRA prepare me for a career instead of a job?

Every $1 in new SNAP benefits generates up to $1.80 of economic activity. That's an 80 % return on investment. Shouldn't we be treated with a little more respect then we currently are? With that said, I still believe that's my experience being on snap is a positive journey. I can walk into a store with ease and dignity. I make smart decisions when choosing the right type of foods to keep me healthy. I no longer have to borrow money from friends. Being on the SNAP program has given me the lifeline needed. All I ask is that the HRA should not be a barrier for that lifeline. I am one of 1,906,619 million New Yorkers who also need help. This is nothing to be ashamed of.

Solutions for Today and Tomorrow
HSU

HOMELESS SERVICES UNITED
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www.HSUnited.org

New York City Council

FOR THE RECORD

FY14 Budget Hearings,

June 5, 2013

Testimony of

Christy Parque,
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Homeless Services United
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cparque@hsunited.org
www.hsunited.org

My name is Christy Parque and I am testifying on behalf of Homeless Services United (HSU). HSU is a coalition of over 50 non-profit agencies serving homeless and at-risk adults and families in New York City. HSU provides advocacy, information, and training to member agencies to expand their capacity to deliver high-quality services. HSU advocates for expansion of affordable housing and prevention services and for immediate access to safe, decent, emergency and transitional housing, outreach, and drop-in services for homeless New Yorkers.

Homeless Service United's member agencies operate hundreds of programs including shelters, drop-in centers, food pantries, HomeBase, and outreach services. Each day HSU member programs work with thousands of homeless families and individuals, preventing shelter entry whenever possible through counseling, legal services and public benefits assistance among many other supports. Our member agencies provide high quality and compassionate emergency shelter to over 20,000 homeless New Yorkers nightly, which represents over seventy percent of the non-profit DHS shelter beds and units. Homeless service providers toil at the cross section of many of society's problems. Our clients confront high housing costs, difficulty finding work, mental and physical illness, substance abuse, and domestic violence, and are particularly vulnerable during financially hard times such as these.

NYC FY14: Restore $2 million and FY15 $3mil
in shelter cut for essential medical & behavioral health services
for New York City'S homeless shelter population

We urge you to restore the proposed FY14 $2 million & FY15 $3 million in proposed cuts to essential medical services at New York City homeless shelters. Maintaining this vital funding from the Department of Homeless Services will prevent the immediate loss of crucial medical care and mental health to vulnerable, homeless New Yorkers who need it the most. These funds represent approximately 6,500 medical and psychiatric encounters provided to 1,500 homeless New Yorkers who are unlikely to receive care elsewhere if this PEG is not restored.

The Department of Homeless Services is dramatically divesting from shelter based medical services for homeless New Yorkers. At a time of record homelessness, DHS needs to step up its commitment to its constituents and provide the basic medical services that help ensure safety and stability.

We are grateful to the Council for their continued leadership and commitment for the last three years by restoring a different PEG from FY10 and hope that they will continue the $1.2 million for the NYC Providers of Health Care for the Homeless that serves all homeless New Yorkers regardless of whether or not they are in shelter.

Health care providers received inadequate notice of these devastating cuts. The proposed cuts would require substantial reallocation of resources, staff layoffs and reductions in

services. Without appropriate notice, agencies are unable to make adequate operational adjustments and cannot undertake the necessary financial planning.

The Role of Medicaid Funds in NYC's Homeless Healthcare System

Homeless health care clinicians provide unreimbursed care to a high number of uninsured persons. On average, nearly **forty percent** of homeless health center patients are uninsured. At one health center, just over **eighty percent** of the patients are *uninsured.* The average among New York State community health centers is just **twenty five percent** uninsured. Many of our clients are uninsured because they are unable to acquire and produce the documents necessary for entitlement programs or they themselves are undocumented but still in need of services.

The homeless health care system has suffered from significant financial shocks over the past year with limited cash reserves. The transition to managed care forced agencies to hire insurance consultants and bring on new staff, while at the same time receiving less in Medicaid reimbursement. On average, homeless health care providers have received only half of what they have billed to Medicaid. The City funds at risk in this PEG help to ameliorate the shortfalls.

The Need

In 2011 in New York City healthcare for the homeless providers provided 450,000 visits/ medical encounters with New York City's homeless population, including those on the street or in shelter. That is about 4.5 visits per homeless patient versus a national average for all Americans who have 2.4 visits per year. This is a very special population with a greater medical need than the average American.

Numerous studies have proven that, generally, homeless people have a higher burden of disease and a greater likelihood of behavioral health problems. Homeless persons are 3 to 6 times more likely to experience illness and injury than the general population and die an average of thirty years earlier than housed persons. Sites targeted by these cuts are extremely vulnerable to communicable diseases. Without comprehensive on-site capacity to address the medical needs of shelter residents, the sheltered population will face greater exposure to infectious diseases; requiring more intensive care in expensive hospital and in-patient settings.

Homeless shelters serve a very fragile population with long histories of addiction and co-morbid medical and psychiatric conditions. Many of these shelter residents require and receive care for serious medical and mental health conditions, whether or not they are in a designated "mental health shelter." For example, a review of records from 2011-12 at one substance abuse shelter revealed that **52% of those evaluated have an Axis I diagnosis**, which includes serious mood, psychiatric, anxiety, and adjustment disorders.

The health of shelter residents directly influences the health and safety of the community at large. Homeless people, living in congregate shelters, are more susceptible to contagious illnesses such as tuberculosis, pandemic flu, and illnesses that are usually preventable with effective immunizations (such as measles, mumps, etc.) and which,

because of no health care, will access costly services, and at a time when the illness has progressed. The City's proposed budget cut will drastically reduce the ability of clients to receive rapid medical attention and medication dosage adjustment related to chronic and controllable illnesses like asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure and psychiatric disorders that avert costly and unnecessary emergency room visits.

Health issues greatly impede our clients' ability to make multiple office visits, gather documents, and complete applications. Our experience is that homeless people are much more likely to wait until a health or mental health problem deteriorates, then seek costly emergency treatment. This is where on-site flexible services have the greatest health and financial impact: by working with the patient *before* the crisis thus preventing traumatic experiences and costly emergency room visits.

The current level of homelessness in New York City is at a historic high. Last night 48,761 New Yorkers spent the night in a DHS shelter and tragically approximately 20,700 of them are children. This state of affairs is not only tragic, but also imposes a considerable fiscal obligation on the city. Costs will only worsen if current services are denied. Without proper medical treatment in City shelters, considerably more homeless people will find themselves trapped in the vicious cycle of poverty, with their needs for services continuing indefinitely. A dollar cut today may cost the City significantly more in the years to come.

<u>Impact:</u> The reductions in funding will result in the loss of services

- **Reduction in Psychiatric Care Services:**
  Psychiatric services will be particularly affected; especially medication adherence assistance, crisis management services and patient education.
  - In one instance, a shelter will need to eliminate a psychiatrist and two social workers to survive the cuts.
  - Two sites each facing a nearly $80,000 cut will reduce nurse coverage by 18 hours and other providers by 14 hours which will result in eliminating 9 psychiatric evaluations a week. These evaluations are necessary for applications for SSI, SSD and supportive housing applications.
- **Reduction in Primary Care Services:**
  Most of the agencies will need to reduce hours for critical primary care services, further reduce existing staff and forgo hiring for vacant positions. These cuts will result in overall reduction or elimination in medical services hours at all sites by 4-25% with 2 sites stating they will need to completely close their clinics.
  - One shelter facing a 100% cut of their funds will be forced to close their clinic.
  - One site facing a $25,542 cut will be forced to cut a nursing staff line position which means the elimination of medication management, engagement and monitoring of medically vulnerable shelter residents.
- **Reduction of Client Engagement Services:** The loss of these funds could cause a reduction in needed services that engage patients in care and ensure they remain connected to critical, stabilizing services. The services are NOT covered by Medicaid.

- Drug adherence monitoring that drastically decreases hospital admissions
- Packing medication for off-hour access
- Engagement/client education: crucial to assist with client recovery and re-engagement into the community-supervised to independent medication management
- Education for program staff
- Adequate crisis management
- Services to undocumented persons
- Interdisciplinary meetings
- Time spent increasing data base for clients

➢ **HSU recommends full restoration $2million of this PEG to ensure that homeless clients have easily accessible basic medical and behavioral health needs.**

CONCLUSION

We recognize that New York continues to face difficult economic times and must tightly manage its budget. However, this cut will have far reaching unintended consequences that in the end will cost the City more. If this PEG is enacted it will harm the most vulnerable of the homeless and severely restrict the ability and resources available to the non-profit shelters whose mission it is to serve them. The City must continue to invest in medical and behavioral health services that are both cost effective and compassionate.

Thank you for your time and commitment to addressing the needs and concerns of homeless and at-risk New Yorkers and those who serve them. Homeless Services United looks forward to working with you to realize solutions that will allow our members' vital programs to continue to provide our neediest New Yorkers with services that support and motivate them to thrive in the future.

HOMELESS SERVICES UNITED
Solutions for Today and Tomorrow
Contact: Cris Parque, 212-251-4116

NYC PROVIDERS OF HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS
Douglas Berman: 212-803-2850 ext. 2455

NYC FY14: RESTORE $2 MILLION IN CUTS FOR ESSENTIAL MEDICAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR NEW YORK CITY'S HOMELESS POPULATION

- **The Department of Homeless Services is dramatically divesting from shelter based medical services for homeless New Yorkers.** At a time of record homelessness, DHS needs to step up its commitment to its constituents and provide the basic medical services that help ensure safety and stability.

- **The reductions in funding will result in the loss of specific services.** Psychiatric services will be particularly affected; especially medication adherence assistance, crisis management services and patient education. In one instance, a shelter will need to eliminate a psychiatrist and two social workers to survive the cuts. Other agencies will need to reduce hours for critical primary care services, further reduce existing staff and forgo hiring for vacant positions. Some clinics will be closed entirely.

- **The homeless health care system has suffered from significant financial shocks over the past year with limited cash reserves.** The transition to managed care forced agencies to hire insurance consultants and bring on new staff, while at the same time receiving less in Medicaid reimbursement. On average, homeless health care providers have received only half of what they have billed to Medicaid.

- **Hurricane Sandy had serious, negative revenue implications for homeless health care providers.** During the storm, clinics were unable to provide care to their usual patient base. Agencies provided care to affected areas, but at a financial loss. The health care for the homeless providers of New York City lost over six thousand patient visits during the week of Hurricane Sandy.

- **Homeless health centers in New York City cannot provide quality, comprehensive primary and preventive care that reduces costly emergency room visits without adequate support from DHS.** Incomplete reimbursement from Medicaid restricts homeless health centers from engaging and retaining clients in care. Additional funds are needed to ensure efficient care that reduces long term costs to city.

- **Homeless health care clinicians provide unreimbursed care to a high number of uninsured persons.** On average, nearly forty percent of homeless health center patients are uninsured. At one health center, just over

eighty percent of the patients are uninsured. The average among New York State community health centers is just twenty five percent uninsured.

- **Health care providers received inadequate notice of these devastating cuts.** The proposed cuts would require substantial reallocation of resources, staff layoffs and reductions in services. Without appropriate notice, agencies are unable to make adequate operational adjustments and cannot undertake the necessary financial planning.

- **Numerous studies have proven that, generally, homeless people have a higher burden of disease and a greater likelihood of behavioral health problems.** Homeless persons are 3 to 6 times more likely to experience illness and injury than the general population and die an average of thirty years earlier than housed persons.

- **Sites targeted by these cuts are extremely vulnerable to communicable diseases.** Without comprehensive on-site capacity to address the medical needs of shelter residents, the sheltered population will face greater exposure to infectious diseases; requiring more intensive care in expensive hospital and in-patient settings.

<u>Impact on Homeless Persons</u>

- The loss of these funds could cause a reduction in needed services that engage patients in care and ensure they remain connected to critical, stabilizing services.
    - Reduced services include:
        - Drug adherence monitoring that drastically decreases hospital admissions
        - Packing medication for off-hour access
        - Engagement/client education: crucial to assist with client recovery and re-engagement into the community-supervised to independent medication management
        - Education for program staff
        - Adequate crisis management
        - Services to undocumented persons
        - Interdisciplinary meetings
        - Time spent increasing data base for clients

- Cuts to this funding, compounded by additional cuts from the Department of Homeless Services budget would cause the homeless health care infrastructure to shrink at a time when it needs to greatly expand.

<u>Impact on Medical Providers</u>

- These funds would help provider agencies absorb the financial shock imposed by increased overtime staffing, storm related expenses and lost patient reimbursement.
- The elimination of these funds will limit the scope of services provided and would threaten the long-term financial viability of providers.

Homeless Services United and the New York City Providers of Health Care for the Homeless recommend full restoration of funding for medical services in the homeless emergency shelter system

FOR THE RECORD

TESTIMONY OF ANDREW S. HOLLWECK
VICE PRESIDENT, NEW YORK BUILDING CONGRESS
ON THE
FISCAL YEAR 2014 CAPITAL BUDGET
AT A HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
JUNE 5, 2013

GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG'S FINAL EXECUTIVE BUDGET OFFERS A CAPITAL SPENDING PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014 THROUGH 2017 THAT MAINTAINS THIS ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO NEAR-HISTORIC LEVELS OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT.

THANKS IN PART TO SIGNIFICANT EMERGENCY FEDERAL AID RELATED TO SUPERSTORM SANDY, SPENDING IS FORECAST TO INCREASE IN EACH YEAR COMPARED TO THE BUDGET PRESENTED ONE YEAR AGO.

NOTABLY, THE CITY IS PROPOSING TO SPEND $10.2 BILLION IN 2014, THE SECOND-HIGHEST LEVEL OF CAPITAL SPENDING OF THE LAST THIRTY YEARS. THE CITY'S FIVE-YEAR SPENDING PLAN IS $45 BILLION - ALSO NEAR RECORD HIGHS.

HOWEVER, THE BUDGET ALSO HIGHLIGHTS LONGER-TERM CONCERNS.

THE CITY FORECASTS FUTURE CAPITAL COMMITMENTS (I.E. NEW CONTRACTS THE CITY EXPECTS TO REGISTER, AN INDICE OF FUTURE WORK) TO DROP TO $5.2 BILLION BY 2017. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THAT OUT-YEAR COMMITMENTS WILL INCREASE AS AGENCIES PLAN AND BUDGET, ONLY $3.7 BILLION OF THIS IS CITY-FINANCED COMMITMENTS, THE LOWEST FIGURE POSTED IN ANY BUDGET OF MAYOR BLOOMBERG'S TWELVE YEARS IN OFFICE.

AN IMPORTANT REASON FOR THE SHRINKING LEVEL OF COMMITMENTS IS THE CITY'S INCREASING DEBT BURDEN, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO GROW FROM $68 BILLION THIS YEAR TO $75.5 BILLION IN 2017 (NOT INCLUDING THE INDEPENDENTLY-FUNDED WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM). DEBT SERVICE WILL ALSO TAKE UP A LARGER SHARE OF TAX REVENUES, RISING FROM 13.2% TO NEARLY 15% OF TAX REVENUES IN 2015-17.

THESE NUMBERS ARE A WARNING SIGN THAT THE CITY, GIVEN CURRENT REVENUE PROJECTIONS, WOULD BE COMPELLED TO CURTAIL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE. A RECENT CITIZENS BUDGET COMMISSION REPORT ALSO WARNED OF THE STRUCTURAL LIMITATIONS OF THE CITY'S DEBT BURDEN WITHIN THE CITY'S OVERALL BUDGET.

TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE – NOT ALL OF THE CITY'S PRIORITIES WERE ADDRESSED EVEN DURING THIS BRIGHT PERIOD OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT. MANY OF THE CITY'S MAJOR PARKS, LIKE PROSPECT PARK AND FLUSHING MEADOWS CORONA PARK REMAIN UNDERFUNDED AND DECAYING. THE CITY UNDERWROTE ONE MAJOR NEW TRANSIT CONNECTION BUT ITS YEAR-TO-YEAR COMMITMENT TO THE MTA'S TROUBLED CAPITAL PROGRAM IS ACTUALLY AT ITS LOWEST LEVEL EVER. CITY SCHOOLS REMAIN OVERCROWDED. THE CITY'S HOSPITAL SYSTEM THAT SERVES ITS NEEDIEST FACES SHRINKING CAPITAL SUPPORT EVEN AS IT IS TASKED WITH RECOVERING FROM THE DEVASTATION OF SUPERSTORM SANDY. INDEED, SUPERSTORM SANDY IS EXPECTED DRIVE UP THE COST OF THE CITY'S CAPITAL PROGRAM BY MANY BILLIONS OF DOLLARS, AFFECTING VIRTUALLY ALL CATEGORIES OF SPENDING. THIS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS.

WE NEED TO THINK OUTSIDE OF THE BOX. MAINTAINING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, GIVEN COMPETING FINANCIAL DEMANDS, WILL REQUIRE DEDICATED, RELIABLE FUNDING STREAMS TIED DIRECTLY TO CAPITAL INVESTMENT - A MODEL THAT HAS WORKED SUCCESSFULLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION USING DEDICATED WATER AND SEWER FEES. OUR WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM IS TRULY ONE OF THE WONDERS OF THE WORLD, PROTECTIVE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT, ALL WHILE KEEPING RATES SQUARELY IN LINE WITH OTHER METROPOLITAN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY.

ONE OPPORTUNITY FOR DEDICATED FUNDING COULD COME FROM A UNIFORM BRIDGE AND ROAD TOLL POLICY. IN 2008, THIS BODY COURAGEOUSLY APPROVED A PLAN FOR TRAFFIC PRICING IN EXCHANGE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS AND MASS TRANSIT. THIS PLAN SHOULD BE REVISITED.

THIS IS ONE EXAMPLE. THE LARGER POINT IS THAT THE UNCERTAINTY FORECAST IN THIS BUDGET IS A WARNING THAT WE MUST LOOK TO NEW DEDICATED RESOURCES TO PAY FOR THE PHYSICAL ASSETS ESSENTIAL TO A VIBRANT, WORLD CLASS ECONOMY. WE CANNOT WAIT UNTIL A BRIDGE CRUMBLES OR QUALITY OF LIFE IS SLOWLY CHIPPED AWAY BECAUSE OF A LACK OF INVESTMENT. THE COUNCIL CAN AND SHOULD HELP LEAD THE WAY. AS A START, THE COUNCIL'S INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE COULD BE RECONVENED TO LOOK AT THIS ISSUE.

THE CITY'S SHORT TERM CAPITAL BUDGET FORECAST IS STRONG - A LEGACY OF THE BLOOMBERG ADMINISTRATION'S DEDICATION TO BUILDING AND MAINTAINING THE SYSTEMS THAT PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM, AND THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE.

HOWEVER THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION AND THIS COUNCIL FACE A CLEAR CHOICE BETWEEN RETURNING TO THE BAD OLD DAYS OF CRUMBLING ROADS AND BRIDGES, OR FINDING A WAY TO PAY FOR SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, PARKS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER CORE STRUCTURES THAT UNDERGIRD OUR CITY.

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY.

FTR

Eric Valentin | The Struggle Report | Testimony June 5, 2013

Hello and good afternoon my name is Eric Valentin Jr. I am a youth leader within the group FUREEous Youth. I would like to thank everyone for attending this press conference. We are here today to release our Struggle Report. This report is about all the research findings that FUREEous Youth have pulled together from the surveys we had collected in the summer. These surveys were based around job employment, current employment and job experiences of young people. This report is very significant to me because it reflects all the problems that I have faced while looking for a job. And what are young people currently facing in jobs today.

While I was in high school I really wanted to be a veterinarian. I had no way of finding out how or what steps I could take to get my career of my dreams. So I did my school work and did what I had to do until I graduated. But every day I wondered how I can achieve the career I want. I had no form of guidance and no help to find what I was really looking for. One of our recommendations is that a career advisor should be put within high school. If there is a designated person to help a student grow and guides them to their dream job, young people would gain the ability to acquire these opportunities right after high school. Roughly 55% of the youth we surveyed said that their school had job counseling and career service support. About 35% of those students found it useful. We need more programs like these within the high schools. And for young people that are not in school or already have graduated, a career advisor should be put into libraries so many young people could find the internships and trainings that are necessary for their dream career. Because I didn't have these advisors available while I was in high school, I had to do my own form of job advisement. I spent countless hours on job search websites, days of filling applications, and not knowing half the time what I was doing.

Another issue that the Struggle Report brings to light is that young people are not adequately prepared for work. And how are we not prepared; no work experience. We believed that work-study programs should be implemented within high schools across New York City. With work-study programs young people could gain work experience learn, learn the basic skills to perform in a work environment and gain school credits towards graduation along the way. If I had a program like that in high school I would have been completely prepared for after graduation to look for a job. Programs like these give young people the confidence it takes to apply for these jobs and then perform at a very high level when they acquired the job. Even for me the person

who wanted to be a veterinarian could gain basic office skills that would be necessary on the job.

So I am asking the elected officials directly to fight for these programs to make a change within the community and within New York City to better the future. We are the youth so we have next, and our next is now!

Local 1181-1061

Amalgamated Transit Union A.F.L.-C.I.O.

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TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL CORDIELLO, PRESIDENT OF LOCAL 1181-1061,

AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BUDGET HEARING

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

JUNE 5, 2013

Dear Chairman Recchia and Council Members,

I thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony for your consideration as you negotiate the Fiscal Year 2014 budget of the City of New York. My name is Michael Cordiello, and I am the President of Local 1181 of the Amalgamated Transit Union. As most of you know due to the tumultuous last few months that have plagued the New York City school bus industry, Local 1181 represents approximately 15,000 transit workers in the tri-state area, including nearly 9,000 school bus drivers, matrons, and mechanics who everyday provide safe, efficient transportation to about 160,000 New York City school children. Local 1181 members have been transporting school-aged children for over 60 years.

Because of the Department of Education's decision earlier this school year to eliminate decades-old employee protection provisions (EPP) in its contracts with the school bus contractors that employ Local 1181's members, that sixty-year history has been threatened by a Mayor and a Chancellor waging an ideological crusade to bust our union. While the Mayor or the Chancellor would never publicly state that as their true intention, a review of their asserted intentions leaves no other conclusion.

On December 21, 2012, Mayor Bloomberg, flanked by his Schools' Chancellor Dennis Walcott, Deputy Chancellor Kathleen Grimm, and Corporation Counsel Michael Cardozo, announced a possible strike by our union. There had been no communication between the Mayor's office and our union regarding a possible strike, no official discussion regarding the administration's planned changes to the school bus industry. This was simply high political theater. The Mayor then went on to discuss what he believed would cause the strike he had just announced. For the first time in thirty-three years, the Department of Education would bid out school bus transportation contracts, but would not include the employee protection provision ("EPP") which had guaranteed for decades a safe, reliable, experienced, and professional

workforce dedicated to transporting our City's most precious cargo, and which had also guaranteed labor peace for all those years. The reason for not including the EPP? According to the Mayor, "Last year, the New York State Court of Appeals ruled that such a guarantee could not legally be included in our contracts."[1]

So from the very first day of this saga, the Mayor's asserted rationale for not including the EPP has been that such a guarantee is illegal. Also from the very first day, we have been contesting such claims—through legal opinion letters submitted to corporation counsel by the union's attorneys, through comments made in the press, through testimony before this body. Unfortunately, the Mayor and Chancellor remained resolute in their insistence on the illegality of the EPP. That is until they were sued by current school bus contractors subject to EPPs in their existing contracts who sought the removal of these allegedly "illegal" provisions. It was at that point that the Mayor and Chancellor, represented by Corporation Counsel, changed their tune. Indeed, in response to that lawsuit, the City's legal papers, referring to the very same Court of Appeals decision referenced by the Mayor on December 21, 2012, stated "that nowhere in the L&M decision did the Court of Appeals address whether, much less hold that, inclusion of EPPs in any school bus transportation contract is per se unlawful."[2] So much for the EPP being illegal.

The next argument held up by the Mayor and the Chancellor was that this competitive bidding process would result in cost savings, which is a claim relevant to this executive budget hearing. It is certainly possible that competitive bidding can achieve cost savings, but this argument fails to acknowledge that competitive bidding can still be undertaken while also including the EPP. In fact, this is the more responsible method of competitive bidding that is best targeted at achieving real cost savings. Indeed, when this very issue was raised by Council Member Cabrera at yesterday's joint meeting of the Committees on Finance and Education, the Chancellor became indignant and refused to give a substantive answer. Despite claiming that a rationale for not including the EPP in the competitive bidding process was a desire for cost savings, when asked by Council Member Cabrera if cost savings could be achieved while still maintaining the decades-old EPP, the Chancellor's response was "We made the decision that we made, and we're sticking by that decision, and that's the process."[3]

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[1] December 21, 2012, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Press Release 484-12.

[2] Respondent DOE's Memorandum of Law in Support of Answer, *Staten Island Bus, Inc. et al. v. NYC DOE*, Index No. 10030412013, April 5, 2013.

[3] Response of Chancellor Walcott to questioning by Council Member Cabrera, joint meeting of the New York City Council Committees on Finance and Education, transcription of video recording of hearing at approximately 2:38:00, June 4, 2013, http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/Video.aspx?Mode=Auto&URL=aHR0cDovL2NvdW5jaWxueWMucGVnYXVudHUhbC5jb20vZmxhc2gvbWVkaWFfcGxheWVyX2x5OC9Muc3deaP3NlenZfcHtueWMtenRteC5wZWdfZW50cmFsLmNvbSZhY2NvdW50PWNvdW5jaWxueWMmdmlkZW9GaWxlbmFtZT1OWUNDLVBWLUNILUNoYTEzMDYwNC0xMTQxNTQubXA0&Mode2=Video#.Un9X9edzsxo.email.

The Department of Education, according to its "projected savings," expects to achieve $100M in savings over five years. This number is based on a projected savings of $20M in the first year, which it expects to recur each of the five years of the contract. What is the methodology that the Department of Education used to calculate this number? Your guess is as good as mine. When the Department of Education announced that it projected $95M in savings resulting from the school bus bids in the pre-kindergarten industry, the New York City Comptroller, according to testimony submitted to this body on February 8, 2013, was "unable to verify this figure."[4]

What we have learned from the first round of school bus bids submitted in response to the Request for Bids that did not include an EPP was that the low bids were only low because projected labor costs consist of wages barely above the minimum wage. To call the payment of subsistence level wages to the workforce that cares for some of our most vulnerable children "cost savings" deliberately ignores the external costs associated with such low level wage workforces.

It is common sense, and demonstrated in numerous studies of low-wage workforces, that when workers cannot earn a living wage to support their families, they are reliant on social services. The utilization of such social services is not cost-neutral, even if they are off the Department of Education's balance sheet. Food stamps, government-subsidized healthcare, government-subsidized housing all cost the City money. Such low level wages will not offer career opportunities for people in the industry, leading to high turnover. As new workers constantly join the industry to replace departing workers, the Department of Education or its school bus contractors will have to constantly retrain workers—a costly endeavor.

Then of course there are considerations of labor peace. With the inclusion of the EPP in school bus contracts for so many years, there was a stabilizing effect on the workforce. Turnover was low; job actions and strikes were rare. Now, however, with the anticipated influx of new workers, it is very likely that the industry will be much more turbulent. As these new workers consider if they want to be represented by our union or other unions, there will be organizing drives. Labor unrest may increase. Resulting strikes may very well occur. Service disruptions are certainly not without cost to the Department of Education, as we know from the strike which my members were forced into earlier this year.

All of these considerations, however, do not even consider the practical impact on our school children of a wave of new school bus drivers, matrons, and mechanics with little or no prior experience in such jobs joining the industry. What is the price of our children's safety? What is the cost of a parent's peace of mind when entrusting his or her child to the driver and matron each day? Unfortunately, we will find out this September, when an estimated 2,000 new

[4] NYC Comptroller John C. Liu, Testimony on "The Cost of Pupil Transportation in NYC," New York City Council Education and Finance Committees Joint Oversight Hearing, February 8th, 2013.

drivers and matrons will displace 2,000 experienced, professional, safe, reliable, and career drivers and matrons.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Cordiello

Michael Cordiello, President
ATU Local 1181-1061

TESTIMONY

New York City Council Hearing

General Welfare – Early Childhood Education

Presented on
Wednesday, June 5, 2013

The Council of School Supervisors and Administrators

Ernest A. Logan, President

Mark Cannizzaro, Executive Vice President

Randi Herman, Ed.D., 1st Vice President

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Good afternoon, Chairwoman Palma and members of the New York City General Welfare Committee. My name is Randi Herman, and I am 1st Vice President of the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators (CSA). On behalf of CSA's nearly 15,000 members, I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify on issues regarding the proposed budget for social services and to applaud you on your unwavering efforts to protect and improve the lives of New York's most vulnerable communities.

As Principals, Assistant Principals and Day Care Directors and Assistant Directors, we are constantly faced with making difficult administrative, staffing and budgeting decisions. When faced with cuts, we are forced to do more with less while at the same time making sure children are properly educated and cared for. It is inconceivable that once again the mayor has failed to provide funding for vital services utilized by thousands of NYC children and their families. How can this administration not recognize the importance of child care and after school programs for working families? The May 2013 IBO report shows a decrease of $15,476,834 between 2010 and 2012 in the funding allocated for before/after school programs. This mayor is attempting to balance the budget on the backs of children.

Let's restore critical funding to child care.

A last minute agreement between the City Council and the mayor's office last year, averted thousands of children from being abandoned. Unfortunately this funding was only for one year. The mayor's current budget fails to maintain a baseline of almost $60 million that the City Council used to save child care this past year. To make matters worse, due to the "fiscal cliff" precipitated by sequestration, child care will be taking a possible $12.9 million dollar hit, resulting in $3 million less in child care block grants and $9.7 million less in Head Start. This means that the mayor's budget proposal will eliminate child care services for almost 9,000 children and 41,000 after school spots, effective June 30, 2013. In addition, in order to "save money", ACS will eliminate seats that have not been filled due to an ill-conceived and poorly funded initiative called EarlyLearnNY. These massive cuts will have devastating effects on each community as the essential services to children and families shrink, which will, leave thousands of kids without a safe, instructionally sound place to go and hundreds of employees without a job. Working parents will have to choose between remaining employed as affordable, regulated, safe child care is being taken out of their financial reach, or use unlicensed, unregulated, providers.
This is unacceptable.

We must invest in early education. Only through a dedicated investment in early education can we better prepare our students to succeed in the future. Early childhood education breaks the cycle of poverty for children and families. When faced with funding streams that quickly evaporate, we persistently ignore the fact that the achievement gap is evident long before the first day of kindergarten and has proven to be a predictor of improved socioeconomic status. Access to free or low-cost quality early childhood education programs, narrows the achievement gap and increases learning potential over the course of a lifetime. Early childhood education is not just about the future; it reduces poverty today. Subsidized early education allows parents to remain gainfully employed, without spending a

disproportionate amount of the family income on the cost of childcare. The need for future spending on social services supports is also lessened. We must invest in early education now.

EarlyLearnNY

EarlyLearn was rolled out in 2012 by Administration for Child Services (ACS). It was intended to be an efficient way of merging child care and early education into a single, seamless system. Yet, implementation of EarlyLearn has left eligible families scrambling for seats. Since its rollout, EarlyLearn has been a source of confusion, frustration and doubt for both families and child care providers.

The formula does not work.

The formula used by EarlyLearnNY underestimated the needs of NYC communities. When compared to the eligibility and costs of the previous system of early care and education, the EarlyLearn formula left communities 8,000 seats short. ACS used zip codes and data from the 2000 census to identify the neediest children. While on the surface the intent seems praiseworthy, the problem is that within those zip codes there are pockets of extreme income disparities. When ACS uses zip codes to determine which centers should receive subsidies, the city's poorest families are losing access they previously had because the incomes of wealthier residents within the same zip code are masking the neighborhood's underlying economic needs. The City Council had to step in and "make communities whole" by funding the seats that were not accounted for in the EarlyLearn structure. Sadly, this shortage of seats will continue into FY2014 and it is expected that EarlyLearnNY will be under-enrolled by about 10,000 seats. It is reported that a number of EarlyLearn centers are experiencing challenges in meeting and maintaining full enrollment and may be forced to close their doors.

Unreliable Funding

The implementation of EarlyLearn relies completely on the presumption that the bulk of necessary funding will be awarded by the federal and state governments through a complex bundle of child care development block funding. This system relies on several streams of funding: (1) Federal/State Child Care Grants, (2) City-generated dollars, (3) Federal Head Start Grants, (4) State Universal Pre-K funds and (5) Providers contribution of at least 6.7% for operating cost. ACS is so certain that the anticipated funding level will be awarded that a contingency plan has yet to be publicly shared.

We have not yet seen the full effects of the fiscal cliff. According to the ACS Commissioner, child care will be taking a possible $12.9 million dollar hit, resulting in $3 million less in child care block grants and $9.7 million less in Head Start. But this is just the tip of the iceberg! New York put all their child care funding eggs in one basket. It is unreasonable to expect centers to self-fund 6.7% of their operating budget, when the centers are located in some of the most economically disadvantaged NYC communities. It's impossible! Many centers lost kids last year due to uncertainty about continued funding. Do we honestly expect parents, worried about keeping their jobs, to wait around for the possibility of a seat? Working parents need a sure thing-not a possibility. EarlyLearn has been a disaster, creating a no-win situation for working families.

CSA expects that the City Council will not turn its back on working parents and their children. This administration continues to pride itself on promoting equity and access to quality public education; however the underfunded EarlyLearn initiative is clearly moving the city in the wrong direction. This poorly planned enterprise leaves early childhood education providers, families and children uncertain, anxious and fearful of what tomorrow may bring.

Oversight and Management

The fact that Mayor Bloomberg has budgeted $0 dollars for early childhood education is disgraceful. We fully understand that the city simply cannot spend funds it does not have but support of City Council will go a long way to support the design and implementation of stronger oversight and accountability of agency spending. For example, while the state provides ACS with $3,400 per child for the UPK program, city-based centers currently receive only $800 per child from ACS. ACS maintains that the remaining funds are spent on operational costs, but will not open their books for review. We know that leases in buildings where centers closed continue to be paid. We continue to ask for fiscal transparency and accountability. If we are relying 100% on federal and state funds, we need oversight to ensure ACS is spending the early education funds as intended and not on other line items.

Child care providers have expressed concerns on whether the proposed rates are adequate to cover cost of the services they are required to provide under EarlyLearn. The Bloomberg administration tried to address this issue by increasing the provider's reinvestment rates on two occasions. However, even with these increases, providers find it hard to offset service costs , especially since providers are now forced to extend health insurance to their employees. Under EarlyLearn the city in no longer obligated to provide day care workers with health insurance. Instead providers must procure and offer health insurance to their employees at a cost of 15% of the total insurance premium, while employers are responsible for 80%. In addition, employers must also provide 5% to the union's welfare fund. These additional expenses make it difficult for centers to stay open.

Another budgetary hurdle EarlyLearnNY center s are facing is the transition from a reimbursement system to a system based on enrollment. Under this new system, providers are paid based on actual enrollment rather than capacity. However, not all children enrolled in child care have been approved by ACS. To ease this transition, in 2012 ACS paid providers at 100% enrollment for the first 90 days, while reconciliation was paid later on that year.

Conclusion

Common sense tells us that a child who had a chance to benefit from early childhood education is going to come to school better prepared than a child who has not. Let's not forget about the recent implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS). These much needed new standard will set the educational bar higher and therefor, those that have not benefited from early education will be stuck in a cycle of constantly trying to catch up. If we truly care about closing the achievement gap we must realize that we need the best foundation for our children to ensure that they arrive to school with the skills that will allow them to succeed.

We cannot ignore the fact that currently less than 30% of students graduating from high school are college ready. The numbers are even worse than that in schools with high concentrations of Black and Latino students. According to a study done by the Annenberg Institute for School Reform, "only 13 percent of the city's Black and Latino students currently graduate high school prepared for college, compared with 50 percent of white students and 50 percent of Asian students.

We ask the City Council to baseline child care funding. Families need the assurance that these services will be available. We cannot go from year to year, doing the budget dance, hoping the ax will not fall on these much needed programs. We cannot hold families hostage to a system that seems to be in constant transition. Our children are our most precious commodities, yet we are once again short-changing them for the sake of a balanced budget. Our goal is clear – let's open a pathway for our students to succeed in life. We want students to be active participants not just stand in the side lines. The path to success is access to early education for all.

Thank you for your time and I will be happy to and were any of your questions.

FOR THE RECORD

Queens Community House

Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190
68-17 Austin Street Forest Hills, NY 11375 Tel: 718-830-5233 Fax: 718-830-5235

Hello my name is Aniah I am 14 years old and I am apart of Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190. I have been apart of this program for 2-3 years and I really enjoy this program. At Beacon we do dance, homework help, play sports, draw, edit videos and other fun activities. My favorite activities are art and dance. The Beacon really affected me in a positive way because I started exceeding with my test scores, and I made lots of friends. You can really trust the counselors that work here because they really try to talk to you and give you positive advice so that you can feel better about the problem and solve the solution. I am proud to say that I am a Beacon participate who enjoys this program. Thank you

FOR THE RECORD

Queens Community House

Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190
68-17 Austin Street Forest Hills, NY 11375 Tel: 718-830-5233 Fax: 718-830-5235

Hello, my name is Jessica Calvo and I attend the Queens Community House Beacon Program at Russell Sage JHS 190. After school helps you learn different things you don't learn in school. Beacon to me is fun. If I'm having a bad day at school, the Beacon can always make me feel better. But that's one of the reasons why after school is important. After school is important in so many ways. We can save it if we all work together.

One reason after school is important is that kids have a safe and fun place to be. If parents are still working after their kids get out of school, after school is a safe place to be. After school is better than your kids being home alone or roaming the streets. After school is also a fun place to be.

Another reason after school is important is because you get to learn different things in different groups. In school, we learn math, reading, science, social studies, etc. But at beacon the subjects are much more fun. In Hot Topics, we learn about leadership. BMF is another group it stands for Building My Future. And gym is for the kids that like to run around and be active. There are so much fun things to do.

Beacon staff also help out with problems. They support you all the way. Even if it's not about Beacon. They will help you out with anything. In return, I support Beacon. How? I go to rallies, gave speeches, and go there almost every day. They help out with educational, personal, and homework problems. So let's do right by not cutting after school and early child care programs.

My friends and others help out Beacon by supporting them all the way. I love Beacon 190. And I would be crushed if my Beacon was closed. How would you feel if you're after school was closed down? I would be crushed and I would feel as if my effort wasn't good enough. Now do you want to save after school? If your answer was no, I hope I convinced you to help out.

)R THE RECORD

Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190
68-17 Austin Street Forest Hills, NY 11375 Tel: 718-830-5233 Fax: 718-830-5235

My name is Nia Brown and I am a participant at J.H.S. 190 Beacon Program. I really love the staff and my program and I would be really sad if my Beacon shuts down. People are always saying that the children are the next generation and the future, well how can we be the future and have a good future if our after school programs shut down. The Beacon lets kids have a safe environment to go to after school and it provides activities that you wouldn't find in school like: building your public speaking, advocating, building your talents, and building your future. This program is giving back to the community. When Hurricane Sandy hit we walked up and down the sidewalk handing out flyers and collecting donations to help the victims of Sandy. We've done community service and have had fun. I have had so many good experiences at Beacon and now it's like a second home to me. Please restore the cuts, so I can continue to have access to quality programming after school.

FOR THE RECORD

Queens Community House

Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190
68-17 Austin Street Forest Hills, NY 11375 Tel: 718-830-5233 Fax: 718-830-5235

Hi good afternoon my name is Miriam fink I am a participant in the Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190. I have been a participant here for 4 years. My after school program has taught be a lot of things, for example, how to be responsible, respectful and how to be a leader. If I didn't have my beacon after school program, I would be forced to go to my father's office every day after school and do my homework with no one to help me. The Beacon program has always been there for me ever since I was 6 years old, when my cousin began to attend the program as well. I feel very safe when I am at the after school program with my second family. I wouldn't know where I would be without them.

These hearings are very important because it helps save child care, OST, Beacon, and after school programs. There should be money in the budget every year for these programs; we shouldn't have to be fighting year after year for these very important programs. We shouldn't have to wait to see if our programs will stay open, they should always be open for us. Please help us save these programs!

Queens Community House Beacon Program @ JHS 190
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Queens Community House

Strengthening neighborhoods. Inspiring change.

Good afternoon, my name is Seana Edwin. I am a participant at JHS 190 Beacon in Forest Hills. When I found out about the budget cuts to Beacon I felt very sad. A lot of questions were asked if my Beacon was to shut down. Where am I going to go? Will my mom or/and dad have a job? Will I have to go on the streets? All these questions cannot be answered due to budget cuts. During the Beacon I have fun! That is why I love it there. They treat me like family. They are like my second family. They have activities like homework help, robotics, rec lounge, rec sports, dance, youth council, etc. During Beacon we are allowed to use our voice. If these programs are to shut down we can't express our opinion. Shutting down programs can hurt everyone, think about our future. Don't shut early child care and Beacons programs down PLEASE!!!!!!

FOR THE RECORD

CUNY BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
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The City University of New York Black Male Initiative (CUNY BMI) –
Program Overview/Talking Points – spring 2013

Based on promising models at Medgar Evers College, a CUNY college in central Brooklyn, the University created a BMI program during the 2005-2006 academic year that funds projects throughout the CUNY system that are designed to increase the enrollment and retention rates of students from groups that are severely underrepresented in higher education including African, African American/Black, Caribbean and Latino/Hispanic males.

Through its focus on one of the most severely underrepresented populations in higher education, CUNY BMI represents one expression of CUNY's commitment to access and diversity. Though targeted towards African, African American/Black, Caribbean and Latino/Hispanic males and other underrepresented groups, CUNY BMI projects do not discriminate based on race or gender and will serve as models for improving educational outcomes of all students. All programs and activities of the CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff, without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic.

CUNY BMI - Program Areas

With the generous support of eight (8) consecutive grants from the New York City Council, CUNY BMI has funded projects throughout the CUNY system that focus on the following six (6) program areas:

1. Increasing enrollment of diverse populations through diversity recruitment;
2. Promoting academic success and improving retention and graduation rates through structured mentorship programs and the development of academic learning communities;
3. Facilitating access to higher education for students who have fallen out of the traditional K-12 education pipeline to college through support of targeted GED programs;
4. Exposing CUNY students to graduate and professional school opportunities;
5. Supporting reentry programs that assist formerly incarcerated individuals in making the transition to higher education, and
6. Encouraging CUNY students, particularly African, African American/Black, Caribbean and Latino/Hispanic males, to pursue careers as New York City public school teachers.

CUNY BMI – Recommendations of the CUNY BMI Task Force – September 2005

The aforementioned six (6) program areas represent the implementation of recommendations made by the CUNY BMI Task Force organized in 2004 by Chancellor Matthew Goldstein through the CUNY Office of Academic Affairs. In 2005, the CUNY BMI Task Force issued a comprehensive report that listed nine (9) recommendations that should guide CUNY BMI's work and the program's agenda. The nine (9) recommendations are:

1. Provide strong University leadership on the challenges facing black youth and men;
2. Strengthen the school-to-college pipeline to enable many more black male students to move into higher education;
3. Increase admission and graduation rates at CUNY colleges;
4. Improve teacher education to prepare professionals for urban education;
5. Improve employment prospects for black males;
6. Contribute to the reduction of the incarceration rate for black men;
7. Establish an Institute for the Achievement of Educational and Social Equity for Black Males;
8. Involve experts in the implementation of the recommendations; and
9. Establish benchmarks and hold CUNY colleges accountable for implementing these recommendations.

CUNY BMI Central Administration

- **Distribution of funds from the New York City Council to CUNY BMI funded projects throughout the University**

With the assistance of administrators in the CUNY Central Office and the University Budget Office, CUNY BMI central administrators coordinate the distribution of funds to BMI projects throughout the University. At the beginning of the fall 2012 semester, the bulk of the New York City Council funds were distributed to campuses throughout the CUNY system to implement, enhance and expand diversity recruitment, mentorship and student development projects that provide direct services to both current CUNY students as well as prospective students. Of the $2.25 million grant from the New York City Council for 2012-2013, CUNY BMI awarded $1,919,456 in grants ranging from $23,000 to $130,000, after a review process, to support twenty-nine (29) projects on every campus in each borough of New York City. The remaining $330,544 will be used to support the CUNY BMI central administration including the salaries and fringe benefit costs for the CUNY BMI University Director, the CUNY BMI Associate Director, and the CUNY BMI Research Associate (part-time). For a quick review of the twenty-nine (29) student development projects funded by CUNY BMI during the current academic year, please review the chart summary of 2012-2013 CUNY BMI funded projects which can be found at:
http://cuny.edu/academics/initiatives/bmi/campuses/2012-2013fundedprojects.html

- **Program Administration**

Faculty members, administrators and staff working on CUNY BMI funded projects continue to meet regularly in the CUNY Central Office. These monthly meetings are organized by the CUNY BMI University Director, the CUNY BMI Associate Director, and CUNY BMI Research Associate (part-time). In addition to the monthly meetings, information is shared via a listserv that has grown to include over two hundred (200) administrators, faculty members and staff involved in the administration of the BMI program and CUNY BMI funded campus projects. CUNY BMI has also begun to use social network websites such as LinkedIn to promote the program throughout the University and beyond. At present, there are over five hundred and eighty (580) members of the CUNY BMI discussion group on LinkedIn.

- **CUNY BMI/Let's Get Ready Partnership**

During the 2009-2010 grant period, CUNY BMI partnered with Let's Get Ready (LGR), a student-run college access program, to develop a LGR/BMI pilot project. LGR expands underrepresented students' access to higher education by mobilizing, equipping, and empowering a movement of college students helping high school students get into college. Through a network of campus and community-based chapters, LGR trains college student volunteers to provide underrepresented students with intensive SAT preparation, college advising, and the powerfully relevant role-models and mentors that high school students from underrepresented populations need to succeed. After determining that it was having difficulty reaching African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic male high school students, LGR partnered with CUNY BMI to create free SAT preparation pilot programs at Hostos Community College during summer 2008 and at Hostos, New York City College of Technology (NYCCT or City Tech) and York College during summer 2009. High school students participating in the pilot projects raised their scores by 70 to 115 when comparing the results of diagnostic examinations administered at the beginning of the program and at the end. Students visited college campuses, wrote essays for their college applications, and attended financial aid and college counseling workshops.

As for the summer 2010 projects, large numbers of high school students, particularly males, from underserved areas of New York City were reached by our three (3) CUNY BMI/LGR free SAT prep projects. At York College, twenty-six (26) students were served including ten (10) males and sixteen (16) females (38% males). At City Tech, fifty-one (51) students were served including twenty-six (26) males and twenty-five (25) females (51% males). Finally, at Hostos Community College, fifty (50) students were served including twenty-nine (29) males and twenty-one (21) females (58% males).

During summer 2011, with the generous support of funding from the New York City Council, CUNY BMI and Let's Get Ready, with the cooperation of campus-based BMI funded projects at City Tech, Hostos and York College and Hostos College Now, continued the three (3) BMI/Let's Get Ready projects at City Tech, Hostos Community College and York College that provided six weeks of free SAT classes, college and financial aid counseling and mentorship to students from underserved areas with a focus on African, African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males who are particularly underrepresented in higher education.

For summer 2012 and during the 2012-2013 academic year, CUNY BMI continues its partnership with Let's Get Ready through CUNY BMI funded projects at CUNY colleges, particularly City Tech and York College. Campus-based BMI project administrators, particularly at City Tech and York College, wrote line items for their collaborations with Let's Get Ready into their budgets which allowed greater input from campus-based BMI project administrators in the continued development of the BMI/Let's Get Ready partnership. Additionally, the involvement of campus-based BMI project administrators in the BMI/Let's Get Ready partnership has allowed more BMI students to participate in managing BMI/Let's Get Ready free SAT prep classes/sites or to serve as Let's Get Ready coaches. BMI college student participation in BMI/Let's Get Ready campus projects at City Tech and York College, has allowed BMI students to demonstrate leadership and has served as another service learning opportunity, particularly for BMI college students who are interested in pursuing careers in education.

- **Streetwise Partners**

Over the course of the last year and a half, CUNY BMI central administrators have worked to develop a partnership with StreetWise Partners for the benefit of our BMI students, particularly our BMI students who are still in the first two years of their college experience. The mission of StreetWise Partners is to build mentoring relationships between low-income individuals and volunteer business professionals to develop workplace skills and employment networks as the bridge to a successful career. StreetWise Partners works with low-income individuals to help them overcome employment barriers, obtain better jobs and achieve economic self-sufficiency. These goals and objectives are accomplished by creating deep mentoring relationships between trainees and volunteer business professionals who provide job skills training, career coaching and job search assistance.

On Thursday, December 20, 2012, Racheal Stephens and Danielle Rothman of StreetWise Partners attended our December 2012 CUNY BMI funded projects meeting and led a discussion about the many resources available for our CUNY BMI students through StreetWise Partners, particularly access to professional mentors. Although StreetWise Partners representatives have attended BMI funded project meetings in the past, this meeting was important to strengthening the burgeoning partnership between StreetWise Partners and CUNY BMI because BMI project administrators and affiliated faculty members were reminded that StreetWise Partners is a CUNY BMI partner as defined in the supporting memorandum of the CUNY BMI application for continuation award for 2012-2013 that was issued at the beginning of the 2012-2013 academic year. BMI project administrators and affiliated faculty members were further reminded that StreetWise Partners welcomes the participation of CUNY BMI freshmen and sophomores to their Career Ventures mentorship programs and that StreetWise Partners administrators would give BMI students access to professional mentors from the private sector.

StreetWise Partners admits young adults to participate in its programs on a rolling basis at set times throughout the academic year. At the time of this writing, StreetWise Partners administrators reported that more than twenty (20) BMI students throughout

the University applied to participate in the StreetWise Partners Career Ventures Mentoring Program. So far, eleven (11) BMI students have been accepted to the program. In addition to being paired with a professional mentor from the private sector, CUNY BMI students participating in the StreetWise Partners Career Ventures Mentorship Program will receive additional layers of support that will assist their persistence through CUNY towards a college degree.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, CUNY BMI central administrators will continue to work to strengthen our partnership with community-based organizations such as StreetWise Partners which are committed to providing additional layers of support for our CUNY BMI students, particularly BMI students of limited economic means.

- **Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES)/CUNY BMI partnership**

During the 2010-2011 academic year, CUNY BMI central continued to develop a relationship with The Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES) to expose court-involved youth with high school diplomas and GEDs to postsecondary opportunities at CUNY. After a series of meetings over the course of the last three (3) years, CUNY BMI central facilitated the placement of CASES interns in CUNY BMI funded projects at Queensborough Community College and York College. Recently, with CUNY BMI's support and cooperation, CASES won a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that is managed by the National Youth Employment Coalition (NYEC). The purpose of the grant is to expose disconnected youth, particularly court-involved youth, to postsecondary opportunities. GED services are provided by CASES and CASES students are referred to CUNY BMI funded projects, particularly at CUNY community colleges. At least one CUNY BMI central administrator has attended NYEC training in Boston. CUNY BMI central is working with CASES to identify BMI project administrators, particularly at CUNY community colleges, to attend trainings during the 2011-2012 academic year. Funds from the Gates Foundation grant covered one CUNY BMI central administrator's participation in the first training session in Boston and will cover future sessions attended by BMI project administrators during the 2011-2012 academic year. Going forward, the CASES/CUNY BMI partnership will be called the Next Steps Program and our CASES/CUNY BMI students will be referred to as Next Steps Scholars. At present, at least 20 CASES Next Steps Scholars are participating in CUNY BMI funded projects at CUNY community colleges or are enrolled in CUNY Start.

- **CUNY Reentry Task Force**

Based on Recommendation # 6 of the CUNY BMI Task Force Report which calls for the University to explore ways of reducing recidivism and incarceration rates for African American/Black males, CUNY BMI central administrators organized a group of interested CUNY administrators, faculty members and students to participate in discussions to build a wider constituency of support for higher education reentry programs at CUNY and beyond. During the previous reporting period, CUNY BMI administrators and CUNY Reentry Task Force members continued to meet throughout the spring 2011 semester. The Reentry Task Force plans to issue a comprehensive report on the challenges that formerly incarcerated people face as they attempt to access higher

education opportunities. CUNY BMI maintains a CUNY Reentry Task Force listserv that reaches fifty-nine (59) CUNY administrators and faculty members as well as a select group of supporters.

1. **New York Reentry Education Network (NYREN)**

As discussed below in the John Jay College, Prisoner Reentry Institute section of this report, CUNY BMI has provided consistent annual funding to The College Initiative since 2005-2006 when CI joined CUNY through CI's partnership with PRI. Since then, because of CUNY BMI's commitment to supporting individuals who have been impacted by the criminal justice system, CUNY BMI continued to support CI, over the course of the last eight (8) years, even after CI left PRI and partnered with other CUNY programs including the Adult and Continuing Education Divisions at Lehman College and later LaGuardia Community College. The College Initiative (CI) is a higher education reentry project for men and women returning to the New York City area who want to begin or continue higher education upon release from incarceration. Through its support of The College Initiative, CUNY BMI has become involved with the New York Reentry Education Network (NYREN). Recently, on Wednesday, February 27, 2013, the CUNY BMI University Director facilitated a panel discussion at the NYREN conference, *Pathways of Possibility: Transforming Education's Role in Reentry*. A number of BMI project administrators and affiliated faculty members attended this important conference that focused on reentry and education.

The New York Reentry Education Network is a growing coalition of individuals within community-based organizations, government agencies, and institutions of higher education who have made a collective commitment to changing the landscape of reentry education in New York and beyond. NYREN's mission is to 1) enable people with criminal justice involvement to receive quality education appropriate to their needs and aspirations so that they become engaged and productive members of their communities; 2) make education a core component of the reentry policy, strategy, and practice in New York; and 3) shift public priorities and resources from incarceration to educational access and success for communities affected by mass incarceration.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, CUNY BMI plans to become an active participant in NYREN for the benefit of our students, particularly our students who have been impacted by the criminal justice system including our students participating in the CUNY BMI funded College Initiative program.

- **New York City Department of Education, District 79**

Since the beginning of the 2012-2013 academic year, CUNY BMI central administrators have been in discussions with educators and administrators representing District 79 which has city-wide jurisdiction over the Alternative Schools and Programs of the New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE). Many of the goals and objectives of CUNY BMI and District 79 are directly aligned. In particular, there are large numbers of African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males in District 79 Alternative Schools and Programs. Because CUNY BMI's diversity commitment agenda involves encouraging students from underrepresented populations to enroll at CUNY, the large number of students from the targeted populations attending District 79 Alternative

Schools and Programs presents an excellent opportunity for CUNY BMI to involve District 79 students in CUNY BMI college awareness programming and assist in putting District 79 students on pathways to postsecondary opportunities and higher education at CUNY.

With the cooperation of District 79's Director of Partnerships, CUNY BMI central administrators have encouraged BMI project administrators and affiliated faculty members to serve as supervisors for paid internship placements for District 79 students with BMI funded projects in our campus resource rooms or other campus spaces designated for BMI funded projects. The internships are paid by District 79. For CUNY BMI, the benefit of this partnership is exposing District 79 student interns to a CUNY campus as well as to opportunities at CUNY in an ongoing and consistent way that will ultimately lead to many District 79 students becoming future CUNY students. Again, because many District 79 students are from underserved areas and from populations that are severely underrepresented in higher education, CUNY BMI central administrators believe that a partnership with District 79 presents an excellent opportunity to create a pathway to higher education for students from the targeted populations including large numbers of African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, CUNY BMI plans to strengthen the District 79/CUNY BMI partnership for the benefit of our current and future CUNY students.

<u>Funding</u>

- CUNY BMI is supported by funding from the New York City Council, private foundations and corporate giving programs
- CUNY BMI does not receive funding from New York State
- Since the 2005-2006 academic year, CUNY BMI has received six (6) consecutive grants from the New York City Council
    - $2.0M – 2005-2006
    - $1.5M – 2006-2007
    - $2.5M – 2007-2008
    - $2.5M – 2008-2009
    - $2.5M – 2009-2010
    - $2.25M – 2010-2011
    - $2.25M – 2011-2012
    - $2.25M – 2012-2013

- Over the course of the last five (5) years, CUNY BMI central administrators have been able to leverage the support CUNY BMI receives from the New York City Council to secure funding from private foundations and corporate giving programs such as

    - the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation and the Schott Foundation for Public Education ($750,000 for 2007-2011)
    - the Goldman Sachs Foundation ($35,000 for 2007-2008)

Support for Increasing Student Participation through CUNY BMI Central Academic Programming

- CUNY BMI sponsors twenty-nine (29) student development and mentorship projects throughout the University including the CUNY BMI central administration and the Teachers as Leaders Project (TALP). TALP is supported mostly by private funds.
- Twenty (20) to one hundred (100) students are served through their participation in structured activities, such as mentorship programs, sponsored by each of the twenty-nine (29) projects.
- CUNY BMI Academic Programs, including the CUNY BMI Annual Conference and CUNY Distinguished Speakers Series, are free and open to the general public.
- CUNY BMI Conferences:
    - First Annual Conference, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, April 26, 2006 – 700 attendees – *Black Male Youth: Creating a Culture of Educational Success*
    - Second Annual Conference, City College of New York, October 2, 2007 – 480 attendees – *Focus on the State of Black Education: Investing in the Next Generation of African American Students*
    - Third Annual Conference, Medgar Evers College – October 3, 2008 – 510 attendees – *African American Males and the United States Legal System*
    - Fourth Annual Conference, Lehman College – October 2, 2009 – 255 attendees – *Health Disparities in Male Populations: Focus on the Health of Urban Males*
    - Fifth Annual Conference, LaGuardia Community College – October 1, 2010 – 402 registrants – *The Politics of Progress from Abolitionist Frederick Douglass to President Barack Obama*
    - Sixth Annual Conference, Hunter College – October 7, 2011 – 1,037 registrants including 383 CUNY students – *From GED or High School to J.D., M.D., or Ph.D.: Exposing African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic Students to Graduate and Professional School Opportunities*
    - Seventh Annual Conference, The College of Staten Island – October 5, 2012 - 647 registrants including 300 CUNY students – *Rock the Vote: The Presidential Election of 2012, the Struggle for Voting Rights and the Future of Urban America*
    - Approximately eighty (80) people attend each of the regularly scheduled lectures sponsored by the CUNY BMI Distinguished Speaker Series.

In total, as reported at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, the CUNY Black Male Initiative (BMI) reached at least 10,845 students, administrators, faculty members and community partners who were involved in CUNY BMI projects and programs during the 2011-2012 academic year. As for our CUNY BMI funded structured mentorship programs, during the 2011-2012 academic year, 1,692 CUNY students participated on a regular basis in CUNY BMI funded student development projects including many students from populations that are severely underrepresented in higher education who

self-identified as follows: 619 African American/Black males, 326 Latino/Hispanic males, 261 African American/Black women, and 241 Latinas/Hispanic women.

For the 2012-2013 academic year, from August 2012 to March 2013, 5,948 students, administrators, faculty members and community have been involved in CUNY BMI projects and programs during the 2012-2013 academic year so far. As for CUNY BMI sponsored structured mentorship programs that provide direct services to and support for CUNY students, 2051 CUNY students participated on a regular basis in CUNY BMI structured mentorship programs including students who self-identified as follows: 744 African American/Black men, 351 Hispanic/Latino mend, 331 African American/Black women and 246 Latina/Hispanic women.

For more information on CUNY BMI, please visit: www.cuny.edu/bmi

A complete breakdown of the funding for the 2012-2013 academic year provided to CUNY BMI sponsored projects can be found in the chart below:

The City University of New York Black Male Initiative (CUNY BMI)						
CUNY BMI Projects	2009-10 Awards	2010-11 Awards	Amount Requested 2011-12	Amount Awarded 2011-2012	Amount Requested 2012-2013	Amount Awarded 2012-2013
Baruch- SEEK Program - Transfer Bridge Program	$59,000.00	$59,000.00	$39,200	$39,200	$85,950.00	$72,400.00
Borough of Manhattan Community College - Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA)	$105,690.00	$90,000.00	$97,000	$90,000	$90,000.00	$90,000.00
Bronx Community College - MEN2MEN - SLASE (Student Leadership Academy for Social Entrepreneurs)	$81,000.00	$67,000.00	$70,000	$50,000	$70,000.00	$49,000.00
Brooklyn College - ERIS - Brooklyn College - E.R.I.S. (Empowering, Recruiting, Investing and Supporting): A Campus Community Approach to Academic Access and Personal Success of Underrepresented Groups	$99,050.00	$98,837.41	$116,820.00	$98,838	$90,880.00	$23,000.00
City College - Black Male Leadership and Mentorship Program (BMLMP)	$63,250.00	$57,000.00	$72,100	$57,000	$61,100.00	$59,500.00
City College - Retention, Achievement, Professionalism Success Institute		$44,500.00	$68,060	$56,500	$78,968.00	$67,968.00
City College Sophie Davis - Medical Career Success Program	$50,000.00	$50,109.00	$86,218	$50,000	$82,000.00	$50,000.00
College Initiative, A College Access and Reentry Program (Prisoner Reentry Institute, John Jay College)	$79,995.00	$70,000.00	$90,000	$80,802	$80,000.00	$80,000.00
College of Staten Island - College Success Initiative: Learning by Teaching	$93,113.00	$72,578.00	$80,000	$72,578	$80,000.00	$80,000.00
CUNY Adult Literacy/GED Program - Mentoring Project	$117,117.00	$108,742.50	$108,307	$108,148	$106,435.00	$106,435.00
CUNY BMI Central Office - Central Administration	$340,971.00	$332,731.54	$400,000	$303,377	$303,377	$330,544.00
CUNY Creative Arts Team (CAT)	$117,182.00	$82,178.50	$82,179	$82,179	$82,179.00	$82,179.00
CUNY Graduate Center - Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs (OEODP)	$52,000.00	$50,000.00	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000.00	$50,000.00
CUNY Middle Grades Initiative - GEAR UP	$70,000.00	$60,000.00	$70,000	$60,000	$60,000.00	$60,000.00
CUNY School of Law - Pipeline to Justice (combined with Campaign for Racial Justice in the Legal Profession)	$63,851.00	$57,811.00	$83,691	$68,622	$91,691.00	$68,441.00
CUNY School of Law- Campaign for Racial Equality in the Legal Profession	$40,655.00	$0.00			$0.00	$0.00
Hostos Community College - Youth Leadership Model	$70,494.00	$50,880.00	$50,880	$50,880	$50,880.00	$48,000.00
Hunter College - Brothers for Excellence: The Hunter College Black Male Initiative	$75,030.00	$86,739.01	$79,969	$75,102	$79,409.44	$70,409.00
John Jay College - Latin American and Latina/o Studies - Ron Brown Summer Pre-Law Program	$83,010.00	$64,467.00	$80,000	$64,467	$108,116.00	$65,000.00
John Jay College - Urban Male Initiative - Connections for Success	$76,500.00	$0.00	$99,338	$43,838	$100,000.00	$81,528.00
Kingsborough Community College - KBCC - Men's Resource Center - The Kingsborough Student Leadership Initiative	$85,200.00	$76,680.00	$76,680	$76,680	$80,000.00	$78,180.00
LaGuardia Community College - Empowerment and Success Program for Underrepresented Groups	$94,480.00	$88,113.24	$130,000	$88,113	$98,733.52	$66,678.00
Lehman College - Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP)	$109,000.00	$97,067.00	$97,067	$97,067	$97,067.00	$97,067.00
Medgar Evers College - GED/Educational Ladders Initiative	$124,800.00	$124,490.00	$129,161	$124,490	$130,000.00	$122,368.00
Medgar Evers College - Male Development & Empowerment Center (MDEC)		$50,000.00	$35,000	$35,000	$35,000.00	$35,000.00
NYCCT - Increasing African American Males and Other Underrepresented Students Success in STEM	$112,273.00	$109,672.80	$151,119	$111,619	$129,300.00	$120,800.00
Queens College - ExCEL	$45,950.00	$40,000.00	$65,500	$50,000	$60,750.00	$57,600.00
Queensborough Community College - MALES	$83,389.00	$75,050.00	$77,000	$77,000	$77,000.00	$47,843.00
York College - Men's Center	$107,000.00	$86,353.00	$88,500	$88,500	$90,060.00	$90,060.00
Total	$2,500,000.00	$2,250,000.00	$2,673,789	$2,250,000	$2,548,895.96	$2,250,000.00

I. CHART SUMMARY – CUNY STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN CUNY BMI FUNDED PROJECTS – 2012-2013

CUNY BMI Project Participation from August 2012 t0 March 2013						
'NY BMI Projects	Student participants in CUNY BMI funded Structured Mentorship Programs	African American/Black Males in CUNY BMI funded Structured Mentorship Programs	Latino/ Hispanic males in CUNY BMI funded Structured Mentorship Programs	African American/Black females in CUJNY BMI funded Structured Mentorship Programs	Latinas/Hispanic females in CUNY BMI funded Structured Mentorship Programs	Overall Number o Participants in CUNY BMI sponsored programs - Outreach and Structured Mentorship Programs
aruch- Transfer Bridge Program - Percy E. Sutton Urban Male adership Academy (UMLA)	47	11	36	0	0	100
orough of Manhattan Community College - Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA)	176	80	51	28	13	199
onx Community College - Leadership Empowerment Network EN)	18	11	7	0	0	18
Brooklyn College - Black and Latino Male Initiative (BLMI)	22	0	0	0	0	22
City College - Black Male Leadership and Mentorship Program MLMP)	12	11	1	0	0	65
ty College - Retention, Achievement, Professionalism Success nstitute	131	33	26	13	8	131
City College Sophie Davis - Medical Career Success Program	60	40	5	5	10	60
llege Initiative, A College Access and Reentry Program based John Jay College of Criminal Justice Prisoner Reentry Institute	62	7	3	34	14	483
College of Staten Island - College Success Initiative: Learning by eaching	62	41	10	9	2	84
JNY Adult Literacy/GED Program	42	15	9	9	2	127
JNY Creative Arts Team (CAT)	20	8	1	8	2	583
CUNY Graduate Center - Office of Educational Opportunity and versity Programs (OEODP)	10	3	4	2	1	10
JNY Middle Grades Initiative - GEAR UP	20	2	3	5	10	20
JNY School of Law - Pipeline to Justice	67	6	5	11	15	67
lostos Community College- Youth Leadership Model						
nter College - Brothers for Excellence: The Hunter College ack Male Initiative	55	50	3	2	0	55
ohn Jay College - Latin American and Latina/o Studies - Ron Brown Summer Pre-Law Program	86	9	16	14	26	333
hn Jay College - Urban Male Initiative	139	41	31	17	38	243
ngsborough Community College - The Kingsborough Student eadership Initiative	41	30	8	0	0	259
aGuardia Community College - Empowerment and Success ogram for Underrepresented Groups	379	64	43	65	59	379
hman College - Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP)	125	38	35	16	19	1414
Medgar Evers College - GED/Educational Ladders Initiative	101	75	3	17	6	101
Medgar Evers College - Male Development & Empowerment nter	35	32	2	0	0	199
w York City College of Technology	161	84	29	20	8	463
Queens College - Project ExCEL	22	6	3	5	3	130
eensborough Community College - MALES	59	12	10	11	2	59
rk College - Men's Center	99	35	7	40	8	344
otal	2051	744	351	331	246	5948

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CUNY BMI FUNDED PROJECTS –
PROGRAM SUCCESS STORIES for the 2012-2013 academic year

Borough of Manhattan Community College –
Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA)

Since its inception in 2006, with the generous support of The New York City Council, the CUNY BMI funded Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA) at the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) has produced an increasing number of graduates from underrepresented populations every year including many African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males. UMLA has recent graduates currently pursuing Bachelor's degrees at all of the CUNY senior colleges as well as many prestigious institutions throughout the region including Columbia University, New York University, Syracuse University, Ohio State University, and Cornell University. In 2011, UMLA produced the first community college student to ever serve in the Metropolitan Opera House Student Ambassador Program. Throughout the current academic year, at least fourteen (14) UMLA students participated in professional pipeline/mentoring programs such as New York Needs You (NYNY), the Goldman Sachs Leadership Program, and Streetwise Partners Career Ventures Program. During the fall 2012 semester, UMLA had an overall retention rate of approximately 90%. Finally, one UMLA student recently served as a speaker at BMCC's 50th anniversary that was held on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in Lower Manhattan.

Bronx Community College
Black Male Initiative – Student Leadership Academy

Since its inception in 2006, the Bronx Community College Black Male Initiative program has cultivated a learning community with the primary aim of equipping students with the skills, vision, and long-range plan for obtaining an Associate's Degree and beyond. To foster this objective, the Student Leadership Academy provides a host of programmatic activities that position students to successfully transfer to a four-year institution, improve employment prospects, and gain leadership skills. Students who have participated in the program continued their education at Lehman College, Hunter College and Mercy College. In addition to furthering their education, students are prepared for career opportunities. Graduates can be found in leadership roles throughout the private, public and non-profit sectors most notably Century 21, New

York City Mission Society, The Doe Fund, the Police Athletic League and Bronx Community College. In terms of developing leadership skills, three (3) Student Leadership Academy students were selected to facilitate workshops around best practices at the Men Of Color Student Leadership Institute, Man-Up: Educating Minority Males for Leadership and Service and The 4th Annual QUEST Males of Color Higher Education Conference. Most recently, one Student Leadership Academy student was accepted to the Global Citizenship Program (GCP) in Salzburg, Austria.

Brooklyn College
Black and Latino Male Initiative (BLMI)

During the 2012-2013 academic year, The Black and Latino Male Initiative (BLMI) at Brooklyn College has been in a transition period. However, twenty-two (22) males have been participating in the Mentorship Academy and Leadership Seminars. A lecture series "Mouth of the Phoenix" has been introduced that gives concerned Brooklyn College faculty and administrators an opportunity to discuss with students what it takes to be successful in life and how to develop such skills. One BMLI mentor has been accepted and will be attending The Graduate Program in Landscape Architecture in the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at City College. Another mentor will be attending Tufts University Prospective Graduate Student Summer Program. Students have reported a great sense of connection and commitment to one another as a result of BMLI programming and the determination of BMLI staff for this new program to succeed. There have been bonds built between upper and lower classmen through the BMLI Mentorship Academy. BMLI administrators have fostered new relationships with several NYC high schools and hosted the first Annual ***Bridge to College Symposium – Destination Greatness*** with Brooklyn High School for Law & Technology. Dennis Walcott, the Chancellor of the New York City public school system, attended this event.

The City College of New York
The Black Male Leadership and Mentoring Program (BMLMP)

The Black Male Leadership and Mentoring Program (BMLMP) at The City College serves to strengthen a sense of community and connection to peers, faculty and staff at the college, who share common academic, career and personal goals. Participants are encouraged to envision, plan and execute/act on the aforementioned. To date, three (3) BMLMP participants have completed their doctoral degrees at CUNY in Mechanical Engineering, Biochemistry and Biology. BMLMP works closely with the NYC Alliance with an emphasis on the STEM disciplines. Notably, two (2) BMLMP students have won NSF Graduate Research Fellowships (UC Riverside and Princeton University). BMLMP Graduates have gone on to conduct graduate work/professional studies at the City

College, the University of Southern California, the CUNY Graduate Center and SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

The City College of New York –
Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education
The Medical Career Success Program

Since 2007, the Medical Career Success Program (MCSP) at CCNY's Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education has sought to increase the success of students from underrepresented populations as they prepare to become medical doctors. MCSP fosters mentorship and structured support for students matriculating at the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education located on the City College campus. African American/Black males, in particular, are the most severely underrepresented as physicians in the nations. The American Medical Association has recently reported in February 2013 that African American/Black men comprise less than three percent of all practicing physicians in the nation. But, during spring 2012, eight (8) African American/Black male members of the Medical Career Success Program graduated from the Sophie Davis Program which includes having successfully completed their first two years of medical school. These young men were active members, mentors, leaders and tutors in the Medical Career Success Program. They were all accepted into medical schools to finish their last two years and will earn their M.D. Degrees in 2014. Four (4) were admitted into Albany Medical College, three (3) to the SUNY Downstate School of Medicine and one (1) to New York Medical College.

The City College of New York
The Retention, Achievement, Professionalism, Success Institute (RAP-SI)

The Retention, Achievement, Professionalism, Success Institute (RAP-SI) at CCNY provides tutoring and support for CCNY students, including many young men of color, who experience difficulty with academics and with other aspects of their lives. Recently, RAP-SI has aided at least one student with becoming a New York City Teaching Fellow. RAP-SI tends to work with students at every level from pre-college to graduate school. Two RAP-SI participants submitted applications to graduate school during the current academic year. At the same time, four recent RAP-SI participants are either earning a GED or were advised to enroll in CUNY Start. RAP-SI administrators also assisted eight (8) CCNY undergraduates with obtaining summer employment as well as study abroad opportunities. Moreover, the small RAP-SI office at CCNY located in close proximity to the CCNY Black Studies Program overflows with students, particularly CCNY undergraduates, who regularly bring in potential new members which is one indication that RAP-SI is having a positive impact on students at CCNY, particularly students from

populations that are severely underrepresented in higher education including African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males.

The College Initiative,
a CUNY-affiliated higher education reentry program

Founded in 2002, the College Initiative is a CUNY-affiliated non-profit reentry education program that is open to all men and women in New York City who want to begin or continue their higher education upon release from incarceration, while on probation or parole or while participating in an alternative-to-incarceration program. The College Initiative offers a range of services (from college preparation to help with applications and financial aid to mentoring and tutoring) that support students from enrollment to the successful completion of their college degrees. Among the many services and supports that The College Initiative provides to formerly incarcerated individuals, the program sponsors a number of outreach efforts including correspondence with those planning for release, on-site presentation at correctional and pre-release facilities and coordination with the New York State Department of Correctional Services on pre-release planning. For more information on the College Initiative, including a number of informative videos, please visit: http://www.collegeinitiative.org

The College Initiative has received CUNY BMI funding (through its CUNY partners such as the Prisoner Reentry Institute at John Jay College/CUNY) since CUNY BMI's inception during the 2005-2006 academic year. CI is a community of successful, positive and supportive students, alumni and staff working to create and sustain college success for New Yorkers with a criminal justice background. CI's mission is to create pathways from criminal justice to college and beyond. Since its founding, CI has: (1) processed more than 2,900 intakes; (2) helped with more than 900 CUNY enrollments; and (3) supported more than 160 students through college graduation. CI students are 20 times less likely to return to prison than the national average. CI students graduate at 3 times the rate of CUNY students with a GED. Students with a CI mentor are over 5 times more likely to stay enrolled in college during their first year than other CUNY students with a GED. None of the more than 190 students with a CI mentor has returned to prison since joining the program.

The College of Staten Island
College Success Initiative Learning by Teaching Program

From 2005 to 2012, with the generous support of The New York City Council, CUNY BMI provided consistent annual funding to support the *College Success Initiative: Learning by Teaching* at the College of Staten Island. Five (5) male students from the *College Success Initiative Learning by Teaching* program (CSI) have successfully entered graduate programs at the College of Staten Island. Three (3) CSI male students have completed their graduate programs in Education/Teaching and are currently teaching in the New York City public school system on Staten Island and in Brooklyn. Two (2) CSI graduates are currently participating in the LSAMP pipeline program in pursuit of PhD's in Scientific Research. At present, one (1) CSI graduate is serving as a math adjunct lecturer at the college and has submitted an application to the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Since 2009, the CSI learning community's retention rates for incoming freshmen has increased with each successive year. Student enrollment in the BMI funded project at the College of Staten Island has grown steadily from eight (8) CSI students in the third year of the program to fifteen (15) students in its penultimate year. Recently, in the most recent year of the program, twenty-one (21) male undergraduates are enrolled in the BMI sponsored CSI Learning Community.

The CUNY Central Office of Academic Affairs
CUNY Adult Literacy Program,
a CUNY BMI funded targeted GED program
Central Office (CUNY Adult Literacy Program)

Two annual conferences funded through the CUNY Black Male Initiative (CUNY BMI) provide hundreds of adult literacy students, teachers and administrators across New York City the opportunity to plan for a better future and transition to college. One hundred fifty High School Equivalency (HSE) prep students from a broad array of programs attended CUNY College and Career Night on April 17th at the New York State Office Building, where they learned of career and training opportunities in the areas of Allied Health, Early Childcare, Business and Law Enforcement. Career Planning, CUNY Admissions and Financial Aid workshops helped students plan for their next step after obtaining an HSE diploma. In addition, a special workshop on civil service exams was given for those interested in careers in civil service. The CUNY College Transition Conference, to be held May 10th at Hostos Community College, will be attended by over 85 students, teachers, counselors and administrators from a broad array of CUNY, Board of Education and Community Based Organizations that provide adult literacy and HSE prep. Professional Developers from CUNY Start, a college transition program that is highly effective in helping students avoid remediation classes, will conduct workshops in reading, writing, mathematics and

counseling. For students about to obtain a diploma, a panel discussion of students currently attending CUNY will provide a glimpse of the student experience at CUNY and tips for college success.

Brooklyn College (BCALP)

With basic funding, BCALP is only able to offer GED® preparation classes, schedule students to take the test, and help graduates apply for college. The CUNY Black Male Initiative enables BCALP to work more intensely and effectively with students through peer mentoring, small group tutoring, and extra counseling. Teachers and counselors are able to spend the time to get to know our young male students and find new and effective ways to keep them in school and help them enter post-secondary education. CUNY BMI support can change lives. Students often come to the Adult Literacy Program with no future plans, unsure if they are going to finish the course and earn an equivalency diploma. Through the services provided by CUNY BMI, they are able to set goals and accomplish great things.

In the words of a young man who completed the BCALP CUNY BMI program and is now a Brooklyn College junior and BCALP peer mentor,

Back when my goal in life was to just get a GED® ... I became the first person in my family to get a High School Equivalency diploma...I come from a long line of high school dropouts and [BCALP] helped me break that line. Just this past summer a cousin of mine took the same intense summer class I did ... and he got his HSE, too. He is currently saving up money for college. That long line of dropouts has been broken, blurred, and hopefully a new line will form. A line made up of College graduates.

Lehman College (Lehman ALC)

The Lehman College Adult Learning Center (ALC) BMI Project has benefited greatly from funds devoted to piloting a peer mentoring program for students working toward their high school equivalency credential. This school year, (2012-2013), close to 100 students at Lehman ALC have been able to receive one-on-one tutoring and/or peer counseling from two mentors who are GED recipients; one is a Latino alum of the ALC who received his high school equivalency diploma 2 years ago and the other is an African American male senior at Lehman College. Both have worked closely with students in Independent Study classes, who present with a range of academic and socioeconomic concerns. Some of these students have struggled in the traditional classroom structure due to learning or emotional issues, while others have work or family schedules that make it difficult for them to attend classes on a regular basis. The presence of the mentors has had a positive impact on students' academic success. So far 70 students have earned their GED and close to 30 students will be taking the test in June 2013. This success has been linked to the sensible, compassionate, flexible, humorous and engaging approach of the mentors, and their

commitment to helping students, many with significant challenges, get on the pathway to college.

The CUNY Central Office of Academic Affairs
Middle Grades Initiative/GEAR UP
Young Men's/Young Women's Leadership Institute

The Young Men's/Young Women's Leadership Institute at South Bronx Preparatory High School has been very successful at exposing BMI middle school and high school students to career paths and college majors. The BMI sessions have addressed myths and misconceptions through guest speaker bureaus that provide middle school and high school students with real world accounts of challenges and rewards associated with certain careers. Middle school and high school students have also been presented with opportunities to network and obtain beneficial information regarding programs that may help catapult them from curiosity to the actual pursuit of experiences within fields of interest. Themed YMLI/YWLI sessions have allowed for focused and gradual discussions on self-development, professional development and academic preparedness. A great example of the students' focus was showcased during the Mid-Winter Recess workshops when students opened up concerning their personal achievements and how they strategically work towards realizing their goals and taking advantage of the resources provided by the BMI program. One student was accepted into a summer pre-college program at Princeton University and nine (9) high school students have successfully completed College Now courses with a grade of B or better in subjects ranging from political science to psychology.

CUNY Creative Arts Team (CUNY CAT)

The CUNY Creative Arts Team provides students with opportunities to examine, through an active learning model, issues related to academic success and life skills development. BMI funds support two distinct CAT outreach projects:

SUCCESS BY DEGREES:

Students from 16 CUNY campuses participate in CAT's Success by Degrees interactive workshops to explore leadership, time management, communication skills, conflict resolution, work readiness, and violence prevention/bullying. Not long after CAT's workshop series at Hunter College this past fall, a large group of BMI students volunteered with Hurricane Sandy relief efforts in Far Rockaway. When asked how they accomplished this, students responded, "CAT's Success by Degrees workshop on Leadership inspired us to be more active in the community by doing service beyond our personal needs." CUNY-CAT's presentation, "What's at Stake in the Presidential Election of 2012?" at the 7th annual BMI conference received a standing ovation.

PROJECT CHANGE:

Project CHANGE, brings 20 students from CUNY's York and Medgar Evers Colleges together to use interactive drama as the starting point for a multifaceted campaign to generate broad-based community support for comprehensive sexual health education and health care services for young people. The CHANGE agents learned and implemented an HIV/AIDS evidence based curriculum -- infused with drama strategies-- at Clara Barton HS in Brooklyn. One young lady commented, "...the CAT workshops have empowered me as a female to take responsibility for my body and make decision[s] I feel good about." CHANGE Agents provided the kick-off workshop for AIDS Awareness Week at Medgar Evers College. One professor commented, "... my students need this exchange of information ...we don't talk about sex and we need to." A total of 13 students got tested for HIV/AIDs immediately after the workshop, demonstrating the immediate impact of the CHANGE agents' workshop. A participating college student commented, "I want to be a part of your Project CHANGE—having conversations about important things, like knowing how to protect yourself, is far better than reality TV..."

The CUNY Graduate Center – Widening the Doors to Academia Project and the CUNY Pipeline Program

As a result of consistent annual funding from the CUNY Black Male Initiative (CUNY BMI) and with the generous support of The New York City Council, the CUNY Pipeline program, managed by the Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs (OEODP) at the CUNY Graduate Center, has extended its diversity recruitment efforts to all CUNY colleges. At two CUNY senior colleges, namely Medgar Evers College and York College, "pipelines to Pipeline" programs were established. It is expected that these diversity recruitment efforts will be extended throughout the CUNY system as a means of encouraging more undergraduates from underrepresented groups to enter graduate school and ultimately the professoriate. Due to consistent investment from CUNY BMI, there has been a large increase in the applicant pool to 70 applicants in 2012. Out of the 2012-2013 class, more than a half of the OEODP Pipeline undergraduates have gained admission to graduate schools across the nation. At the same time, BMI funds at the GC have been used to support recruitment efforts to the GC by supporting recruitment visits to conferences and colleges and bringing in students from underrepresented groups for recruitment visits. All of these efforts would not have been possible without support from the BMI.

CUNY School of Law
Pipeline to Justice program

The Pipeline to Justice program at the CUNY School of Law began in 2006 with the generous support of CUNY BMI funding from The New York City Council. Now, in its seventh year, approximately 2,000 students have been invited to participate in the program over the years. African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males comprised more than 19% of the recent group of students participating in the Pipeline to Justice program. Applicants from groups underrepresented in the profession comprised more than 62% of Pipeline to Justice participants. Of the four cohorts who have completed the Pipeline to Justice program, ninety-one (91) students have been admitted to law school. African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males comprise more than 17% of the group admitted to law school as a result of their participation in the Pipeline to Justice program. More than 73% of the students admitted to law school as a result of the Pipeline to Justice program are from groups that are underrepresented in the legal profession.

Hunter College/CUNY
Brothers for Excellence - The Black Male Initiative at Hunter College/CUNY

Since the 2005-2006 academic year, at least seven (7) students from Brothers for Excellence, the Black Male Initiative at Hunter College/CUNY, have entered doctoral programs at Oregon State University, Rutgers, the Weill-Cornell Medical College, Harvard, Princeton and the University of California, San Francisco to name but a few. Two (2) Brothers for Excellence recent graduates attended Cardozo Law School and Rutgers-Newark School of Law, two top ranked law schools. Four (4) Brothers for Excellence recent graduates are enrolled in MA programs. One (1) Brothers for Excellence recent graduate is a teacher in a NYC charter school, and a current Brothers for Excellence student will spend summer 2013 as a Research Assistant in Economics at Princeton. At least nine (9) Brothers for Excellence students have participated in pipeline programs such as Mellon Mays, Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS), LSAMP, CUNY Pipeline, McNair as well as the Thomas Hunter Honors and Macaulay Honors Programs. Finally, Hunter College Brothers for Excellence recent graduates are employed in a variety of fields including a number who are giving back to CUNY.

John Jay College/CUNY
Department of Latin American Studies and Latina/o Studies
Ronald H. Brown Law School Preparation Program

Since the inception of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice (JJC) Ronald H. Brown (RHB) Law School Prep Program in 2005, thirty-four (34) JJC RHB students have entered law school. Over the last three years, the JJC RHB students who have been accepted to law school have earned over $2.8 million in total scholarship awards, including four Dean Fellow awards. In the last three years, fourteen (14) RHB students have taken the LSAT. All JJC RHB students have interned in various capacities throughout the legal community. BMI project administrators have assisted JJCRHB graduates, who are currently in law school, with applying and securing summer internship positions. The JJC RHB Program also attains access for students to graduate school including the BA/MA Program and currently has 15 students in graduate school. In 2010, the RHB Program won the American Bar Association Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Award which recognizes "efforts to increase diversity in the legal profession, by focusing on educational programming in the pipeline to support the success of underrepresented students."

John Jay College/CUNY
Urban Male Initiative (UMI)

The John Jay College Urban Male Initiative (UMI), which has received consistent annual funding from CUNY BMI with the generous support of The New York City Council, is an academic, social, and professional support system that is meant to provide assistance to students of color, particularly African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic males. JJC UMI's primary goal is to have African American/Black and Hispanic/Latino/a students graduate from college with at least a Baccalaureate degree within 4 to 6 years. With the JJC UMI Malone Mentoring Center, JJC UMI project administrators manage the mentorship of a group of 139 students. In 2012, 7 students (4 men and 3 women) graduated with their Baccalaureate degrees and 6 of the students have been accepted to and/or were attending Graduate School and Professional schools. This year, 14 students (10 men and 4 women) will graduate with their Baccalaureate degrees and 9 students are intending on applying to Graduate and Professional schools.

Kingsborough Community College (KBCC)/CUNY

KBCC Men's Resource Center

The KBCC Men's Resource Center, the Black Male Initiative at Kingsborough Community College/CUNY, has maintained a first year to second year retention rate above 80% for several years with KBCC Men's Center students maintaining an 80% course completion rate each semester. As a leadership program, four (4) KBCC Men's Resource Center students have served as the President of the Student Council at Kingsborough. Two (2) KBCC Men's Center members have served as Vice-Presidents of student councils. Two (2) members have served as club presidents and three (3) club vice presidents. Four (4) KBCC recent graduates have continued their education at Brooklyn College. There is one graduate of the KBCC Men's Center program currently at City College as well as one recent graduate of the program at York College. Recently, eleven (11) KBCC Men's Center students submitted applications to the StreetWise Partners Career Ventures Mentoring program and four (4) were accepted and received professional mentors.

Lehman College

Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP)

The Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP) at Lehman College in its sixth full year of operation is designed to facilitate the successful transition of first-year and transfer students to Lehman College while also providing support to continuing students by strengthening academic skills, personal development, and character enrichment via three components - Academic Intervention and Success; Circle of Support Mentorship; and Diversity Outreach and Recruitment. While the program has engaged almost 2,000 since its inception, UMLP administrators have been able to track a cohort of approximately 250 students each year since 2009, developed mostly from the UMLP Freshman Seminar (LEH 100) course which specifically addresses identified needs of underrepresented African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic male students while assisting them with their transition into Lehman College as well as issues related to career vs. liberal education. Students who strengthen their Passport to Success by attending workshops, show dedication and commitment to their education and participating in various UMLP activities are inducted in the program and become UMLP Ambassadors. To date there have been a total of 38 males and 16 females inducted, plus an additional 19 males and 9 females making up the induction class of 2013. The program also graduated just fewer than 50 students in 2010, approximately 93 in 2011, 128 in 2012 and 121 in January and June of 2013 which includes 7 graduate level students. In 2012, 40 UMLP students attended pipeline programs and UMLP administrators continue to increase the number of students receiving assistance with graduate school applications (48 in 2011). The 2012/2013 academic year initiated a collaboration with the

Macaulay Honors program on the Lehman College Campus to attract underrepresented honor students, and a longtime staff member, Ms. Erica Matthews, intro-duced the UMLP Graham and Elizabeth Waller Scholarship Fund for Academic Excellence and Leadership in honor of her parents, rewarding a graduating senior ($500), one freshman and one sophomore student ($250 each) at the Annual Induction and Graduation Awards Ceremony held just this week. Lastly, the Circle of Support Mentorship Program continues to excel, especially since the Peer Mentoring option was added in 2011.

Medgar Evers College
Educational Ladders Initiative, a targeted GED program

Since its inception in 2006, the Educational Ladders Initiative (ELI), a targeted GED program at Medgar Evers College, has produced four (4) BMI students who won the prestigious Peter Jennings Laurel Award GED Scholarship. Many former graduates of ELI have gone on to higher education in fields such as nursing, biology, education, accounting and psychology, and ELI students are presently enrolled in CUNY colleges such as Kingsborough, Baruch, Medgar Evers College, John Jay and Hunter College. Due to the success of the BMI program at Medgar Evers College, the ELI program is now a part of the NYC Young Men's Initiative, which trains BMI graduates currently in college to serve as peer mentors to GED students presently in the program and providing these students with support, guidance and leadership. The ELI program has also had the distinction of having many former GED ELI students serving as interns in the Mayor's Office of Adult Education Internship Program. ELI has become so popular in the community that there are often waiting lists for the program. In summary, the possibilities available to ELI students are endless because of the support received from the BMI program. Additional funding would allow Medgar Evers College ELI to serve the potential students on its waiting lists.

Medgar Evers College/CUNY
Male Development and Empowerment Center (MDEC)

The CUNY BMI funded Male Development and Empowerment Center (MDEC) at Medgar Evers College in 2009 made the strategic decision to align itself more with the academic project of the college by establishing the Math Masters program. Math Masters is a collaboration of the Department of Education District 17, the MEC Math Department and MDEC that identifies college students, mostly young men, in the Pi Eta Kappa Honor Society and the Math Department to offer math enhancement to middle school students. This initiative has the three-fold purpose of: (1) strengthening MDEC's community ties; (2) reinforcing a portion of the school-to-college pipeline and (3) enhancing teacher awareness for college students at Medgar Evers College, particularly young men, interested in teaching math or science as a

career. The math program is now in its third year, engaging 65 middle school students, of whom 40% are male. A significant achievement for the program is MDEC's role in preparing middle school students, particularly African American/Black males, for the Specialized High School exam. For the October 2012 administration of examination, 60% of the middle school students working with this new MDEC initiative passed the exam and earned a place in one of New York City's specialized high schools, particularly Brooklyn Technical High School. Furthermore, MDEC strengthened its collaboration with the School of Professional and Community Development's GED programs in assisting graduates of the GED program in transitioning to Medgar Evers College as undergraduates. Pi Eta Kappa Honor Society was established through MDEC as a means of recognizing male students with outstanding academic records. Since 2007, ninety-three (93) male students were inducted into the Pi Eta Kappa Honor Society. Since its inception, nine (9) members of the honor society have enrolled in MA programs. The Pi Eta Kappa Honor Society has played a key role in organizing the following programs since 2007: (1) three educational tours to graduate schools in the Washington, D.C. area; and (2) a visit to Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia providing 162 Medgar Evers College students, young men and women, the opportunity to visit the gravesite of the slain civil rights leader, Medgar Wiley Evers.

New York City College of Technology (City Tech)
Black Male Initiative (BMI)

City Tech's BMI program is the flagship Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) BMI program of CUNY. The program began in 2005 with 14 students, and it has since served over 2,500 students. In 2007 – 2009, the City Tech BMI program was designated a Model Replication Institution program by the Institute for Higher Education Policy, the National Science Foundation and NASA. City Tech BMI has produced four City Tech Valedictorians, three City Tech Salutatorians, and two CUNY All-Stars (students who are recognized by CUNY for their academic performance and their research aptitude). City Tech BMI students have participated in STEM research internships at Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University, Rutgers University, Columbia University, the Brookhaven National Laboratory, NASA, and NOAA. Six (6) City Tech BMI students have even conducted international STEM research projects in Mexico, Canada, the Dominican Republic, and on a NOAA research vessel as it traveled across the Atlantic Ocean (the AEROSE project). Annually, many City Tech BMI students make both oral and poster presentations at national conferences and many are co-authors on peer-reviewed journals with their mentors. Our students have participated in pipeline programs such as the Weill Cornell Medical College-Access Summer Research Program, the Cornell University LSAMP Undergraduate Summer Research Program, the Research in

Table 1

Enrollment in the Black Male Initiative (BMI) Program, by College: Fall 2010

College	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
	N	N	N
Baruch	2	2	4
Brooklyn	4	3	7
City	65	4	69
Hunter	4	9	13
Lehman	146	3	149
Queens	47	2	49
York	23	---	23
Graduate School	---	7	7
Professional Studies	1	---	1
Law School	---	56	56
Senior College Total	**292**	**86**	**378**
John Jay	62	10	72
Medgar Evers	33	---	33
NYCCT	329	---	329
Staten Island	76	4	80
Comprehensive College Total	**500**	**14**	**514**
BMCC	168	---	168
Bronx	41	---	41
Hostos	16	---	16
Kingsborough	40	---	40
LaGuardia	145	---	145
Queensborough	38	---	38
Community College Total	448	---	448
Total University	**1,240**	**100**	**1,340**

Note: Enrollment reflects the match between SSNs provided by the colleges and student data in the Institutional Research Database (IRDB).

Table 2

Profile of Undergraduates, by BMI Program Participation: Fall 2010

		Senior Colleges		Comprehensive Colleges		Community Colleges		Total University	
		BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates
Total Undergraduate Enrollment	N	292	88,535	500	47,893	448	90,816	1,240	227,244
First-time Freshmen	N	53	8,794	58	8,417	72	17,435	183	34,646
Full-time	%	86.3	70.1	78.4	68.9	78.3	60.5	80.2	66.0
Male	%	66.8	40.0	59.4	43.5	64.5	41.2	63.0	41.3
Race/Ethnicity									
American Indian/Native Alaskan	%	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.3
Asian	%	4.1	23.5	6.6	11.7	5.6	15.4	5.6	17.8
Black	%	55.8	20.8	67.0	34.2	58.5	28.8	61.3	26.8
Hispanic	%	31.8	23.6	18.0	24.8	27.2	36.6	24.6	29.0
White	%	7.5	31.9	8.2	29.0	8.0	18.8	8.0	26.1
Age	Mean	24	24	24	24	26	24	25	24
25 and Older	%	27.4	29.2	23.8	27.4	39.7	28.2	30.4	28.4
Born Outside US Mainland	%	27.8	46.0	38.1	37.1	26.2	43.8	31.2	43.3
Native Language Not English	%	27.2	46.1	25.2	34.2	29.0	46.3	27.0	43.7

Note: Enrollment reflects the match between SSNs provided by the colleges and student data in the Institutional Research Database (IRDB).

Table 3

Fall Semester Performance of Full-time Undergraduates, by BMI Participation: Fall 2010

		Senior Colleges		Comprehensive Colleges		Community Colleges		Total University	
		BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates
Undergraduates									
Total Cohort	N	252	62,032	392	32,984	351	54,942	995	149,958
Semester Credits Earned	Mean	12.5	11.9	10.9	10.4	9.4	8.4	10.8	10.3
Semester GPA	Mean	3.02	2.91	2.59	2.54	2.60	2.43	2.70	2.66
First-time Freshmen									
Total Cohort	N	52	8,629	54	8,045	62	15,451	168	32,125
1-Year Retention Rate	%	94.2	87.5	75.9	74.2	74.2	67.4	81.0	74.5

Note: Enrollment reflects the match between SSNs provided by the colleges and student data in the Institutional Research Database (IRDB).

Table 4

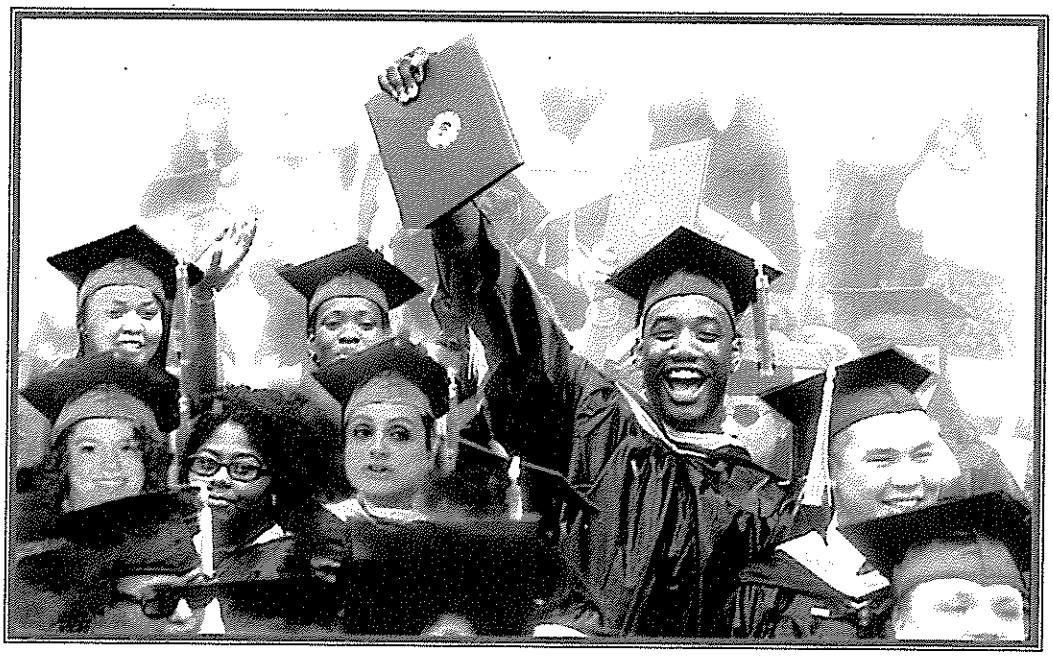
Fall Semester Performance of Full-time, Under-represented Minority Undergraduates, by BMI Participation: Fall 2010

		Senior Colleges		Comprehensive Colleges		Community Colleges		Total University	
		BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates	BMI	Other Undergraduates
Undergraduates									
Total Cohort	N	223	25,417	332	18,879	306	36,484	861	80,780
Semester Credits Earned	Mean	12.4	11.5	10.7	9.8	9.2	7.7	10.6	9.4
Semester GPA	Mean	3.02	2.76	2.53	2.40	2.57	2.28	2.67	2.46
First-time Freshmen									
Total Cohort	N	43	3,140	46	4,769	58	10,971	147	18,880
1-Year Retention Rate	%	93.0	85.9	78.3	70.6	72.4	63.8	80.3	69.2

Note: Enrollment reflects the match between SSNs provided by the colleges and student data in the Institutional Research Database (IRDB).

CUNY The City University of New York
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

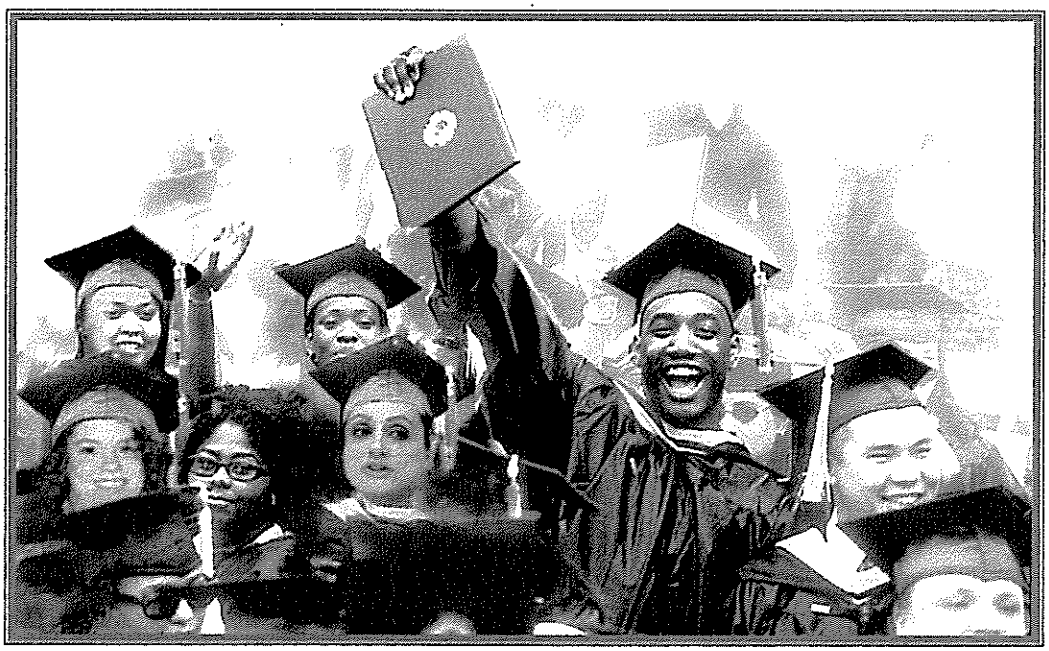


OVERVIEW

Website: http://www.cuny.edu/bmi

April 2013

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK BLACK MALE INITIATIVE



THE City University of New York
CUNY Central Office of Student Affairs
The City University of New York Black Male Initiative (CUNY BMI)

The City University of New York is the nation's largest urban public university, serving more than 480,000 students at 23 colleges and institutions in New York City: 11 senior colleges, six community colleges, the William E. Macaulay Honors College at CUNY, the Graduate School and University Center, the City University School of Law at Queens College, the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, the CUNY School of Professional Studies, and the CUNY School of Public Health. CUNY has also created the New Community College (NCC), the first new CUNY college in four decades, which opened its door to students in Fall 2012. The CUNY Central Office of Student Affairs is responsible for the development and implementation of CUNY BMI. One of a wide array of University-wide programs dedicated to academic achievement and student success, CUNY BMI supports the enrollment and retention of students from underrepresented groups, particularly African , African American/Black, Caribbean, and Latino/Hispanic males, at all of the University's senior, comprehensive and community colleges as well as the Graduate Center and the CUNY School of Law.

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

History and Purpose

In May of 2004, the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York unanimously approved its Master Plan 2004-2008. This comprehensive planning document included for the first time in the University's history a "Chancellor's Initiative on the Black Male in Education."

In the fall of 2004, Chancellor Goldstein established a University Task Force on the Black Male Initiative. He asked Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Selma Botman to identify faculty members and administrators with relevant knowledge and expertise to serve on the Task Force and charged it with developing recommendations that would include a series of action-oriented projects to help black males overcome the inequalities that lead to poor academic performance in the K-12 system, the attendant weak enrollment, retention, and graduation from institutions of higher education, and high rates of joblessness and incarceration.

During its six months of deliberations, the Task Force was presented with convincing evidence that black males in New York City and beyond face patterns of ongoing and distinctive discrimination in many aspects of their lives, most evidently in education, in treatment by the criminal justice system, and in employment. The discrimination they face has profound consequences for their well-being and security, and is manifested in unacceptably high rates of leaving school before high school graduation and imprisonment and in unacceptably low rates of postsecondary degree completion and stable participation in the work force. These grim realities have adverse impacts on family members and communities.

In its final report to the Chancellor, the Task Force proposed nine major recommendations, including:

1. Provide strong University leadership on the challenges facing black youth and men;
2. Strengthen the school-to-college pipeline to enable many more black male students to move into higher education;
3. Increase admission and graduation rates at CUNY colleges;
4. Improve teacher education to prepare professionals for urban education;
5. Improve employment prospects for black males;
6. Contribute to the reduction of the incarceration rate for black men;
7. Establish an Institute for the Achievement of Educational and Social Equity for Black Males;
8. Involve experts in the implementation of the recommendations; and
9. Establish benchmarks and hold Colleges accountable for implementing these recommendations.

After hearings before the Higher Education Committee of the New York City Council chaired by the Honorable Charles Barron, the University was awarded funding from the New York City Council and began to implement some of the aforementioned recommendations. Through the

initial grant, fifteen (15) demonstration projects were funded designed to improve the enrollment and/or graduation rates of students from underrepresented groups, particularly black males. Funding was also allocated to increase opportunities for individuals without a high school diploma to enroll in GED courses oriented towards college preparation; to provide support for formerly incarcerated individuals to enroll in college; and to survey workforce development opportunities in New York City's construction industry.

The second grant was used to support the continuation of most of the initial projects; to extend the initiative to all 17 colleges and to the Graduate Center; to expand a research project begun at John Jay College of Criminal Justice to other CUNY colleges; and to implement a community health survey at the Hunter School of Social Work. Though targeted towards black males, these projects do not discriminate based on race or gender and will serve as models for improving educational outcomes of all students. All programs and activities of the Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff, without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic. Now, in its seventh year, the CUNY BMI program continues to grow and build on the successes of the past six years.

In addition to supporting campus-based projects, funding from the New York City Council was also allocated to support four major conferences:

- The first, *Black Male Youth: Creating a Culture for Educational Success*, was held in April 2006 at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and featured the renowned historian Dr. John Hope Franklin as keynote speaker.
- The second annual conference, *Focus on the State of Black Education: Inverting in the Next Generation of African American Students*, was held in October 2007 at The City College of New York (CCNY)and featured three prominent keynote speakers: Dr. Gail Thompson, Associate Professor at Claremont Graduate University and author of *Through Ebony Eyes: What Teachers Need to Know but Are Afraid to Ask about African American Students*; Professor Charles Ogletree, Jesse Climenko Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice; and the Reverend Dr. Calvin Butts, III, President of the State University of New York College at Old Westbury and Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church.
- The third annual conference, *African American Males and the Legal System*, at Medgar Evers College featured Professor Floyd Weatherspoon of the Capital University School of Law; Professor Anthony Thompson of the New York University School of Law; and the noted clergyman and civil rights advocate, the Reverend Dr. Herbert Daughtry.
- The fourth annual conference, *Health Disparities in Male Populations: Focus on the Health of Urban Males*, held at Lehman College/CUNY. The Fourth Annual CUNY BMI Conference featured the following three (3) keynote speakers: (1) Lynne Holden, MD, President, Mentoring in Medicine, Inc, Associate Clinical Professor, Emergency Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine; and Attending Physician, Emergency Department, Montefiore Medical Center. (2) Kenneth Olden, Ph.D., Founding and Acting Dean of the Proposed School of Public Health, The City University of New York and Former Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Nation Toxicology Program, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (3) John Rich, M.P.H., M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Health, Management and Policy, Drexel University School of Public Health and MacArthur Fellow 2006.
- The fifth annual conference, *The Politics of Progress from Abolitionist Frederick Douglass to President Barack Obama.*, was held at LaGuardia Community

College/CUNY in October 2010 and featured the following keynote speakers:(1) Marc Morial, Esq., President and CEO, National Urban League (2) Peniel Joseph, Ph.D., Professor, African American Studies, Tufts University and author of Dark Days, Bright Nights: From Black Power to Barack Obama (3) Herb Boyd, Journalist, Civil Rights Activist and author of nineteen books including Baldwin's Harlem.

- The sixth annual conference, *From High School or GED to J.D., M.D. or Ph.D.: Exposing African American/Black and Latino/Hispanic Students to Graduate and Professional School Opportunities*, was held at Hunter College/CUNY in October 2011 and featured the following keynote speakers: (1) Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, Associate Professor of English Education, Teachers College, Columbia University and Host, Our World with Black Enterprise, the nationally syndicated television program (2) Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President, Bennett College, Economist, and Author of Surviving and Thriving: 365 Facts in Black Economic History (3) The Honorable Adolfo Carrión, Jr., Regional Administrator for New York and New Jersey, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- The Seventh Annual CUNY BMI conference entitled, *Rock the Vote: The Presidential Election of 2012, the Struggle for Voting Rights and the Future for Urban America*, was held at the College of Staten Island/CUNY in October 2012 and featured the following keynote speakers: (1) Kevin Powell, Political and Social Commentator, Activist and Author "Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan and The Ghost of Dr. King: Blogs and Essays" (2) Derek Dingle, Senior Vice President and Editor-in-Chief, BLACK ENTERPRISE magazine.

A Distinguished Speaker Series was also launched in October 2006 with a lecture by Dr. Shaun Harper, a researcher at the Pennsylvania State University who shared his research on African American male collegians and academic success. Subsequent topics in this series included Dr. Pedro A. Noguera on Black Masculinity and Educational Success. A panel of five distinguished CUNY faculty on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) at CUNY. Damon T. Hewitt, Esq. on *The School to Prison Pipeline: The Role of Race and Gender in Denying Educational Opportunity*. David C. Banks, Esq. on *Setting a Standard for Excellence for African American and Latino Students - The Story of the Eagle Academy for Young Men*. Aaron Thomas, Senior Director of Health and Quality of Life at the National Urban League, on the Black Male Initiative: An Empowerment Movement. And a panel of four distinguished professionals on exploring challenges Black gay men in Higher Education entitled, *Nobody Knows My Name*. During the 2012-13 academic year CUNY BMI will host several events as part of the Distinguished speakers Series.

To supplement funding from the New York City Council, during the 2007-2008 academic year, CUNY BMI received a generous grant from the Goldman Sachs Foundation to enhance and expand three BMI projects including: (1) the Educational Ladders Initiative, a targeted GED program at Medgar Evers College,; (2) the College Success Initiative: Learning by Teaching project at The College of Staten Island and (3) The College Initiative based at LaGuardia Community College, a University-wide program that supports formerly incarcerated men and women who wish to begin or continue higher education at CUNY. Additionally, in an effort to diversify the teaching profession and expose CUNY students, particularly BMI participants, to careers as New York City public school teachers, CUNY BMI created a teacher awareness/development program, *Teachers as Leaders Project* (TALP), with the generous support of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation and the Schott Foundation for Public Education. In its first semester, during spring 2008, TALP was implemented on five CUNY

campuses: (1) the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC); (2) The College of Staten Island (CSI); (3) Hunter College; (4) the New York College of Technology (City Tech); and (5) York College during the first semester of the program. Since its initial implementation during the spring 2008 semester, TALP has grown to a program with students who are attending or have attended ten (10) CUNY institutions including: (1) BMCC; (2) CSI; (3) The City College of New York (CCNY); (4) Kingsborough Community College (KBCC); (5) Hostos Community College; (6) Hunter College; (7) the New York City College of Technology (City Tech); (8) Queens College; (9) Queensborough Community College (QCC); and (10) York College. Twenty-four (24) students, nineteen (19) men and five (5) women, were selected to participate in the first cohort of the *Teachers as Leaders Project* during the spring 2008 semester. Eleven students, six (6) men and five women, were selected to participate in the second cohort for fall 2008. In the Third Cohort for Spring 2009 CUNY BMI received fifty-seven (57) applications from a diverse group of students. Teachers as Leaders Scholars received scholarships, participated in program workshops and served in after-school programs. Prior to the end of the grant period in January 2011 there were forty-six (46) TALP Scholars, mostly African American and Latino males, making satisfactory progress towards graduation and passing the three (3) New York State Teacher Certification Examinations needed for preliminary certification.

For more information about the Black Male Initiative, please visit http://www.cuny.edu/bmi

Task Force on
The City University of New York

Black Male Initiative

Final Report to the Chancellor

September 12, 2005

Task Force on
The City University of New York

Black Male Initiative

Final Report to the Chancellor

Index

I. Executive Summary
Pages 1-3

II. Task Force Report
Pages 4-16

III. Working Group Reports
Appendix A, B, C, D, E

IV. Proposal to the City Council
Appendix F

Final Report of The City University of New York Task Force on the Black Male Initiative

Executive Summary

In May of 2004, the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York unanimously approved its Master Plan 2004-2008. This comprehensive planning document included for the first time in the University's history a "Chancellor's Initiative on the Black Male in Education" which stated, in particular, "It is a well-established fact that institutions of higher education in the U.S. do not successfully recruit, retain and graduate young African-American and Caribbean men. Myriad statistics discuss the disproportionately low percentages and numbers of young black men within higher education, public higher education and even at CUNY. Over the next four years, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein will oversee the development and implementation of a new University-wide program aimed at implementing some of the most effective practices in this area."

The Plan cited various promising models at CUNY, including the Male Development and Empowerment Center at Medgar Evers College and initiatives at the University level, including the CUNY Prep Transitional High School. It concluded this section by calling for the creation of opportunities for young men and women to achieve and engage themselves in the world, giving them the skills and confidence needed to function effectively in a society in which too little is expected of them and too many opportunities denied them.

In the fall of 2004, Chancellor Goldstein established a University Task Force on the Black Male Initiative. He asked Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Selma Botman to identify faculty members and administrators with relevant knowledge and expertise to serve on the Task Force. The Chancellor also invited President Gregory Williams of City College and Trustee Valerie Lancaster Beal to serve as co-chairs. Campus representatives were selected on the basis of their proven knowledge and expertise in matters related to the Task Force's charge. In addition to serving on the Task Force, they were asked to serve as Directors of Working Groups that would examine distinctive issues and present recommendations to the Task Force.

The Task Force was charged with developing recommendations that would include a series of action-oriented projects to help black males overcome the inequalities that lead to poor academic performance in the K-12 system, the attendant weak enrollment, retention, and graduation from institutions of higher education, and high rates of joblessness and incarceration.

The Task Force met throughout the spring 2005 semester. Working Group Directors also met independently with their group members to address their respective areas. The Task Force was presented with convincing evidence that black males in New York City face patterns of ongoing and distinctive discrimination in many aspects of their lives—most evidently in education, in treatment by the criminal justice system, and in employment.

The discrimination they face has profound consequences for their well-being and security and is manifested in unacceptably high rates of leaving school before high school graduation and imprisonment and unacceptably low rates of postsecondary degree completion and stable participation in the work force. These grim realities have adverse impacts on family members and communities.

The recommendations of the Task Force are summarized below. Additional recommendations developed by the Working Groups are included in their reports, which are appended.

Recommendation #1: Establish Strong University Leadership
The City University of New York has a public responsibility to provide critical leadership on the challenges facing black youth and men, and to raise its voice vigorously and unwaveringly to help mobilize efforts to achieve long overdue educational and social equity on their behalf.

Recommendation #2: Improve Access to Higher Education
CUNY must strengthen the school-to-college pipeline to enable many more black male students to move into higher education.

Recommendation #3: Increase Admission and Graduation Rates at CUNY Colleges
Each campus should develop and implement a comprehensive plan to improve the enrollment and graduation rates of black males. The University should implement an enrollment management plan. In order to envision themselves as being successful in college, prospective and matriculated black male students must see role models of successful black male faculty and staff in the college community. Campuses must be more deliberate in their recruitment of qualified black males for all professional positions—at all levels of the professorate, from assistant professors to Distinguished Professors and at all administrative levels. Likewise, each campus and the central administration must insure that qualified black males are represented and visible in positions of leadership and responsibility.

Recommendation #4: Educate a New Generation of K-12 Teachers
The University is creating a Teacher Academy that will be launched in September 2006 as a new model of teacher education that prepares professionals for urban education. The Academy should include an initiative that provides incentives to promising black males to attend CUNY, enroll in the Academy, and train as teachers. CUNY continues to be a main supplier of teachers to the New York City public schools, and efforts should be made to insure that the faculty and staff of all of the University's teacher preparation programs understand, respect, and utilize pedagogies that are responsive to the distinctive experiences of black males.

Recommendation #5: Use the University's Resources to Improve Employment Prospects of Black Males
The University should develop a set of intermediate employment strategies to increase the likelihood that black males obtain credentials and secure employment.

Recommendation #6: Develop Ways to Contribute to the Reduction of the Incarceration Rate for Black Males

The University should develop and implement a project that enrolls adolescents and young adults in specially designed alternatives to incarceration as well as post incarceration programs at the CUNY colleges.

Recommendation #7: Establish an Institute for the Achievement of Educational and Social Equity for Black Males

The University should establish an Institute for the Achievement of Educational and Social Equity for Black Males to insure that the University's intellectual and organizational resources are marshaled to address the issues that this Task Force has been investigating.

Recommendation #8: Involve Experts in the Implementation of these Recommendations

Small groups of experts should be identified for each of the proposed recommendations, and charged with developing individual implementation plans that are informed by research and demonstrated by successful practice. The groups should offer the plans to the Task Force members for review. In light of that recommendation, the University Task Force on the Black Male Initiative should remain active for at least one year beyond the issuance of this report.

Recommendation #9: Establish Benchmarks

The Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs should develop a set of specific benchmarks that can be used to evaluate the University's progress in implementing the Task Force's recommendations and, most important, in achieving the goals it believes are essential. Those benchmarks should be incorporated within the University's Performance Management Plan.

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
Summary of Funded Projects
2012-2013

With an eighth consecutive grant from the New York City Council, The City University of New York (CUNY) has established projects to support the enrollment and retention of students from underrepresented groups in all five boroughs of New York City and at all the CUNY senior, comprehensive and community colleges including the CUNY Graduate Center and the CUNY Law School. Funds from the New York City Council also support two (2) targeted GED programs. All programs and activities of The CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic. Though CUNY BMI projects target African, African American/Black, Caribbean and Latino/Hispanic males and other underrepresented groups, it is expected that the entire University will benefit from what is learned from efforts with these targeted populations.

For general information about the CUNY Black Male Initiative (CUNY BMI), please visit: http://web.cuny.edu/academics/oaa/initiatives/bmi.html. To find out about specific projects funded under the BMI, please contact the CUNY campus representatives listed below. For the CUNY BMI central administrators, please visit: http://web.cuny.edu/academics/oaa/initiatives/bmi/staff.html

College/Contact	Project Description
Baruch College **Transfer Bridge Program - Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA); Coalition of Black Clubs** Angela Anselmo Director of Baruch BMI 646 312-4628 Angela.Anselmo@baruch.cuny.edu Kristy Perez Director of SEEK Urban Male Leadership Academy 646 312-4630 Kristy.Perez@baruch.cuny.edu Timothy London Assistant Director of Baruch BMI (646) 312-4622 Timothy.London@baruch.cuny.edu	The Baruch College BMI project supports two initiatives: a Transfer Bridge Program and the other an Urban Male Leadership Academy. The Transfer Bridge Program seeks to create a pipeline from community to senior college that would enable a smooth transition for underrepresented males who are currently enrolled at Borough of Manhattan community college and wish to pursue a BBA degree at Baruch. The other initiative, the UMLA is housed in the SEEK Program and is specifically designed to develop and promote the academic excellence, social consciousness and leadership skills of black and Latino male college students at Baruch College. The third focus is on supporting students from underrepresented groups at Baruch College such as Bridge students once they are accepted to Baruch. Students from both programs share multiple commonalities and benefit from an exchange of information and ideas. Furthermore, in addition to serving as a positive support system for each other, the UMLA students mentor BMI Transfer Bridge students and are a direct link to the Baruch College community.

Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) **Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA)** Michael Gillespie Associate Dean, Academic Affairs (212) 220-8323 mgillespie@bmcc.cuny.edu Ashtian Holmes BMI Coordinator (212) 220-7276 aholmes@bmcc.cuny.edu Everton Barrett Academic Affairs (212) 220- 5059 ebarrett@bmcc.cuny.edu	The overall project goals for the Urban Male Leadership Academy (UMLA) at Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) for the academic year are a continuation of the program's emphases since its inception during the 2005-2006 academic year. They are 1) to increase retention and graduation rates of underserved students, particularly African American and Latino males at BMCC; 2) to ensure that underserved students graduate from BMCC with the academic and vocational skills to be successful in future schooling and the workplace; 3) to work collaboratively with identified high schools and community-based organizations to recruit and sustain the number of underserved students in the pipeline to higher education; 4) to increase the transfer rate to baccalaureate programs among underserved students; and 5) to increase the number of underserved students, particularly African American and Latino males, who major in elementary or mathematics and/or science education and pursue careers in teaching in New York City public schools. Women students are actively encouraged to participate in all programs and activities sponsored by the CUNY BMI funded UMLA. Several BMCC students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.
Bronx Community College **Leadership Empowerment Network (LEN) formerly The Student Leadership Academy for Social Entrepreneurs (SLASE)** Bernard J. Gantt Dean of Enrollment Management & Executive Director of the Black Male Initiative Program (718) 289-5887 Bernard.Gantt@bcc.cuny.edu Kimberly Roberts Director of BMI (718) 289-3732 Kimberly.Roberts02@bcc.cuny.edu Dwayne Brown BMI Coordinator dwayne.brown@bcc.cuny.edu	The mission of BCC BMI Leadership Empowerment Network (LEN) formerly The Student Leadership Academy for Social Entrepreneurs (SLASE) program is to recruit, retain and graduate Black and Latino males. The program aims to equip students with the skills, vision, and long-range plan for obtaining an Associate's Degree and beyond. The focus is on the academic, professional and personal development of each student; to build leadership, to improve Bachelor's degree attainment, employment prospects, to address issues in the community, as well as build a network among the students, faculty and staff that will help members reach their academic and life goals.

Brooklyn College **Brooklyn College's Black & Latino Male Initiative (BLMI) formerly E.R.I.S. (Empowering, Recruiting, Investing and Supporting)** Sharona Levy Acting Associate Provost for Academic Programs (718) 951-5771 slevy@brooklyn.cuny.edu Robert Scott Liaison for Campus & Community Partnerships ERIS Program (718) 951-5766 robscott@brooklyn.cuny.edu Niesha Ziehmke, Ph.d. Director of First College Year Programs Brooklyn College, CUNY nziehmke@brooklyn.cuny.edu Nicole St.Clair Assistant Director of First College Year Programs Brooklyn College, CUNY (718) 951-5771 nstclair@brooklyn.cuny.edu	The CUNY BMI funded project at Brooklyn College entitled Brooklyn College's Black & Latino Male Initiative (BLMI) formerly E.R.I.S. (Empowering, Recruiting, Investing and Supporting) is a Campus Community Approach to Academic Access and Personal Success of Underrepresented Groups. The goals for BLMI include: **Goal 1:** BLMI seeks to create a community on campus where students feel academically and socially supported, especially for Black and Latino men **Goal 2:** BLMI seeks to increase the retention, graduation rates and GPA for Black and Latino male students **Goal 3:** BLMI seeks to increase their engagement in academic and leadership workshops/seminars and high impact learning practices. **Goal 4:** BLMI seeks to increase campus awareness of and involvement in the initiative **Goal 5:** BLMI seeks to implement a Learning Community with General Education courses focused on the Urban Experience.
City College of New York **Black Male Leadership and Mentorship Project at The City College (BMLMP)** Claude Brathwaite Project Administrator, New York City Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (212) 650-8850 cbrathwaite@ccny.cuny.edu Sherry Paredes BMLMP Program Coordinator (212) 650-8856 BMLMP@ccny.cuny.edu	The primary goals of the Black Male Leadership and Mentorship Project at The City College (BMLMP) are to: (1) strengthen underrepresented students' sense of community and connection to the institution by expanding their network of peers who share common academic goals, (2) expand this group of students' knowledge and awareness of the varied career opportunities that are available to them, (3) increase their exposure to successful, mainstream role models, (4) strengthen their positive sense of self by helping them to improve their social competency and leadership skills, (5) connect project participants to mentors who will encourage them to stay in college until they graduate. Further, this project will continue to offer college students different types of learning experiences within the context of supportive relations in order to strengthen students' commitment to college and motivation to succeed. Several City College students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.

City College of New York **Retention, Achievement, & Professionalism Success Institute (RAP-SI)** Gordon Thompson Director of the Black Studies Program (212) 650 6365 gthompson@ccny.cuny.edu Trevaughn Bynum RAP-SI Program Coordinator (212) 650-5100 tbynum@ccny.cuny.edu Chuck Frye RAP-SI Student Activities Coordinator (212) 650-7914 cfrye@ccny.cuny.edu Geraldo Ramirez RAP-SI Program Assistant (212) 650-5253 gramirez@ccny.cuny.edu	RAP-SI is committed to the improvement of retention and academic performance of students from underrepresented groups enrolled at CCNY/CUNY.RAP-SI will expand the social opportunities, academic resources, counseling, mentoring programs, support systems and learning communities throughout City College available to two groups of students: 1) Freshmen needing academic intervention, and 2) sophomores and juniors with GPA's between 2.3 and 2.5. RAP-SI is also committed to promoting strategies that will encourage and prepare BMI students for successful enrollment in graduate and/or professional school. RAP-SI is further committed to encouraging BMI students to enroll in service learning courses, particularly those developed by RAP-SI in conjunction with the Black Studies Program.
City College of New York **Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education** **Medical Career Success Program** Maurizio Trevisan Dean (212) 650-5275 mtrevisan@med.cuny.edu Dani McBeth Associate Dean for Student Affairs (212) 650-7727 / 8485 dmcbeth@med.cuny.edu Jerrold Erves Associate Director of Admissions/BMI Director (212) 650-7706 jgerves@med.cuny.edu	The Medical Career Success Program proposes to enhance the academic performance and retention of students in the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education and also in the pre-med program of The City College. The program is divided into career enhancement efforts and support services programs. Career enhancement will include monthly Skills Development Workshops, facilitation of professional networking opportunities and exposure to medical professionals.

The College of Staten Island- College Success Initiative Deborah Vess Associate Provost (718) 982-2558 deborah.vess@csi.cuny.edu Debra Evans-Greene OASP / BMI Project Director Office of Academic Affairs (718) 982-2638 debra.evans@.csi.cuny.edu Alicia Murray OASP / BMI Project Coordinator (718)982-2571 Alicia.murray@csi.cuny.edu Olaniran Asanbe OASP / BMI Support Staff (718) 982-2005 Fax: (718) 982-2616 Olaniran.Asanbe@csi.cuny.edu	The College Success Initiative: Learning by Teaching program have both high school and college students participate in this mathematics, science and English language arts tutorial program involving Curtis and Port Richmond high school students and CSI BMI college student mentors/tutors. The project has three (3) primary goals and two (2) secondary goals among the primary goals are: (1) promoting academic success; (2) diversity recruitment or increasing enrollment of students from underrepresented populations through pipeline to college programs; and diversifying the teaching profession by recruiting underrepresented students, particularly African American males, into the teaching profession. As for its secondary goals, the BMI funded project at CSI seeks to create a supportive academic learning community to support students from populations that are severely underrepresented in higher education and to strengthen CSI's Office of Minority Access Programs. Several students from the BMI Project at CSI have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders project.
CUNY Black Male Initiative – Central Teachers as Leaders Project Elliott Dawes University Director, CUNY BMI (212) 650-8294 Elliott.Dawes@mail.cuny.edu Jermaine Wright Associate Director, CUNY BMI (212) 650-5394 jwright1@ccny.cuny.edu Alan Newton Research Associate, CUNY BMI (212) 650-7087 Alan.Newton@mail.cuny.edu	With the generous support of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation and The Schott Foundation for Public Education, CUNY BMI created the Teachers as Leaders Project (TALP) which offered CUNY students: (1) full scholarships; (2) New York State Teacher Certification Examination (NYSTCE) workshops; (3) career development and public policy workshops; (4) clinical education experiences and (5) mentorship from current and former New York City public school teachers. The grant period for TALP ended in January 2011.

CUNY Graduate School -Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs (OEODP) Widening the Doors to Academia Project Donald Robotham Executive Officer, Officer of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs, OEODP/BMI Project Director DRobotham@gc.cuny.edu Alida Rojas Assistant Program Officer 212-817-7540 arojas@gc.cuny.edu	The Widening the Doors to Academia Project is designed to enhance underrepresented student recruitment into doctoral programs and academic success of those who are already enrolled. The project ensures that the Graduate Center's goals of enrolling, retaining and graduating underrepresented groups in the doctoral program are accomplished. The Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs (OEODP), through BMI funds, support the Graduate Center's recruitment and retention goals which are to: 1) increase the number of groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education; and 2) increase their graduation rate and time to degree. The project services all graduate students enrolled at CUNY, in particular students from underrepresented groups and it also serves all 27 students in the CUNY Pipeline undergraduate program.
CUNY Law School - Pipeline to Justice Program Cheryl Howard Program Director (718) 340-4487 howard@mail.law.cuny.edu	The CUNY School of Law Pipeline to Justice Program is designed to give a second chance at law school admission and preparation for academic success in law school to college graduates from groups traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession. The program is designed to: (1) raise their LSAT scores, (2) improve critical reading, analytic thinking, and professional-level writing skills, (3) provide general student counseling, and (4) provide consistent, individualized academic counseling, structured cohort support, and mentoring throughout the three years of law school.
CUNY Office of Academic Affairs Adult Literacy Mentoring Program Leslee Oppenheim Director of Language and Literacy Programs (212) 794-5427 leslee.oppenheim@mail.cuny.edu Kate Brandt, Professional Development Coordinator (212) 541-0399 kate.brandt@mail.cuny.edu Frannie Rosenson Director, Brooklyn College Adult (718) 951-4117 FrannieR@brooklyn.cuny.edu Jaye Jones, PhD ALC Director, Lehman College (718) 960-2460 jaye.jones@lehman.cuny.edu	Two campus-based adult literacy programs, at Brooklyn College and Lehman College, will develop new structures and processes designed to reach out to, and support students, with college potential in CUNY GED programs, in order to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups, in particular black males, who complete their course of study at these programs, receive their GED diplomas, and continue their education at CUNY. The project, built around a mentoring structure at each of the three programs, will serve as a pilot that can be extended to other CUNY literacy/GED programs in the future. Additionally, this year, the project is focusing on developing a curriculum and transitional courses designed to assist students who pass the GED with college entrance examinations.

CUNY Office of Academic Affairs **Creative Arts Team (CUNY CAT)** **Success by Degrees** Linda Zimmerman Executive Director (212) 652-2830 Lynda.zimmerman@mail.cuny.edu Keith Johnston Program Director (212) 652-2835 Keith.johnston@mail.cuny.edu	Success by Degrees, the BMI funded project implemented by the CUNY Creative Arts Team (CUNY CAT), provides students with the opportunity to examine, through an active learning model, issues related to academic and workplace success. Under the guidance of CAT's professional actor/teachers, CUNY students, particularly BMI participants, will engage in a range of strategies and techniques – dramatic vignettes, role-play, tableaux, music, movement, rap, and drama games and exercises – as they explore and practice the habits and habits of mind they need for success in school and in life.
CUNY Office of Academic Affairs **GEAR UP/Middle Grades Initiative** Ciji Gardner Director, Middle Grades Initiative/GEAR UP (718)254-7179 ciji.gardner@mail.cuny.edu Sarah McConnell Assistant Director (718) 254-7198 Sarah.mcconnell@mail.cuny.edu Julia Pujols Family Outreach Coordinator/BMI Program Coordinator (718)254-7179 Julia.Pujols@mail.cuny.edu	In the Fall of 2007, CUNY Office of Academic Affairs received in funding from the CUNY Black Male Initiative to pilot the Young Men's Leadership Institute (YMLI) at South Bronx Preparatory, a CUNY Middle Grades Initiative/GEAR UP (MGI/GU) partner school. Based on the success of the pilot program, CUNY MGI/GEAR UP, a college/school consortium project housed in the University's Office of Academic Affairs Collaborative Programs unit, will expand YMLI to two additional partner colleges and two secondary schools. The structured mentoring program for 9th-grade Black, Latino, and under-represented male students would be implemented at South Bronx Preparatory (Lehman College), East Side Community High School (Hunter College), and Queens Gateway to the Health Sciences (Queens College). A comparable program, Young Women's Leadership Institute (YWLI), was piloted for female students last year and will be included in the expansion. The Young Men's and Women's Leadership Institutes will be comprised of three primary components: (1) a group mentoring program; (2) guest speakers' series; and (3) community service project. The goals of the YMLI and YWLI remain consistent with those of the pilot program. The five (5) goals of the Institutes are to: (1) develop students' academic and personal growth skills; (2) increase students' awareness of the opportunities offered through College Now; (3) increase the number of Black, Latino, and underrepresented students who enroll in and successfully complete College Now courses and workshops; (4) to maintain high retention rates of students enrolled in the program; and (5) to increase student awareness of careers and college programs in STEM and education

Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College **Brothers on a New Direction (BOND)** Christine Mangino Associate Dean and BMI Director (718) 518-6753 cmangino@hostos.cuny.edu David Johnson Co-Director djohnson@hostos.cuny.edu Sandy Figueroa Professor (718) 518-6512 SFIGUEROA@hostos.cuny.edu Cynthia Jones Professor (718) 518-6807 CJONES@hostos.cuny.edu	Brothers on a New Direction has four goals to: (1) improve retention of Hostos Community College students and increase their graduation rates (with a special attention paid to the graduation rates of male students of color); (2) strengthen academic skills of students at Hostos (with a special attention paid to the academic performance of male students of color); (3) increase the enrollment of males in College Now and provide early intervention for 9th and 10th grade males enrolled in participating high schools and (4) and maintain high retention rates for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students enrolled at the Hostos Lincoln Academy (the Hostos campus school) to ensure that they move into high school and graduate with college-bound aspirations. Several Hostos Community College students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.
Hunter College **Brothers for Excellence** John Rose Office of the President (212) 650-3262 john.rose@hunter.cuny.edu Marcia Cantarella Consultant mycantarella@gmail.com Shawn Best Coordinator, Black Male Initiative (212) 650-3458 sbe0017@hunter.cuny.edu	Brothers for Excellence, the Hunter College Black Male Initiative for Recruitment, Retention and Success, aims to offer historically underrepresented students and black males in particular, a personalized educational experience in which they receive varied forms of support, academic, financial and emotional. The project offers students academic advisement, mentorship, community-building service experiences, and workshops conducted by the CUNY Creative Arts Team. Additionally, the project sponsors a number of outreach and diversity recruitment activities. Several Hunter College students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice **Prisoner Reentry Institute: The College Initiative** **A University-wide program based at John Jay College of Criminal Justice** Anne Jacobs Director of the Prisoner Reentry Institute (646) 557- 4532 ajacobs@jjay.cuny.edu Michael Carey Executive Director of the College Initiative (347) 998-5861 mcarey@collegeinitiative.org Charlene Griffin Data Manager (212)691-7554 cgriffin@collegeinitiative.org Ray Tebout Director of Counseling and Mentoring rtebout@collegeinitiative.org	College Initiative (CI) is a community of successful, positive and supportive students, alumni and staff dedicated to creating pathways from criminal justice involvement to college and beyond. CI is dedicated to creating life-changing college opportunities for men and women in New York City with criminal history and a high school diploma or GED. CI's mission is: To create pathways from criminal justice involvement to college and beyond and to establish and support communities invested in their own success. The work reflects a deep passion and strategic commitment to empowering men and women involved in the criminal justice system to become stabilizing forces in their communities, advocates for change, role models and engaged citizens working for a safer New York City. Central to CI's model is a collaborative and evolutionary approach to program design that captures the collective intelligence and experience of CI's community. Using this approach, CI develops transportable strategies, tools, relationships and networks aimed at increasing students' resilience in navigating barriers and challenges on the pathway into and through higher education. In the process, CI generates and elevates the work of transformative leaders, from formerly incarcerated students to peer mentors to program staff to faculty to university and community administrators – committed to building the pathway from criminal justice to college. CI's strategies include: outreach and recruitment, including on-site presentations at correctional facilities and correspondence with those preparing for release; orientation and assessment, including an overview of the program and baseline testing of academic skills; academic and social preparation including tutoring, and a college preparation program; academic and financial aid counseling and referrals to other reentry services; scholarships; and a student-designed peer mentoring program that has been used as a national model.

John Jay College of Criminal Justice **The Ron H. Brown Pre-Law Program** Luis Barrios Chair/Professor Latin American and Latina/o Studies lbarrios@jjay.cuny.edu Jodie G. Roure, J.D., Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Latin American and Latina/o Studies Department and Project Director and Principal Investigator, John Jay College component Ron Brown Pre-Law Program Direct line: 212-237-8672 Main office, jroure@jjay.cuny.edu Francois Restrepo, Assistant Director Brown Pre-Law Program 646-781-5349 frestreposerrano@jjay.cuny.edu	The Ron H. Brown Pre-Law Program is a collaborative program of The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development of the St. John's University School of Law, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Department of Latin American and Latina/o Studies/CUNY, Medgar Evers College/CUNY, the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and York College/CUNY. It is designed to help increase the representation of underrepresented groups in legal education by providing eligible John Jay students with an intensive summer program in the study of law at St. John's University School of Law. CUNY BMI supports that John Jay College component of the Ron H. Brown program; however, students from Medgar Evers College and York College are also eligible to participate in this intensive pre-law program that features, among other benefits, LSAT preparation.
John Jay College of Criminal Justice **Urban Male Initiative (UMI)** Lynette Cook-Francis Vice President of Student Development lcook-francis@jjay.cuny.edu Maria E. Vidal Urban Male Initiative Coordinator 646-557-4557 mvidal@jjay.cuny.edu	Urban Male Initiative (UMI), the BMI funded project at John Jay College, will enhance existing college support programs to specifically target and meet the needs of underrepresented groups. A network of "first responders" from faculty, staff and counselors will work with at risk students, and a career development component will be incorporated. The goal is to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups who successfully complete a degree program at the college.

Kingsborough Community College **Men's Resource Center - The Kingsborough Student Leadership Initiative** Peter Cohen Office of the Dean of Student Affairs (718) 368-5563 pcohen@kbcc.cuny.edu Michael Rodriguez Black Male Initiative Director (718) 368-5339 michael.rodriguez@kingsborough.edu Brian Mitra Director of Career Development, Transfer/New Start, and Scholarship Opportunities (718) 368-5115 brian.mitra@kbcc.cuny.edu	The Kingsborough Student Leadership Initiative, the CUNY BMI funded project at KBCC, grew out of an inaugural project begun in the summer of 2006. The overall goal of the project has remained consistent since its inception to: (1) increase the enrollment of male students representing underserved and underrepresented groups utilizing various enrollment resources, including, but not limited to, local high schools, community based organizations, churches, GED programs, and the Kingsborough Office of Enrollment Management; (2) assist students enrolled in the initiative in accessing the support services offered at the college, including counseling, academic advisement, supplemental instruction, and mentoring. In addition to the aforementioned goals, the project offers to each student a mentoring component that provides a source of information, informal advisement and role modeling for students. The project has developed a network of mentors from among Kingsborough faculty and administration who have established supportive relationships with BMI students. Peer mentors, including BMI alumni, have provided an important source of additional assistance to project enrollees. During the academic year, emphasis will be placed on activities designed to promote a closer relationship between the project and academic departments and faculty members. The goal of this new initiative is to ultimately strengthen BMI student relationships with faculty members and promote their pursuit of shared academic and research interests.
Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College **Empowerment and Success Program for Under-Represented Students** Renee Butler Assistant Dean, Student Affairs (718) 482-5292 rbutler@lagcc.cuny.edu Terik Tidwell Retention Coordinator Office of Student Development (718)482-5175 ttidwell@lagcc.cuny.edu	The Empowerment and Success Program for Under-Represented Students is modeled to support the retention of students from the perspective of persistence. The project will implement strategies for increasing the retention and course completion rate of underrepresented students by identifying student needs, providing peer-to-peer experiences, mentoring and tutorial/academic interventions. The project will continue to focus on the following objectives: (1) identifying students facing academic difficulty through a mid-semester review (Early Alert Program): (2) providing outreach and recommend appropriate intervention strategies and referrals: (3) focusing on supporting ethnic identification, socio-economic/financial issues and addressing educational/ cultural stereotypes; (4) cultivating peer to peer study groups; (5) increase student awareness of personal responsibility in their educational experience and college expectation and offering mentorship.

Lehman College **The Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP)** John Holloway Associate Dean 718 960-8242 john.holloway@lehman.cuny.edu Michael A. Deas, MSW Director, The Urban Male Leadership Program Division of Student Affairs (718) 960-8151 - Office michael.deas@lehman.cuny.edu Mozelle Goodwin Program Coordinator The Urban Male Leadership Program mgoodwincmp@nyc.rr.com Prof. Stacey Williams stacey.williams@lehman.cuny.edu	The Urban Male Leadership Program (UMLP) is designed to facilitate the successful transition of first-year and transfer students to Lehman College. The program also provides support to continuing students by strengthening academic skills, personal development, and character enrichment. The program is committed to developing the whole student both in and outside the classroom. The Center seeks to increase the retention and graduation rates of all students while fostering a meaningful college experience with specific emphasis on the experiences of historically underrepresented students including African American and Latino males. The Urban Male Leadership Program is also committed to working closely with the Division of Enrollment Management to increase outreach and recruitment efforts of Black and Latino males graduating from high schools located in close proximity to Lehman College. Through school visits, on-campus programming, open houses, prospective student receptions and phone outreach/follow-up, the Center hopes to boost the number of applications from populations underrepresented in higher education including African American and Latino males.
Medgar Evers College **The Male Development and Empowerment Center (MDEC)** Janice Borlandoe VP Enrollment Management & Student Support Service (718) 270-6046 jborlandoe@mec.cuny.edu Larry B. Martin Project Director (718) 270-6405 lmartin@mec.cuny.edu Paul Washington (718)270-5074 pwashington@mec.cuny.edu	The Male Development and Empowerment Center (MDEC) at Medgar Evers College is an academic success initiative designed to counsel and mentor male students who have enrolled at the college. The Center intends to address the area of academic success both directly and indirectly. Directly by providing mentoring/coaching, training and academic support to students and indirectly by providing group settings for social development and information exchange, as well as cultural enrichment. The project goals for the academic year are as follows: • Provide coaching and academic support to a cohort of 75 students to realize their education goals. • Coordinate four (4) student services related activities aimed at providing academic support and information to students. • Coordinate two (2) community service related activities and two (2) cultural activities. • Provide leadership/mentoring training to all 75 students. • Work in partnership with the School of Science, Health and Technology to provide mentoring/coaching to 25 male STEM discipline students.

Medgar Evers College -Targeted GED Program Educational Ladders Initiative Jonathan Bissell Adult & Continuing Education (718) 804-8848 jbissell@mec.cuny.edu Ella Russell Adult & Continuing Education (718) 804-8873 erussell@mec.cuny.edu	Educational Ladders Initiative will continue develop an educational pathway for students from underrepresented populations with academic deficits in order to prepare them to pass the GED and enroll in higher education. Project administrators will continue to empower students with the information needed to succeed through workshops, seminars and mentorship. A new goal for the academic year will be mentorship. Tutoring sessions will be transformed into group mentorship sessions. Students will be grouped based on their readiness to pass the GED exam and their aptitude to become college bound. Former students who have successfully completed the program will provide the mentorship through encouragement and assistance with participants' transition to college. This strategy should help the college increase retention of these students; as well as, foster a positive self image within these individuals. Additionally, project administrators and instructors will continue to prepare students for the CUNY ACT Tests.
New York City College of Technology Increasing African American Males and Other Underrepresented Students Success in STEM Dr. Bonne August Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs (718) 260-5560 baugust@citytech.cuny.edu Pamela Brown Associate Provost PBrown@citytech.cuny.edu Reginald Blake Associate Professor of Physics (718) 254 – 8582 rblake@citytech.cuny.edu	This CUNY BMI funded project is designed to increase the enrollment and success of African American males and other underrepresented groups in STEM disciplines. The New York College of Technology, or City Tech as it is commonly called, has chosen this focus because these disciplines are the institution's signature programs and because African Americans are notably underrepresented among baccalaureate and advanced degree recipients in these disciplines. Through a coordinated program of enhancements and support, City Tech, high school, and elementary school students interested in STEM will receive the support, encouragement, and enrichment they need. City Tech's BMI is also quite aware of the acute shortage of African American Males who pursue careers in K-12 education. The project, therefore, develops focused and structured activities that will enhance and encourage City Tech student participation in K-12 and GED teacher/mentor education, especially for STEM courses. Special emphasis is also placed on undergraduate mentoring via STEM research activities. Several City Tech students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.

Queens College **Excellence through Community, Education, and Leadership (ExCEL)** June Bobb Assistant Provost (718) 997-5780 June.Bobb@qc.cuny.edu Irving Macario Academic Advisor (718) 997-5759 irving.macario@qc.cuny.edu Emmanuel Thelusma Project ExCEL Program Coordinator (718) 997-5924 emmanuel.thelusma@qc.cuny.edu	Project ExCEL: Excellence through Community, Education, and Leadership: A Collaborative Approach to Ensuring Success for Black Males and Underrepresented Students works with academic departments, programs and support services dedicated to promoting excellence in undergraduate education and student success, this new project is designed to address issues of equity and inclusion and to mobilize the College community to put in place strategies and practices to address problems of enrollment and retention, and to create a climate of access. Several Queens College students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.
Queensborough Community College **Men Achieving and Leading in Excellence and Success (MALES)** Paul Jean-Pierre Associate Dean Student Affairs (718) 631-6314 Pjean-pierre@qcc.cuny.edu Gisela Rivera Project Director (718)6281-5749 GRivera@qcc.cuny.edu	Queensborough Community College (QCC) has received BMI funding since 2005 to increase the enrollment of and support services for African American Males and other underrepresented groups. This funding was used to create an initiative, QCC Men Achieving and Leading in Excellence and Success MALES, which has been extremely successful. Student participants have received mentoring from faculty, peers, and staff; attended workshops related to retention and academic success. Eight (8) main goals of the QCC MALES Initiative for the academic year are to: (1) expand counseling and mentoring by both staff, faculty and peer mentors to improve the retention of black males and other underrepresented students; (2) provide direct services, advising, counseling and additional social and academic support to prospective and currently enrolled at risk students; (3) offer career counseling and employment encouragement for black males and under-represented students; (4) increase by 5% the enrollment of underrepresented groups with a particular focus on African American males, Hispanic males and other at risk groups through targeted recruitment efforts; (5) increase the success rates of these newly enrolled students as measured by a 5% increase in the retention rates of first-time, full and part-time freshmen; (6) increase the institution's long-term awareness of the barriers to enrollment that many black males and other underrepresented groups face; (7) support CUNY's development of recommendations for colleges across the region and nation regarding the recruitment and enrollment of underrepresented students;(8) offer a new teacher education component, which is described in detail in this proposal. Several Queensborough Community College students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.

York College **Men's Center** Jonathan Quash Director - York College Male Initiative Program & Men's Center (718) 262-3772 jquash@york.cuny.edu Thomas Gibson Assistant Dean Division of Student Development (718) 262-2415 tgibson@york.cuny.edu	The goal of the Male Initiative at York College implemented through the York College Men's Center is to increase the enrollment of underrepresented groups, particularly African-American male students at York College, and to create an environment to assist these underrepresented students in developing and achieving the academic, personal and professional skills that are needed to succeed in college and beyond. The CUNY BMI funded project at York College features three (3) main programs: (1) a teacher development initiative, known as the "Back On Track Program," (2) a recruitment initiative through which York College students, particularly participants in Men's Center programs, will be conducting workshops at high schools in southeast Queens and (3) a V.I.T.A. Program through which accounting majors and high school students will provide free tax return preparation to low-income residents of southeast Queens. Several York College students have participated in the CUNY BMI Teachers as Leaders Project.

CUNY The City University of New York

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BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

PRESENTS

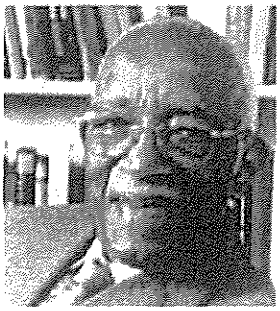
Black Male Youth: Creating a Culture for Educational Success

on

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

at

John Jay College



Dr. John Hope Franklin

Author of ***Mirror to America***. Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient, James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History at Duke University, and former Chair of the History Department at Brooklyn College

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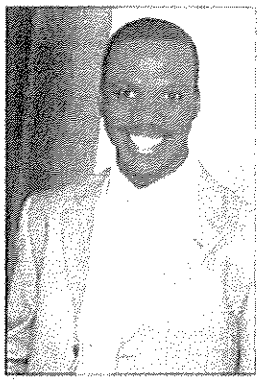

Dr. Shaun R. Harper

Assistant Professor and Research Associate
at the Center for the Study of Higher Education
Pennsylvania State University at University Park

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March 7, 2007
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Hunter College
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Please RSVP to:
Elliott Dawes, Director, CUNY BMI at (212) 794-5651 (Elliott.Dawes@mail.cuny.edu) or
Joseph Nelson, BMI Coordinator, Hunter College (jdnelso@hunter.cuny.edu).

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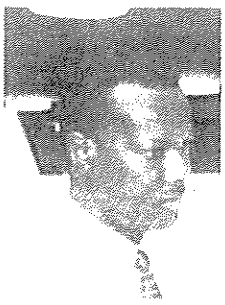
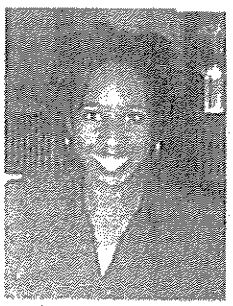
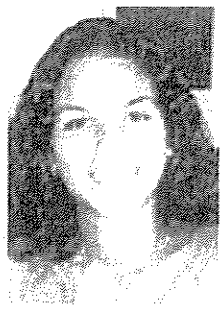


Reginald Blake
Engineering/Physics
New York City
College of Technology

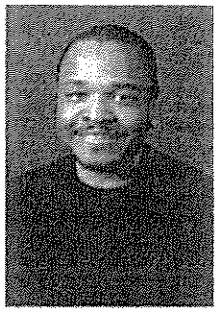


Chantale Damas
Physics
AGEP Program
Graduate Center

Godfrey Gumbs
Physics
Distinguished Professor
Hunter College



Maribel Vazquez
Biomedical
Engineering
City College



Ardie Walser
Electrical
Engineering
City College

with introductions by Dr. Selma Botman,
CUNY Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost,
and Dr. Gail Smith, Acting Assistant Provost for Diversity Programs
and CUNY Pipeline Program Director, CUNY Graduate Center

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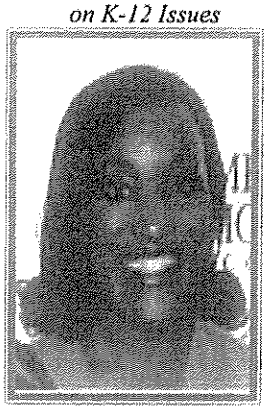


Dr. Gail Thompson
Associate Professor
Claremont Graduate University
Author, *Through Ebony Eyes: What Teachers Need to Know but are Afraid to Ask About African American Students*

Keynote Speaker
Early Afternoon Lecture
on Higher Education

Professor Charles Ogletree
Jesse Climenko
Professor of Law
Harvard Law School
Executive Director
Charles Hamilton Houston
Institute for Race and Justice

Keynote Speaker
Late Afternoon Lecture/
Closing Remarks on Higher Education

Reverend Dr. Calvin Butts, III
President,
State University of New York,
The College at Old Westbury
Pastor,
Abyssinian Baptist Church

The Second Annual CUNY BMI Conference will also feature the following panel discussions:

African American and Latino Male Initiative Programs from Kindergarten to High School
Challenges Facing African American Male Students: Pre-Kindergarten to High School
Increasing the Number of African American Male Teachers
Community-based Models to Promote Academic Success
Unemployment and Underemployment of Young Black Males
Increasing Access to Higher Education for Formerly Incarcerated Persons
Concrete Strategies to Promote the Academic Success of African American Collegians
Promoting Academic Success in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

The City College of New York

Registration and Keynote Lectures in The Great Hall in Shepard Hall
Panel Discussions in the North Academic Center

Friday, October 5, 2007
9 am to 6 pm

Please RSVP to: Elliott Dawes, Director, CUNY BMI, at Elliott.Dawes@mail.cuny.edu, or
Michael Shaw, Interim Associate Director, CUNY BMI, at Michael.Shaw@mail.cuny.edu.

Details and updates will be posted at our website: http://www.cuny.edu/bmi

Please send an email confirming your attendance at your earliest convenience as space is limited.

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
AND
THE BROOKLYN COLLEGE E.R.I.S.
(EMPOWERING, RECRUITING,
INVESTING, and SUPPORTING) PROGRAM*

ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT

THE CUNY BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

The School to Prison Pipeline: the Role of Race and Gender in Denying Educational Opportunity

Damon T. Hewitt, Esq.

Assistant Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
www.naacpldf.org

Thursday, February 28, 2008
5 PM – 6:30 PM
Brooklyn College
2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210**
Woody Tanger Auditorium, Brooklyn College Library
Reception afterwards in the Brooklyn College Maroon Lounge (6:45 PM – 7:30 PM)

Please RSVP to: Elliott Dawes, University Director, CUNY BMI at (212) 650-8294 (Elliott.Dawes@mail.cuny.edu) or Natasha Williams at (212) 794-5687 (Natasha.Williams@mail.cuny.edu)

* E.R.I.S. is one of twenty-six (26) projects supported by The City University of New York Black Male Initiative.
** By subway, take the # 2 or # 5 to the Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn College stop.

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE,
HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE B.O.N.D.
(Brothers on a New Direction) and H.O.P.E.
(Helping Other People Excel)*

ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT

THE CUNY BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Setting a Standard of Excellence for African American and Latino Students
- The Story of the Eagle Academy for Young Men

David C. Banks, Esq.
Founding Principal, The Eagle Academy for Young Men

Monday, March 31, 2008, 5 PM – 6:30 PM
Hostos Community College
120 East 149th Street (149th Street and Walton Avenue), Bronx, New York 10451**
Savoy Multipurpose Room
Reception afterwards (6:45 PM – 7:30 PM)

Please RSVP to: Elliott Dawes, University Director, CUNY BMI at (212) 650-8294 (Elliott.Dawes@mail.cuny.edu) or Natasha Williams at (212) 794-5687 (Natasha.Williams@mail.cuny.edu)

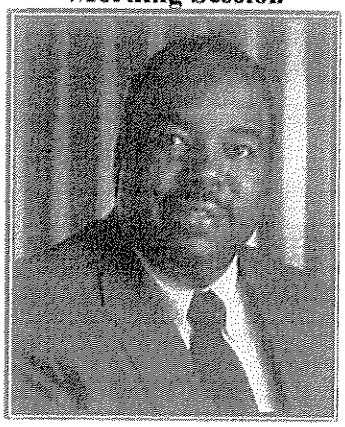
* B.O.N.D./H.O.P.E. is one of twenty-six (26) projects supported by CUNY BMI. All programs and activities of The CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic.

** By subway, take the #2, #4 or #5 trains to 149th Street - Grand Concourse and walk one block to the corner of 149th Street and Walton Avenue.

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

African American Males and the Legal System

Keynote Speaker
Morning Session



Professor Floyd Weatherspoon
Professor, Capital University School of Law
Former Commissioner and Vice-Chairman,
Ohio Commission on African-American Males
Author, *African American Males and the Law: Cases and Materials*

Keynote Speaker
Afternoon Session

Professor Anthony Thompson
Professor of Clinical Law,
New York University School of Law
Author, *Releasing Prisoners, Redeeming Communities: Reentry, Race, and Politics*

The Third Annual CUNY BMI Conference will feature the following panel discussions:

Avoiding Conflicts with Law Enforcement
Becoming a Lawyer: Preparing for the LSAT and the Law School Admissions Process
Current Enrollment Trends of African American and Latino Students in U.S. Law Schools
Judges on Judging: A View from the Bench
From Scottsboro to Jena: A History of Racial Inequalities in Criminal Justice Systems
Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline
Pitfalls, Possibilities and Progress within the Legal System and Action for Social Justice
The Social Costs of Mass Incarceration

A Law School Fair with representatives from New York area law schools will be held in the afternoon for CUNY pre-law students.

Medgar Evers College

1650 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11225*
The Founders Auditorium, Bedford Avenue Building

Friday, October 3, 2008
8:30 am to 6 pm

As space is limited, please RSVP as soon as possible at: http://www.cuny.edu/bmi

*** By subway, take the # 2, 3, 4 or 5 trains to Franklin Avenue. Travel directions also are available by calling (718) 270-4900 and listening for the prompt to obtain directions.**

All programs and activities of The CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic.

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
AND
THE BLACK MALE INITIATIVE OF THE
NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
(CITY TECH BMI)

ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT

THE CUNY BLACK MALE INITIATIVE DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

The Black Male Initiative: An Empowerment Movement

Aaron Thomas
Senior Director, Health and Quality of Life
National Urban League

Monday, March 30, 2009, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

New York City College of Technology (City Tech)
300 Jay Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201*
Atrium Amphitheatre

As space is limited, please RSVP as soon as possible at: *http://www.cuny.edu/bmi*

*By subway, take the # 2, #3, #4, or # 5 to Borough Hall and walk to Jay Street or take the "A", "C", or "F" train to Jay St. - Borough Hall. Travel directions are also available by calling (718) 260-5500 or visiting *http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/aboutus/directions/index.shtml*

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Higher Education Committee
New York City Council

Chairperson,
Council Member
Charles Barron

CUNY The City University of New York

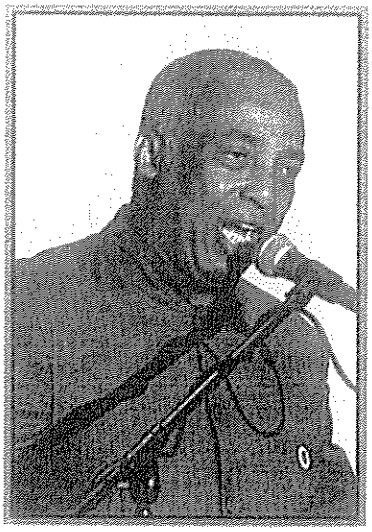
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

The Center for the Study of History, Culture and Social Movements*
President,
Reverend Dr.
Herbert Daughtry

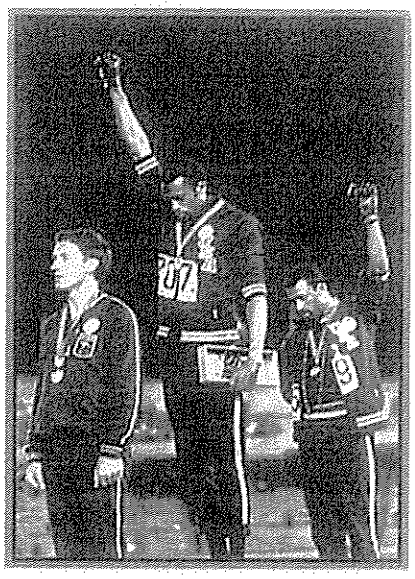
CO-SPONSOR

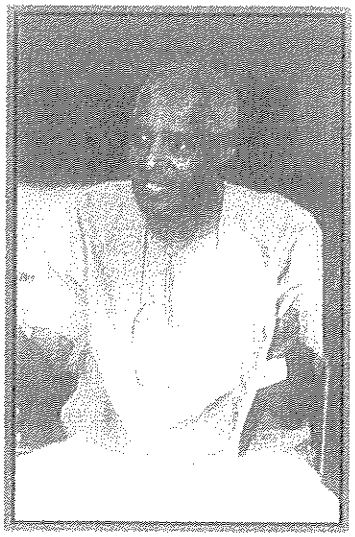
A PANEL DISCUSSION FEATURING DR. JOHN CARLOS, DR. TOMMIE SMITH, VINCE MATTHEWS and MRS. CYNTHIA JAMES, widow of LARRY JAMES THE 1968 OLYMPICS AS A SYMBOL OF THE BLACK POWER MOVEMENT

Opening Remarks, Dean Michael Gillespie, Academic Affairs, BMCC
Moderated by Council Member Charles Barron and Reverend Dr. Herbert Daughtry



Council Member Charles Barron





Rev. Dr. Herbert Daughtry

Wednesday, April 22, 2009, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC)
199 Chambers Street, New York, New York 10007
Theater # 2

*By subway, take the 1, 2, or 3 to Chambers Street (Local)
Walk 2 Blocks west on Chambers Street Travel directions are also available by calling (212) 220-8000
or visiting: http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/about_bmcc/directions.html

All programs and activities of The CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic.

* ***Continuing the work of the Timbuktu Learning Center***

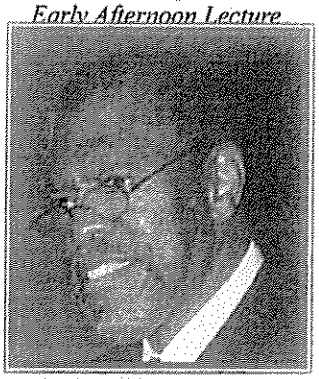
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Health Disparities in Male Populations: Focus on the Health of Urban Males

Keynote Speaker
Morning Lecture

Lynne Holden, MD
President, Mentoring in Medicine, Inc.
Associate Clinical Professor,
Emergency Medicine
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Attending Physician
Emergency Department
Montefiore Medical Center

Keynote Speaker
Early Afternoon Lecture



Dr. Kenneth Olden
Founding Dean of the
Proposed School of Public Health,
City University of New York
Former Director of the National Institute
of Environmental Health Sciences
and the Nation Toxicology Program
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Keynote Speaker
Late Afternoon Lecture

Dr. John Rich
Professor and Chair,
Department of Health
Management and Policy
Drexel University
School of Public Health
MacArthur Fellow 2006

The Fourth Annual CUNY BMI Conference will also feature the following panel discussions:

Morning Panel Discussions

- *Becoming a Doctor: Preparing for the MCAT and the Medical School Admissions Process*
- *Enrollment Trends of African American and Latino Students in United States Medical Schools*
- *So You Don't Want to be a Physician: Other Careers in the Health Professions*
- *Introduction to the Health Professions: A Forum for High School Students and GED Participants*

Afternoon Panel Discussions

- *Unequal Access to Health Care and Health Insurance*
- *Healthy Habits for Academic and Social Success: Managing your Physical and Mental well-being as a College Student*
- *Substance Abuse: Criminal Justice or Public Health Problem?*
- *Health Disparities in Male Populations*

A Health Careers Fair with representatives from New York area medical schools will be held in the afternoon.

Lehman College*

250 Bedford Park Boulevard West, Bronx, New York 10468
Panel Discussions and Keynote Lectures in The Monroe & Rose D. Lovinger Theatre and the Music Building

Friday, October 2, 2009, 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

As space is limited, please RSVP as soon as possible at: *http://www.cuny.edu/bmi*

*By subway, take the # 4 train to Bedford Park – Lehman College. Travel directions can be found at *http://www.lehman.edu/about/maps-and-directions.php* or by calling (718) 960-8000

All programs and activities of The CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic.

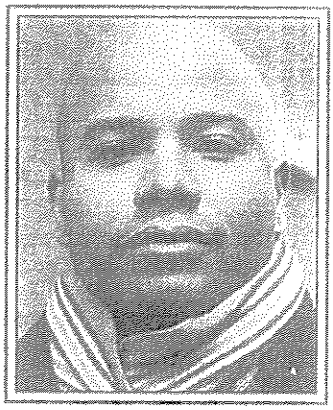
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
BLACK MALE INITIATIVE
FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE POLITICS OF PROGRESS
FROM ABOLITIONIST FREDERICK DOUGLASS
TO PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Keynote Speaker
Morning Lecture

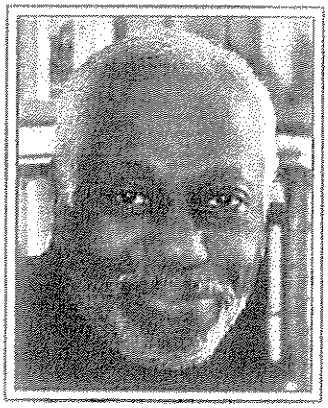
Marc Morial, Esq.
President and CEO
National Urban League

Keynote Speaker
Early Afternoon Lecture



Peniel Joseph
Professor, African American Studies
Tufts University
Author, Dark Days, Bright Nights:
From Black Power to Barack Obama

Keynote Speaker
Late Afternoon Lecture



Herb Boyd
Journalist, Activist, Teacher,
and Author of nineteen books
including Baldwin's Harlem

The Fifth Annual CUNY BMI Conference will also feature the following panel discussions:

Morning Panel Discussions

- *Frederick Douglass' America - Race and Racism in the Nineteenth Century*
- *Before Brown: The Struggle for Equal Educational Opportunity before 1954*
- *Women of the Civil Rights Movement*
- *Mirror to America: The Life and Legacy of John Hope Franklin*

Afternoon Panel Discussions

- *The Barack Obama Model – From Community Organizer to Elected Official*
- *Politics and Entrepreneurship in Hip Hop Culture*
- *Changing the Black Male Image in News Media – How to Become a Broadcast or Print Journalist*
- *President Obama's Agenda: Strengthening Community Colleges*
- *How the Civil Rights and Black Power Movements set the stage for the Election of President Obama*
- *The High School Dropout Crisis – Why are so many Young Men dropping out of High School?*
- *Investing in Higher Education Reentry Programs – A Moral Imperative*

LaGuardia Community College*

31-10 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, New York 11101 ~ Main Stage Theater, Building E

Friday, October 1, 2010, 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

As space is limited, please register online as soon as possible at: http://www.cuny.edu/bmi

*By subway, take the # 7 train to 33rd Street. Directions to LaGuardia: http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/visit/ or call 718-482-7200

All programs and activities of The CUNY Black Male Initiative are open to all academically eligible students, faculty and staff without regard to race, gender, national origin or other characteristic.

Testimony of Emily Caceras
Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP), Peer Leader Alumnus
CAMBA, Inc.

Testimony before the New York City Council Committee on Finance
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., Chair

June 5, 2013

RE: Fiscal Year 2014, Funding for the Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program.

Good afternoon Chairman Recchia and NYC Council Committee on Finance. My name is Emily Caceres. I am a former CAMBA Teen RAPP Peer Leader at South Shore High School in Brooklyn, and I just completed my second year at SUNY Delhi. I joined Teen RAPP in 2009 when a friend brought me to meet the RAPP Social Worker to learn about the program and its services. I was ecstatic to learn that I could interview for a paid summer job as a Peer Leader, and I was psyched to get the position, which was the first job I ever had.

Besides helping other people, Teen RAPP really raised my awareness about abusive relationships. For example, I could not believe it when I learned that one out of every three high school students involved in a relationship experience some form of abuse. I thought it was more like one out of every twenty students, so that was extremely shocking to me. I now see how unhealthy teen relationships can really bring down student performance in school and can have a negative influence on their future education, career and family life. In addition, I used to think that jealousy was a sign that someone cared. Now I see that jealousy is a form of emotional abuse because it can make someone feel guilty, and then the guilt makes that person powerless so their partner has power and control over them. Most important, it was only through CAMBA Teen RAPP that I learned how much domestic violence I lived through as a child. I now realize the impact this had on my self-esteem and on my own relationships in life. There is a statement that my RAPP social worker told me about that says

"children live what they learn." I am so proud to tell you today that I have broken this terrible cycle of violence that I learned as a child. But the work must continue every day, as there is still a lot of relationship abuse in my family and with my friends at college and here in New York City.

I just completed my second year at SUNY Delhi, and RAPP definitely helped me expand my horizons and go to school away from home. Being a peer leader for four years has really helped me express myself and be more outspoken. This year I have helped many students at my school to deal with relationship abuse, which I see almost every day. In the past, I used to give a lot of advice, but I now know that one of the most important things for a peer leader to be is a good listener. If Teen RAPP is refunded, this summer I will be able to continue my four-year mission to help stop relationship abuse. Last summer in Teen Rapp we conducted four separate three hour workshops to educated participants in our agency's Summer Youth Employment Program. This experience not only helped me at college in my course on Public Speaking and Business Communication, but it also helped me break out of my shell. I am now open about my sexual orientation as a lesbian and I am proud to say that I have been in a healthy relationship for the past seven months. I urge you to restore full funding for the Teen RAPP program, which serves more than 45,000 students at NYC middle and high schools. There is so much power in a peer education program such as Teen RAPP. I know that when I was in high school I sometimes tuned out of listening to adults, especially when things became boring for me. The idea of students training other students on issues such as healthy vs. unhealthy relationships is so powerful because a youth can be in the audience, look at a youth trainer who is just like them, and say, "Hey, I can do that too!" I feel that I have become a role model for other youth, and because the future is in the hands of our youth, I truly want other students to benefit from the fantastic Teen RAPP program as much as I have.

I am now age 20 and able to vote in elections. Testifying today before the City Council is my first major step in having my voice heard as a young adult; and my voice is one that saves lives. Please allow Teen RAPP to continue to help save lives by restoring full funding for the program. Thank you very much.

Relationship Abuse Prevention Program

SaveTeenRAPP.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julie Hendricks-Atkins
Geto & de Milly, Inc.
212-686-4551
jhendricks-atkins@getodemilly.com

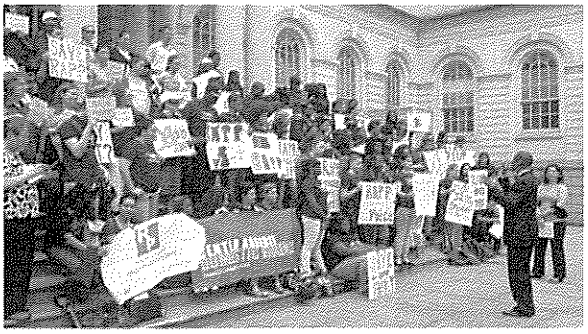
PHOTOS: Students, City Council Members Rally to Restore Funding to Teen RAPP Anti-Violence Program

Teen RAPP—slated for elimination in Mayor's Budget—to be voted on in June

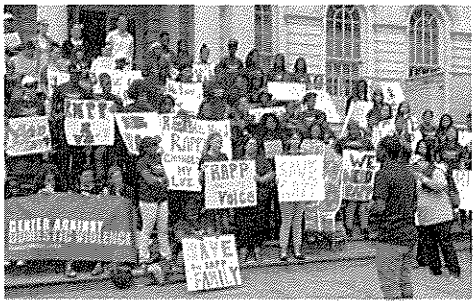
New York City, Friday, May 24th, 2013 — On Wednesday, May 22nd, Council Member Annabel Palma, Chair of the NYC City Council's General Welfare Committee, joined by colleagues **Julissa Ferreras, Robert Jackson, Ydanis Rodriguez, Gale Brewer, Margaret Chin, Brad Lander, Letitia James, Steve Levin, Diana Reyna, Sara Gonzalez, Leroy Comrie, James Gennaro, Jimmy Van Bramer, Daniel Dromm, Karen Koslowitz and Deborah Rose**, gathered with scores of NYC public school students on the steps of City Hall to urge restoration of funding for the Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (Teen RAPP) in the City's FY2014 budget.

Teen RAPP—one of the nation's most successful violence-prevention programs—serves over 45,000 students in 65 public schools across the five boroughs. At $66 per student annually, Teen RAPP is the city's most cost-efficient social intervention program.

Photos from Wednesday's rally appear below:

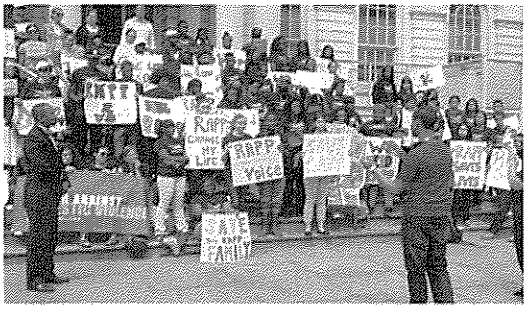


NYC Council Member Andy King (D-Bronx) addresses Teen RAPP students on the steps of City Hall, urging them to continue fighting for the program's funding

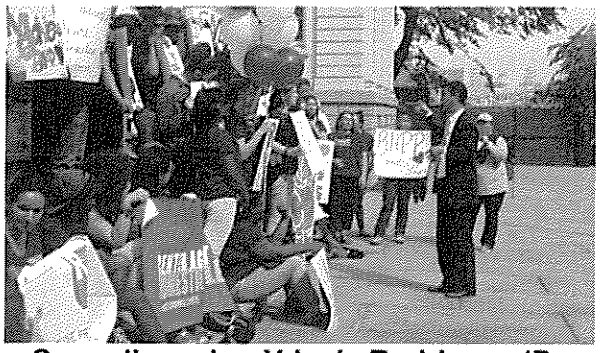


Robert James, RAPP Peer Leader at Washington Irving High School in Manhattan, talks about why the Teen RAPP program is so important to him

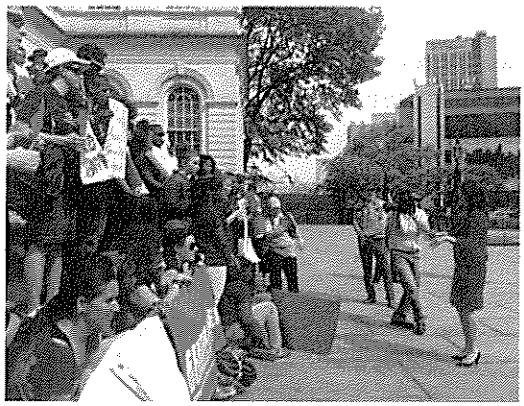
Councilmembers Annabel Palma (D-Bronx) and Brad Lander (D-Brooklyn) express their strong support for Teen RAPP to dozens of students rallying on the City Hall steps.



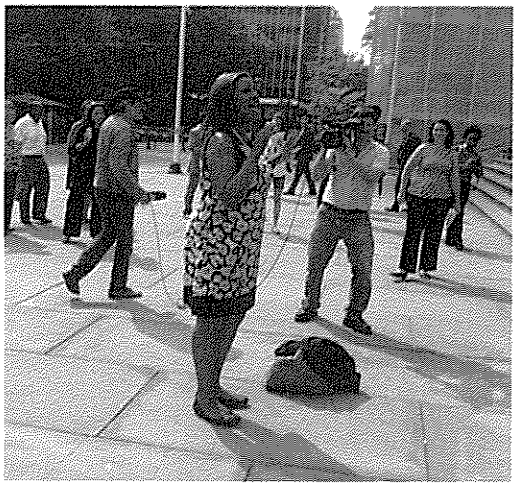
2012 "Rap 4 RAPP" contest winner Tyriek Overton performs his award-winning rap about healthy relationships for the crowd of Teen RAPP supporters



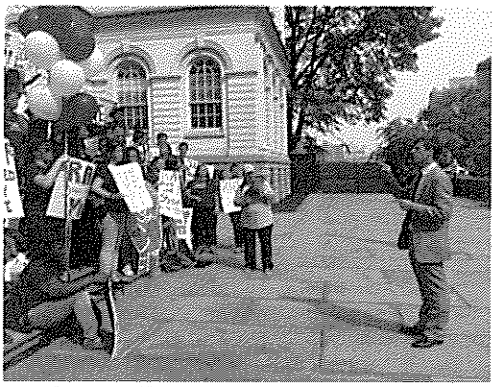
Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez (D-Manhattan) tells Teen RAPP supporters, "The New York City Council is with you! Keep fighting!"



Councilmember Liz Crowley (D-Queens) tells dozens of Teen RAPP supporters, "Ultimately, Teen RAPP saves lives."



Councilmember Letitia James (D-Brooklyn) tells the crowd of Teen RAPP supporters, "Nothing happens in this world without young people. Recognize the importance of politics and civic engagement."



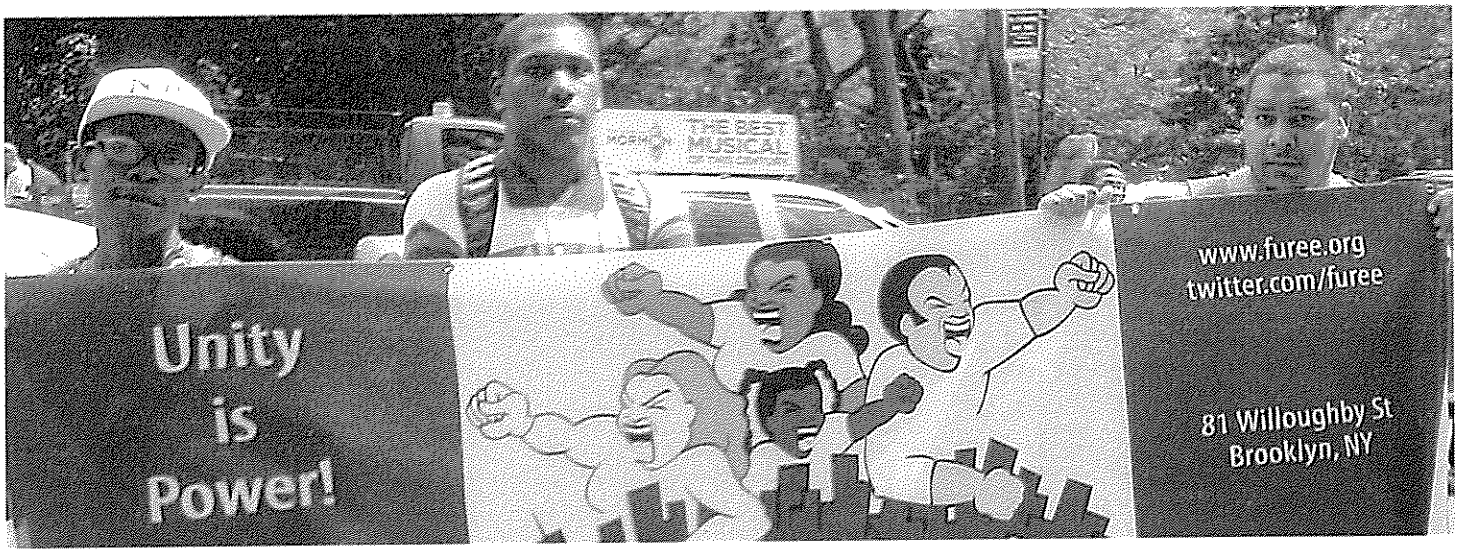
Councilmember Steve Levin (D-Brooklyn) urges Teen RAPP supporters to contact their elected officials and urge that the RAPP program be restored in the city budget.

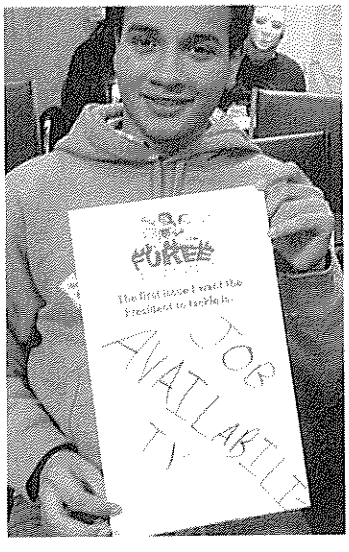
All who support Teen RAPP are urged to visit the Save Teen RAPP website and send a message to the City Council urging continuation of this vital program. For more information, please visit SaveTeenRAPP.org.

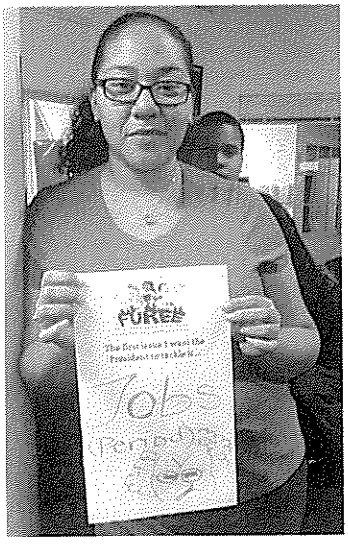
# # # #

THE STRUGGLE REPORT

Findings and Recommendations by NYC Youth for New York Job Development Programs







FUREEOUS YOUTH

URBAN JUSTICE CENTER | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

FUREEous Youth is the youth-led organizing program of Families United for Racial and Economic Equality (FUREE), located in Downtown Brooklyn. It builds youth power through grassroots organizing, coalition building and leadership development. FUREEous Youth provides a safe space for youth to access training and political education, challenge decision-makers, and address internalized oppression through positive youth organizing and youth development themes. Its current campaign, the *No Money, Mo' Problems Campaign,* organizes young people of color around access to sustainable employment.

Community Development Project of the Urban Justice Center (CDP) strengthens the impact of grassroots organizations in New York City's low-income and other excluded communities. CDP partners with community organizations to win legal cases, publish community-driven research reports, assist with the formation of new organizations and cooperatives, and provide technical and transactional assistance in support of their work towards social justice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FUREE (Families United for Racial and Economic Equality) would like to thank the following foundations and individuals for their continued support of our FUREEous Youth program:

Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation
Mertz-Gilmore Foundation
New York Foundation
North Star Fund
Rose & Sherle Wagner Foundation
Scherman Foundation
Schott Foundation
Surdna Foundation
Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock
NYC Council Member Letitia James
NYC Council Member Stephen Levin
NYS Senator Velmanette Montgomery
2012 Summer Youth Employment Program Participants

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Introduction	1
II. Background	2
III. Spotlight on Three Popular Youth Employment Programs	3
IV. The Impact of Government Disinvestment on Youth Job Development Programs	7
V. Research Methodology	9
VI. Research Findings	10
VII. Political Context	19
VIII. Policy Recommendations	21
IX. Call to Action	22
X. Endnotes	23

I. INTRODUCTION

"In certain times you're going to wonder, 'If I can't get this job how am I going to support myself when it's time…to leave the house?' I'm already predicting a future that isn't going to end well. And that scares me." This is a quote from a Brooklyn youth named Isaiah Phillip. He struggled to find a job for a few years, applying for countless jobs in various fields, simply looking for any place that would hire him. The trials of the job search took their toll on Isaiah and he began to wonder what would happen if he could not find work in the next year or two. "If I can't have a job to support or help myself or my family then I'm thinking that it's going to end in a result where we are homeless or there's going to be choices that shouldn't be made and we could regret."

Unfortunately, Isaiah's story is not unique among NYC youth, who have the highest unemployment rate among all age groups in New York City at 19 percent.[1] The situation is even worse for youth of color: Black youth have an unemployment rate of 26 percent compared to 13 percent for their White counterparts.[2] These staggeringly high unemployment rates are the lingering effects of the Great Recession, which disproportionately affected youth and people of color.[3]

To assist NYC youth in finding jobs, New York State and City have several job development programs that focus specifically on the needs of youth. The programs are overseen by city and state agencies and operated by contracted organizations. However, insufficient government funding limits the number of participant slots, while, at the same time, the still struggling job market increases demand for job placement programs. As a result, the vast majority of youth that need these programs are turned away and left to fend for themselves.

In fact, Isaiah is one of the lucky ones. Recently, he was able to get into a trade school where he is learning specialized skills in food preparation, which will help him secure a quality job at a high end restaurant. Best of all, Isaiah is on the path to accomplishing his goal of working in the upscale restaurant industry or opening his own restaurant. All of this would not have been possible without a training program for Isaiah to learn these specialized skills.

This is just one story of many across the city. Each day, members of FUREEous Youth – an organizing program that builds youth power among low-income youth of color through grassroots organizing, coalition building and leadership development – live out this reality. Time and again, FUREEous Youth and their friends struggle to find employment.

To better understand the challenges and opportunities all youth face in finding employment, FUREEous Youth and the Community Development Project (CDP) at the Urban Justice Center developed a participatory action research project. Using surveys, a focus group, and secondary data, this research shows that youth encounter many challenges when looking for jobs. Furthermore, the job development programs that exist to serve youth in gaining employment, while generally providing a positive experience, are not sufficient to meet the high demand and need to be retooled to better serve the youth of New York City.

II. BACKGROUND

Young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither in school nor working are commonly referred to as "disconnected youth". While it is important to focus on the needs and structural barriers to opportunity facing these youth, this label implies that youth are not attempting to find employment and/or pursue educational opportunities. In fact, many of those labeled "disconnected youth" are actively seeking employment or further education but are simply unable to access opportunities. However, the term will be used sporadically in this report because it is commonly used and referenced in the industry literature.

About 350,000 disconnected youth live in the New York metro area. This is 15 percent of the total youth population. This is even higher among Black and Latino youth, rising above 20 percent.[4] Among respondents to our survey, 22 percent would be classified as disconnected youth. Again, this high number says more about the lack of employment and educational opportunities than a lack of effort from youth to engage in their communities.

About 50 percent of disconnected youth do not have a high school diploma or GED, which severely limits their employment options. Jobs for people without high school diplomas have been decreasing rapidly over the past several years.[5] Thus, many youth are simply unable to find jobs due to their lack of experience, training, and education. Without employment or further educational opportunities, these youth are unable to gain the skills they need to be able to become economically successful adults, with hopes of breaking the cycle of poverty.

Some government agencies recognize the need for youth job training and educational programs and have made attempts to respond with programs designed to assist youth. These programs vary widely, but most include an educational (either teaching specialized skills or general job search skills) and a working (providing on-the-job experience) component. These programs often give youth their first job, which can act as a launch point for long-term careers and help them to build a resume. Research shows that work experience at a young age is a predictor of later success in the labor force.[6] Youth also often get a much needed paycheck for their work. Many youth that participate in these programs report that they would not have a job otherwise.[7] Though these programs are far from perfect, they do ensure employment and education for youth and start them on a path for future success.

Making sure youth have access to jobs also ensures a more robust economy for everyone. According to one source, there is a $325,000 benefit, on average, to the City of New York in one individual receiving a high school diploma or GED. This comes about through tax revenues and not having to pay public benefits and institutional costs that otherwise could have occurred.[8]

Employing disconnected youth specifically, and providing all youth with opportunities for work experiences and further education generally, should be a key goal of government. Fortunately, youth job development programs are able to give young people these opportunities. Our data, from surveys, focus groups, and secondary research, clearly show the positive effects job development programs can have upon youth if they are managed properly, tailored to meet the needs and interests of youth and receive sufficient funding.

III. SPOTLIGHT ON THREE POPULAR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

While New York State and City governments offer several youth job development programs, this report will only focus on three; the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), the Career and Technical Educational Programs (CTE), and the New York Youth Works Program (NYYW). These three programs represent a mix of state and city programs, are operated by different agencies, and represent both long standing programs and newer initiatives. More specifically, this report highlights SYEP because it is well-known and popular amongst youth, and FUREE has been a SYEP worksite in past years. CTE is another well-known program and serves as an example of how education and hands-on training can be combined to enrich the academic experiences of youth while providing them with practical skills. Youth Works focuses on "vulnerable youth," and is a new program developed to meet an immediate, specific need but only as a short-term solution. A brief overview of these programs is below. Each of these programs represents a step in the right direction for state and local governments in providing youth with the training and job opportunities they need to succeed. However, dwindling government funding and a lack of alignment with the needs of youth mean that these programs are not living up to their potential.

Summer Youth Employment Program

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) is a jobs program that provides youth between the ages of 14 and 24 with work experience, life skills training, and income. Operated by the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), SYEP allows youth who would otherwise not have summer employment to gain valuable work experience and make money. In 2012, DYCD received $45.8 million in federal, state, city, and private funds to operate SYEP, $28.7 million of which was used to pay the wages of youth.[9] As Table 1 shows, the number of participant slots has been decreasing as funding has been cut (see p. 7 for more information about the impact of government disinvestment).

Table 1: SYEP by the Numbers

Calendar Year	2012[10]	2011[11]	2010[12]	2009[13]
Annual Government Funding	$43 million	$43.5 million	$51.5 million	$67.5 million
Number of Applicants	132,593	131,119	143,169	139,597
Number of Participants	29,416	30,628	35,725	52,255
Number of Providers	63	62	65	65
Number of Worksites	5,677	5,732	5,780	8,688

Throughout the Research Findings section of this report there are sections that highlight specific aspects of SYEP. Particular attention is paid to SYEP due to its popularity – among survey respondents over 80 percent had heard of SYEP and 41 percent had participated in it – and the significant changes that DYCD is implementing in the summer of 2013 (see Political Context on p.19).

DYCD contracts with providers who agree to run the SYEP program for a certain number of participants, some of which may be in the special *vulnerable youth* category. Vulnerable youth are defined as youth who are homeless and runaway, court-involved, in or aging out of foster care, and in families receiving preventative services through ACS. Youth apply directly to the program through the providers who then place the youth that have been selected via lottery at various worksites for most of the program. Youth are paid minimum wage and work up to 25 hours a week at entry level jobs at government agencies, hospitals, summer camps, non-profits, small businesses, law firms, museums, sports enterprises and retail organizations. In previous years, the program ran seven weeks, but in 2013 it will run for six weeks. Providers are contracted to support youth throughout the program and provide approved educational training for participants, though the amount and quality of these trainings varies dramatically.

Table 2: Demographics of SYEP Participants			
		2012 SYEP Participants[14]	NYC Youth (14 - 24)[15]
Gender	Male	45%	54%
	Female	55%	46%
Age	14 - 15	28%	15%
	16 - 17	36%	16%
	18 - 19	22%	17%
	20 - 21	10%	21%
	22 - 24	4%	31%
Race/Ethnicity	American Indian	1%	0%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	8%	12%
	Black	46%	25%
	Hispanic	28%	34%
	White	13%	25%
	Other	5%	3%

SYEP has been shown to have many positive effects for youth academically, developmentally, and economically. DYCD's own survey of participants found that 75 percent reported they would not have had a summer job without SYEP.[16] A report by New York University's Institute for Education and Social Policy found that SYEP increased school attendance, particularly for participants with risk factors for low attendance. SYEP participants also saw an increase in Regents exams passing rate.[17]

Career and Technical Education Program

Founded in 2001, New York State's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program aims to advance academic study, technical knowledge and professional skills in a specific career through classroom education and hands-on work-based experiences. CTE curriculum covers industries such as agricultural education, business and marketing, family and consumer sciences, health occupations, technology and trade, technical and industrial education. High school students have access to CTE programs through CTE classes at regular high schools or CTE-specific high schools they can choose to attend.

The CTE programs are authorized by the New York State Department of Education and received about $8 million in CTE program-specific funding for the 2012-2013 school year. This money is used solely for operation of CTE programs, not to pay normal school operating expenses. In New York City, a CTE Advisory Committee, made up of business representatives, union leaders, community leaders, parents, and students, oversees the program through a variety of responsibilities, including ensuring the program remains relevant to the employment climate and in line with industry standards.[18]

Table 3: CTE by the Numbers[19]	
	2012 - 2013 School Year
Number of Program Topics	More than 420
Schools offering CTE Programs	140
CTE Specific Schools	39
Students taking CTE classes	Approximately 140,000

In the 2008 State of the City address, Mayor Bloomberg highlighted the importance of CTE programs and launched an effort to expand and improve the program by creating a Mayoral Taskforce on Career and Technical Education Innovation. Since then, CTE education has greatly expanded in the city, increasing from 21 CTE-specific schools to 39.

Table 4: Demographics of High School Students (2011 – 2012 School Year)[20]			
		CTE High Schools (N = 25,954)	NYC High Schools (N = 303,496)
Gender	Male	60%	51%
	Female	40%	49%
Race/Ethnicity	Asian	11%	16%
	Black/African American	40%	31%
	Hispanic/Latino	43%	39%
	White	6%	13%
Other	Special Education	16%	13%
	Free and Reduced Price Lunch	66%	60%
	English Language Learners	6%	12%

CTE programs fill an important need for students in New York City. Effective programs give students the hands-on training and education they need to succeed following graduation, whether that involves higher education, post-secondary training, or entering the workforce.

However, a 2012 report by the Public Advocate for the City of New York found that 50 percent of the CTE-designated high schools that were analyzed were characterized as Persistently Low Achieving (PLA) at some point since 2008.[21] The gap in student outcomes between CTE high schools in good standing to those considered PLA is startling. Schools in good standing have a four year graduation rate over 75 percent and 53 percent of students enroll in college. Meanwhile, just over 50 percent of students in PLA schools graduate in four years and only 25 percent enroll in college.[22] Since the creation of the Mayoral Taskforce on Career and Technical Education Innovation, new CTE schools and programs have received consistently more attention and funding than older schools and programs. This difference in attention is one reason for the large variations in achievement between CTE schools and something that should be addressed.[23]

New York Youth Works

On December 9, 2011, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed into law the New York Youth Works (NYYW) Program, which gave tax credits to businesses that hired disadvantaged youth and created funding to support work by non-profits to train and place youth in these jobs. A total of $33 million was allocated to the program; $25 million in tax credits for businesses and $8 million for job training programs.[24] NYYW was a one-year program run by the New York State Department of Labor to address the ongoing high youth unemployment rate of the past few years.

Table 5: NYYW by the Numbers[25]	
Funding	$33 million
Number of Participants	1,030
Number of Jobs Created	2,950
Approved Training and Job Placement Providers	38
Businesses Involved	122

NYYW was specifically designed for disadvantaged youth ages 16 to 24 years old that were unemployed. To qualify for the program, participants must have met one of the following criteria: receive public assistance, live in public housing or receive housing assistance, be a veteran, be pregnant or parenting, be homeless, be in the foster care system, and have served in jail or prison or be on probation or parole.[26] Although other job development programs serve disadvantaged youth, Youth Works was unique in that the entire program was tailored towards disadvantaged youth and that it had more expansive criteria for defining "disadvantaged" compared to many other youth programs.

Since Youth Works just finished its first and only year there is currently no data available on participant demographics or outcomes. Although there is no hard data, conclusions can be drawn by extrapolating from the fact that 122 businesses participated in the program and offered over 2,900 positions for disadvantaged youth in the areas of New York State that were most economically depressed by the recession. Youth Works hired youth most at risk of becoming disconnected and provided them with income, training, and work experience.

IV. THE IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT DISINVESTMENT ON YOUTH JOB DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Over the past several years, funding for youth job development programs has been declining. This has led officials to cut the number of participant slots, increasing the competition among youth for the programs and making programs difficult for youth to access.

Table 6: SYEP Funding and Applicants

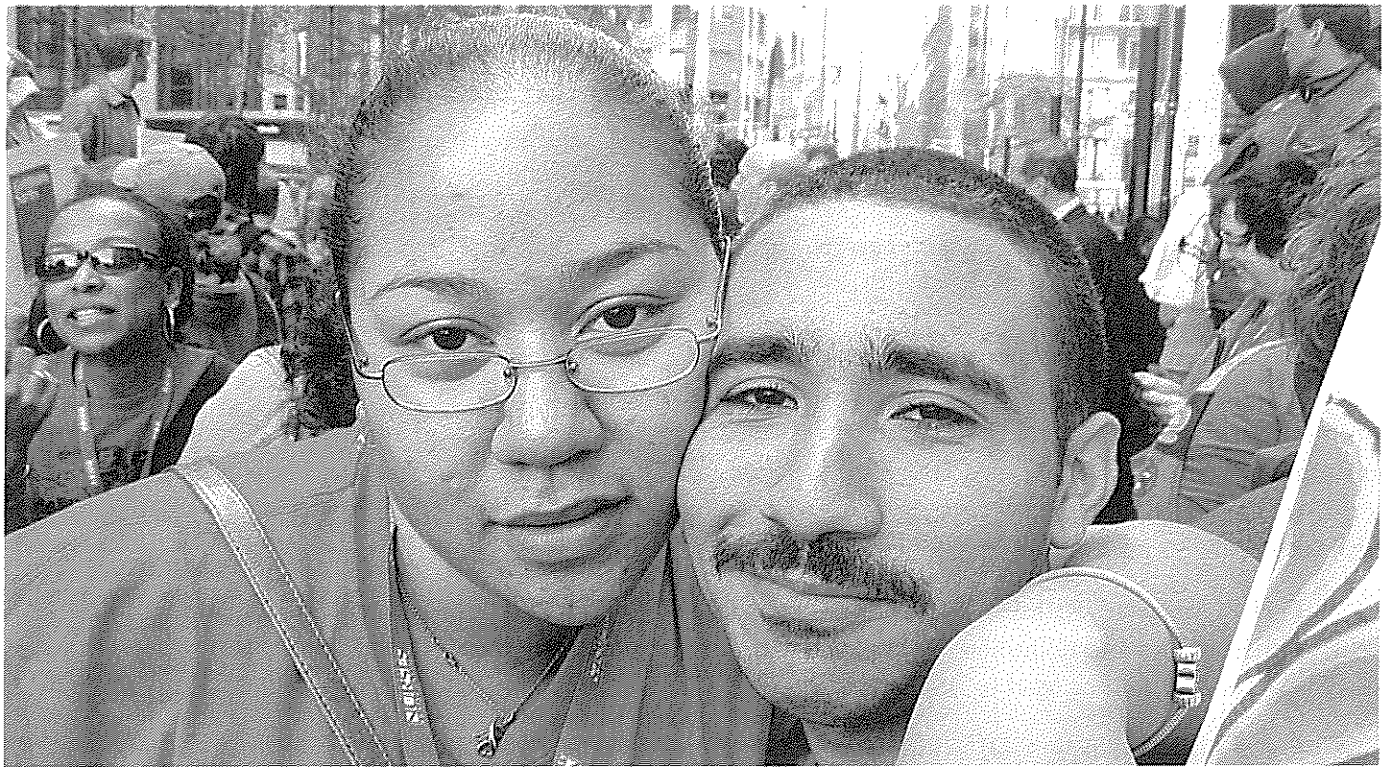
Year	Applicants	Total Government Funding	City Sources	State Sources	Federal Sources	Private Donations
2012 (FY13)[27]	132,593	$43.0 million	$20.6 million	$13.5 million	$8.9 million	$2.8 million
2011(FY12)[28]	131,119	$43.5 million	$20.6 million	$8.5 million	$14.4 million	$6.1 million
2010 (FY11)[29]	143,169	$51.5 million	$23.9 million	$8.5 million	$19.1 million	$2.0 million
2009 (FY10)[30]	139,597	$67.5 million	$13.8 million	$19.5 million	$34.2 million	$0
2008 (FY09)[31]	103,189	$54.0 million	$30.9 million	$19.7 million	$3.4 million	$0
2007 (FY08)[32]	93,750	$56.5 million	$32.4 million	$20.3 million	$3.8 million	$0
2006 (FY07)[33]	71,670	$50.4 million	$26.9 million	$18.1 million	$5.4 million	$0

Table 6 shows that demand for SYEP is increasing just as funding is decreasing. The spike in funding in 2010 was due to $34.2 million in stimulus dollars from the federal government, a one-time event. Money from the federal government and private sources has helped to hide the state and city disinvestment in youth job development programs. From 2007 to 2012, city and state funding for SYEP decreased by 36% and 58%, respectively.

CTE programs have also seen a slight decrease in funding in recent years. This comes even as CTE education is expanding in the city and more schools are being built. Since the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year, 13 new CTE schools have been established in New York City. During this period of expansion, funding has stayed at around $10.5 million per year. With the same amount of funding and more schools, the number of students attending CTE high schools has decreased.

Table 7: CTE Funding and Enrollment

School year	Funding	Number of Schools[34]	Number of Students[35]
2011 - 2012	$10.4 million[36]	34	25,954
2010 - 2011	$10.9 million[37]	30	26,747
2009 - 2010	$10.4 million[38]	28	27,752
2008 - 2009	$10.4 million[39]	24	27,567
2007 - 2008	$12.7 million[40]	21	28,029
2006 - 2007	$13.9 million[41]	21	28,179



Spotlight on SYEP – *Slots vs. Applicants*

SYEP is a key example of how changes in funding affect the amount of slots that are offered to youth. Over the past five years, while total funding appears to have dropped only slightly, city and state funding for SYEP have decreased significantly, leaving progressively more youth without a job during the summer months. For three consecutive years, SYEP has turned away over 100,000 youth who applied, leaving them to face the arduous job market on their own. From 2009 to 2012 the number of participants has decreased by 56 percent. Only 22 percent of applicants were accepted to the program in 2012 compared to 58 percent in 2006.[42]

Table 8: SYEP Facts and Figures

Calendar Year	Total Funding	Applicants	Participants	Difference	Acceptance Rate
2012	$43.0 million	132,593	29,416	103,177	22.2%
2011	$43.5 million	131,119	30,628	100,491	23.4%
2010	$51.5 million	143,169	35,725	107,444	25.0%
2009	$67.5 million	139,597	52,255	87,342	37.4%
2008	$54.0 million	103,189	43,113	60,076	41.8%
2007	$56.5 million	93,750	41,804	51,946	44.6%
2006	$50.4 million	71,670	41,650	30,020	58.1%

As Table 8 shows, the percentage of applicants who are able to participate in SYEP has dropped precipitously over the past several years. SYEP uses a lottery to choose participants. With less youth being accepted each year, this has led to some frustration among youth who are not accepted. One of the focus group participants expressed this frustration:

"I also think the lottery should change too. It shouldn't be a lottery…People really need that job, but don't get picked because you wasn't chosen." – Focus Group Participant #3

V. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

FUREEous Youth and CDP used a participatory action research methodology to gather data about access to jobs for youth, challenges youth face in finding jobs, and the effectiveness of youth job development programs. FUREEous Youth members participated in the research project, after being trained by CDP, by assisting in designing the project, administering surveys, and developing research findings and policy recommendations. FUREEous Youth and CDP collected data from 320 surveys, one focus group, and secondary research.

Surveys: Members and summer volunteers at FUREEous Youth administered 320 short surveys during July and August 2012 to youth ages 14 to 24 that live in the greater Downtown Brooklyn area, focusing on Community Boards 2 and 6 and Assembly District 32. Survey respondents were approached randomly on the street by surveyors. The survey focused on collecting data on the need for job and workforce development programs aimed at youth, the specific job skills youth would like to develop and the type of trainings in which youth would like to participate.

Focus Group: FUREEous Youth conducted a focus group with youth who had participated in SYEP to collect their stories and document their experiences in the program. To ensure anonymity, focus group participants' names are not used in this report

Secondary Research: CDP conducted secondary research on federal, state, and local job and workforce development programs geared towards NYC youth, including programs administered by the NYS Department of Labor, the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, and the NYC Department of Education. This research included identifying possible agency data relevant to the research questions and attempting to acquire that data through a FOIL request. CDP also analyzed census data to estimate relevant demographic information about youth in Downtown Brooklyn and New York City.

Table 9: Demographics of Survey Respondents Compared to Youth Ages 13 to 24 in Brooklyn and NYC

		Survey Respondents	Brooklyn Youth[43]	New York City Youth[44]
Gender	Female	50%	49%	49%
	Male	50%	51%	51%
Race/Ethnicity	African-American/Black	60%	35%	25%
	Caucasian or White	6%	29%	25%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	5%	11%	12%
	Asian/Indian	6%		
	Latino/a	31%	23%	34%
	Other	4%	2%	3%
Languages you speak	English	95%	53%	51%
	Spanish	19%	18%	28%
Currently in middle or high school		52%	41%	40%

VI. RESEARCH FINDINGS

The data from this research indicate that while jobs are extremely important for young people's development and future economic success, youth encounter many challenges when trying to find work due to a lack of experience, education, and training. City and State youth job development programs do exist to assist youth in the job search process, but these programs are insufficient to adequately address youth unemployment in New York City. The programs are underfunded, under-advertised, and underutilized. The data clearly show that youth benefit from having jobs but the programs that exist to help youth obtain jobs need to be used more effectively and given more funding.

1. Youth desperately want and need jobs but can't find them on their own.

- 34.9% was the unemployment rate for youth ages 16 – 19 in New York City in March 2012;[45]
- 54% of all survey respondents reported they did not have a job;
- 77% of all survey respondents reported they were looking for a job;
- Of those who did not have a job, 97% were looking for one.

Approximately 200,000 youth aged 17 to 24 in New York City live in households that fall below the poverty line.[46] In Fort Greene and Downtown Brooklyn the situation is even worse; about 32 percent of youth are living in poverty.[47] The financial constraints of their parents are felt by many youth, as two of the focus group participants stated:

> *"As young people … like me I also pay my own bills … I try to pay everything for myself, you know give my parents a break." - Focus Group Participant #2*

> *"I was working with my family and I wasn't making money at first that's why…I decided to go to SYEP because I wanted to make money that summer." – Focus Group Participant #3*

Youth in these situations recognize the economic need of their families and attempt to find jobs, but have difficulty securing employment. High unemployment rates among youth indicate the immense challenges that youth face in trying to find a job. As a result of this difficulty, many youth are searching for any job they can get.

2. It is difficult for youth to find good jobs that pay well and provide a quality work experience.

In searching for any job they can get, youth often end up working jobs that do not pay well and that generally provide a poor working experience with little opportunity for career advancement.

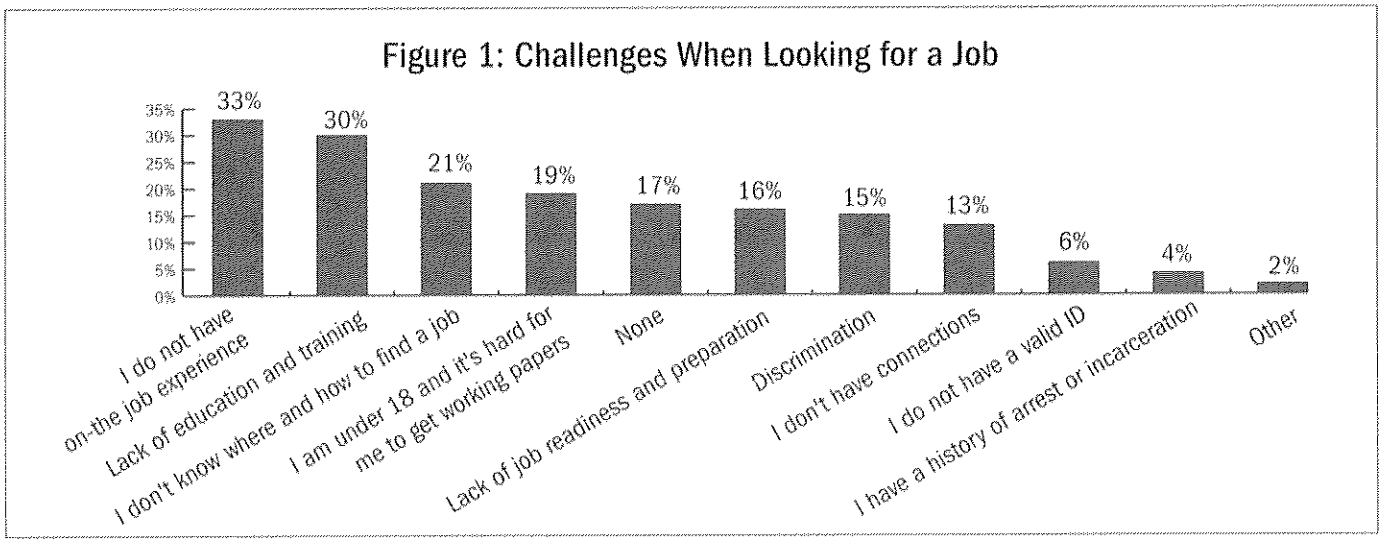
- $13.43/hour is the self-sufficiency standard for one person living in Brooklyn;[48]
- 43% of survey respondents were paid at or below the minimum wage of $7.25/hour;
- 16% of survey respondents said they were underpaid and/or didn't get enough hours;
- 52% of youth that we surveyed had a job but were still looking for another job, indicating some level of dissatisfaction with their current job.

The low pay from these jobs does little to help youth improve their economic situation. In addition to low pay, these jobs do not provide youth with a quality work experience. Youth reported being discriminated against in their current jobs for a variety of reasons. Age discrimination was the most common form of discrimination young people reported facing.

3. Youth face many challenges when trying to find jobs.

In attempting to find work, youth must overcome many barriers and challenges. In our survey, youth identified lack of education and training and not having on-the-job experience as the greatest of these challenges (see Figure 1).

- 33% of survey respondents reported they do not have on-the-job experience;
- 30% or survey respondents reported they lack education and training;
- 21% of survey respondents reported they don't know where and how to find a job;
- 19% of survey respondents reported they are under 18 and it's hard for them to get working papers.



Without prior experience youth have a difficult time proving they have the basic skills needed in the workplace. Accordingly, employers believe youth do not have the critical thinking, communication, and professional skills necessary to thrive in the workplace, and are thus reluctant to hire young people.[49] Youth want opportunities to prove themselves to employers, but are often not given the chance.

> *"I'm willing to ask that they give me a chance. Instead of telling them what I can do, show them. Because in some ways, actions always speak louder than words." – Focus Group Participant #4*

Youth believe that if they were just given the chance they could show that they have the skills to function in the workplace. But with little prior experience, many barriers are placed in front of youth in the search for a job.

4. To compete for the quality jobs that are available, youth want basic job readiness skills and training.

Youth recognize that they have barriers to employment and want the skills and training to overcome these challenges so they can compete for quality jobs. Unfortunately, there are few opportunities for youth to gain the training and skills they need.

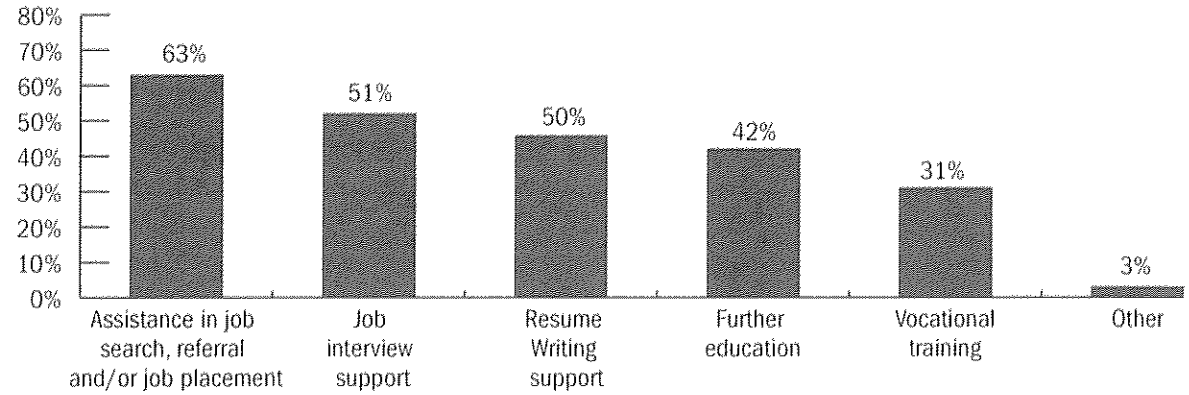
- 65% of survey respondents reported they did not have any training or certification.

This theme also came out in the focus group when a participant, explaining why he participated in SYEP, stated:

"I applied for FUREE [SYEP placement] because I was trying to get experience for my resume and for my college." – Focus Group Participant #2

Youth also want help with the job search process. Due to a lack of experience, youth need help with finding, applying, and interviewing for jobs. For the survey, youth identified several services they thought would be most helpful in getting them a job.

Figure 2: Job Trainings Youth Want



Spotlight on SYEP – ***The education and training components of SYEP need to be modified***

In SYEP, a total of 17.5 hours are devoted to education and training focusing on topics such as work readiness, financial literacy, career exploration, post-secondary education options, and health education.[30] While these topics are what youth want, they have not proven to be very useful or helpful because of the manner in which they are presented. Youth are crowded into large rooms, making it difficult to hear and gain much benefit from the activities presented.

"We were in a big auditorium...but I couldn't really hear what the person was saying because it was a lot of kids being very loud." – Focus Group Participant #3

If youth are to benefit from the educational component of SYEP, providers need to take a more active role in ensuring that the hours are spent in a productive manner that engage the participants. Currently, youth tend to find these hours tiresome and repetitive rather than valuable.

5. Job development programs are the best shot youth have at getting jobs, but they aren't reaching enough people.

Given the challenges youth face when trying to find work, job development programs provide youth with the best opportunity for finding employment. In our survey, youth were asked what method they used to look for jobs. Youth who used job placement programs were more likely to have jobs than youth who used other methods, as shown in Table 10.

Table 10: Youth Job Search Methods and Their Effectiveness	
	Have job
Job Placement Program	52%
Employment Agencies	50%
Family members or friends	40%
Fliers or "Now Hiring" Signs	37%
School	35%
Contact the employer directly	35%
Job Fairs	31%
Postings online and in newspapers	21%

Short-term and Long-term Impacts of Job Development Programs

Youth who participate in job development programs enjoy the experience and gain valuable knowledge and skills for later in life. In the short-term, a study by NYU shows that participation in SYEP increased school attendance, especially among youth who had lower previous levels of attendance.[51] Furthermore, SYEP participants were more likely to attempt and pass the Regents exams for English and Math.[52] Research also shows that job experience before the age of 25 is an important indicator of later workforce success and financial stability.[53] In the CTE programs, 97 percent of teachers agreed and strongly agreed that their students indicated increased skills as a result of CTE.[54] There are, of course, significant long-term economic benefits from this type of academic improvement.

The immediate economic benefits of a job are also very important to youth and their families. Youth in SYEP used the money from their summer jobs to buy clothes and food, collect savings, and help with household expenses.[55] Most youth are spending the money they earn in the communities in which they live, bringing immediate economic benefit to their neighborhoods. One focus group participant described the economic benefits – among others – of youth employment stating:

> *"It [expanding SYEP] would definitely help out, guaranteed crime rates would drop, guaranteed productivity, and guaranteed sneaker sales off the maps." – Focus Group Participant #1*

The academic and economic benefits of providing employment opportunities to youth clearly benefit not only the youth themselves, but society as a whole. Jobs keep youth productively engaged in their communities and schools, leading to greater economic success and financial stability later in life.

In our survey, 52 percent of youth who had jobs used job placement programs as one of their search methods. This is a higher rate than any other job search method that youth used. Although job placement programs are the most effective method youth can use to search for jobs, more young people look for employment through their family or friends (47%) and through their schools (29%) than through job placement programs (22%). The most common methods of how youth look for jobs are:

- 47% - through family members or friends;
- 29% - through my school;
- 22% - job placement program;
- 22% - job fairs;
- 19% - fliers or "Now Hiring" signs.

Part of the reason youth are more likely to use methods other than job placement programs to look for work is that they do not know the job placement programs exist. Less than 50 percent of survey respondent had heard of six of the seven job programs listed on our survey (84 percent had heard of SYEP) and 41 percent had only heard of SYEP (see Table 11).

Table 11: Youth Job Development Programs	
	Heard of Program
Summer Youth Employment Program	84%
Job Corps	44%
Youth Adult Internship Program	14%
Youth Works	14%
Career and Technical Educational Programs (CTE)	10%
YouthBuild	10%
One-stop Career Center	7%

While youth like job placement programs and want to participate in them (see Spotlight on SYEP below), they simply do not know they exist. Not enough is done to advertise the existence of the programs and outreach and advertising do not reach enough youth. Most of those who had heard of these programs, did so through their schools and family or friends, not through advertising or outreach. If more youth were aware of these programs, they would have more tools to help them in their search for meaningful employment.

Spotlight on SYEP – ***What people like about the program***

SYEP is one of the most popular of the youth job development programs in New York City. Our survey respondents confirmed this fact: 84 percent had heard of SYEP and 41 percent participated in it. Both of these numbers are significantly larger than any of the other programs offered by the government. SYEP is not only well known, but is well liked among youth as well. DYCD reports that 98 percent of participants in 2012 rated their experience with SYEP 'excellent' or 'good.'[36] Participants in the focus group echoed this sentiment:

> *"I would definitely recommend SYEP, it's a good program overall…Definitely, time management, responsibility, money control, self evaluations. That's what it does for you so it's a great program…" – Focus Group Participant #1*

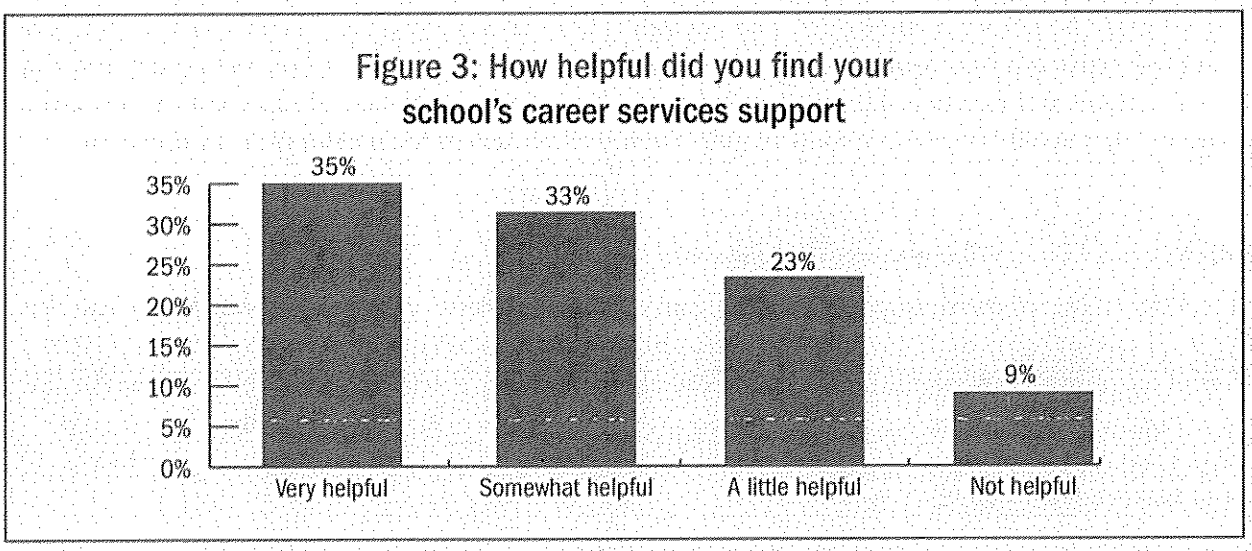
> *"It was helpful for me because I'm not a person who likes to get up when I'm told to get up or when I need to get up so that summer I actually woke up thinking like, 'gotta get up, gotta make this money, gotta get up.'" – Focus Group Participant #3*

Participants enjoy SYEP because it gives them immediate benefits such as money and self-confidence. They also recognize that the skills and experience they gain at their worksites will be useful for finding jobs in the future. Although SYEP could use some changes to make it more useful and relevant for youth, those who participate in the program enjoy the experience.

Schools Not Doing Enough

Schools are a key source from which youth learn about the opportunities available to them. Unfortunately, NYC public schools are not doing an adequate job of providing counseling or career services to support students. However, when students do use the services, they generally find them to be helpful.

- 43% of survey respondents reported their school did not provide any type of job counseling or career services support;
- 35% and 33% of survey respondents who used these services said they were very helpful and somewhat helpful, respectively.



Schools have the ability to significantly assist youth in their job search, but are not taking enough initiative to make students aware of the opportunities available to them.

6. Job programs are not tailored to meet the needs or interests of youth and are not connected to growth sectors.

Youth want to gain the skills they need to help them attain their dream jobs, or at least a career in which they can be successful. Yet the jobs and trainings offered by job development programs are divorced from both the interests of youth and patterns of economic growth. A recent report on CTE programs in New York City found that the programs are not focused on industries that are growing. In fact, CTE programs over-represent fields with small anticipated growth rates and under-represent fields with high growth rates.[57]

- There will be 7,450 average annual openings in the office and administrative support sector in NYC;
  - Only 14% of CTE programs provide training in office and administrative support;
- There will be 6,880 average annual openings in the retail trade sector in NYC;
  - No CTE programs provide training in the retail trade sector;
- There will be 5,980 average annual openings in the hospitality sector in NYC;
  - Only 6% of CTE programs provide training in the hospitality sector.

Table 12: Percent of Programs Offered in Growth Sectors		
Promising Sectors[58]	Annual Average Openings in NYC[59]	CTE Programs[60]
Office and administrative support	7,450	14%
Retail trade	6,880	N/A
Hospitality	5,980	6%
Property maintenance	2,630	N/A
Healthcare	1,410	9%
Transportation	1,060	4%
Telecommunications and Utilities	460	11%

Table 12 shows sectors in NYC that have high anticipated growth rates for the next decade, especially for those without a degree beyond a high school diploma. As shown above, CTE programs do not line up with these sectors. There is also a disconnect between the interests of youth and the types of jobs and opportunities that are available through job programs. This is most readily seen in SYEP, but applies to most, if not all, youth jobs programs.

Spotlight on SYEP – ***Worksites are not relevant for what students want to do long-term***

While SYEP has been successful in providing youth with paying jobs during the summer, the worksites where youth are placed are usually not relevant to their current interests or long-term career goals. According to DYCD, SYEP is intended to "emphasize real-world labor expectations."[61] Unfortunately, it seems that this goal is not being accomplished. Youth do not feel they are getting real-world labor experiences because the worksites are divorced from their interests and goals. Participants in the focus group stressed this point multiple times:

> *"I think it was irrelevant too because all we did was pack up the papers – and place the papers in the printer and check if the bathroom has tissue and that's pretty much it. That's all we did." – Focus Group Participant #2*

> *"The job, it wasn't really relevant for me. It was taking care of kids and we were teaching them and stuff but it's not really what I was like – I didn't even really want to do that at that time." – Focus Group Participant #3*

In 2012, 33 percent of SYEP worksites were at day care or day camps.[62] But when asked what their dream job was, less than 10 percent of surveyed youth responded with professions or careers that specifically involve kids. This points to a disconnect between the types of jobs and careers youth want and what jobs are offered in SYEP.

Figure 4: Types of SYEP Worksites

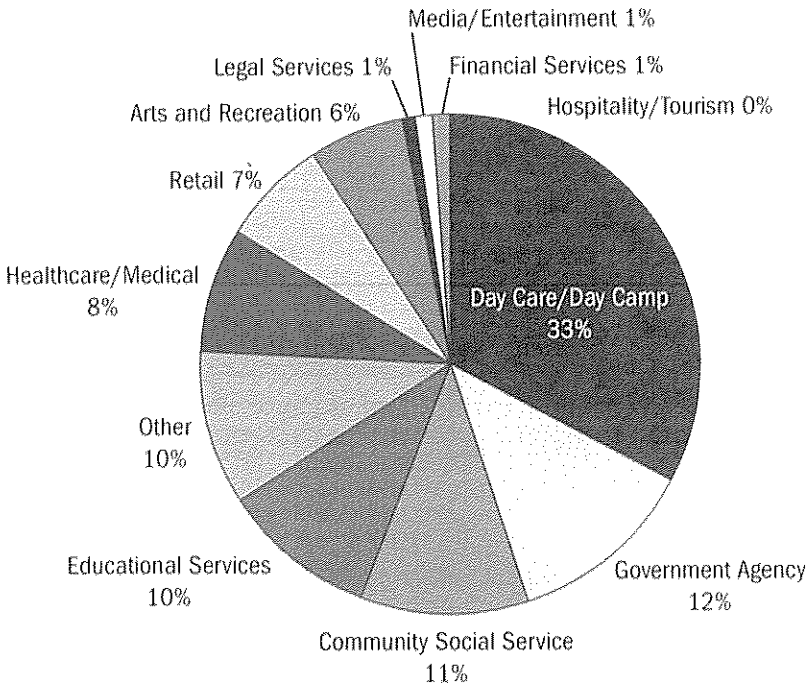
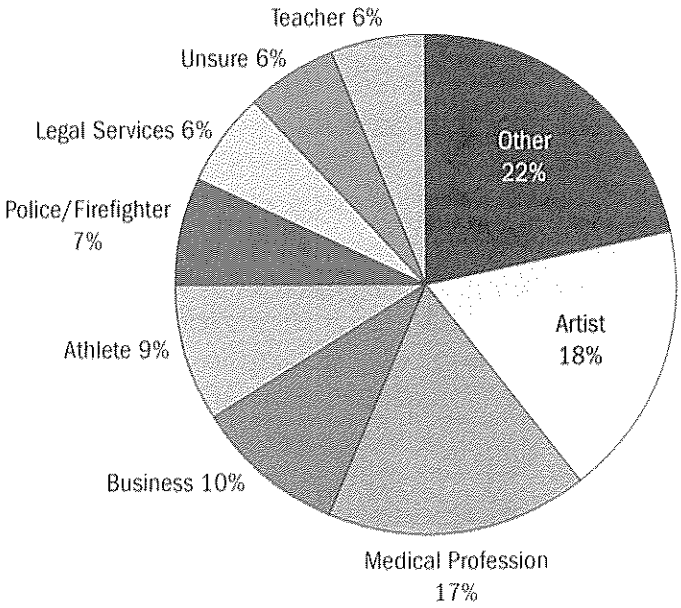


Figure 5: Youth Dream Jobs

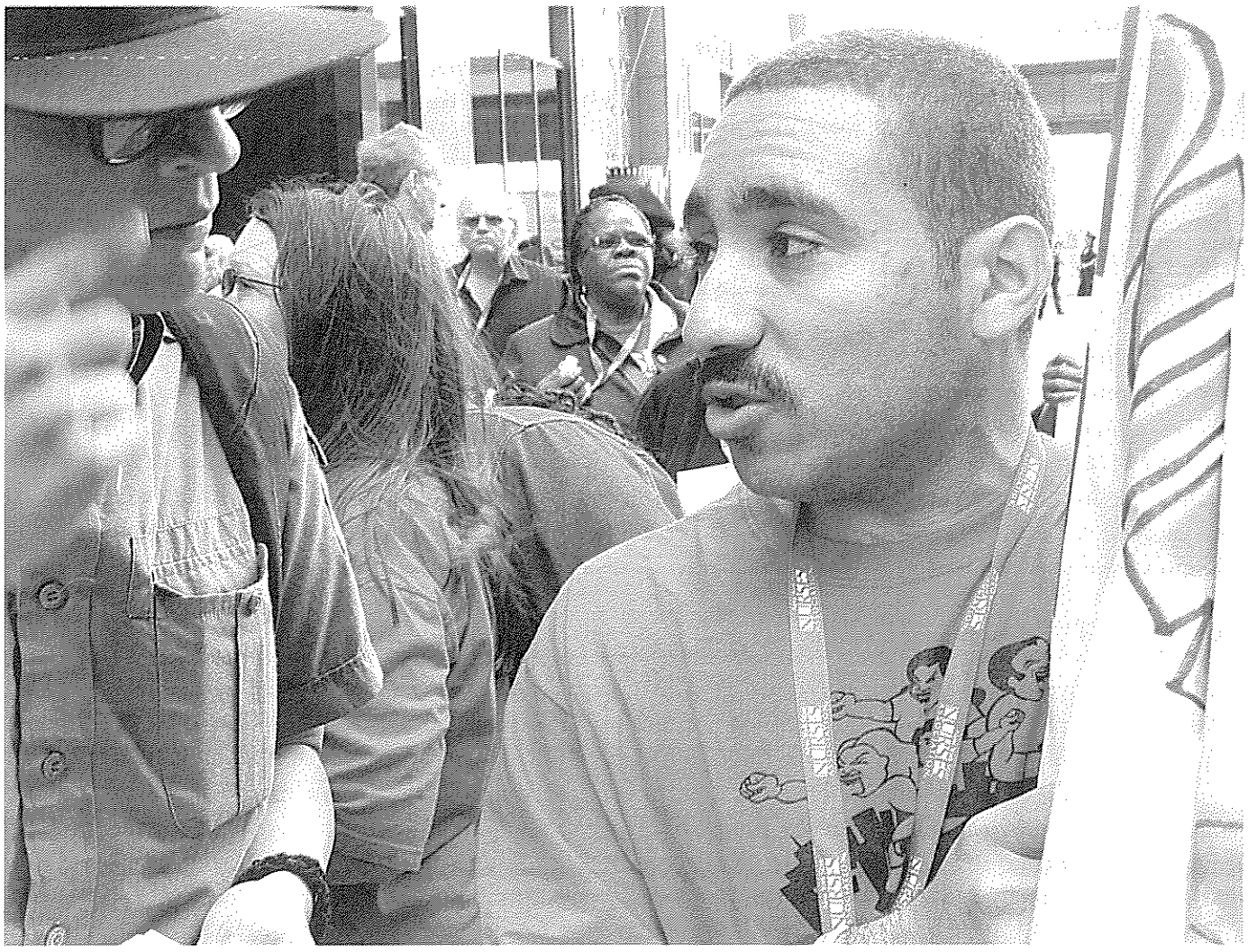


Conclusion

This research documents youth experiences and challenges finding and utilizing opportunities for employment, training and education. Overall, we found:

- **Need for Employment:** Youth unemployment is still sky-high at 19 percent, leaving many youth searching for jobs to make ends meet.
- **Huge Barriers:** It can be hard for youth to find jobs because of their lack of experience, training and education.
- **Job Programs Help:** Job development programs play an integral role in helping youth to find jobs and become economically stable later in life.
- **Job Programs Need Reform:** However, youth job programs need to be expanded and tailored to engage a higher number of youth and meet their employment needs more effectively.

These findings demand action to expand and improve employment, training and education opportunities for youth. Like everyone, youth deserve opportunities to support themselves and their families, but are simply unable to in the current economic climate. Big changes are needed to ensure sufficient opportunities for youth.



VII. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Any changes to existing youth jobs programs must take into account the larger political and policy landscape. A look at the recent funding allocations, administrative changes and the election cycle offers a glimpse at the main obstacles and opportunities for improving youth job development programs.

Insufficient Government Allocations

The federal stimulus package notwithstanding, government divestment of NYC youth employment programs has been rampant over the last decade – just as the demand for such programs has been increasing. This has limited the impact of key youth job programs that have a history of jumpstarting youth careers.

Unfortunately, this trend is poised to continue (see Table 6 on p.7). SYEP funding, in particular, has been targeted by federal funding cuts over the past several years, dropping $10 million since FY11. More recently, federal funding for SYEP through the Community Service Block Grant and the Workforce Investment Act saw a 5% cut as a result of the sweeping federal budget cuts known as the sequester.[63] State funding for SYEP had been similarly declining until FY13 when funding increased to $13.5 million, though still far below the 2007 allocation of $20 million. Thus, the City has footed the bill for much of SYEP in recent years, but even City officials have been slowly cutting funds as City coffers shrink. The City now allocates $20 million to SYEP, more than the State and Federal governments, but still about $10 million less than the FY09 allocation.

These funding cuts have led DYCD officials to decrease the number of SYEP participants by 6,000 slots since 2010. As the anemic recovery continues, youth unemployment is still staggeringly high at 19 percent and many youth vie for the few SYEP slots that are still available. [64]Thankfully, there is still time. On the city level, the final allocations are still being made for FY14, so City officials still have the opportunity to invest in youth job programs.

Impact of Minimum Wage Increase

The NYS legislature recently passed historic legislation to increase the NYS minimum wage to $8.00 per hour in 2014, $8.75 in 2015 and $9.00 in 2016. This is a much needed wage hike for low-wage workers, many of whom are youth, and brings the City more in line with national minimum- and living wage trends. However, against the backdrop of decreasing government funding for youth employment programs, it has the impact of further increasing the costs of running youth job development programs, which usually pay participants minimum wage. Much of the value of this important legislation may be lost for young workers unless elected officials reverse funding cuts and increase program allocations accordingly, in order to offer the same number of participant slots at the higher wage.

Recent DYCD Reforms of SYEP

Shrinking government funding has led DYCD officials to propose changes to SYEP including reducing the length of the program by a week, decreasing the number of educational hours, and making the orientation unpaid. DYCD also proposed to break the program up into 4 different service options: for youth aged 14-15; for youth aged 16-24; for vulnerable youth, and for youth who already have work experience. These changes have been met with varying views, though many are disappointed that the changes will decrease youth earnings and hours of on-the-job experience. Some providers have also argued that splitting up younger and older youth will make placing youth in worksites more difficult, since in the past worksites have only agreed to employ younger youth if they are also able to hire older youth.

Elected Officials Turnover Creates Moment for Change

This year will also see a significant changing of the guard through elections for most local offices in New York City. As always, these elections have dominated the political landscape in recent months and indicate an opportunity for changes to funding and programming for youth job development. The highly contested mayoral election, with its crowded field of candidates, highlights that this is a moment when shifts in youth job programs and funding are possible.

All of the newly drawn City Council districts are also up for grabs this year. While many City Council members are simply seeking re-election, at least 20 new council members will be sworn in as a result of term limits, resulting in the most turn-over in the City Council in more than a decade. It is also expected that there will be 4 new borough presidents, all of whom have significant resources at their disposal that could be funneled to programs for youth. This staggering upheaval of leadership could translate into a big change in funding priorities.

VIII. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The research findings indicate that while the City and State do provide some employment and training opportunities for youth, these programs are insufficient to meet the needs of youth in New York City and need to be expanded and refined. FUREEous Youth members developed the following recommendations to increase access to jobs for young people in New York City.

Recommendation 1: Increase the number of slots available for youth in job development programs. A slot should be available for at least one out of every three youth who applies to one of these programs in NYC. To make this fiscally possible, the NYC Mayor and City Council should shift budget priorities to increase funding for youth job programs and advocate for more funds from State, Federal and private sources.

Recommendation 2: The City and State should advertise the employment opportunities that are available to youth. This can be done by:

A. Creating a website that consolidates job programs, employment services and training opportunities that the City and State provide. This website should have a single application for the programs offered by the City and State, so youth do not have to do guesswork about which programs they are eligible for.

B. Developing a joint advertising campaign between the City and State for this website. This would include online, TV, subway and bus ads.

Recommendation 3: The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) should expand the length of SYEP to 8 paid weeks: 7 weeks at the worksite so young people get a full work experience, and one week devoted to program orientation, job readiness trainings facilitated by the provider or worksite (i.e. resume writing, mock interview) and education hours facilitated by the provider, so they are more prepared for future employment.

Recommendation 4: Worksite assignments in various job development programs should be based on the interests of the young people participating in these programs, as well as on the current and projected trends in job opportunities and growth sectors.

Recommendation 5: The Department of Education should provide a work study program in high schools to allow young people to get more work experience. Students could intern in a work area of the school (office management, maintenance, teacher's assistant, etc.) for class credit towards graduation.

Recommendation 6: DYCD should provide free job readiness trainings. These trainings, separate from job development programs, would be on topics such as resume writing, the job search, and job interviewing which would allow young people to compete for high paying, quality jobs in the future.

Recommendation 7: The Department of Education should provide a career advisor in high schools. This would help young people to find internships and job development programs for which they are eligible. For young people not in school, there should be an advisor available at local libraries. Volunteers from nearby colleges, graduate schools and businesses should act as the advisors and run the program.

IX. CALL TO ACTION

This report highlights the critical importance that job experience and training has for youth. However, the data also show that there are many barriers preventing youth from finding quality jobs. While the government programs that exist to address these barriers have proven to be successful, they are shrinking rather than expanding and are not tailored to meet the interests and needs of youth participants.

We call on elected officials and government agencies to immediately increase funding – in the Fiscal Year 2014 budget cycle – towards programs that focus on youth employment and implement our straightforward recommendations.

We also call on elected officials and government agencies to pro-actively seek guidance from the young people who participate in these programs. These youth are a vital resource because they are directly impacted by program changes and are the true experts on what youth want and need. FUREEous Youth believes that young people should be at the decision-making table, helping to improve these programs, rather than being left out of the conversation.

Taking these basic steps will help build a better future for our city and help ensure economic success for young people.

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June 2013

URBAN JUSTICE CENTER
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

A Report by FUREEous Youth and the Community Development Project (CDP) at the Urban Justice Center

For more information, please contact FUREE

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Testimony of

Carmen Collado, Director of Public Policy & Government Relations
The Jewish Board of Family & Children's Services

At the Finance Committee Hearing on
The Executive Budget

June 5, 2013

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Albert Vann

UJA-Federation of New York

Good afternoon, my name is Carmen Collado. I am Assistant Executive Director of Public Policy and Government Relations at the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services (JBFCS), the largest social services agency in New York City, serving 30,000 clients at 50 locations in all five boroughs, and an affiliate of UJA-Federation of New York.

I would like to thank Councilmember Domenic Recchia for chairing this meeting, the members for their work on this committee and all who have worked to insure access to mental health services for New Yorkers in need.

JBFCS, along with our colleagues in the Mental Health community, is grateful for the mental health initiative funding begun in 2007 to address pressing unmet needs in the human services system and for subsequent renewal of the initiatives. This funding for Autism, Children Under Five, and Geriatric Mental Health has made it possible to provide vital services to many New Yorkers at risk of serious mental illness and developmental issues.

The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services is honored to have been included in each program since the beginning of the initiative and we join our colleagues in requesting full restoration of funding for all three initiatives in Fiscal Year 2014.

City funding has insured that the mental health needs of New Yorkers have been met in critical areas where Medicaid, other federal and state funding and philanthropic support cannot cover the gap. As the lingering recession continues to dampen private giving, and with the current strains on the Medicaid system, we are all relying on the City Council Initiatives to preserve services to vulnerable populations.

A prime example of essential needs met through the City Council Initiatives is the Children Under 5 Mental Health Services. Currently, there is no broad-based system of mental health services for children under 5 and City funding has been a critical base. Now in the 7th year of funding, approximately 3500 young children have been serviced. While innovative programs in this area are not yet baselined, we have seen that they are highly effective and cost efficient.

Most of the mental health disorders that affect older children and adults have their origins in the first few years of life. Intervention and supports provided during these earliest years have the best potential for putting children back on healthy developmental trajectories.

Young children are particularly vulnerable to the negative consequences of exposure to violence at home and in the community, to physical abuse and neglect and to traumatic loss (including the loss associated with placement into foster care). The science clearly documents the toxic effects of chronic stress and trauma on brain development. On the positive side, interventions that begin early can change the balance between risk and protective factors resulting in more favorable outcomes.

Intervention aimed at helping young children learn to control their behavior, develop social skills that enable them to function as part of a classroom group, and focus their attention makes them ready to learn and less likely to fall behind right from the start of their elementary school experience.

For every $1 invested in high-quality early childhood programs, over $8 are returned to society---in the form of reduced rates of crime, grade retention and special education placements, and increased rates of high school graduation and adult earnings.

At JBFCS, city funding for Children Under 5 programs provides for screenings, consultation and services for over 87 children, their parents and 17 teachers and administrators at the 83rd St and 84th St. day care centers of Goddard Riverside Community Services. Our observation, consultation and parent/staff workshop services promoted school readiness for these preschool children identified as at-risk for communication, behavioral, social-emotional, and relational challenges.

Autism is another underfunded issue that Initiative funding has addressed. Recent birth data indicates that 1 in 110 children are on the autism spectrum. These children and their families need a wide range of special services to address the developmental and educational challenges to be faced over their lifetimes. Funding from the city has allowed JBFCS and other agencies to provide a range of critical services: parent training to cope with the unique challenges in managing behavior, navigating the service systems, finding respite services, and planning for the transitions their children will face as they age from childhood to adolescence to young adulthood--each juncture demanding new services for education, training for more independent living, social skills and safety training, housing, and other services.

For fiscal year 2011/2012, as per our application, we identified a training need that would enhance our services and build capacity in our clinics to treat children, teens and young adults on the autistic spectrum who are experiencing mental health issues. In November of 2011, we invited our clinicians to attend a three hour training delivered by The Seaver Center of Mt. Sinai Hospital on treating individuals on the autism spectrum who have a primary mental health diagnosis. In pursuing this project, we discovered that there are almost no mental health agencies currently equipped to accept referrals for individuals with this disorder – leaving private practice as the only option and creating insurmountable financial barriers for families in need.

Over 125 of our clinicians attended this voluntary training, advancing their understanding of the disorder in the ever-changing field and learning updated treatment modalities for clients struggling with anxiety and depression using directive, creative, inventive and proactive approaches. This initial all-clinic training (JBFCS has 16 clinics serving 6500 people at any one time) was followed by a more intensive training for about 60 of our professionals from our clinics in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Westchester sites.

In 2012/2013 we recruited 4 of our clinicians who were trained in 2011/2012 in our effort to build capacity to treat individuals on the spectrum and decided to now train them to run social skills groups for children ages 5-10 years old on the autism spectrum. We launched two social skills groups at two different sites that will run for 22 weeks in total. One site is our midtown clinic, Manhattan West where the children are 7-10 years of age and the other is our Inwood clinic, Manhattan North where the chidren are 5-7 years old. These groups, by design, are small serving 10 children in total. There is also a weekly parent training component as part of the social skills

training curriculum. We are able to state that the 10 parents served have uniformly praised the initiative and already report improvements in their children's ability to socialize and follow instruction.

In January of 2012 we begin the first eleven week series of Music Therapy classes for two different groups of 6-8 children, described as "at risk" but not yet diagnosed, from three different Head Start sites in Harlem. The children are all 3-5 years old and they come weekly for one hour of music therapy. The children all experience difficulty with communication, socialization and regulation. The music therapy classes are intended as a vehicle to provide the children with practice around these issues, this opportunity in some cases leads to more comprehensive testing for spectrum disorders. We also started a Parent/Child group in January that will run for 6 weeks. These children are drawn from our outpatient clinic at the Child Development Center. Most of these children do have "spectrum" disorders although their diagnosis currently is PDD – pervasive developmental disorder.

In 2012/2013 we have continued to deliver music therapy classes on a weekly basis using the same model as last year. We have included a new Head Start site this year and in order to improve attendance have decided to go to their sites where indicated as a preference. We continue to deliver some of the music therapy classes at our Child Development Center. We serve about 18 children weekly from the Harlem community. Since these modules repeat every 10 weeks with some new children included each time, we expect to serve between 30 and 40 children over the course of the 9 months of programming.

Our affiliate organization, The Shield continues to provide a parent training component of the Autism Initiative. We typically host 15-20 parents attend each of our trainings, which are largely focused on the difficulties of raising a young child with autism. We find that parents are looking for practical help: how to play/communicate with their child, how to deal with behavior issues/temper tantrums that embarrass them in public, feeding and toileting problems, raising siblings and balancing needs of many young children in a family, dealing with extended family (which often crosses many cultural lines). Our ability to provide this support group in Spanish is enormously impactful. Our "make and take' sessions that provide parents with visual supports to use at home continue to be immensely helpful to families. We have also been providing assistance with follow-up and advocacy on the NYCDOE reforms and insuring that parents of young children entering kindergarten will get the essential support they need for success in school.

In 2013, The Shield began to provide parent training and training for the volunteer respite staff for a Chinese American Ministry Group in Flushing. In this work, we provide bilingual training utilizing bilingual Mandarin-speaking professionals to provide the training and/or to serve as translators. We have additional trainings scheduled with them in April, May and June.

In Geriatric Mental Health, with the help of funding from the Council, we've been able to provide culturally competent and bilingual/bicultural mental health services to Latino and Jewish geriatric populations, mostly immigrants from countries of the former Soviet Union, the Dominican Republic and Central America. The services we have been able to provide include depression screenings, and workshops on issues such as nutrition, loss and grief, memory, and healthy aging. Just over 1000 seniors attended our workshops in 2013 and we provided depression screenings to over 100 individuals. In addition, we have been able to reach populations that would otherwise be untreated or

underserved because we have been able to provide services in non-traditional settings such as senior centers and places of worship.

In all of these areas, with the City Council's help we have been pleased to see our consumers thrive. It's important that the funding is restored so we can continue this important groundbreaking work.

In conclusion, we urge the City Council to provide consistent support for New Yorkers in need through funding of services. The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services is proud to be a part of a partnership with New York City's exceptional network of Human Services and with our committed leaders in City Government.

June 5, 2013

Fax to: 212-788-7061
Dear Tanisha Edwards,

Members of S.T.A.R., Riverstone Senior Life Services, and the YM & YWHA of Washington Heights would like to thank the committee members representing Aging, Senior Centers, Finance, Consumer Affairs, and Technology for welcoming us to the May 29 Executive Budget Meeting. We understand that you will continue to represent our concerns for restoring homemade hot meals, funding for senior centers, and maintaining Meals on Wheels & Case Management programs. It was important as well that you know what is happening with these "Pop-Up Social Adult Day Programs" in need of monitoring and oversight.

Thank you for representing our concerns and for allowing us to see government at work.

Sincerely,

Ann Votaw, Recreational Therapist at YM & YWHA of Washington Heights
David Johnson, Director of S.T.A.R.
Leidy Jorge, Program Director of Riverstone Senior Life Services

THE COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New York City Council
FY'14 Executive
Budget Hearing
June 5, 2013

Testimony of Coalition for Asian American Children and Families

Hello, my name is **Noilyn Abesamis-Mendoza** and I am here today on behalf of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families. I would like to thank Chair Recchia and members of the Finance Committee and Chairperson Maria Del Carmen Arroyo and the Health Committee for having us here today.

Since 1986, CACF is the nation's only pan-Asian children's advocacy organization, and works to improve the health and well-being of Asian Pacific American (APA) children and families in New York City in three key policy areas: education, health and child welfare. CACF challenges the stereotype of Asian Pacific Americans as a "model minority" and advocates on behalf of underserved families in our community, especially immigrants struggling with poverty and limited English skills. We work with our membership of over 40 community based organizations to promote better policies, funding, and services for East Asian, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander children, youth, and families.

CACF also co-leads the 13% and Growing Coalition, a group of over 45 Asian led and serving organizations that work together to ensure that New York City's budget protects the most vulnerable Asian Pacific American New Yorkers. We are also members of the People's Budget Coalition for Public Health. Members of these coalitions employ thousands of New Yorkers and serve hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Currently, the Asian Pacific American community is by percentage the fastest growing group in New York City, nearly doubling every decade since 1970, and is over 13% of the population. Unfortunately, current levels of public funding for the Asian Pacific American community remain disproportionate to our community's needs.

- 1 out 5 APA children are living in poverty.
- 26.5% of APA's live in poverty, the second highest of all racial groups in NYC.
- APAs have the highest rate (42%) of linguistic isolation meaning that no one over the age of 14 in a household speaks English well.
- 1 out of 4 APA high school students does not graduate on time.
- 1 out of 8 APAs in NYC are uninsured.

CHALLENGES & KEY PROGRAMS

Consider that APA led and serving organizations receive less than 1% in public social service contract dollars and City foundation grant dollars. And yet, while many 13% and Growing Coalition members have long relied on City Council discretionary dollars to bridge the gap and continue to provide vital services in APA ethnic enclaves in Council districts city-wide, our analysis of publicly available budget documents from the FY2013 Adopted Budget revealed that **APA led and serving organizations received only 2.25% of City Council discretionary dollars and 0.32%[1] of all initiative funding.**

With this economic downturn, a cut to our community will have detrimental effects because current resources already do not meet current needs. Cutting vital services will only exacerbate existing financial

[1] 13% and Growing arrived at these percentages based on an analysis of publicly available information in Schedule C of the FY2012 Adopted Budget. Initiatives include both City Council sponsored-initiatives and agency programs.

conditions by creating long term economic and human costs. Unfortunately, many vital programs and services targeting APAs were cut and eliminated from the FY 2013 Preliminary Budget.

BUDGET PRIORITIES

- **Restore $6 Million to HHC Unrestricted Operating Subsidy**- Cuts in the budget of the Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) will have a tremendous impact on thousands of the neediest New Yorkers. HHC is the healthcare lifeline for 1.3 million New Yorkers and serves nearly 500,000 uninsured patients. Of these, 104,000 Asian Americans are patients at HHC facilities. HHC already has a budget deficit of $1.2 billion, have closed clinics, lay-off off workers, and privatizing and contracting out their services. Even though federal aid will be given, HHC's budget will be even more strained because of the recovery efforts due to Superstorm Sandy which negatively impacted Bellevue and Coney Island Hospitals and their Ida G. Israel Community Health Center. Despite the progress we have made nationally through the Affordable Care Act, this is not the time to reduce investment into the safety net locally. Many of the uninsured New Yorkers will gain coverage under the Affordable Care Act, but there will continue to be individuals that will not be eligible or exempt from participation for the Health Benefit Exchange, and so HHC serves as a vital provider to uninsured patients. The funding of safety net providers must be protected as they will continue to offer affordable care for many low-income individuals and families.

- **Restore Council Discretionary Funds** – In New York City, 73% of all Asian Pacific Americans are foreign born. 48% of all Asian Pacific Americans are limited English proficient, and 77% of Asian Pacific American seniors are limited English proficient. Member items, including discretionary for youth and seniors, are important to meeting the on the ground needs of APA community members. These dollars help to fund vital services in local districts and city-wide. These services are implemented by trusted community based organizations that understand the unique cultural and linguistic, social and economic needs of the diverse Asian Pacific American community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Asian Pacific American community is demanding our fair share in the City budget to ensure that our community does not get left behind. Therefore, we put forward the following principles in how our City government should address the financial crisis.

- **Award 10 percent of points in the Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation process for organizations that demonstrate their capacity to provide culturally competent and language accessible services.** It is important for New York City agencies to increase access to vital services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. The Office of Minority Health proposed Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) as a means to correct inequities that currently exist in the provision of health services and to make the services more responsive to the individual needs of all consumers. These standards provide a common understanding and consistent definitions of culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS)[2] and can offer important guidance for New York City.

  Culturally specific community-based organizations are more likely to understand the complex multi-layered challenges and obstacles and appropriately address the needs of racial, ethnic and linguistic populations groups that experience unequal access to services. Without culturally competent and language accessible services, community members may experience delayed access to services in the short term, which can result in costlier interventions in the long term. Culturally specific community-based organizations are also better equipped to form essential relationships and engage their communities in the creation and implementation of services relevant to the diverse and unique

[2] US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health-National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care, March 2001.

needs of the victims. They play a vital role in providing services that are relevant to their communities and address the complexity of needs.[3] With the growing racially diverse population, it is necessary for services to go beyond cultural awareness and knowledge but also ensure providers have appropriate skills and are able to use them effectively in cross-cultural situations.

- **The most vulnerable members of New York must be protected during these tough financial times.** Budget cuts should not be detrimental to New Yorkers with the greatest needs. According to New York City's Center for Economic Opportunities, Asian Pacific Americans have the second highest rate of poverty at 26%. The City must preserve services to our most vulnerable, including recently arrived immigrants, low-income, limited English proficient, children, and seniors. Services such as workforce development, ESL, adult literacy, and child care all promote economic self-sufficiency. Therefore, cuts to these vital services hinder the participation of these communities to contribute fully to the economic growth of the city.

- **The City should ensure that small CBOs that serve emerging immigrant communities be supported.** These organizations are rooted in and have the trust of their communities. They are often the first to become aware of and respond to the community's needs in a culturally competent and linguistically appropriate manner. However, the funding for services these small CBOs provide are often not base-lined and are the first to be eliminated. These include Council discretionary dollars in the form of member items and initiatives such as Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI), Adult Literacy, and Domestic Violence and other Emergencies (DoVE). A decrease in funding to these grassroots organizations translates into a diminished capacity to address the community's needs.

I would like to thank the Health Committee for its time, and we look forward to working with the City Council on these important issues.

[3] US Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, OVW Grants to Enhance Culturally Specific Services for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Stalking Program, March 2012

FOOD BANK FOR NEW YORK CITY
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Testimony prepared by

Triada Stampas

for the

Committees on General Welfare and Finance

on the

Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget

June 5, 2013

on behalf of

Food Bank For New York City

INTRODUCTION

Good afternoon and thank you, Chairperson Palma, Chairperson Recchia and members of the Committees on General Welfare and Finance. My name is Triada Stampas and I am the Senior Director of Government Relations at Food Bank For New York City. Food Bank appreciates the opportunity to present testimony today to the City Council about the Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2014.

First, Food Bank For New York City thanks you and your colleagues for your continued attentiveness and advocacy in the face of threats to federal nutrition assistance programs in Congress over the past several years. This City Council's vocal advocacy in opposition to cuts to the federal programs that underpin our nation's safety net against hunger has been an example for local legislatures across the nation.

In addition, Food Bank thanks the City Council for your ongoing efforts to address the issue of hunger and ensure all New Yorkers have access to affordable, nutritious food. The City

Council's consistent support for increasing enrollment of eligible households in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and expanding the in-classroom School Breakfast Program, as well as funding to expand the supply of food available at emergency food programs are especially appreciated and needed as the recession has left elevated levels of food poverty that four years of recovery have yet to bring down.

Food Bank For New York City works to end hunger and food poverty by increasing access to nutrition, education and financial empowerment. Approximately 1.5 million New York City residents rely on our programs and services. We distribute food and provide support services to approximately 1,000 emergency and community food programs citywide; manage nutrition education programs for schools and community-based organizations (CBOs); operate income support programs including SNAP outreach & enrollment assistance and one of the largest Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) programs in the country; and conduct research to inform community and government efforts to end hunger in New York City.

With indicators of need in New York – including poverty, food insecurity and unemployment – remaining entrenched at high levels since the start of the recession, the Congressional reauthorization of the Farm Bill this year takes on added importance, as it will set policy and funding for the safety net of federal nutrition assistance programs for the next five years. This is happening at a time when our country is facing the first across-the-board reduction in SNAP benefits in the history of the program – and only Congress can stop the cuts. **The decisions made in Washington, DC this year could deprive vulnerable New Yorkers of millions of meals.**

In this context, protecting and strengthening our city's anti-hunger resources is particularly urgent. Regrettably, the Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget does not reflect a response to this looming threat.

NEW YORK CITY'S CURRENT ANNUAL MEAL GAP: > 200M

Nearly 1.9 million New York City residents (almost one in five) rely on SNAP to keep food on the table, with an average monthy household benefit of $280 – or approximately $3.4 billion annually.[1]

SNAP is our nation's first line of defense against hunger. A federal entitlement program, SNAP now provides food assistance to 47.6 million, or one in seven, Americans.[2] Available to any household that meets the eligibility criteria (most importantly, income and immigration status), SNAP is *countercyclical*, meaning when the economy shrinks, it has the flexibility to grow to meet rising need. SNAP enrollment in New York City first exceeded 1.8 million residents – approximately one in five – in December 2010 and has not dropped below that threshold since, evidence that recession has left elevated need in its wake.[3]

SNAP is highly targeted to reach people in need. A large majority, 85 percent, of SNAP households have income below the poverty level. One in five has no cash income whatsoever;

[1] New York City Human Resources Administration (HRA). February 2013.
[2] United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). February 2013.
[3] New York City Human Resources Administration (HRA). February 2013.

for them, food stamp benefits are their *only* resource to purchase food. Nearly half of SNAP recipients (47 percent) are children.[4]

Despite SNAP and other nutrition assistance programs (like school meals, and the Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children, or WIC) nearly one in three New York City residents struggles to afford food, and approximately 1.4 million New Yorkers rely on emergency food – evidence that a meal gap remains.

The meal gap represents the translation of a food budget shortfall into a number of meals. Analysis by Feeding America finds an annual meal gap in New York City of 218 million meals.[5] This is the number of meals that the resources of food-insecure New Yorkers fall short of providing on an annual basis.

Emergency food is our last line of defense against hunger. When cash, benefits and the generosity of family and friends have been exhausted, the emergency food network of food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters is the resource of last resort for those struggling to keep food on the table. Approximately 37 million Americans rely on emergency food at some point over the course of the year.[6]

In New York City, more than 1.4 million residents rely on the network of approximately 800 food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters across the five boroughs that provide emergency food to neighbors in need. This network, which relies heavily on unpaid volunteers to do its work, is already struggling to meet heightened levels of need that have persisted past the end of the recession.[7] Since the start of the recession, 250 food pantries and soup kitchens across the five boroughs have closed their doors,[8] leaving those remaining to confront elevated need. In the past year alone, more than three quarters of food pantries and soup kitchens have seen an increase in the number of visitors; unfortunately, nearly two thirds have reported running short of food to meet the need.[9]

Given these statistics, it should come as little surprise that the efforts of the emergency food network fall short of completely providing for the needs of food-impoverished New Yorkers. Indeed, after the last soup kitchen meal is served and the last pantry bag distributed, an annual meal gap of between 70 and 100 million meals remains.[10]

If the first line of defense is weakened, the last line will not hold. Approximately half of those relying on emergency food in New York City already receive SNAP.[11] In a city where food costs are considerably higher than average – and where competing costs of living, like rent and utilities, are higher than average as well – monthly SNAP benefits often fall short. Indeed, among participants at food pantries and soup kitchens who receive SNAP, 84 percent report their benefits do not last past the third week of the month.[12] When SNAP benefits are reduced, it is expected to drive higher need at food pantries and soup kitchens – both among those already

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[4] USDA. Characteristics of SNAP Households: Fiscal Year 2011. September 2012.
[5] *Map the Meals Gap.* (2012). Feeding America.
[6] Feeding America.
[7] By economists' definitions, the recession, which began in December 2007, ended in June 2009.
[8] *Serving under Stress Post-Recession: The State of Food Pantries & Soup Kitchens Today.* (2012). Food Bank For New York City.
[9] *Ibid.*
[10] Food Bank For New York City estimate based on FEEDNYC data.
[11] *Hunger Safety Net 2007.* (2007). Food Bank For New York City.
[12] *Ibid.*

turning to emergency food for help, and for those who may find themselves in need of emergency food as a result of their reduced allotment.

While current efforts by emergency food providers narrow a 218-million meal gap to between 70 and 100 million, looming SNAP cuts coming from Washington could suddenly and drastically widen that gap beyond the point our city's current emergency food system can hope to address – up to 410 million meals annually.

NOVEMBER 1, 2010: 60M MEALS LOST

This November, sweeping cuts to SNAP benefits will take effect, resulting in the estimated **loss of 60 million meals** for New York City residents. The cuts will affect every SNAP recipient, reducing household benefit amounts by approximately 10 percent, an estimated annual loss in New York State of more than $200 million.[13] A household of three will lose, on average, $20-25 per month in SNAP benefits – or nearly $15 million per month in New York City alone.

These cuts are the result of a deal struck in December 2010 in order to pay for a $0.06 per meal increase in federal school lunch reimbursements as part of the "Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act." While the White House promised to work with Congress to restore the funds before the cuts could take effect, the promise has yet to be fulfilled and November is fast approaching.

THE FARM BILL: UP TO 132 ADDITIONAL MEALS LOST

The Farm Bill, reauthorized by Congress every five years, represents our nation's most significant investment to prevent hunger. Title IV, the Nutrition Title, constitutes more than 70 percent of the spending in the Farm Bill and includes two key programs: SNAP and the federal Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

Reauthorization negotiations provide an opportunity to strengthen anti-hunger programs; instead, leaders in both the Senate and the House of Representatives are promoting bills that would cut SNAP and worsen hunger in New York City. *Any* cuts to SNAP will deprive low-income individuals and families of much-needed food assistance and force more vulnerable New Yorkers into an emergency food network ill-equipped and under-resourced to meet additional need.

IN THE SENATE
The Senate Farm Bill, the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2013 (S. 954), contains a $4.1 billion cut to SNAP benefits over ten years. This cut would impact residents of federally subsidized housing in 15 states, including New York.

In New York City, 190,000 households would experience a decrease in SNAP benefits as a result of this cut.[14] They are residents of New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) housing developments – where the average household income is approximately $23,000[15] – or recipients of federal Section 8 vouchers. The New York State Office of Temporary and Disability

[13] "SNAP Benefits Will Be Cut for All Participants in November 2013." Dean, Stacy and Dottie Rosenbaum. (2013). Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
[14] According to analysis by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Across New York State, approximately 275,000 households would be affected.
[15] NYCHA Facts.

Assistance estimates conservatively that the loss of federal benefits across the state would be at least $150 million per year. New York City households affected by this cut would lose $90 to $130 per month.

It is estimated this bill will result in the loss of 69-100 million meals in New York City in its first year alone, **increasing New York City's meal gap to as much as 378 million meals**.

This loss would not only harm vulnerable New Yorkers, it would have a broader economic impact as the buying power for food in many communities would be significantly decreased. It is estimated that every billion dollars cut from SNAP benefits results in the loss of more than 13,000 jobs.[16]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Senate bill represents the low end of proposed cuts. In the House, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM), H.R. 1947, includes $20.5 billion in proposed SNAP cuts. These cuts include those prescribed by the Senate, as well as elimination of benefits targeted to certain working families and seniors. Nationally, approximately two million SNAP recipients would lose benefits entirely. As a result of the loss of SNAP, more than 200,000 children will lose access to free school meals.

In New York City, these cuts would collectively result in the estimated loss of 100-132 million meals in New York City, increasing the meal gap to as much as 410 million meals — **nearly double today's meal gap.**

It should be noted that both bills contain added funding for TEFAP and for community food security projects – and in both bills, the increase in meals from these programs is utterly dwarfed by the loss to SNAP.

BUDGET AND POLICY STRATEGIES TO PREPARE NYC

The decision to stop SNAP cuts in the Farm Bill, as well as to restore the SNAP cut scheduled to take place in November (through the federal budget process) must take place between now and the end of the federal fiscal year: September 30, 2013.[17] As noted earlier in this testimony, the City Council's vocal advocacy on behalf of the vulnerable New Yorkers who stand to lose from these cuts – predominately children, seniors and working families – has been commendable.

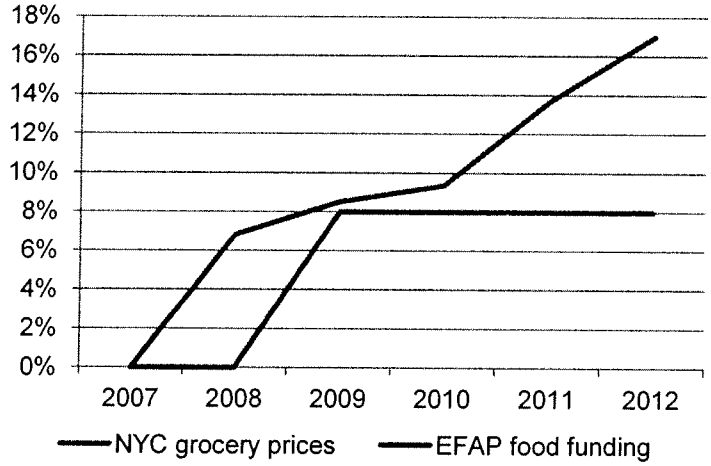
Whatever Congress decides, closing our City's meal gap necessitates a thoughtful, multi-pronged strategy. With key federal programs under threat, New York City's anti-hunger resources – primarily those that bolster SNAP enrollment and fortify our emergency food system – will be more vital than ever.

EMERGENCY FOOD
New York City's Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) is a major source of food for our city's emergency food network. Because the emergency food system relies heavily on donations, variety, quality and availability of product can vary widely. EFAP plays an especially

[16] Center for American Progress.
[17] Congress could theoretically elect to reverse the November SNAP cuts at any point up to the moment they take place; the current legislative vehicle for restoration, however, is the federal budget.

important role because it provides a steady year-round supply of nutritious food for the approximately 500 food pantries and soup kitchens that participate. EFAP provides food from all five food groups, and all EFAP food meets the City's rigorous nutrition standards. In addition, EFAP is an important source of kosher food.

Nevertheless, baseline food funding for the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP), now $8.4 million, has lost value as food prices have risen, and does not reflect New York City's growing need since the start of the recession. Since the start of the recession, poverty in New York City has grown 13 percent, and unemployment has been steadily higher than pre-recession levels. As the graph below illustrates, the cost of food in New York City has increased more than 16 percent since the start of the recession[18]; after a single baseline funding increase in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, however, EFAP funding has remained flat.



- We ask the City Council to increase of EFAP baseline food funding to $15.4 million in order to allow the program to "catch up" to rising poverty and food costs, as well as adjust for the current inadequacy of the food supply, which only allows food pantries to provide 5.8 meals in a typical pantry bag – far short of New York State's nine-meal standard.

- City Council initiative funding that supplements EFAP (the Food Pantries – HRA Initiative) meets the same nutrition standards and provides a supply of food from all five food groups, but the funding amount has likewise remained unchanged. We ask the City Council for a proportionate increase from the current $1.3 million to $2.4 million, to similarly allow the Food Pantries – HRA Initiative to catch up to current need and costs.

SNAP OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT

While SNAP cuts will reduce the benefits of those already participating, it remains important to ensure that eligible New Yorkers who are not enrolled in the program avail themselves of the benefit – particularly emergency food participants.

- We encourage the Council to work with HRA to expand the number of sites engaged in SNAP enrollment via the Paperless Office System (POS). This allows trained staff at CBOs to facilitate and submit SNAP applications at sites throughout the city – relieving the burden on HRA office staff in the process.

[18] Consumer Price Index data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, FY 2007-2012.

- In addition, we ask the Council to increase funding for SNAP outreach within the Food Pantries – HRA Initiative, as it effectively targets emergency food participants who are known to need food assistance.

SCHOOL MEALS

Maximizing participation in school meals, through adoption of Universal School Meals (USM) and expansion of Breakfast in the Classroom, will not only provide hundreds of thousands of New York City children with access to a nutritious breakfast and lunch, it will also help close New York City's meal gap. In addition, preventing the planned increase in school lunch costs from the current price of $1.50 to $2.50 will help keep the meal gap from growing.

New York City now has two options for providing USM: the Community Eligibility Option (CEO) and Provision 2. CEO would provide full federal reimbursement of school meals in high-need schools through a reimbursement formula indexed to the proportion of students who are categorically eligible for free school meals through their participation in other federal means-tested programs (like SNAP, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, and Medicaid) or because of their status as homeless or in foster care. This is a fully paperless process that entirely does away with the submission and processing of school meals applications – thus reducing administrative resource needs. Currently, CEO is only being implemented in District 75 schools.

Provision 2 provides USM on a four- to six-year cycle, with school meals applications required only in the first year of the cycle. While it does not entirely eliminate the administrative burden associated with the forms, it significantly reduces the burden. Provision 2 has been implemented in hundreds of New York City public schools and has been shown to increase school meal participation, most dramatically in participating high schools. Regrettably, the Department of Education has chosen to reduce the number of schools receiving USM through Provision 2 at a time of such high need.

- We encourage the City Council to work with the Administration to expand New York City's participation in USM through these two options.

New York City's public schools have offered universal, free school breakfast since 2004. The breakfast period is scheduled 30 minutes before the start of the school day. Unfortunately, the inconvenience of the program and the stigma associated with participation – the only children in the cafeteria before the start of the school day are those whose parents could not provide them a breakfast at home – conspire to keep participation low. Indeed, in a survey of large school districts, New York City most recently ranked 55th of 57 in school breakfast participation among low-income students.[19]

Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC) has been a strategy successfully employed by large urban school districts to ensure low-income students start the day with the nourishment they need. In New York City, BIC is a principal's decision, and while more than 300 schools offer it in at least one classroom, few offer it schoolwide.

- We thank the City Council for the passage of Resolutions 910 and 911 of 2011, calling for expansion of BIC and we encourage the Council to work with the Administration, as well as with principals in each district, to make broader expansion of the program possible.

[19] *School Breakfast: Making It Work in Large Districts, School Year 2011-2012.* (2013). Food Research and Action Center.

The Department of Education has testified that it plans to increase the cost of school lunches from $1.50 to $2.50. While this will not affect those households of lowest income, this 67 percent increase in cost will place a considerable strain on the household budgets of those families that are just outside the eligibility threshold for free or reduced-price school meals, which is 185 percent of the federal poverty level (approximately $35,000 for a household of three). Because the income thresholds for federal nutrition assistance programs do not account for regional variations in costs of food or other basic needs, they tend to exclude individuals and households that experience difficulty affording food in cities like New York, where costs of living are particularly high. Indeed, research finds that 29 percent (113,000) of food-insecure children in New York City are likely not to be income-eligible for federal nutrition assistance programs.[20]

- We ask the City Council to restore funding in the FY 2014 budget in order to prevent the proposed 67 percent increase in the cost of school lunches.

SUMMER MEALS

The federal Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), commonly known as Summer Meals, provides free lunch and breakfast to children up to (and including) age 18 during the summer months when access to school meals is lost. Summer meals are available at certain schools, as well as at other community-based locations, including parks, pools, playgrounds, libraries and emergency food programs. While New York City's participation rates are higher than the national average, they remain woefully low relative to participation in school meals – summer meals participation is less than 30 percent of the participation of free and reduced-price eligible children in the school meals program.[21] There are clearly opportunities to increase participation and help shrink our city's meal gap.

- We encourage the City Council to work with the Administration to identify appropriate sites to act as summer meals sites, as well as to encourage your constituents to take advantage of the availability of free meals for children throughout the summer.

SUMMARY

Looming cuts to SNAP can be anticipated to have profound repercussions on services supported by State and City funding. The FY 2014 Executive Budget, however, does not prepare our City for these repercussions; instead, it makes no changes in some areas and proposes measure that would be detrimental in others. The negotiations to finalize the FY 2014 budget are an opportunity for the Administration and the City Council to work together in a forward-thinking way and to marshal our city's resources wisely. As a city, this is a responsibility we share. We will not be able to say we weren't warned.

[20] *Map the Meal Gap 2012: Child Food Insecurity by County in 2010.* (2012). Feeding America.
[21] *Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status Report 2012.* (2012). Food Research and Action Center.

NewYork-Presbyterian
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Testimony in Support of School-Based Health Center Funding
by Janet Garth, Manager-CCHE
New York-Presbyterian Hospital

June 5, 2013

Regarding the New York City Council Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget

Good afternoon. My name is Janet Garth and I am the Manager of the School-Based Health Center Program at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Together with my colleagues at the school-based health centers (SBHCs) at Roosevelt High School (Bronx), Franklin K. Lane High School (Brooklyn), George W. Wingate High School (Brooklyn), and our Percy E. Sutton Educational Campus (Harlem/Manhattan), I wish to express our deep concern about the proposed cuts proposed to the Department of Health's School Health Program which has provided operating funds to these four health centers since their inceptions in 1990. We urge you to restore the $775,000 funding for these health centers which together serve 13,000 students.

The threatened City funding leverages other third-party, grant and institutional funding to provide comprehensive integrated primary medical, preventive, and mental health care to children in their schools and help to prevent costlier interventions in the future. Cutting the funding that has sustained services at these school-based health centers undermines NYC policy investments made in teen pregnancy prevention and school-based health promotion. SBHCs are an evidence-based strategy to deliver critical preventive care which has been found to:

- Increase health care access and wellness visits by students;[1]
- Reduce inappropriate emergency room use;[2]
- Reduce hospitalization and increase school attendance;[3]
- Attract harder-to-reach populations, especially minorities and males, and do a better job at providing crucial services such as mental health care and high-risk behavior screens;[4]
- Significantly decrease absenteeism and tardiness among adolescents receiving counseling;[5]
- Increase willingness to seek medical services, especially for students reporting depression and past suicide attempts, and those seeking information on pregnancy prevention; and[6]
- Have higher rates of screening/counseling on sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, condom use, and birth control relative to Medicaid and commercially insured adolescents.[7]

[1] Kisker EE, Brown RS. Do SBHCs improve adolescents' access to health care, health status, and risk-taking behavior? *J Adol Health 1996;18 335-343*
[2] Key JD, Washington EC, Hulsey TC. Reduced emergency department utilization associated with SBHC enrollment. *J Adol Health 2002; 30 273-278*
[3] Lune N, Bauer EJ, Brady C. Asthma outcomes in an inner-city SBHC. *Journal of School Health 2001; 71(9),9-16*
[4] Juszczak L, Melinkovich P, Kaplan D. Use of health and mental health services by adolescents across multiple delivery sites. *J Adol Health 2003;32S 108-118*
[5] Gall G, Pagano ME, Desmond MS, Perrin JM, Murphy JM. Utility of psychosocial screening at a SBHC. *J Sch Health* 2000;70 292-298
[6] Riggs S, Cheng T. Adolescents' willingness to use a SBHC in view of expressed health concerns. *J Adol Health. 1988 9: 208-213.*
[7] "Adolescents Use and Trust Their School-Based Health Centers." New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers. Klein JD, Handwerker L, Sesselberg TS, Sutter E, Flanagan E, Gawronski B. Measuring quality of adolescent preventive services of health plan enrollees and school-based health center users. J Adolesc Health 2007;41 153-160

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Our SBHCs provides services to students without any charge to the student's family and without regard to their insurance carrier or ability to be reimbursed by third-party payer. Students at our Percy Sutton Campus are established patients at NYPH and have the access to and benefits of laboratory testing, pharmacy services, and specialty evaluations and consultations. NYPH provides the financial and institutional support to provide pharmacy oversight and management of medications; lab testing; specimen transport; IT technology and equipment to support an electronic medical record and access to lab results; and regulatory and patient safety oversight. Since as many as 50% of visits are not reimbursed by third party payer, we fear the loss of this long standing NYC DOHMH funding may make the increased cost of supporting our SBHC prohibitively high.

If the increased financial vulnerability of these four SBHCs forced their closure, the City would have to provide a minimum set of mandated health care services and require the placement of a Registered Nurse. At an approximate cost of $100,000, the services of a school RN cannot match the comprehensive integrated medical and mental health services which will be lost. The proposed annual cut would net the City very little in annual savings with a terrible loss in vital services to our students.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to continuing to work with you to safeguard the future of our city by helping children achieve academically and lead healthy, productive lives.

Testimony of Frank Proscia, M.D.,
Executive Director of Doctors Council
Before the New York City Council Health Committee Executive Budget Hearing

June 5, 2013

Good Afternoon. My name is Frank Proscia and I am the Executive Director of Doctors Council SEIU which represents thousands of doctors in the Metropolitan area.

As a union for doctors at New York City's public healthcare facilities, our top priority is patient care for New Yorkers, especially underserved New Yorkers. In 2012, our doctors at HHC facilities served more than one million patients, approximately 40 percent of whom were uninsured.

We know that HHC and the City are facing a deficit, but we also know that public healthcare services have been cut to the bone. Any more cuts would be penny wise and pound-foolish.

At stake in this fiscal 2014 budget are child health clinics, and critical outreach programs such as infant mortality reduction and children's mental health services. We strongly oppose any calls for reducing services and staff at our safety net facilities and hospitals.

With respect to DOHMH, the Mayor's proposed fiscal 2014 budget represents the continuation of troubling policies aimed

at the shrinkage of programs serving low income, medically underserved communities.

Over the years, DOHMH has placed an increasing focus on analyzing and publishing data, as well as advertising, rather than providing direct patient care. We are troubled by proposed staffing cuts that include one doctor at the East Harlem Asthma Center and two physicians in the HIV program.

The overall health of New Yorkers, particularly children, has suffered. Our children are increasingly being denied access to primary care, immunizations, and mental health services.

Commissioner Farley believes that city funding is not critical to the survival of four school-based health centers serving 6,500 children. And while we are glad to hear that school vision screening funds have been restored, we fear that if the Council does not restore the budget cuts to the school-based health clinics, those programs will go the way of the school dental health program eliminated several years ago.

DOHMH claimed that children's oral health could be addressed through community-based care rather than in schools, but DOH never followed up with even one of the 17,000 kids who used the program to see if they were indeed being seen and treated.

We would also like to address concerns about the impending layoffs of medical staff at the Vernon Baines Barge Center (know as VCBC), a correctional facility in the Bronx housing 800

inmates. Doctors Council SEIU represents those doctors and we have serious concerns with the City's move to layoff the 58 dedicated medical staff of VCBC and subcontract care out to a private vendor called Damian Family Health Services.

We believe that this vendor does not have the expertise, qualifications or staff to do the difficult work of providing healthcare in a medium to maximum-security facility.

The medical staff at VCBC is dedicated to serving a challenging population in a difficult environment. Laying off the medical and dental staff to bring in an apparently inexperienced new vendor puts the health and safety of the inmates and staff at risk. Furthermore, according to DOHMH, the new staff is not expected to receive healthcare or pension benefits.

We strongly urge that the Council further examine this pending contract.

Thank you for your time today.

Carmen Gonzalez

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Jun 05, 2013

To the Members of the New York City Council
City Hall
New York City

RE: STEPS & RAPP Program, June 5th, 2013

Dear Committee,

My name is Mrs. Carmen Gonzalez and I'm writing to voice my opposition to the dissolution of the RAPP Program.

RAPP, which stands for Teen Relationship Prevention Abuse Program, has played an integral part of my son's life while he has been in Truman High School. During the years while my son Ernesto, Jr. attended Truman High School, he was privileged to be part of this program that not only enabled him to get assistance with destructive behaviors, but also taught him how to redirect his anger. While he was at Truman, my family encountered many trials and tribulations and my son found himself with no one to turn to as many children often do. Having the RAPP program afforded him the opportunity that neither his father, nor I could provide because unfortunately other personal family issues and our busy work schedules would not allow. The RAPP program gave Ernesto a way of venting. It also taught him how to redirect his anger and steer himself into a positive direction.

Many parents find it difficult with our busy work schedules, and lives to have the time to sit down to listen to what's going on in the minds of our children. As unfortunate as this may sound it is a sad reality that we must deal with in our every day. These programs are our backbones. As it is often stated "it takes a village to raise a child", well in this case it did and still does. The RAPP program has done miracles for our family. We don't want to think what could have happened had we not had the support of the RAPP program to intervene with our son and help him to develop into the proud graduate that will now pursue studies in college. Ernesto states that because of the RAPP program he is more inclined to give back to his community, something the RAPP program has instilled in him. This makes us extremely proud of him. We know that we owe this program many thanks for our son's turn around. This is why we will continue to fight and do all we can to support the RAPP program and leave no stone unturned to do so.

In conclusion, we ask that you continue to support the STEPS and RAPP program and that you remember that this program is vital for teaching our children the prevention of violence, abuse, destructive behaviors, and for developing healthy relationships. As stated in the description of the program: The RAPP program "fosters a school climate with zero tolerance behavior", which in light of the numerous school shootings throughout the vast different states, we can't afford to cut this program out. We don't want anymore Virginia Tech, and Columbine's. This program not only helps redirect students in a positive direction but also to channel this energy into something positive. Therefore we will continue to support the RAPP program and fight to keep it implemented within our schools. We are grateful for all the services you provided for our son Ernesto.

Sincerely,
Mr.& Mrs. Ernesto & Carmen Gonzalez
Truman High School 2013 Graduate
RAPP Program participant.

LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE WORKING POOR

TESTIMONY

ON

FISCAL YEAR 2014 EXECUTIVE BUDGET

PRESENTED BEFORE:

THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

PRESENTED BY:

Kenneth Rosenfeld
DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES
NORTHERN MANHATTAN IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION LEGAL SERVICES

JUNE 5, 2013

Good afternoon. My name is Kenneth Rosenfeld and I am the Director of Legal Services of Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation Legal Services, a member of the Legal Services for the Working Poor coalition. Thank you for the opportunity to testify this afternoon.

The Legal Services for the Working Poor coalition is made up of five civil legal services providers--CAMBA Legal Services, Housing Conservation Coordinators, MFY Legal Services, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation Legal Services and the Urban Justice Center. We provide comprehensive civil legal services to working New Yorkers who otherwise could not afford an attorney. Together we have a combined history of serving New Yorkers for over 125 years. Annually, we help over 30,000 New Yorkers.

Our coalition was created almost 10 years ago with support from the City Council. Over the years, we have been able to address the civil legal services needs of working poor and other low income New Yorkers. The working poor are typically individuals whose financial situations are only marginally better than our poorest citizens, and who cannot afford an attorney when faced with a legal problem, such as a foreclosure, unpaid wages, bank account seizure, a denial of government benefits, including unemployment compensation or food stamps, or a non-payment petition from a landlord. Problems like these threaten to send struggling New Yorkers into downward spirals of need and crisis from which some may never escape.

I don't use the term "crisis" lightly. Superstorm Sandy is a prime example of how our legal services offices responded to legal needs of people in crisis. Our organizations staffed numerous clinic sites across the city to first educate residents about their rights after the Superstorm. We then helped people apply for necessary assistance where eligible and finally provided legal information and representation to individuals unjustly denied financial assistance.

The work done by our agencies with respect to the Superstorm is in addition to the traditional legal services that our offices provide daily. An example of our traditional legal services work is when Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation (NMIC) assists Mr. F, who works full time, is being sued for eviction by his landlord, falsely claiming he is subletting his apartment. This baseless claim is in retaliation for the client filing a complaint with DHCR. The client had a rent reduction order based on lack of repairs and the landlord did not acknowledge the reduced rent and insisted that the tenant owed the full rent. The landlord was eventually forced to give the credit due but is now is trying to evict Mr. F and his family. NMIC lawyers have filed a cross-motion to dismiss the eviction case and for and summary judgment. This is just one example of how legal services work provides critical legal services.

Last fall, Chief Judge Lippman reconvened a task force comprised of bar, business, and labor leaders that looked at the problem of unmet need for civil legal services in New York State, and found that even with current funding, legal services organizations meet no more than 20% of the need of low and moderate income for civil legal services. In response,

Judge Lippman has proposed increased funding in the state judiciary budget to continue to address the unmet need but, in the meantime, much of our existing funding base is under siege. Moreover, the funding the Chief Judge proposes does not address the legal needs for the working poor population that we serve.

This year, as he does every year, the mayor has proposed a budget with no funding for civil legal services. In response, in past years, the Council has added money to the budget for civil legal services through the civil legal services initiative, although in recent years there have been cuts in this funding. It is important to recognize that this Council funding for Legal Services for the Working Poor is the only funding that specifically targets the civil legal needs of working people to ensure continued self-sufficiency for families struggling to survive in New York City.

Needless to say, when we are already unable to meet the legal services needs of many of the people who seek our help, cuts in funding serve only to increase the gap between the demand for our assistance and the help we can actually provide. The human consequences of our inability to meet the demand are dire: children whose families have been wrongly denied unemployment benefits, or public assistance, or food stamps go hungry; families whose homes could be saved through aggressive foreclosure or eviction defense become homeless; people with disabilities are denied access to the disability benefits they need to live in dignity; and workers who have been cheated of wages by unscrupulous employers go without redress.

Moreover, the Chief Judge's task force continues to document that funding for civil legal services is a good investment in purely fiscal terms. Relying on comprehensive data compiled by the State's Interest on Lawyers' Accounts (IOLA) Fund, the task force concluded that civil legal services representation brings over $300 million in federal benefits into New York's economy each year and that it saves state and local government over $100 million in avoided social services costs.

In addition to all the work the Chief Judge is doing to provide funding for civil legal services needs for low income New Yorkers, none of that funding is available to serve the Working Poor New Yorkers whose income exceeds 200% of poverty. That is why this funding from the City Council is critical for the working poor New Yorkers.

In light of a need that continues to grow as New Yorkers try to cope with this economic crisis, in light of the human toll when civil legal services needs go unmet, and in light of the positive benefits of civil legal services funding for the City's budget and its economy, we urge the Council to once again step in to restore and increase funding for the civil legal services initiative overall and for the Legal Services for the Working Poor coalition, in particular..

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to testify.

THE COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FY 2014 Executive Budget Hearing
June 5, 2013
Prepared by Vanessa Leung, Deputy Director

My name is Vanessa Leung and I am the Deputy Director for the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF). On behalf of the 51 Asian-led and Asian-serving community and social service organizations that comprise our membership I write to urge the Council to **1.) properly oversee the impact of the reductions from federal sequestration on services to families and children; and 2.) restore funding for Early Childhood Centers and After School Centers.**

Established in 1986, CACF is the nation's only pan-Asian children's advocacy organization. Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of Asian Pacific American children and families. CACF challenges stereotypes of Asian Pacific Americans as a "model minority", and advocates on behalf of underserved families in our community, especially those struggling with poverty and limited English skills. With our membership of over 50 community based organizations, CACF promotes better policies, funding, and services for Asian Pacific American children and families in New York City. CACF also co-leads the 13% and Growing Coalition, a group of over 45 Asian led and serving organizations that work together to ensure that New York City's budget protects the most vulnerable Asian Pacific American New Yorkers.

CACF would first like to thank the New York City Council for holding this important hearing on the Mayor's Executive Budget. During these difficult times, families need access to quality child care programs as well as neighborhood-based preventive services that provide families the resources to build family stability and secure child safety. In addition, alternatives to foster care must be fully supported. Securing a funding source that is stable, sustainable, and sufficient to meet the needs of at-risk children and families is of particular concern for Asian Pacific American organizations because current levels of public funding remain disproportionate to our community's needs. In addition, Asian Pacific Americans' ability to access child welfare and other human services is further compromised by language and cultural barriers. It is therefore imperative that preventive services are provided by culturally competent agencies in the preferred languages of at-risk families.

BACKGROUND

Asian Pacific Americans are by percentage the fastest growing community in New York City, doubling every decade since 1970 and constituting close to 14% of the population. Of the over 1 million Asian Pacific Americans in New York City, 1 out of 2 Asian Pacific American children are born into poverty, 78% of Asian Pacific Americans are foreign-born, and 28% speak little or no English. According to the Mayor's Center for Economic Opportunity, the poverty rate for Asian Pacific Americans is 26.5%, the highest rate of all racial groups. Despite this rapid population growth and these disparities, Asian Pacific Americans are often not connected to vital social services and seen as a lower priority for attention and resources. For example, less than one percent of City social service contract dollars and foundation grant dollars go to our community.

According to 2008 data from the State's Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), there are approximately 31,600 children receiving mandated preventive services in New York City, of which 0.9% are Asian, and 16,200 children in foster care, of which 0.5% are Asian.[1] It is important to note that while the total number of families in the New York City child welfare system decreased in the decade from 1999-2009, the percentage of Asian Pacific American families in this system increased during this period.

[1] "2008 Monitoring and Analysis Profiles with Selected Trend Data: 2004-2008," New York State Office of Children and Family Services, 2008. Available at http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/reports/2008%20Monitoring%20and%20Analysis%20Profiles%20NYC.pdf.

Though their numbers may be small, the barriers Asian Pacific American (APA) families face in navigating the child welfare system are significant:

- **Language:** Many APA and other immigrant families who come into contact with the child welfare system struggle with limited English proficiency (LEP). In its own language access and policy implementation plan, ACS recognized nine "priority languages" based primarily on the high frequency of requests for child welfare and child care services in these languages. Five of these "priority languages" were Asian: Chinese, Arabic, Korean, Bengali, and Urdu.[2]
- **Culture:** APA families may engage in child rearing and disciplinary practices that reflect the cultural norms of their countries of origin, but are considered potentially harmful here.
- **Lack of familiarity:** APA families are often uninformed about child welfare laws, the role of ACS, or the availability of resources for at-risk families. For undocumented families, this lack of familiarity is exacerbated by the fear that interacting with government agencies will result in punitive action or even deportation.

As a result of these barriers, Asian Pacific Americans experience great difficulty in communicating with ACS and other child welfare staff, understanding and exercising their rights, and accessing critical support services that strengthen families and improve child safety.

Early childhood and after school programs serving the Asian Pacific American community often provide additional support to immigrant families to ensure these families understand child welfare laws and have the support they need to keep their families together. Many programs are based in the community and have the bilingual and bicultural staff able to communicate and build the trust to be an invaluable resource for families.

RECOMMENDATIONS

ACS has attempted to improve services for Asian Pacific Americans, including developing a "language access policy and implementation plan" in accordance with Executive Order 120. However, despite the good intentions of the agency there is still a significant need for linguistically appropriate and culturally competent services in the child welfare system. With over 100 languages and dialects in the Asian Pacific American community, emerging populations such as the Tibetan community, are interacting with a system with limited capacity to meet their linguistic and cultural needs. We must do more to ensure that all Asian Pacific Americans can obtain the supports they need to keep their families together and their children healthy and safe. Therefore, CACF calls on the City Council to fight to maintain the capacity of the child welfare system to serve families in need of preventive services, and to improve the capacity of the child welfare system to serve APA families. **Given the federal sequestration resulting in $1.1 million reduction in child welfare services, we ask that the City Council remain vigilant to ensure that this reduction will not negatively impact services to children and families.**

Through the Early Learn contracting process, many long existing and trusted providers with excellent track records lost their contracts but kept their doors open through City Council restorations in the FY2013 budget. **We urge that funding for these programs are restored in the FY2014 budget and baselined in order to stabilize their funding and ensure that they can continue to serve the communities they have been serving for decades.** Many of these programs serve families from low-income neighborhoods and immigrant communities, and these programs have the bilingual and bicultural staff necessary to properly support not only the children, but the families. These programs have taken years to develop strong community roots that should not be underestimated and undervalued. With language accessible and culturally appropriate services, these programs remain a vital connection for

[2] "Language Access Policy and Implementation Plan," New York City Children's Services. Available at http://www.nyc.gov/html/acs/downloads/pdf/lap_acs.pdf.

families to access other important support services that will ultimately avoid costlier interventions in the future. Specifically, we ask for the following after school and child care funding restorations:

- **Restore $66.2 Million to After School programs** – Currently, the Out-of School (OST) system serves over 56,500 children and youth in elementary, middle and high school programs with $121.4 million. As a result of consistently being placed on the chopping block the past three years, the City Council has funded $50.9 million in OST funds for 29,700 slots, $4.4 million for 5,600 Beacon slots and $1 million for 733 NYCHA Cornerstone slots. However, in November, $10 million was cut decreasing OST slots by 5,316. Restoring and baselining $66.2 million would allow the system to maintain the after school programs that are crucial to this city.

- **Prevent $59.6 Million in Cuts to Child Care** – These programs not only support working families, but also provide early education, helping to lay the foundation for future school success. The Mayor proclaimed that children are the 'future of our world, city and country', highlighted the need for a better education system, and yet proposed a $59.6 million dollars in cuts to child care that will put almost 9,000 children at risk.

In addition, federal sequestration resulted in $3.1 million reduction in the Child Care Development Fund further reducing funding for child care services. We ask that the City Council continues to play a key oversight role on how these reductions will impact services.

We hope that the City Council will be a champion for New York City's children. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 4:40 PM
To: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: Fw: Budget Hearings on NYC Parks - please see the attached

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From: Kateri Jochum [mailto:katerijochum@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 04:21 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Cc: David, Berreby <david.berreby@gmail.com>; charnjiv brar <chrubrar@gmail.com>; Rebecca Freeman <rebeccaleefreeman@gmail.com>; Feliciano Steve <dirty2fish@yahoo.com>; King, Hassan <Hassan.King@parks.nyc.gov>; Todd Seidman <tseidman@mac.com>
Subject: Budget Hearings on NYC Parks - please see the attached

Dear Ms. Edwards

The Red Hook Boaters is a volunteer organization that provides free kayaking at the waterfront of Louis Valentino Jr. Park in Red Hook, Brooklyn. Our mission is to help people get on the water and enjoy the New York Harbor, and to instill a sense of protection for our unique coastal environment by maintaining the small-boat launch site from which we operate.

Throughout our eight years in Red Hook, we have worked hand-in-hand with the New York City Parks Department. It has been a mutually beneficial relationship: they helped us establish a program that gives thousands access to the waterfront at Valentino Pier every year. In turn, we help them maintain the beachfront and keep it clean. Our volunteets have already picked up dozens of bags of garbage that would otherwise be filling up the beach. Most recently, we received a grant from Partnerships for Parks to purchase a new container for our kayaks, which was severely damaged during Hurricane Sandy. Without their help, we would not have been able to reopen our program, which has served thousands over the past eight years. But due to continued budget cutbacks, we realize that the Parks Department had to rely more and more on volunteers like us for maintenance.

We are disturbed by the information that more cutbacks may be in sight. As a weekly presence in the park during the summer, we witness first hand how important the work of the Parks Department is for Red Hook. The neighborhood houses one of the oldest subsidized housing complexes in the country, but in recent years, Red Hook has grown to become a diverse transitional neighborhood. The parks offer Red Hook a place where residents of all walks of life come together. In the Red Hook pool, they do their laps and cool off. At the Red Hook fields, they compete in friendly games of baseball or run the track. At our Valentino Pier, families and friends have picnics in the grass ... and of course, share the waterfront on our beach and in our kayaks. The Parks Department makes sure these spaces are clean and welcoming, the trees and grass cared for, ensuring that the groups have a place to come together. At the 20th Red Hook Fest last week, hundreds came to celebrate the rebirth of the community after the devastation of Hurricane Sandy ... in the park.

Our city's parks are more than just beautiful green oases in a concrete jungle. Their free and open spaces are a fundamental thread that help weave the diverse people and cultures of New York city by allowing them to have shared experiences in shared places. New York needs a strong Parks Department to continue this work. Please ensure that budget cuts do not get in the way.

Best
Kateri Jochum
Red Hook Boaters

New York City Council
Executive Budget Hearing
June 5, 2013
Submitted Statement of New Yorkers for Parks

New Yorkers for Parks (NY4P), the citywide independent organization championing quality parks and open spaces for all New Yorkers in all neighborhoods, calls on the Bloomberg Administration and New York City Council to restore funds in the proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) expense budget for essential summer staff and Job Training Participants (JTPs), who are critical to the maintenance of parks citywide. Specifically, we ask the Council to restore $30.283 million for 129 Seasonal Associates, 30 Playground Associates, 42 Pool Associates and 850 JTPs.

With 414 new staff positions proposed, the FY14 expense budget is the best to come forth since 2008. However, even while creating these new jobs, hundreds of other essential positions are excluded in the budget. Unless these positions are funded, DPR cannot properly maintain the city's 1,700 parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities during their most heavily used season. In addition, four pools would remain closed all summer – Wagner in Manhattan, Faber in Staten Island, Fort Totten in Queens, and Howard in Brooklyn – and all DPR outdoor pools would have to close two weeks early.

NY4P also implores the City Council and the Administration to add $2 million to the FY14 budget for removal of approximately 8,000 stumps from sidewalk tree pits. For the fourth consecutive year, the proposed budget includes no funding – not a single dollar – for stump removal, though stumps are ubiquitous citywide, especially in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, which led to the loss of thousands of street trees. Stumps not only create safety hazards for pedestrians, they preclude new trees from being planted that would increase New York's tree canopy and promote a healthier, more sustainable city.

Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 7:38 PM
To: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: Fw: Statements for tonight's testimony

----- Original Message -----
From: Gendell, Stephanie [mailto:sgendell@cccnewyork.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 06:47 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Subject: Fw: Statements for tonight's testimony

And this is another set. Thank you!

----- Original Message -----
From: Jodi Connelly [mailto:jconnelly@hispanicfamilyservicesny.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 06:33 PM
To: Gendell, Stephanie
Subject: Statements for tonight's testimony

Hi Stephanie,

Here are a few statements:

"After School provides young learners with a safe space to grow, take risks, and develop social skills. Outside of the multiple choice bubbles of a standardized test, students are given a chance to achieve success on their own terms. This builds confidence in our young people an provides them with opportunities to practice critical thinking skills. - John stanesco

After school is important to me because knowing my children are In a safe environment allows me to work and support my family. The academic support my eldest daughter received enabled her to go to a honors high school program. My youngest daughter received a scholarship to a private school and my other daughter volunteers with the after school program. These opportunities would not have been possible for my children without the support if the coalition for Hispanic family services after school program. Dania Perez

After school keeps our children in a safe environment and teaches them different communication skills, artistic disciplines and provides homework help to my child. - Jan

Laura Paris: As the director of the Arts and Literacy After School and Summer Program of the Coalition for Hispanic Family Services, I have had the privilege of seeing the enormous impact of the OST System upon children and families. Last year Our students' attendance at all 5 of our schools was over 10 percent higher than the average school attendance! This was consistent in 3 different neighborhoods with very different

demographics. We all know that improved attendance translate into increased graduation rates and economic possibility for our children. I believe that this increase in attendance is due to the freedom OST programs have to make learning fun and engage different learning styles through the arts. I believe it is also due to the close connections OST programs make with parents due to our community roots. Our programs make a difference and need to grow, not shrink!

The arts and literacy after school program not only serves to enrich our children's lives academically but artistically and emotionally as well. In addition to learning through the arts, the program provides families and children with art therapy and other support as needed. We believe that in order for children to succeed, their families need to have the support and encouragement of a solid community. During my tenure as a site director of an OST program we have helped many families escape situations of homelessness, domestic violence and hunger. I hate to think about what may have happened to these families had there not been OST funded programs to offer them support and encouragement in their time of need. Jodi Connelly

Thank you!

Jodi

##########
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Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 7:38 PM
To: 'sgendell@cccnewyork.org'
Cc: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: Re: Statement for Public Hearing

Sure

----- Original Message -----
From: Gendell, Stephanie [mailto:sgendell@cccnewyork.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 06:47 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Subject: Fw: Statement for Public Hearing

Hi. This is from an after-school provider who couldn't stay at the hearing. Can you submit this for the record?

----- Original Message -----
From: Melissa Wilhoit [mailto:mwilhoit@hispanicfamilyservicesny.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 06:26 PM
To: Gendell, Stephanie
Subject: Statement for Public Hearing

Having worked in the CHFS's Arts & Literacy After School for over ten years, I have seen the huge impact after school programming has on the lives of children and their families. It is not only that they improve academically but their self-esteem increases leading to higher rates of success in everyday life. Students that I taught when I first began working in after school are now attending college and coming back to work as group leaders in our program.
As I am now preparing to be a parent myself I cannot fathom living and working in a community where after school services are not available.

Thank you,

Melissa Wilhoit
Brooklyn Borough Director
Arts and Literacy
##
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##

Date: 6/6/2013

To: Tanisha Edwards

From: K Webster, RPCC/Sarah Roosevelt Park Community Coalition

Pages: 3 including cover

To: 212-788-7061

From:

Phone: 212-925-7937

Message:
Tanisha Edwards

fax testimony on the City Council public hearing on the Executive Budget as proposed by the Mayor.

City Council Hearing on Executive Budget
Committee on Finance
Public Testimony
June 5, 2013 @ 4:00PM
Council Chambers, City Hall

Sara Roosevelt Park Community Coalition

City Council Hearing on Executive Budget
Committee on Finance
Public Testimony
June 5, 2013 @ 4:00PM
Council Chambers, City Hall

June 5, 2013

My name is K Webster President of the Sara Roosevelt Park Coalition. Thank you for this chance to speak about the importance of insisting on funding priorities that benefit the larger public, and therefore everyone, of our City.

I've been a resident, gardener, parent, writer and parent and community organizer around the LES and Chinatown for three decades now. The community, police, teachers, DOH, principals and teachers of the DOE, Fire Fighters, Parks and Police worked hard and literally risked their lives to wrest our neighborhood from drug dealers, pimps and blight in the time I've lived here. It was a hard won fight, but win we did.

Out of that we created M'Finda Kalunga, the Wei Mei bird sanctuary, a running track, playgrounds, ball courts and fields, a low-income senior center, water fountains, a CSA, a bike repair program, children and senior gardening programs, Green Job employment workshops, Festivals (Juneteenth, Moon, Sukkot, Halloween) Housing Forums, Daycare play areas and HIV AIDs and Domestic Violence Survivor places of respite.

This was done in partnership with the people of this neighborhood, City employees and City funded non-profit organizations. We continue on that basis – making a better neighborhood. Sometimes City agencies lead the charge, other times Non-Profit agencies do, and sometimes the neighbors do. We have supported one another well. Not without disagreement – it's part of the richness of collaboration – we don't agree all the time but we never forget our common goals.

That's our past. Our future will, in part, be determined by the decisions this City makes in the coming times. Though funding is in some ways a small part of our collaborations it is a vital one. Lack of resources thwart progress when it is nonexistent or stingy. It comes with real human costs.

We cannot afford to rest on our laurels. We have a climate crisis on our hands, which Sandy made obvious. We have a youth crisis – Father Greg Boyle called it: "a lethal

absence of hope" among our youth. The DOE, Parks, Police, Fire, hospital staffs and non-profits all are relied upon to tackle these issues. All of them rely on the City for basic funding needs.

Now is a time for a big vision for the future of our City. Now we must make a conscious decision to be proactive in finding solutions. Now we must marshal every resource we have and with all deliberateness point ourselves towards mitigating climate change and encourage fresh thinking and action on jobs, housing, youth, business and industry in our City.

We must gather the resources from those who have them in abundance and not pretend that the idea of trickle down has worked. We must not allow Big Banks, mega corporations or wealthy citizens special tax breaks and loopholes to stint on their fair share of support for this City. It is not a time for offshore tax havens that insult the hard working people of this City with such greedy hoarding in a time of economic hardship. Especially when these are so often the very people who engineered the economic mess we are in.

Private/public partnerships have been suggested as the solution for raising funds. But this is not a private city – we all enjoy the public air, water, greenscape, streets, transportation, and the productivity and safety provided by workers in this city. We, the public, want our resources to be distributed through our public engines –our elected Government. To do that we need to fill public coffers.

We do not want to be dependent on the largesse of the wealthy. Because no matter how well intentioned it is fundamentally corrupting to democracy.

There is vast wealth in this city – we are not broke. We, the people, have made our wishes well known- to insist that all who benefit so fully from this city be required to be generous in return. We do not think that pleading poverty in the midst of this much abundance is going to be heard as a legitimate excuse for impoverishing our schools, fire housing stock, police and parks.

Thank you.
Yours,
K Webster
President
Sara Roosevelt Park Community Coalition

TESTIMONY

In Support of Restorations to the Department of Cultural Affairs FY14 Budget

By Virginia P. Louloudes

Executive Director

Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York

520 Eighth Avenue Suite 319

New York, NY 10018

My name is Virginia (Ginny) Louloudes and I am writing to you on behalf of the Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York and New York City's 355 non-profit theatres, to request that the Council restore the nearly $68 million cut by Mayor Bloomberg to the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs' budget.

Thanks to funding from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New Yorkers attend free Shakespeare in the Park (not just by the Public Theater, but by New York Classical Theatre as well). Theater Breaking Through Barriers provided performances and design opportunities to artists with different abilities, and they rehearse at A.R.T./New York's shared office and rehearsal studios at 520 Eighth Avenue because we have a tactile floor plan so their blind actors can make their way around our floor! TADA Youth Theatre is able to provide theatrical training to dozens of New York City children through CASA funding. Elders Share the Arts engages with local seniors who are artists, through their Pearls of Wisdom program, which encourages artists of a certain age to share their stories, their cultural songs and dances, with people of all ages in their local communities.

A.R.T./New York's theatres are in all five boroughs, ensuring that no matter where you are in New York City, there is a non-profit theatre helping the community thrive. But, what is most interesting is that 75% of our members have annual operating budgets below $500,000. 49% have budgets below $100,000. These companies are producing experimental and cutting-edge work. They are at the very beginning of a complex eco-system, which spans companies like Harlem's Movement Theatre Company, to the Chocolate Factory in Long Island City, to Irondale Ensemble in Brooklyn, Pregones in the Bronx, Sun Dog Theatre in Staten Island and the HERE Arts Center in Manhattan. Without support from DCA, they wouldn't be able to serve some of the 8.8 million theatergoers who attend these companies on an annual basis.

A recent economic impact study conducted by A.R.T./New York indicates that our members serve a total of **8,812,360 theatergoers in all five boroughs.**

These theatergoers spend money on restaurants, parking, taxis and even the subways to get to and from the theaters.

Total amount spent at restaurants	= $ 154,016,940
Total amount spent on Parking	= $ 45,218,862
Total amount spent on taxis	= $ 65,387,711
Total amount spent on subway fare)	= $ 44,061,800
Grand total contributed to City's economy annually by NYC non-profit theatres:	**$ 264,623,513**

This has been a particularly difficult year for arts groups. Several suffered physical losses due to Hurricane Sandy, while others lost earned revenue due to cancelled performances caused by the storm, the closure of New York Public Transportation, and the blackouts in lower Manhattan. The situation

was compounded by the fact that many of our donors (who are mostly middle class individuals) gave generously to Sandy Relief Funds as well as to the Presidential and local Political Campaigns. By year end when many of us send out direct appeals, our donors were fatigued, and many of us saw a drop in FY 12 year end giving compared to previous years.

While I am testifying to you on behalf of A.R.T./New York's non-profit theatres, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge my other cultural colleagues: the museums, libraries, zoos, gardens, dance companies, orchestras, operas and film companies. Each of us has our role in supporting so many different facets of this City. These cuts would not only impact the overhead of the organizations, it would considerably impact the programming. The impact on the communities would be felt acutely based solely on programming, and the impact to the tourism industry would also be grave. Think of the destinations for tourists in New York City. Now, imagine the economic impact of an industry unable to support the number of tourists it attracts. Imagine the restaurants without this clientele. Imagine how much the entire arts community generate in revenue for parking garages, taxis, subways, lumber yards, dry cleaners, fabric shops, dry cleaners, office supplies and printing! The reduction of income generated would be staggering and would result in hundreds of fewer paying jobs in this great City!

Each year, we fight for restorations to the Department of Cultural Affairs. Each year, we face this battle. For the quality of life of this City: we must have restoration. For the ability of this city to continue to attract what Richard Florida identified as "The Creative Class:" we must have restoration.

I have provided you with the economic impact, which is substantial. But you cannot quantify the intrinsic impact and the absolute necessity of these programs and institution to millions of people, resident and visitors, to our wonderful City. These cuts would be devastating. I thank you for your time, and your continued support. And I respectfully ask you for full restoration.

City Council Testimony for Increased Parks Department Funding - 6/5/13

Good Morning Chairman Recchia and City Council Members.
My name is Raphael Schweizer and I Chair the Bronx Park East Community Association and am Co-Founder of the Pelham Parkway Citizens Conservation Corps (CCC), two civic organizations active in Bronx Community Board 11.
My testimony has to do with restoring and base-lining the $30.28 million for the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation to fund their seasonal workers and city pools, dedicating $2 milion for stump removal, as well as making sure the Bronx has a fair share of the 207 newly-hired Parks CPW's.

But first, a poem:

"Pelham Parkway, Bronx Park, Pelham Bay Park, Van Cortlandt Forest.
These Oaks, These Maples,
Without gender, nonetheless they capture our heart,
They spur our soul.
They touch the tenderness that may be tucked beneath hardened city dwellers
Who may have never experienced a Vermont sunrise,
Or wandered in a Northeastern forest.

For our Parks ARE this City's Forest

They are OUR Forests.
Our Oasis.

Just like Superman has a fortress of solitude,
So do Bronx-dwellers.

In fact the most fortresses of any borough.

Between our vacation retreats to relatives in rural New Hamspshire,
Be it a year,
Or for many Bronxites, a visit that has yet to happen,
These Parks anchor the City-dwellers soul.

Like our Trees anchor the Soil.

Through photosynthesis they breathe,
Through our Parkland, our Trees Speak.

Providing us a setting to hear nothing but the rustle of leaves,
Or nothing at all,
Nevertheless our Parks speak.
Giving us a welcome place
For our minds to race

With uncontrollable glee about our dreams for the future,
Or our plans for our family;
Our Parks ARE our family.

So they should no longer be treated like Step-children.

Keeping in mind that many of our urban forests are man and woman-made,
Let us then think of our Parks as our Children

Will we neglect them?

Will we fail to baseline $30.28 million for JTP's, Pools and Playgrounds?
Will we allow thousands of foresaken tree stumps to represent this neglect?

As the Earth we call home has indeed been betrayed and neglected,
Our Parks have become the urban microcosm of the choice we have.

Neglect or Act?"

Our Parks need more funding, more staff and more employee training. This years Parks Department budget is a marked improvement over previous years.

But it still falls short.

In addition to restoring POP funding, we must restore and baseline for future budgets, the $30.28 million to prevent the shuttering of 4 city pools, the loss of over 900 seasonal workers and JTP's, as well as the loss of 30 valued Playground Associates who educate our children during the summer months ahead.
Second, we must baseline at least $2 million per year for the removal of tree stumps from city streets .
And finally, we must give the Bronx a fair share of the 207 newly-hired City Parks workers.
The Bronx contains the most amount of Parkland of any borough, with 24% of all city parkland being located in the Bronx, as well as housing the city's largest park, Pelham Bay Park.
We don't have wealthy Parks conservancies, so we are relying on you.

On behalf of the Bronx Park Community Association and the Pelham Parkway Citizens Conservation Corps (CCC), I thank you for your service and commitment to our unique city and the Boroughs that comprise it.
But Bronx District 11 and 14 Parks Managers Eddie Hernandez and Arnyce Foster, and District 11 Supervisor Clinton Johnson, deserve better.

So, I urge you: Let us NOT Forget our Parks.

Thank you for your service to our City.

MONTEFIORE MEDICAL CENTER
The University Hospital for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine
School Health Program
3380 Reservoir Oval, Bronx, New York 10467

The Children's Hospital at Montefiore

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE TRANSMITTED: TIME TRANSMITTED: AM PM

TO: Recchia (Authorized Recipient) Fax #: 212-788-7061

Facility / Organization: Dept./Location:

Telephone #:

Ref: Testimony for Restoring Funding for SYBHC

FROM: DAVID APPEL (Authorized Transmitter) Dept./Location: School Health Administration

Telephone #: 718-696-4060

Fax #: **(718) 231 - 1586**

Total numbers of pages (including cover letter): 6

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New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers

The current proposed budget modifications would eliminate funding for four school-based health centers – one in each borough except Staten Island. Our institutions have been proud to work with you on public health initiatives in our city's schools in the past and hope to continue to work with you in the future. Today we wish to share our collective deep concern about potential cuts to these school-based health centers (SBHCs) and to request that you reconsider these cuts.

SBHCs provide integrated primary medical, mental health, community health and often dental care in addition to the required services of a school nurse. All insured and uninsured children receive services at the SBHCs at no charge to the family and whether or not their insurance covers the SBHC visit. Many of the visits to SBHCs are uncompensated by third party payors – as many as 50% at some sites. Without the funding which has supported this evidenced-based, comprehensive care since the early 1990s, the financial viability of these SBHCs sponsored by our healthcare institutions are in jeopardy. In other words, these longstanding high school SBHCs, these innovative, effective models that SBHCs around the city aspire to, will close.

Students in our SBHCs have access to and benefit from our laboratory testing, pharmacy services, and specialty evaluations and consultations. Our institutions are not in a position to replace this proposed loss in funding and will be forced to close these SBHCs. The City will have to provide a minimum set of mandated health care services and require the placement of one to two RNs at each school, at an approximate cost of $100,000 per RN. Therefore the actual savings are negligible. And the services of a school RN cannot match the comprehensive integrated medical and mental health services which will be lost. The high school SBHCs have a proven track record of effective reproductive health care; HIV C/T, diagnosis and treatment of STIs and pregnancy prevention. The proposed annual cut of $937,377 would actually cost the city over $500,000 per year when the cost of employing school nurses, increased asthma hospitalizations, and the cost of increased pregnancy rates are factored in. Just factoring in the cost of replacement school nurses lowers the net annual savings to $337,377 with a terrible loss in vital services to NYC students.

The loss of these critical healthcare access points would have a detrimental impact on a large number of school children. The four clinics slated for loss of funding together serve over 8,300 students, most of whom would otherwise not have a trusted healthcare provider. One of the five SBHCs provides over 5,000 medical and mental health visits a year to the 2,679 students from six middle and high schools on a single campus. That SBHC has reduced the pregnancy rate for the school's student population by almost 50% over the last five years.

Cutting the funding that has sustained services at these school-based health centers undermines policy investments made in teen pregnancy prevention and SBHCs all of which will improve health outcomes and contain costs. The cumulative underfunding of SBHCs will contribute to increased long term healthcare costs, higher teen pregnancy rates, and lower graduation rates, raise levels of untreated mental health issues, drive up ER use and hospitalizations for asthmatic teens, and finally, deprive teens of needed nutrition and health promotion programs.

We look forward to continuing to safeguard the future of our city by helping children lead healthy, productive lives and ask that the City demonstrate its commitment to our youth by maintaining funding to comprehensive School-Based Health Centers services.

New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers
3380 Reservoir Oval Bronx, New York 10467
718-696-4070 (Telephone) 718-231-1586 (Fax)

New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers

NYC funded SBHCs are an efficient way to spend city tax levy dollars

	OSH SCHOOL HEALTH MODEL	SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTER MODEL
Model	**NYCDOH Model**	**Theodore Roosevelt HS/BRONX**
Main Provider	2 RNs (Nurse)	Nurse Practitioner
Other providers	3 hours of MD session a month	Fulltime, onsite - Family Medicine MD, Social Worker, LPN, Psychologist, Patient Care Technician, Community Health Organizer, Receptionists
Services	✓ First Aid ✓ Addressing 504 needs ✓ Diabetic monitoring if any ✓ Sports Physicals, Working Papers	✓ First Aid ✓ Addressing 504 needs ✓ Diabetic monitoring if any ✓ Sports Physicals, Working Papers ✓ Primary Care, including management of Chronic illnesses ✓ Laboratory tests ✓ Reproductive Health Care ✓ All available methods of contraception including IUD insertion on site, Depo, Ring, etc. ✓ STI/HIV counseling education and testing and treatment for STI referrals to treatment for HIV + kids ✓ HPV vaccine for boys and girls, plus all other immunizations ✓ Mental Health Services provided by LMSW
Cost to the city	$304,658 unintended pregnancies and births	
Cost to the city	**$200,000**(does not include the salary of the MD)	**$278,000**

Combined funding for the 4 SBHCs slated to close: $937,377
Combined number of students enrolled in the four schools: 8,396
$937,377/8,396= $116 per student
It costs less than $120 per student to have a SBHC
And it saves the city money.

SBHCs are a very efficient way to use city tax levy dollars!

Savings at Roosevelt High School Campus from declining pregnancy rates.

The Bronx teen pregnancy rate is 10.6% per year derived from all girls aged 15-19 in the Bronx in 2009.

The base cost figure for a teenage pregnancy is derived from a comprehensive national and state-level analysis of publicly funded births from unintended pregnancies derived from the PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) and Medicaid data.[i] The initial cost estimate is from New York and includes public (Medicaid) costs for prenatal care, labor and delivery, post-partum care and one year of care for the infant. Although the study is based on unintended pregnancies among women 15-44, it has been shown that the total labor and delivery costs for adolescent girls and women are nearly identical.[ii] The analysis used here is based on the same model "that the federal government has used and has required states to use to, to evaluate the impact of demonstration programs that expand Medicaid eligibility specifically for family planning services."[iii,iv,v] Thus, each live birth averted based on our school-based health intervention results in savings of $15,913 adjusted for inflation in 2011 dollars.[vi]

Our baseline total cost of care for the population we serve is based on the total number of young women we provide care to over the year, the pregnancy rate for this population, and the cost of pregnancies, weighted for pregnancy outcome. We based our current pregnancy rate of 10.6% derived from all girls aged 15-19 in the Bronx in 2009.[vii] Approximately 40% of all pregnancies among women 15-19 in New York City result in a live birth and 60% of pregnancies are terminated.[viii] The inflation-adjusted cost for a pregnancy termination in 2011 is $481.[ix] Thus, on average, each pregnancy costs $6,623.

At Roosevelt in the 2011-2012 school year, 669 tests done, over 550 girls were tested, with 12 positive tests.

Expected positives – 550 x 10.6% = 58; Pregnancies averted – 46.

Savings - $6,623 x 46 = $304,658.

---

[i] Sonfield A, Kost K, Gold RB, Finer LB. The public costs of births resulting from unintended pregnancies: national and state-level estimates. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health.* 2011;43(2):94-102.

[ii] Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.Childbirth-related hospitalizations among adolescent girls. Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, Statistical Brief No. 31, May 2007.

[iii] Sonfield A, Kost K, Gold RB, Finer LB. The public costs of births resulting from unintended pregnancies: national and state-level estimates. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health.* 2011;43(2):94-102.

[iv] Edwards J, Bronstein J, Adams K. Evaluation of Medicaid Family Planning Demonstrations, Alexandria, VA: CNA Corp., 2003

[v] Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Special Terms and Conditions: Project Number 11-W-00142/0, Oregon Family Planning Expansion Project, Washington, DC: CMS, 2010.

[vi] Bureau of Labor Statistics. U.S. Department of Labor, Consumer Price Index—all urban consumers, medical care, available at: http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/surveymost?cu, accessed January 21, 2012

[vii] Teen Pregnancy in New York City: 2000-2009. New York, NY: New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 2011.

[viii] Ibid.

[ix] Cost of induced abortion: Jones RK, Kooistra K. Abortion incidence and access to services in the United States. *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health.* 2011;43(1):41-50.

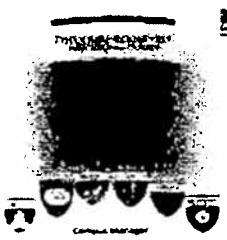
New York State Coalition for School-Based Health Centers

SBHCs funded by the New York City Department of Health

Combined funding $937, 377
Combined number of students in the schools: 8,396
Combined number of annual visits: 23,000

Sponsor	Cohen Children's Hospital	NY Presbyterian Hospital	Montefiore Hospital	SUNY Downstate
School	Franklin K. Lane Campus	Percy Sutton Educational Campus (Mott Hall, Kappa IV, Bread & Roses)	Roosevelt Campus,	Wingate High School
Borough	Cypress Hill, Brooklyn, NY	Harlem, NY	Fordham Road, The Bronx	Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY
School Population	2,700	1,300	2,867	1,529
Annual Visits:	6,656	4,865	5,717	5,693
Other important statistics	-1,536 mental health visits -80 % receive free lunch -105 students overweight, -102 obese, -106 have asthma. - 508 pregnancy tests in 2012 with 28 positive tests - in 2011 with 40 positive tests.	-1,961 for reproductive health -516 Mental Health visits to psychologist	- 4,256 Medical -1,461 Mental Health visits -669 Pregnancy tests, -610 STI screens; -391 Rapid HIV tests; - -110 Mental Health intakes; -203 Community Health engagements; **Dramatic reduction in pregnancy rates:** 2010 – 31 Pos. PTs 2011 – 14 Pos. PTs 10/11 SY - 21 Pos. PTs 11/12 SY – 12 Pos. PTs 1/1 – 6/30/10 – 18+ 1/1 – 6/30/11 – 9+ 1/1 – 6/30/12 – 7+	- 1,500 primary care visits -481 Reproductive Health visits

Theodore Roosevelt Educational Campus



500 East Fordham Road
Bronx, New York 10458
Telephone: 718-295-3630 Fax: 718-584-6695

Office of the Campus Manager
Asim B. Mustafa
amustaf@schools.nyc.gov

March 18, 2013
Honorable Michael Bloomberg, Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

We are deeply concerned about the proposed cuts to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's School-based Health Centers (SBHCs). The SBHC housed within our Theodore Roosevelt Educational Campus in the Bronx serves all six of the schools on campus and is one of the four targeted for the elimination of city funding. We urge you to restore funding for these indispensable SBHCs.

Our SBHC, which is sponsored by the Montefiore Medical Center, has provided essential medical, reproductive health, mental health, and community health services to the high risk students of our campus. The Roosevelt SBHC identifies and meets unmet health needs for these adolescents.

The adolescent population is known to be hard to reach and have significant unmet health needs. The SBHCs were originally funded in 1989 by each borough president with the goal of providing comprehensive health care services to adolescents. Our SBHC at Roosevelt Campus is an example of the success of this program. In the 2011/2012 school year, the Roosevelt Campus student population was 2,538 of which the 1,903 were actively enrolled in the SBHC. There were 1,141 stories, here are a few:

Janice, a 15 year old recent immigrant from Ghana who was brutally raped, had feelings of loss, anger, and guilt and her grades plummeted. She was able to receive the counseling she needed at the SBHC to process the trauma while minimizing her time out of school. Two years later, Janice was able to rebound academically and graduate with a scholarship to a top-rated state university.

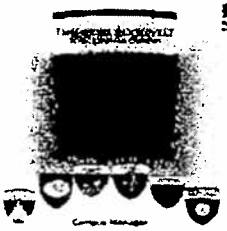
Anne Marie describes the health center staff as her family. She has accessed both medical and mental health care in SBHC in her elementary, middle and now, high school. She has a medical condition that requires her to self-catheterize several times a day to urinate. In spite of this and many other social, mental and medical challenges, she maintains a 90 average and is proud of her near perfect attendance at school.

Jayden self-referred to the health center. He was seen the same day and revealed that he was engaging in self-harming behaviors. The parent, previously unaware, was informed and the patient had a psychiatric assessment within 48 hours, including starting on medications.

Thomas accessed medical, mental health and community health services when he became homeless at the end of his junior year. He was connected to Covenant House and later to longer term housing while he completed his senior year and addressed his medical and mental health needs. He is now attending a 4 year state university.

These 4 and 1,137 other students made 5717 visits to their SBHC last year. 723 received vaccinations, 610 sexually active students were screened for sexually transmitted infections, and 413 had HIV tests. 228 received mental health counseling services.

Theodore Roosevelt Educational Campus



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The SBHC is an evidence-based program that serves as a lifeline for our children. SBHCs impact academic outcomes by improving overall school attendance and progress, and increasing GPAs for students receiving mental health users. SBHCs provide cost savings by reducing emergency room use, preventing unnecessary hospitalizations and lowering Medicaid expenditures. SBHCs improve children's and teen's access to health care by building trust, increasing accessibility to services, improving immunization rates, and lowering teen pregnancy rates.

In 2006, you demonstrated your understanding of these benefits in your establishment of the Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) to end poverty in New York City. A CEO annual report highlighted SBHCs as an innovative model that reduces teen pregnancy, decreases dropout rates and increases graduation rates. Your administration funded six additional high school clinics. The New York City Department of Education is financing 20 new school-based health centers under your administration to help keep kids healthy, secure and in school. Eliminating our SBHC undermines the investments and progress that your administration has made in this area.

Without SBHCs, the quality of life for thousands of children will be diminished.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to continuing to work with you and your administration to prevent the closure of the Montefiore Medical Center sponsored school-based health center at Theodore Roosevelt Educational Campus.

Sincerely,

Iris Blige, Principal
Fordham High School for the Arts

Michael Barakat, Principal
Bronx High School for Law and Community Service

Wilper Morales, Principal
West Bronx Academy for the Future

Stephen Joseph Gumbs, Principal
Belmont Preparatory High School

Mary Ann Tucker, Principal
Fordham Leadership Academy for Business and Technology

PanoreaPanagiosoulis, Principal
Knowledge and Power Preparatory Academy (KAPPA)

cc Dennis Walcott
Christine Quinn
John Liu
Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Michael Mulgrew
Ruben Diaz Jr.
Joel Rivera

The Children's Aid Society
www.childrensaidsociety.org

Testimony of Yolanda McBride, Director of Public Policy, The Children's Aid Society
Prepared for the Public Hearing on the FY 2014 Executive Budget
Committee on Finance, New York City Council
June 5, 2013

Good Afternoon, my name is Yolanda McBride and I am the Director of Public Policy at The Children's Aid Society (CAS). I would like to thank Chair Recchia and the Finance Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the Mayor's Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2014.

The Children's Aid Society (CAS) is one of the nation's largest and oldest community-based organizations and our mission is to help children in poverty to succeed and thrive. We do this by providing comprehensive supports from cradle through college to children and their families in targeted high-needs New York City neighborhoods. Today, CAS touches the lives of more than 70,000 children and families each year within five program divisions: early childhood; school-age programs; adolescent programs; child welfare and family services; and health and wellness. Our network of community centers, community schools, and health clinics is organized into service hubs concentrated in the South Bronx, Harlem, Washington Heights and Northern Staten Island neighborhoods and is operated by almost 2,000 full time and part time employees. Citywide we offer more than 100 programs in 45 sites, where we provide education and youth development services, foster care and preventive services, after-school, weekend and summer enrichment, early childhood programs, teen pregnancy prevention, comprehensive health services (including medical, mental health and dental), legal services, and programs for disconnected youth, including programs for young people who have been incarcerated or are at high risk of incarceration.

One in three children in New York, and two in three public school children, live in poverty. We know that at the end of the day a quality education and graduation from college are the most consistently reliable ways for kids to break free from poverty. High–quality early childhood education have proven to help prepare children for school; high quality after-school programs increase engagement and attendance in school, improve achievement, and help young people develop aspirations for their lives; and high quality preventative health and mental health services reaps significant savings for the City in the present that pays off well into the future. And, all of these programs combined support working families.

We know from the research disseminated by the City's Center for Economic Opportunity that although the poverty rates relatively stabilized in 2011, children under 18, Hispanics, and low income families are still at high risk for exposure to the perils associated with poverty. Moreover, even though the economy continues to improve, there are still too many children and families being left behind. The current budget, as proposed by the Administration, will have a disproportional and chilling impact on low income children and families. At CAS, we believe that helping children to achieve college graduation is a key lever for staying out of poverty, but we cannot ascertain this goal if critical programs that are meant to prevent children from experiencing poverty and also support children to achieve their highest potential are dismantled.

Children's Aid is a member of the Campaign for Children (C4C) and the New York City Youth Alliance and we support their advocacy agendas. More specifically, the proposed cuts by the Administration would leave nearly 47,000 children without critical services for early childhood education and after school come September and 4 schools serving nearly 8,300 children without preventative services at school based health clinics. **More**

than $170 million must be restored in order to ensure that 47,000 children and 8,300 children that receive services from school based health clinics don't lose the very programs that prepare them for school and help them succeed once they're there.

Early Childhood Education

As indicated in prior testimony, CAS supports the kinds of innovative practices outlined in EarlyLearn NYC; however, the potential loss of capacity of almost 9,000 childcare, family childcare and school age vouchers deeply concerns us. The research is clear about the benefits of early childhood programs and even more compelling about how quality early childhood education mitigates the need for special education services and incarceration in later years.

Additionally, it continues to be extremely difficult to implement the quality program standards outlined in the contract to care for and educate NYC's young children because of the low rates. We, like so many other providers, have found that the budget numbers come up short using the EarlyLearn funding formulas. The true costs for operating a program are not reflected in the contract and if it has been difficult for an organization like CAS, with private support and resources to maintain a quality program that families deserve, then you can imagine how onerous and taxing it has been for smaller community-based programs.

We encourage the Council to restore the more the $60 million needed to maintain capacity in the early learning system.

After-School Programs

We know that after-school and summer programs play an essential role in keeping children safe and engaged during non-school hours in addition to being a critical support for working families. However, the City is not adequately funding this laudable vision.

At its peak in 2009, Out of School Time (OST) programs served 85,000 youth. As a result of 13 across-the-board reductions in the past four years and the new three-year contracts, in September of 2013, the system will serve 64,000 fewer children. This is a nearly 75 percent reduction over 4 years, despite families and communities counting on these services more than ever before. These cuts will result in the undoing of the very system the Administration built and will deny educational and social and emotional supports for thousands of NYC children. At CAS alone, 10 programs serving 1,246 students are at risk of closing.

We are also deeply concerned about the potential loss of seven Beacon programs and reductions in Cornerstone after-school programs that would mean the potential loss of 733 slots for children in public housing.

We encourage the Council to maintain current capacity and restore $61 million to the OST system. An additional $5.5 million is also needed to maintain capacity for Beacon and Cornerstone programs.

School Based Health Clinics

School Based Health Clinics are a proven strategy that integrates primary medical, preventative, dental, eye and mental health services for children in their schools. For many children, SBHCs are their primary medical home. If children need medical attention they more than likely will not attend school or if they are in school will not be able to focus on learning.

The presence of SBHCs has not only shown to be fiscally prudent but will save the City significant funding on future healthcare costs for youth. Currently, CAS operates five centers that in 2012 we estimate prevented 573 emergency room visits and saved $974,000 in costs to the City. Also, this is one of the rare school-based

programs that receives a state match - for every 64 cents the City funds, the state contributes 36 cents. This is a strategy that is not only cost effective but it works.

We urge the Council to restore the $775,000 in City subsidies to the 4 School-Based Health Centers to keep these health services available to families.

Who are the more than 55,000 impacted by these budget cuts? We are talking about real lives here – young people who need a safe space because their neighborhoods are rife with gangs, families who having limited options for childcare make choices that will impact learning at a child's most critical learning phase, and children who can't focus in school because they need glasses or medical attention.

As it stands right now we are going backwards, but The Children's Aid Society is committed to being your partner in working to preserve critical programs and services for the children and families who need them the most. If we are committed to providing children an opportunity to thrive, persist and graduate from college then the City must restore and better support more high-quality early childhood education programs, high-quality after-school programs and extended learning opportunities, and critical health and mental health services because these services 1) improve outcomes for children; 2) enable families to work; and 3) reinforces the City's commitment to address poverty.

It would be a tragedy if after the economy improves we realize that we cut programs to the point that we lost another generation of young people and dismantled key systems that would have actually helped us to be a stronger and more productive city and country.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Testimony of Residents for Sane Trash Solutions
On 2013-14 Proposed Budget for the Department of Sanitation

Presented to City Council Committee on Finance
At Hearing on May 30, 2013

This testimony is presented on behalf of the Residents for Sane Trash Solutions, Inc., a not for profit organization representing more than 3,000 residents of the Upper East Side, Yorkville and East Harlem in opposing the 91st Street Marine Transfer Station proposed for the East River at 91st Street. Our objections to the MTS are broad-based, but at this hearing, we want to specially emphasize the financial irresponsibility of the proposed project.

Bottom Line: Over the next 20 years, the development and operation of the 91st Street MTS will cost City taxpayers more than $600,000,000 more than if the City continues to pursue its current programs of trucking waste to resource recovery facilities. At the same time, due to significant changes since the 91st Street MTS was approved as a part of the City's Solid Waste Management Plan, the environmental impacts of continuing the current program will be much reduced over what had been predicted and no environmental justice purpose will be compromised.

Background

When the 2005 SWMP was approved, all of Manhattan's residential garbage was delivered by truck to a resource recovery plant in Essex, Jersey. This continues to be the case today and, except for a quarter of Manhattan, will continue to be the case in the future. According to the Sanitation Department's most recent contract, the disposal cost for this waste is about $75 a ton.[1]

[1] City of New York Department of Sanitation, *2012 Annual Report on Alternative Fuel Program Pursuant to L Local Law 38 of 2005* (March 2013

The quarter of Manhattan's residential waste that, under the current plan, will not continue to be trucked to New Jersey, would be collected from the north/northeast quadrant of the Borough, delivered to and containerized at the 91st Street MTS, and shipped out from the MTS by barge. However, according to a study made by the Independent Budget Office, the cost to dispose of this garbage will be $238 a ton, or more than three times the cost of the current system.[2] According to that same report, over 20 years, the overall cost to taxpayers of continuing the current system would be $400 million, while the overall cost for handling the same amount of waste at the 91st Street MTS would be $1 billion, or an added burden to City taxpayers of $600 million. (On a present worth basis, the IBO computes the differential at more than $335 million, but taxes are paid in real dollars)[3].

There were reasons why the 91st Street MTS was thought to make sense when it was approved as a part of the SWMP in 2005. These included the belief that it would save money, reduce pollution generated by the trucking and be more equitable by relieving outer borough communities of the burden of handling Manhattan's waste. However, the circumstances surrounding these beliefs have changed in major ways, and in our view there is no longer any justification for proceeding with the 91st Street Project.

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[2] Cost Comparison of East 91st Street MTS versus Continuation of Interim Plan (Independent Budget Office, May 22, 2012).

[3] The actual costs over 20 years may actually be far greater than the $1 billion calculated by the IBO. The City is currently seeking approval of a $3.2 Billion 20-ycar contract with Covanta Energy to dispose of the waste from two of the new MTSs, including the 91st Street MTS. This suggests that the cost of disposal at 91st Street over 20 years will be $1.6 billion BEFORE any allocation for the $200 million cost of building that facility.

The Changes in Circumstances

In 2006 the Department of Sanitation estimated the cost of the transition to barge and rail transport for the entire system to be about $120 million more annually than the truck-based system.[4] This figure was based on certain assumptions and was prior to the receipt of any contractual bids for construction or final waste disposal contract amounts. Sanitation estimated that each MTS reconstruction would cost approximately $50 million and that the eventual waste disposal contracts would cost less per ton than the current system of short-term contracts that utilized capacity at nearer, truck- accessible landfills, notably in Pennsylvania.

These and other assumptions have not proved true. First, the cost of MTS construction has proven to be much higher than anticipated, rising in the case of 91st Street to $181 million. Second, the costs of interim disposal have not risen as anticipated, while the costs of long-term contracts are proving greater than expected, negating the savings anticipated under the SWMP. Third, air pollution concerns have been largely negated by new Federal clear diesel standards (and the City's Local Law 39 of December 2005) that have effectively reduce truck emissions by more than 90% as compared to those assumed in the SWMP and largely undercutting the air pollution rationale contained in the SWMP. Fourth, based on the City's Community Air Survey, the City's worst air quality is not in the Bronx or Brooklyn but in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, so adding truck traffic there is problematic. Fifth, because all of Manhattan's residential waste is shipped to New Jersey (and can continue to be), the 91st Street MTS would provide little relief to the outer borough, where the real problem is commercial waste. Sixth,

[4] New York City Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan FEIS Lead Agency Findings Statement (Feb. 2006) at p. 32.

Hurricane Sandy, which flooded the East 91st Street MTS site, has highlighted the need to improve resiliency in the City's coastal zone, as such flooding is predicted to become more frequent due to climate change and rising sea levels. As a result, building new facilities in floodplains on the waterfront are to be discouraged, unless there is a compelling justification.

Taken together, these developments strongly suggest that the City – and the City Council – should re-examine the viability and desirability of the 91st Street MTS.

The East 91st Street MTS

The East 91st Street MTS would accept waste (averaging 573 tons/day in FY2012) from four districts of Manhattan. It would also be available for private carters, although it is not clear how the City will entice such carters to the facility, as they will have less costly alternatives, especially in New Jersey.

The City has recently contracted to build the facility at a cost of $181 million, not including the value of the land or of potentially developable air rights over the East River Drive. The project will demolish the old East 91st MTS which closed in 1999 and replace it with a much larger facility extending into the East River. Demolition of the existing MTS is just beginning, and actual construction of the new MTS would not start until 2014. The City would send waste by barge from the East 91st Street MTS to the New York Marine terminal and then by rail to two Covanta Energy waste-to-energy plants.

Neither the Mayor's Office nor the Department of Sanitation has provided the City Council with a detailed, up-to-date presentation of the actual costs of building and using the facility compared to the alternatives. Drawing from public records, we do so below and also explain why, in our view, the 91st Street MTS is not justified on economic grounds, land use

planning and public policy, environmental quality and overall SWMP goals, or social justice grounds.

Economics and Efficiency

According to a IBO study referenced above, the cost to construct and operate the 91st Street MTS, not including the value of the land or potential air rights over the FDR Drive, is estimated to be S238 a ton. By contrast, at present, waste from these four Manhattan districts is driven in DSNY collection trucks to facilities in Fairview, New Jersey, Jersey City, and Yonkers, at a cost per ton of $62 to $67 (FY2012). DSNY relay transport costs (for an extra driver to take the waste to the transfer station in NJ following the main day shift) add another $10/ton, according to the IBO study; thus an average current cost is about $75/ton. As a result, the IBO study concluded that, on a present worth basis, the facility will result in aggregate higher costs to the City over 20 years of at least $335 million (and of at least $600 million on a straight dollar basis). While this estimate assumed a somewhat higher capital cost than the subsequent $181 Million construction contract, it also assumed a lower per ton disposal fee than the City is now proposing, which appears to be at least $125 to $150/ton, and so appears reasonably accurate. This estimate also excludes the final 10 years of debt service for 30-year City bonds.

It is evident that to justify this facility's ***tripling*** of the City's waste disposal bill for these four districts, a compelling case must be made for it on the basis of other public policy and/or the tangible benefits it will confer upon the City. Such policies and supposed benefits are considered below.

Consistency with Land Use, Zoning and Public Policy

According to the City's EIS for the SWMP, as supplemented by a 2012 Technical Memorandum, the 91st Street MTS would require around 200 sanitation and private waste carting trucks per day to converge upon the facility's ramp, enter the transfer station to dump, and then leave via the ramp and back through the community over a 24- hour period, six days per week. The 91st Street MTS would be located in a densely developed residential area, on a parcel that is zoned Ml (for light manufacturing). The Technical Memorandum indicates that some 12,000 persons live within a quarter mile radius of the facility, and several schools and two public housing projects are also in close proximity. Asphalt Green, a not-for-profit recreational facility, operates its facilities, including sports fields for children, immediately adjacent to the facility's ramp, which bisects the playing field. There is no other industrial activity in the area. It is evident from a review of the site's history that it is a remnant of a formerly larger industrial zone. A waste transfer station use, which generates considerable truck traffic, is not well-suited for a Ml district in close proximity to public open space and residential districts. In fact, such proximity of transfer stations to sensitive uses is one feature of the current waste transfer system that the SWMP was designed to mitigate. Moreover, the City's Waterfront Revitalization Plan (WRP), which is required under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act and the State Coastal Zone Program, does not include a port facility at this location, whether for trash or other freight. The City's finding that this facility does not materially conflict with the current WRP goals and policies seems hard to justify.

In view of the foregoing, the facility constitutes a conflict with nearby land uses and zoning and runs counter to the overall trend in the neighborhood of higher density residential uses and waterfront open space at this location.

Environmental Impacts/Benefit of the Facility

According to the SWMP EIS, the 91st Street MTS would enable Sanitation trucks to travel 206,000 fewer miles annually city than under the current system, the air quality benefit from such reduction will not be appreciable, due to the changed diesel standards mentioned above, which will reduce emissions by at least 90 percent over those assumed in the SWMP. In addition, the City Sanitation trucks do not deliver residential waste from Manhattan to other boroughs, and so their driving directly to 91st Street instead of to New Jersey will not bring relief to overburdened communities in Brooklyn or the Bronx, but mainly to New Jersey highways at non-peak hours, so any reduction to traffic congestion will be minimal. The impacts that will be felt are those imposed on the heavily-populated East 91st Street MTS neighborhoods, with little to no offsetting benefit to other areas.

The location of the facility in the highest risk flood zone is a clear negative and should, in its own right, constitute a basis for not pursuing the project.

Social Justice

One claim that has been made is that "fairness" requires the borough of Manhattan to have its own marine transfer station, as the borough currently lacks any MSW transfer station. This argument, sometimes referred to as "borough equity", is based on fundamental mis-conceptions. As noted above, the alternative is for Manhattan's residential waste is to be driven to facilities in New Jersey and Yonkers, not to Bronx or Brooklyn. Commercial transfer stations do not locate in Manhattan because its real estate is too expensive for such uses. Moreover, the commercial waste generated in Manhattan, which has the City's principal business district and employers, reflects employment of residents from all of the City's

boroughs and from many other communities in the region, and economic activity from the very important tourism sector. It is not a matter of fairness that this waste cannot be transferred economically in the high-cost borough of Manhattan, which has by far the densest population of any county in the nation, but must seek facilities on appropriately zoned industrial land in the region.

Manhattan's residential waste should be managed in the most economical way, consistent with the SWMP's policy of minimizing impacts upon residents from the solid waste system. Impacts include environmental as well as fiscal impacts. It does not advance social justice in the City to impose a facility upon a residential neighborhood location that is not suited for it, at triple the cost of the alternative of driving the waste directly to facilities outside the City. Such added costs are ultimately borne by all the City's residents in the form of tax increases or service cuts to other parts of the City budget, such as education or public safety. In view of the large and diverse population in proximity to the proposed East 91st Street MTS, reducing impacts to this neighborhood rather than increasing impacts should be the social justice objective.

Southwest Brooklyn MTS

While our immediate concern is the 91st Street MTS, we believe that a similar analysis and similar conclusion apply to the proposed Southwest Brooklyn MTS. The density of population surround that site is not as great as at 91st Street, but there will still be untoward and unnecessary impacts imposed on the community, and we have little doubt that the economics of that MTS also militate strongly against its development.

Conclusion

The City Council has the responsibility of approving the City's annual budgets. This should not be a passive role where waste and poor policy is involved. The Administration's insistence on pursuing the 91st Street MTS in the face of the large additional costs it would impose on the City and City taxpayers and the absence of any compelling policy reason is just such a case. For the reasons we have identified, the City Council should insist that any funds allocated in the 2013-14 budget for the 91st Street MTS be stricken and removed

We also emphasize that there is currently up for approval a 3.2 billion 20-year contract for the disposal of waste for the 91st Street facility and a second MTS. This contract, if executed, would result in severe cancellation penalties. There is absolutely no need at this point for the City to bind itself to a contract which will not begin to have any effect for three years (the time required to build the 91st Street MTS). The Council should act to require the Administration to separate the 91st Street portion out of the proposed contract or, alternatively, to reject the contract altogether at this point.

Dated: May 30, 2013

Jed H. Garfield, President
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May 22, 2012

Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council of the City of New York
250 Broadway
Room 1762
New York, NY 10007

Dear Council Member Lappin:

New York City is operating under a twenty-year plan, approved by the City Council and New York State in 2006, that details how the city will handle all of its solid waste. The aptly named Solid Waste Management Plan stated that the city would construct a marine transfer station at East 91st Street to containerize and export residential waste from Community Districts 5, 6, 8, and 11 in Manhattan, while the remaining residential waste would be exported by garbage truck to a waste-to-energy facility in New Jersey. The city has applied for permits and sought construction bids for a marine transfer station at East 91st (East 91st MTS) and is currently negotiating a twenty-year contract with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for the export of waste from the other districts in Manhattan. In the interim, while the long-term plan is being implemented, the city has secured short-term contracts with private transfer stations to export all of Manhattan's residential waste.

At your request, the Independent Budget Office has prepared an estimate of the cost of constructing and operating the East 91st MTS compared to continuation of the interim plan of exporting waste to transfer stations in New Jersey under short-term contracts. Based on IBO's analysis, the present value of the twenty-year cost of exporting under interim contracts to transfer stations in New Jersey is $218.9 million, compared with $554.3 million for export at the East 91st MTS. We estimate that the cost per ton in the first year the new facility could be operating is $90 for the interim plan and $238 for the East 91st MTS.

It is possible to break down the first year per ton cost into export fees, transportation costs, and facility costs. Both options include the cost of contracting with a private transfer station for the ultimate disposal of the waste. The per ton export cost is higher under the East 91st MTS option primarily because our estimate is based on recent contract bids and the twenty-year contracts, like the one the city would secure for East 91st MTS, have higher costs than the interim contracts. Both options also include an estimate of the cost to transport waste to the transfer stations. Given the shorter distance to the East 91st MTS than New Jersey and a lack of tolls, transportation costs are lower under the East 91st MTS option. The largest difference between the two options is the

additional cost attributable only to the East 91st MTS for building the facility and operating it with municipal employees.

First Year Projected Cost by Category		
	Interim Plan	East 91st MTS
Export Per Ton	$76.91	$106.72
Transport Per Ton	13.09	3.23
Facility Per Ton	0.00	128.47
Total Cost Per Ton	**$90.00**	**$238.43**
SOURCE: IBO		

A summary of the assumptions used in the analysis are shown in the table below (please see the attached memo for a detailed explanation of the methodology and assumptions). The analysis begins in 2016, when East 91st MTS would be operational, and extends over the twenty-year export contract period. Whenever possible, IBO relied on observed data for 2011. Tonnage and number of truck trips is based on 2011 data. Capital costs for the East 91st MTS ($226.5 million) were based on the Executive 2013 Capital Commitment Plan while the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) provided updated 2012 operating costs ($9.4 million in 2016). Costs that are expected to grow over time were assumed to rise between 2 percent a year and 4 percent a year, depending on the type of cost. IBO's estimates only reflect the direct cost of the two options. Any additional economic activity or tax revenue that would result from the construction and operation of the East 91st MTS in the city were not taken into account, and neither were environmental impacts.

Assumptions in Cost Comparison of East 91st MTS versus Continuation of Interim Plan			
	Baseline	Source	Annual Growth Assumption
Shared Assumptions			
Tonnage	577	2011 observed	Flat
Trips	16,340	2011 observed	Flat
Cost Per Mile	$1.39	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	2% a year
Relay Shift Cost	$403.63	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	4% a year
Dump-On-Shift Differential	$7.63	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	4% a year
Interim Plan			
Export Fee	$76.91	Projected, inflated to 2016, based on Interstate Waste Services	2% a year; 4% at renewal
Mileage	260,537	2011 estimate	Flat
Tolls	$475,770	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	2% a year
Number of Relays	10,014	2011 estimate, assume 3 trips per worker	Flat
Dump-on-Shift Trips	6,326	2011 estimate, 2 payments per trip	Flat
East 91st MTS			
Export Fee	$106.72	Projected, average of existing LT contracts, at 90 pecent to reflect city operation of MTS	2.5% a year
Mileage	54,925	2011 estimated	Flat
Number of Relays	2,778	2011 projection, assume 4 trips per worker	Flat
Dump-on-Shift Trips	13,562	2011 estimate, 2 payments per trip	Flat
Facility OM	$9,355,091	2012 estimate, grown to 2016	3% a year
Facility Capital Cost	$226,487,000	2013 Executive Capital Commitment Plan	Flat
Facility Debt Service	$13,031,141	Capital Cost (30-year bond at 4%)	Flat
SOURCES: IBO; Department of Sanitation; NYC Office of Management and Budget			

The most difficult component to model was the cost of the export fee. The East 91st MTS would load containerized waste on barges at a city-operated facility. The existing long-term contracts are for rail-based export and two of the three are at privately-owned transfer stations (the cost of operating the facility is built into the contract). The absence of similar contracts for barge-based export from city-operated facilities makes estimating export costs more difficult. With regards to the interim plan option, the cost per ton of export has varied widely when the interim contracts have been renewed.

Given the wide variation in export fees, IBO performed tests to gauge the sensitivity of the total cost estimates to changes in export fees under both options. For example, if the five-year export contracts in the interim option renew with an 8 percent increase, compared with the 4 percent assumed in the baseline, the total cost of the interim option (in current dollars) would increase by $17.8 million. Similarly, if the renewal increase is 20 percent (still below the increases the city saw in the early years of the interim plan), total cost would increase by $79.7 million. If the long-term export contract in the East 91st MTS option is 10 percent less than the baseline and increases at 2 percent a year, the total cost the East 91st MTS option would be $34.6 million lower. However, if the contract is at $125 per ton and grows 3 percent a year, the total cost would be $57.1 million more. Note, however, that given the additional cost to construct and operate the East 91st MTS, total costs are higher for the East 91st MTS option under each of the scenarios.

The city is currently negotiating a long-term, 20-year contract with the Port Authority to accept the waste from the other community districts in Manhattan (about 1,680 tons per day) at the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility in Newark, New Jersey. According to DSNY, the long-term contract will preclude using the facility for waste planned to be processed at the East 91st MTS because the tonnage will fully exhaust the existing available capacity of the Essex facility (exclusive of other waste being processed at the facility from municipalities in New Jersey). Therefore, the city would need to contract with other transfer stations that primarily landfill waste, making the export fee under the interim option more uncertain.

IBO's analysis assumed that the interim option would be a series of five-year contracts as has been the case since the late 1990s. However, a 20-year contract is currently being negotiated for waste in the rest of Manhattan, and it would be possible to do so for the East 91st MTS. Twenty-year contracts may have a higher initial price than the current interim contracts but are likely to be less volatile over time and the city might benefit from securing landfill capacity, especially if constraints on the supply of landfill space drive up prices over the long-term. While IBO did not model that variation, it is possible to consider the impact. For example, if export costs were the same under the two options, then the East 91st MTS would cost $119 more per ton than continuing the interim plan in the first year of operation, compared with a difference of $148 dollars under our baseline assumptions.

The city considered many factors in addition to cost in preparing the comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for the city, such as environmental impact of waste, fairness among the boroughs, and long-term reliability and efficiency. Finally, it is important to note that continuation

of the interim plan instead of construction of the East 91st MTS would most likely be considered a modification of the Solid Waste Management Plan requiring approval by the City Council and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me or Ana Champeny (anac@ibo.nyc.ny.us or 212-442-1524) who conducted the analysis.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Lowenstein

enclosure

cc: John J. Doherty

NYC Independent Budget Office

DATE: May 22, 2012

TO: Ronnie Lowenstein
George Sweeting

FROM: Ana Champeny

SUBJECT: Methodology, Assumptions, and Results of the Comparison of Waste Export Costs via the East 91st Marine Transfer Station or the Interim Plan

Background

In 2006, the city's 20-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) was approved by the City Council and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. The SWMP called for the city to enter into long-term waste export contracts for disposal of all residential waste. There were two strategies. Under the first, waste would be handled by private transfer stations that would either containerize the waste and transport it by rail or barge, or process it at a waste-to-energy plant. Under the second, the city would reconstruct five city-owned transfer stations to containerize waste for transport either by barge (four transfer stations) or rail (one transfer station) and enter into long-term contracts for transport and disposal of the waste.

Residential waste in Manhattan would be handled by a combination of the two strategies. Waste for community districts 5, 6, 8, and 11 (the East 91st waste shed), about 720 tons per day, would be containerized at the city-owned East 91st Marine Transfer Station and transported by barge to either an ocean-going barge or rail connection. Then, the containerized waste would be transported to the landfill (under a twenty-year contract). For the rest of Manhattan, about 1,680 tons per day, the city would enter into a twenty-year contract with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to process the waste at the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility in Newark, New Jersey with the city delivering waste to the transfer station by garbage truck.

Currently, the city is negotiating the long-term contract with the Port Authority, applying for the necessary permits for East 91st MTS, and seeking bids from contractors for the construction of the East 91st MTS. In the meantime, the city has been entering into a series of interim 3-year contracts (with an option for two one-year extensions, at the city's discretion) with local transfer stations to handle all Manhattan waste. In 2011, an average of 1,164 tons per day were driven from Manhattan to the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility, another 774 tons per day were driven to a transfer station operated by Interstate Waste Services, and the remaining 26 tons per day were driven to other transfer stations, including a Waste Management Transfer Station in Elizabeth NJ and a transfer station in Newark NJ. (These tonnages are lower than those presented in the SWMP because they reflect actual tonnage collected by DSNY and there has been a citywide decline in refuse tonnage in recent years).

Methodology and Limitations

IBO was asked to conduct a fiscal estimate comparing construction and operation of the East 91st MTS with continuation of the interim plan.

In order to determine the annual cost, we estimated the cost for the export fee, transportation to the transfer station, and facility operations under each option, while collection costs within the district were assumed to be the same under each option. Each cost component is adjusted annually at the rate specified in the assumptions table; tonnage and truck runs are kept constant. Since construction at East 91st MTS has not begun, we assumed that the facility would be operational in 2016 and focused our analysis on the twenty-year period that would be covered by the export contract at the East 91st MTS. Finally, to compare the two estimates in 2016 dollars, we calculate the present value of the total costs over the twenty-year period, using a 6 percent discount rate.

According to the Department of Sanitation, the twenty-year contract currently under negotiation with the Port Authority to take all the non-East 91st Manhattan waste to the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility, would preclude that facility from accepting any waste from the East 91st waste shed because of insufficient capacity. While the facility is permitted for 2,800 tons per day, it also accepts waste from 22 municipalities in the surrounding area, including New York City, that take up the remaining capacity. The average daily tonnage from the non-East 91st waste shed, expected to be 1,680 tons per day in the SWMP (actual tonnage in 2011 was 1,393 tons per day and 1,457 tons per day over the past six years), already exceeds the average tons per day that the city has delivered to the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility under the interim contracts in any year since 2003. Additionally, since 1999 when the city began using private transfer stations to handle Manhattan waste, there have been between three and six different transfer stations under contract at any given time. Therefore, if the city continued interim export contracts for the East 91st waste shed, the city would need to contract with transfer stations other than the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility. Since the other transfer stations landfill rather than incinerate waste, the export cost may be more volatile because it is affected by supply and demand for landfill space.

The city considered many factors in addition to cost in preparing the comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for the city, such as environmental impact of waste, fairness among the boroughs, and long-term reliability and efficiency. It is also important to note that not constructing the East 91st MTS would be a significant modification to the SWMP, affecting more than 5 percent of the city's residential waste. As such, it would require a formal SWMP modification that would need to be approved by the City Council and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Our analysis is limited to the city cost associated with exporting the waste in the East 91st waste shed. We do not consider the economic or fiscal impact of either undertaking a large construction project in Manhattan or keeping the waste processing in the city. For example, construction activity would generate jobs, tax revenue, and economic activity in the area. We also did not consider the environmental impact of the two options.

Data Sources and Assumptions

Data Sources. IBO used DSNY data on each individual sanitation truck run to estimate tonnage, number of truck runs, and number of relay runs (where a truck is driven to offload on a later shift by a different sanitation worker). Data on annual contract costs was compiled from information provided by DSNY. DSNY also provided information on miles per gallon for garbage trucks and per gallon cost of fuel. The capital cost of the facility was based on the planned cost in the 2013 Executive Capital Commitment Plan. DSNY provided IBO with an updated cost for operating the East 91st MTS based on recently negotiated staffing patterns. The NYC Office of Management and Budget provided information on current interest rates for 30-year tax exempt bonds.

Assumptions. The following table provides a summary of the assumptions that IBO made in order to estimate the cost of the East 91st MTS option and the Interim Plan option.

Assumptions in Cost Comparison of East 91st MTS versus Continuation of Interim Plan			
	Baseline	**Source**	**Annual Growth Assumption**
Shared Assumptions			
Tonnage	577	2011 observed	Flat
Trips	16,340	2011 observed	Flat
Cost Per Mile	$1.39	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	2% a year
Relay Shift Cost	$403.63	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	4% a year
Dump-On-Shift Differential	$7.63	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	4% a year
Interim Plan			
Export Fee	$76.91	Projected, inflated to 2016, based on Interstate Waste Services	2% a year; 4% at renewal
Mileage	260,537	2011 estimate	Flat
Tolls	$475,770	2011 estimate, grown to 2016	2% a year
Number of Relays	10,014	2011 estimate, assume 3 trips per worker	Flat
Dump-on-Shift Trips	6,326	2011 estimate, 2 payments per trip	Flat
East 91st MTS			
Export Fee	$106.72	Projected, average of existing LT contracts, at 90 pecent to reflect city operation of MTS	2.5% a year
Mileage	54,925	2011 estimated	Flat
Number of Relays	2,778	2011 projection, assume 4 trips per worker	Flat
Dump-on-Shift Trips	13,562	2011 estimate, 2 payments per trip	Flat
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Facility Capital Cost	$226,487,000	2013 Executive Capital Commitment Plan	Flat
Facility Debt Service	$13,031,141	Capital Cost (30-year bond at 4%)	Flat
SOURCES: IBO; Department of Sanitation; NYC Office of Management and Budget			

Assumptions Shared across the Options. IBO assumed that the tons per day (577) and number of truck trips per year (16,340) would remain constant at the level observed in 2011 under both scenarios. The 2011 cost per mile was the cost of the gas ($1.15 per mile) plus an allotment for wear and tear ($0.10 per mile), assumed to grow 2 percent a year.

When sanitation workers drive the truck to the transfer station during their regular shift, they receive a dump-on-shift payment. DSNY also relays collection trucks, which means that a different sanitation

worker (just one, rather than the two-person collection crew), drives the truck to offload on a separate shift, usually at night when there is less traffic and tolls are less expensive. Generally, one worker will relay between three and four trucks per shift. The cost of a relay shift and the dump-on shift payment for 2011 were assumed to grow 4 percent a year, reflecting recent annual growth in personnel costs.

Interim Export Option Assumptions. For the interim plan option, the export fee was based on the current fee for the Interstate Waste Services contract for Manhattan waste. Interim plan contracts have a standard increase of 2 percent a year during the term of the contract. Based on a review of the percentage change in contract cost at renewal, IBO assumed that the interim plan contract increased 4 percent at each renewal. The contracts have a three-year term, with the city having the option to extend for two additional years, so IBO assumed renewal every five years. Based on the time when each load was offloaded, IBO was able to estimate the cost of tolls (using the cost for a three-axle truck at either the peak, off-peak or overnight rate). Toll costs were assumed to grow 2 percent a year.

IBO assumed that the number of truck runs that were relayed and the number that were offloaded by the collection crew would stay the same as observed in 2011, with 61 percent of truck runs needing relay. Given the further distance to the transfer stations, IBO assumed that a worker would relay three trucks on one shift. IBO estimated the mileage associated with driving the trucks to the transfer station. For trucks that are relayed, IBO estimated the distance from the center of the district to the district garage and then from the garage to the transfer station. For trucks that were not relayed, IBO estimated the distance from the center of the district to the transfer station. In both instances, the route with the shortest mileage on Google maps was used.

East 91st MTS Option Assumptions. The export contract for the East 91st MTS would be a twenty-year contract, in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Plan. To date, the city has awarded three long-term contracts, all for rail-based export, with two at privately-operated transfer stations. Conversely, waste at the East 91st MTS, a city-operated transfer station, would be transported by barge to either ocean-going barge or rail. The three long-term contracts currently in effect have a service fee that is set monthly by summing a series of cost components, such as fees for transporting the waste to the landfill, the tipping fee at the landfill, cost of operating the transfer facility, a fuel surcharge, and the cost of the containers and railcars. The contracts also specify how each component is adjusted during the contract period. IBO assumed the East 91st MTS contract would start at 90 percent of the average per ton cost of the three current contracts; we assume costs would be lower because East 91st would be operated by city personnel, unlike Waste Management's contracts at Harlem River Yards and Varick Street. Based on the last three years, the long-term contract fee has grown about 2.5 percent a year, which is the annual increase in our estimate.

With the East 91st waste shed community districts closer to the East 91st MTS than to the New Jersey transfer stations, IBO assumed that fewer trucks would need to be relayed. DSNY confirmed that they expect over 80 percent of the truck trips in the four community districts to be offloaded by the collection crew. IBO also looked at the share of trucks being relayed in 2010 and 2011 in certain community districts that have nearby transfer stations (the Bronx, Northern Brooklyn, and Staten Island) and found that 83 percent of trucks were offloaded by the collection crew. In the analysis, we assume

that 17 percent of the truck trips to East 91st will be relayed and 83 percent will be dumped on shift. Since the transfer station is closer, we assume that each worker would relay four trucks per shift. There are no tolls associated with the East 91st MTS option. The same methodology is used to determine truck mileage as with the interim option.

The East 91st MTS option includes costs for constructing and operating the transfer station. The capital cost of the MTS was based on the 2013 Executive Capital Commitment Plan. The annual debt service cost was based on 30-year bonds offered at 4 percent interest, just 30 basis points above the rate the city would currently expect for that bond term. Debt service costs are flat; no refunding or change in terms is assumed. DSNY provided operating costs for the MTS based on staffing negotiated with the union. In addition to salaries and differentials, the operating cost includes fringe costs and other than personal service costs of the facility. Given that the transfer station has both personnel costs and other costs, IBO assumes the operating costs will grow at 3 percent a year (midway between the 4 percent we use for relay shifts and 2 percent for gas and tolls).

Results

IBO found that over twenty years, the cost in present value terms of continuing the interim plan would total $218.9 million, compared with $554.3 million for the East 91st MTS. The first year cost is $15.7 million or $90 per ton for the interim plan, compared with $41.5 million or $238 per ton for the East 91st MTS. The Interim Plan option cost grows at 2.5 percent a year on average, while the East 91st MTS option grows an average of 2 percent a year.

Preliminary Results, Interim versus East 91st MTS				
	Interim Plan		East 91st MTS	
	Total Cost	Cost Per Ton	Total Cost	Cost Per Ton
2016	$15,683,658	$90.00	$41,546,606	$238.43
2017	$16,027,095	$91.98	$42,313,317	$242.83
2018	$16,378,261	$93.99	$43,100,849	$247.34
2019	$16,737,251	$96.05	$43,909,778	$251.99
2020	$17,294,101	$99.25	$44,740,693	$256.76
2021	$17,770,111	$101.98	$45,594,203	$261.65
2022	$18,160,160	$104.22	$46,470,931	$266.69
2023	$18,560,199	$106.51	$47,371,518	$271.85
2024	$18,968,604	$108.86	$48,296,624	$277.16
2025	$19,599,827	$112.48	$49,246,927	$282.62
2026	$20,140,338	$115.58	$50,223,124	$288.22
2027	$20,585,040	$118.13	$51,225,932	$293.97
2028	$21,040,363	$120.75	$52,256,088	$299.88
2029	$21,507,313	$123.43	$53,314,898	$305.96
2030	$22,227,385	$127.56	$54,402,592	$312.20
2031	$22,845,256	$131.10	$55,519,972	$318.62
2032	$23,355,855	$134.03	$56,667,859	$325.20
2033	$23,876,099	$137.02	$57,847,102	$331.97
2034	$24,409,644	$140.08	$59,058,570	$338.92
2035	$25,228,504	$144.78	$60,303,159	$346.06
Present Value	**$218,870,863**		**$554,295,085**	
SOURCE: IBO				
NOTE: Present Value uses 6 percent discount rate.				

IBO also looked separately at the cost for export, transportation, and facility operations (all on a per ton basis). The export cost is about 39 percent higher under the East 91st MTS option. This results stems from the fact that the projected export cost is based on existing long-term and interim contracts, and long-term contracts are currently more costly. The export costs are the most difficult to measure accurately and forecast over the twenty-year horizon, because of volatility and uncertainty, and we conduct a sensitivity analysis to see how changing our assumptions about contract costs affects the results.

Preliminary Results, Interim versus East 91st MTS						
	Interim Plan			East 91st MTS		
	Export Per Ton	Transport Per Ton	Facility Per Ton	Export Per Ton	Transport Per Ton	Facility Per Ton
2016	$76.91	$13.09	$0.00	$106.72	$3.23	$128.47
2017	$78.45	$13.53	$0.00	$109.39	$3.36	$130.08
2018	$80.02	$13.97	$0.00	$112.13	$3.48	$131.74
2019	$81.62	$14.43	$0.00	$114.93	$3.61	$133.45
2020	$84.34	$14.91	$0.00	$117.80	$3.75	$135.21
2021	$86.58	$15.40	$0.00	$120.75	$3.89	$137.02
2022	$88.31	$15.91	$0.00	$123.77	$4.03	$138.89
2023	$90.08	$16.43	$0.00	$126.86	$4.18	$140.81
2024	$91.88	$16.98	$0.00	$130.03	$4.34	$142.79
2025	$94.94	$17.54	$0.00	$133.28	$4.50	$144.83
2026	$97.46	$18.12	$0.00	$136.61	$4.67	$146.93
2027	$99.41	$18.72	$0.00	$140.03	$4.85	$149.10
2028	$101.40	$19.35	$0.00	$143.53	$5.03	$151.33
2029	$103.42	$20.01	$0.00	$147.12	$5.22	$153.62
2030	$106.87	$20.69	$0.00	$150.80	$5.42	$155.99
2031	$109.71	$21.39	$0.00	$154.57	$5.63	$158.42
2032	$111.91	$22.12	$0.00	$158.43	$5.84	$160.93
2033	$114.14	$22.88	$0.00	$162.39	$6.06	$163.52
2034	$116.42	$23.66	$0.00	$166.45	$6.29	$166.18
2035	$120.31	$24.47	$0.00	$170.61	$6.53	$168.92
SOURCE: IBO						

The export cost per ton is the majority of the cost of the interim plan, with only about 15 percent of the first year cost attributable to the cost of transporting the waste from the community districts to transfer stations in New Jersey. The transport cost under the East 91st MTS option is about 75 percent lower than the interim plan because the transfer station is located closer to the community districts (about one-fifth of the mileage estimated under the interim option), there are no tolls, and there is less relaying of trucks.

The East 91st MTS option includes an additional cost not present in the interim plan option, the cost of constructing and operating the facility, which IBO estimates to be about $128 per ton in the first year. The facility costs are largely fixed and a slight increase or decrease in tonnage would not change the total cost for the facility, but it would go up or down on a per ton basis. The estimates for export fee and transportation are more stable on a per ton basis, so that more tonnage would increase the total cost but not the per ton cost.

Sensitivity to Changes in Assumptions. As noted, the most difficult component to estimate was the export fee with either the interim five-year contracts or the twenty-year contract for export at the East

91st MTS. IBO considered the sensitivity of the estimate to these assumptions by running the analysis with different assumptions for contract costs.

The price per ton at renewal for the interim contracts is especially volatile and we estimate the total cost for the interim plan if the renewal saw increases of 8, 14, or 20 percent, rather than the 4 percent in the baseline assumption. Conversely, the city has not yet entered into a long-term contract for containerization at a city-owned marine transfer station. So, we modeled the cost if the long-term export cost was initially lower or higher, or grew either more quickly or more slowly than our baseline.

The results of our sensitivity analysis show that the cost can vary greatly based on the assumptions. For example, if the five-year contracts renewed with an 8 percent increase, compared to the 4 percent in the baseline, the total cost in current dollars would increase by $17.8 million. However, if the renewal increase were 20 percent (still less than what the city saw in the early years of the interim plan), the cost would increase by $79.7 million. If the East 91st MTS long-term export contract were 10 percent less than the baseline and increased at 2 percent a year, the total cost would be $34.6 million lower. However, if the contract were at $125 per ton and 3 percent a year growth, the total cost would be $57.1 million more.

Cumulative Cost (Present Value) Under Different Contract Cost Assumptions
Dollars in millions

	Cumulative Cost (Present Value)	Change from Baseline
Interim Plan Option, Renewal Increase Adjustment		
Baseline Model, renewal at 4 percent	$218.9	
Renewal at 8 percent	$236.7	$17.8
Renewal at 14 percent	$266.0	$47.1
Renewal at 20 percent	$298.6	$79.7
East 91st MTS Option, Baseline and Annnual Increase Adjustments		
Baseline Model, $107 per ton/2.5 percent a year	$554.3	
$96 per ton/2 percent a year	$519.7	($34.6)
$125 per ton/2 percent a year	$586.7	$32.4
$125 per ton/3 percent a year	$611.4	$57.1

SOURCE: IBO
NOTE: Present Value over 20-year period, 6 percent discount rate.

Ramapo
for Children

Building Relationships, Inspiring Success.

Hello, my name is Sheri Klugmann and I am a parent training specialist with Ramapo for Children. I want to start by thanking the Council for having this hearing and for your longstanding commitment to funding Ramapo programs, especially as part of the City Council funded Autism Awareness Initiative.

Ramapo for Children is a New York City based agency with an extraordinary track record of serving children and the adults who work with them since 1922. I work for Ramapo Training, the professional development program of Ramapo for Children, which provides workshops and assistance to educators, youth workers, and parents to help them better manage and meet the needs of their children. We are an itinerant service provider, providing services in all 5 boroughs of New York City.

The primary focus of my job is to provide workshops and support for parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders, funded via the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene, the City Council Autism Awareness Initiative. These services fill a critical need for families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Over the past five years of this initiative, Ramapo's workshops have impacted the lives of over 1,500 children with autism spectrum disorders. 100% of parents who have participated in Ramapo's behavior management workshops reported that the training helped them feel less alone as parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and provided them with techniques and tools they could use immediately to help their child. In the words of one parent, *"You were able to help me understand my son more in this one workshop than in the last four years of raising him. It was a struggle, but you made it easier."*

Our parent workshops are unique and effective not only because of the amount of information we present, but due to the relatable, clear manner in which we communicate with parents. For many parents, our workshops are the only opportunities they have to receive vital skills which make daily life less stressful, and meet the special needs of their children.

Too frequently parents have little access to information and support to help their special needs child. Parent education and support is a low cost, high impact, efficient way to ensure these New Yorkers have access to assistance. Ramapo, as an itinerant service provider, targets underserved areas and travels to all five boroughs to work with families for whom this is often their first access point to support on how to manage the challenges of raising a child with a disability. We respond to the racial, socioeconomic, and cultural diversity of New York City. We translate our written materials into Spanish, and we have worked with translators in the Russian speaking, and Mandarin speaking communities. Our workshops have taken place through employee assistance programs on the NY Stock Exchange trading floor for working parents, for grandparents raising children with special needs, for the Russian immigrant population in South Brooklyn, and for Spanish speaking families in Washington Heights, to name just a few. We partner with hospitals, community centers, and public schools. Every year, we identify new groups of New Yorkers who are parenting children with disabilities and set up workshops to bring information and support to them in their neighborhood.

We are very grateful for all of the work that we have been able to do for parents over the past few years, but there is a lot more to be done. While our programs have allowed us to reach many diverse parent populations, there are communities who still await help and need it desperately. In addition, each day there are new parents who received a diagnosis of autism for their young children; these parents need immediate help to understand this diagnosis and quickly learn tools to support their children.

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Ramapo
for Children

Building Relationships, Inspiring Success.

Without the support of New York City Council funding, we would not be able to provide parents and caregivers with information and skills to work effectively with their child. The effect of this would be devastating for families: social isolation and family crisis. More importantly, thousands of parents who want to have the knowledge about how to help their kids would be denied information. Ultimately, their kids will then require support elsewhere and become a drain on the education and mental health systems. Helping parents is simply an efficient and effective way to support children.

I thank the New York City Council for their time and support and am hopeful that you will understand how much this support means to families and children who are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders. We not all request full restoration of this initiative but that the initiative be increased to $2million.

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Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 5:33 PM
To: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: FW: Parks Budget

Please add this to the public testimony file

****** tedwards@council.nyc.gov ******

Tanisha Edwards, Counsel

Finance Division, New York City Council

212-227-2923

212-788-7061 (fax)

From: Nina Kramer [mailto:nina@ninakramer.com]
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 5:31 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Subject: Parks Budget

I am glad to see the Parks Budget increased for the first time in years. I think there is a real loss to communities if all city pools are not available this summer. This and stump removal remain areas for additional budgeting. Perhaps curtailing pool hours and opening them all could be a strategy for keeping costs down. Or allowing for concessions that pay rent for their locations at pools…

Nina Kramer, RLA

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Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 7:42 PM
To: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: Fw: Parks Dept. CY 2014 Budget

Testimony for Wednesday

From: sarah wenk [mailto:smwenk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 07:13 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Subject: Parks Dept. CY 2014 Budget

Dear City Council Members:

The Prospect Heights Street Tree Task Force is pleased to hear that the City's Fiscal Year 2014 Parks Department budget includes increased funding for staff and pruning. However we are concerned that funds have not been set aside for stump removal. This is a particularly egregious problem in many parts of the City due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy and city removal of sick, damaged, and dead trees. We are writing to ask that the budget be amended to include funding for stump removal as well as tree replacement. As the New York Times has reported, there are tens of thousands of tree stumps throughout the city that remain in place for years due to lack of funding for their removal. In our view, this is a crucial element of the City's commitment to MillionTreesNYC. We understand the enormous strains on the Parks Department's budget, but street tree stump removal has suffered from neglect for too long. We urge you to fund the removal of stumps and the planting of new trees in the FY14 budget and beyond.

The Prospect Heights Street Tree Task Force has been an advocate for Prospect Heights' street trees for the past five years. We partner with Prospect Heights' block and merchant associations to sponsor tree care events throughout the year and actively encourage our residents and merchants to adopt the street trees near their homes and businesses. We have identified over 300 potential volunteers who are invited throughout the year to participate in our tree care events. In short., our mission is to care for our neighborhood's street trees and educate residents and merchants on caring for their street trees. Stump removal and tree replacement is something we care about deeply.

Respectfully yours,

Sarah Wenk
Bob Biegen

Prospect Heights Street Tree Task Force

THE COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

New York City Council
Committee on Education and Finance
FY2014 Executive Budget
June 5, 2013

Testimony of Elizabeth Lee
Program Manager, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families

Good afternoon. My name is Elizabeth Lee, and I am a Program Manager at the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF). We would like to thank Finance Chair Recchia and Education Chair Jackson and members of the Finance and Education Committees for holding this important oversight hearing on the city fiscal year (FY) 2014 Executive Budget.

Since 1986, CACF is the nation's only pan-Asian children's advocacy organization, and works to improve the health and well-being of Asian Pacific American (APA) children and families in New York City in three key policy areas: education, health and child welfare. CACF challenges the stereotype of Asian Pacific Americans as a "model minority" and advocates on behalf of underserved families in our community, especially those who are struggling with poverty and immigrants with limited English skills. We work with our membership of over 50 community based organizations to promote better policies, funding, and services for East Asian, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander children, youth, and families.

CACF also co-leads the 13% and Growing Coalition, a group of over 45 Asian led and serving organizations that work together to ensure that New York City's budget protects the most vulnerable Asian Pacific American New Yorkers. Coalition members employ thousands of New Yorkers and serve hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Currently, the Asian Pacific American community is by percentage the fastest growing group in New York City, nearly doubling every decade since 1970, and is nearly 14% of the population. Unfortunately, current levels of public funding for the Asian Pacific American community remain disproportionate to our community's needs.

CHALLENGES

Representing 13% of New York City's population, APA's are a largely growing immigrant community where **1 in 2 are foreign born, 26% live in poverty, and the APA community has the highest rate (42%) of linguistic isolation, meaning that no one over the age of 14 in a household speaks English well.** Culturally competent and language accessible services, programs and resources are vital to the APA immigrant community. While considering this need, it is disheartening to recognize that APA led and serving organizations receive less than 1% in public social service contract dollars and City foundation grand dollars.

14% of New York City's public school students are of Asian descent. Unfortunately, due to stereotypes APA students remain largely invisible and their needs are not considered in education reform initiatives. Often conversations regarding the achievement gap in education focuses upon the needs of Black and Latino students as compared to Whites and Asians. Generally depicted as high-achieving and smart, the preconception of Asians as model minorities masks the achievement gap that exists within the Asian American community itself. With over 100 languages and cultures, Asian Americans makeup an extremely diverse

community where there are as many disparities across ethnicities but also within each ethnic community itself.

More specifically, while only 5% of APA students attend a specialized school, there are many more APA students who fail to meet education standards, and struggle throughout their academic career. These students find themselves isolated and marginalized, and often lack the necessary support to navigate the education system and access services critical to becoming competent, well-adjusted adults. Consider these facts: 1 in 4 APA students does not graduate on time or at all, and according to the New York State Department of Education "only 50% of APA students are considered prepared for college and career, and for APA students in high needs urban-suburban areas, the rate drops to 35.2%." While reasons for student struggles can be infinite and are unique to each individual, there are common trends underlying the challenges APA students face in education. Primarily these challenges include:

- **Coping with the stress and anxiety associated with the stereotypes and stigmas of being viewed as a "model minority."** More specifically, Asian Pacific American youth experience increased pressures from their families and peers to succeed academically and fit into the mold of "model minority." With high expectations placed upon them, often youth feel overwhelmed and disappointed in their own abilities if they cannot live up to such standards.
- Having difficulty keeping-up with their peers academically as **1 in 5 APA students is an English Language Learner**- meaning they are simultaneously learning English and course content. These youth are marginalized by the acculturation process and often do not have adequate academic preparation and guidance to achieve to their fullest potential.
- Dealing with **communication issues and language barriers** within their families. This situation forces students to serve as interpreters for their families which may cause additional undue stress and anxiety.
- Being financially able to afford an education as **1 in 2 Asian Americans are born into poverty, and many Asian American families identify as "working poor."** These financial barriers create another challenge for students to achieve access to higher education, as their families encourage them to take on added responsibilities at home, are asked to help to support the family financially, care for younger siblings, find employment instead of apply to college, or attend a nearby college close to home.

Concerned about their futures, the experiences of Asian American youth have emphasized the pervasiveness of these issues. Youth from our leadership program, Asian American Student Advocacy Project (ASAP) shared:

> "Like me, many Asian Pacific American students come from immigrant families. My parents have never been to college and they are new to the American education system. They also lack the ability to speak English, which means I have to deal with the college process by myself."
> "My parents always put a lot of pressure on me to do well in school, and think that getting A's means I will succeed. Unlike my siblings who set the bar really high, I am a mediocre student and with their guidance they helped me understand that develop leadership skills and joining extracurricular activities to explore my interests are just as important as academics. I wish everyone

had access to role models that can help direct and support so that everyone is given opportunities to develop leadership and explore career aspirations." "Many parents work long hours to take care of me and my brother and think that making money will help us for the future. I cannot talk to them about my problems and wish that schools would take more time to help us solve our problems in life, and not just think about our report cards because many students have a lot of life pressures and don't know what to do. "

RESTORE KEY PROGRAMS

We want make sure that APAs are not left out or invisible in on-going discussions on resource allocation and education reform initiatives. We want to ensure that there are available funding to provide adequate translation and interpretive services for youth and parents. We also ask for culturally competent services in the schools and we encourage schools and agencies to also partner with local community groups to work together to address the diverse APA/immigrant needs. As community advocates, we will continue to work with you and our partners to urge the State to maintain the $250 million of education funding for New York City to focus on extended learning time for students and to develop community schools that integrate social and health services that and provide support to immigrant families.

Barriers to post-secondary readiness are inherent for all students, but the challenges faced by the most vulnerable youth in the Asian Pacific American community make academic success even more difficult. Most discussion regarding post-secondary readiness relies heavily on academic preparedness, and many education reform initiatives like the common core standards were developed to address this issue. In addition, the New York City Department of Education's (DOE) report card indicates that benchmarks for post-secondary readiness are measured by primarily focusing on student test scores. While there is a high correlation between test scores and academic ability to a student's level of college and career readiness, we believe that a more holistic approach must be taken.

Post-secondary readiness cannot only focus on academic factors to success, but must also include nonacademic factors and develop the social skills of our youth. We must ensure our youth are provided with the skills and abilities needed to become responsible, well-adjusted, civically engaged, citizens. Thus, as a city we must ensure are youth are armed with the skills and abilities to succeed by: fostering the development of leadership, providing youth with opportunities for career exploration and developing vital life skills and abilities. To support our students and ensure they are adequately prepared for their futures, we encourage the City Council and the Mayor to restore the following programs.

- **Restore $66.2 million After School funding** ($60.9 million OST funding, $4.4 million in Beacon funding and $926,000 in Cornerstone funding)
- **Restore $59.6 million in Child Care Funding** ($46.4 million in child care funding, $12.1 million for school-age child care vouchers, $100,000 for job training and placement and $1.0 million for technical assistance to providers)
- **Restore $3.3 Million to allow Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) to serve an additional 2,500 youth this summer.** In each of the last three years DYCD has had to turn away over 100,000 youth that applied for a job, with last summer's program serving just over 27,000 youth- the lowest number in over a decade. During this time

frame, NYC's commitment to the program has shrunk from $23.9M to $20.6M, representing a loss of over 2,000 jobs.

- **Restore $2.25 million to Full Day Universal Pre-K** to extend two and one-half hour UPK program to a full school day program.

SUPPORT A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO EDUCATION

In addition, while we emphasize the urgency for our city's education to restore key programs, we also encourage the City Council and Mayor to consider supporting programs, services, and initiatives that support using a multi-prong approach to education. Investing in educational initiatives that view a child's education holistically, ensures that our children are not just prepared academically, but rather are armed with the knowledge and social-emotional skills they need to become independent, civically engaged, responsible adults who can contribute to New York City's economy. . By taking into consideration the following, together we can ensure our future leaders can demonstrate their leadership and have the ability to think critically and problem solve.

- **Collaboration: Incentivize school and community based organization (CBO) partnerships that help create a college-going culture.** By creating partnerships with CBOs, schools can build their capacity to adequately address student needs and provide additional support services that prepare youth to be college and career ready. CBOs can provide schools with access to valuable, culturally specific services and resources to help better engage students academically, socially and emotionally.

- **Offer increased services to at-risk students that promote a college-going culture within the school.** Providing additional support services can ensure that all high school students are on track to graduate and are adequately prepared for their future. These services should be provided in a cultural competent manner and address the following:
    - Provide knowledge about the education system and developing a standardized checklist outlining requirements students must meet by grade level. For many families the education system is complicated, and they are unsure of the process of applying to schools, services available, and the requirements needed to graduate and continue education. By understanding how the system works, families will be better equipped to navigate the system and ensure students are getting the support they deserve. A helpful model is California's "A through G" requirements that ensures families know what is required of students in order for students to gain entrance into post-secondary education.
    - Encourage the development of life-skills to prepare youth for the future (such as time management, conflict resolution, college and career counseling)
    - Financial planning and literacy that helps youth learn about opening up bank accounts, managing money, and helping families navigate the financial aid process and plan for college expenses.
    - Implement college awareness workshops beginning freshman year that provide additional guidance and make explicit benchmarks and outcomes they should be achieving at each grade level. In addition, schools should offer and organize school-wide college fairs and trips providing students with opportunities to explore their interests and be more informed of their options. With early

awareness students are better equipped to make decisions and develop a roadmap for success.

- **Develop distributive guidance programs that integrate college and career advising with general guidance counseling services.** It is never too early to start planning, thus such services should begin in middle school and help to ensure students are on track to graduate, and provide opportunity for youth to develop realistic goals for the future. In addition, the role of school guidance should be better integrated into the overall college and career readiness initiatives within high schools. To increase capacity, distributive guidance could be helpful in supporting a student's path to college. It is necessary for all school staff, administration, teachers and counselors to collaborate with each other in order to advance college and career readiness in our schools.

- **Develop standards to measure social and emotional development of our youth.** In addition to holding schools responsible for measure such as test scores, graduation rates, and attendance, schools should also be responsible for social emotional standards. This accountability will force schools to address the nonacademic factors vital for college and career readiness and realize the importance of partnerships. Models of these standards have been developed by Partnership for After School Education, The After School Corporation, and New Visions.

- **Additional Supports for First Generation Students: Develop experiential learning programs targeting middle and high school youth and parents.** Programs should: 1.) build leadership skills, 2.) engage both students and parents in navigating and understanding the education system, and 3.) encourages students and parents to become active agents within their schools and their community. There are many models that demonstrate the power experiential learning can have upon youth and parents, such models include: CACF's college and career readiness collaborative Project Collegebound, New York State Youth Leadership Council, Urban Youth Collaborative, and Child Welfare Organizing Project.
    - Particularly for youth, programs should provide a space where students can build their confidence, participation in school (attendance, public speaking, identifying personal narrative for college essays, etc), and civic engagement. The focus of these leadership programs should be geared towards college readiness by providing youth with vital skills of critical thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, writing, responsibility, and teamwork. Such programs not only build individual leadership and confidence in abilities, but can also foster positive identity development, and can increase knowledge and access to college information. By providing meaningful and empowering opportunities to youth, programs can increase student resiliency, and increase student engagement in academics and put them on the path to being college and career ready.
    - Parent engagement is a vital component in the success of youth, and parents are often difficult to engage. Developing a parent leadership program can encourage and provide new ways parents can be involved in schools and support their child's education. Such a program can offer a safe space for parents to enter into their child's school, where they feel the voice can be heard and their needs addressed. For immigrant parents, engaging with schools can be intimidating

and uncomfortable setting. By finding meaningful ways to engage parents (preferably in their own language), schools can begin to build a foundation where parents are more likely to support and attend school events, and provide their children with more guidance

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Asian Pacific American community is demanding our fair share in the City budget to ensure that youth in our community does not get left behind. Therefore, we put forward the following principles in how our City government should address the financial crisis.

- **The City should address both the revenue and expense sides of the budget.** There are always two sides of the budget, and the City must finds ways to increase revenue to raise the much needed dollars to prevent devastating cuts to services. CACF asks the City to support the following to ensure revenue comes to New York City:
    - **Corporate Tax Fairness** – We are excited that the Governor and State Legislature passed a tax for high-earning New Yorkers which brought copious revenue into the State. However, this is not enough. The Governor is working to form a Tax Reform and Fairness Commission, and we urge New York City to push Albany to ensure that within this reform, corporate loopholes are closed and corporate income tax is reformed. Many of the specific measures, such as reforming the Corporate Alternate Minimum Tax (AMT), taxing nonresident hedge fund management feeds, and eliminating the carried interest exemption in New York City would raise over $1 billion in revenue for the state.
    - **Advocate for the restoration of the 65%-35% State match for preventive services funding**. The State needs to restore the 65%/35% State match for preventive services. The State's uncapped match now stands at roughly 62%/38% after reductions the last three fiscal years. We urge the City to oppose the Governor's recommendation to maintain this level of funding for the next five years, and to work with the State *not* to freeze this vital funding source at its current unprecedentedly low level for the next five years. This uncapped funding source is critical to achieving better outcomes for children and families. Cuts in preventive services may save money in the short-term, but there are significant long-term costs associated with its alternatives. Research shows that quality community-based preventive services can save both the City and State significant expenditures associated with repeat maltreatment, entry into foster care, or entry into residential treatment. Without preventive programs, particularly those which are linguistically appropriate and culturally competent, many immigrant families would be unable to access the supports they need to keep their children safely at home and out of the costlier foster care system.

- **Award 10 percent of points in the Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation process for organizations that demonstrate their capacity to provide culturally competent and language accessible services.** It is important for New York City agencies to increase access to vital services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. The Office of Minority Health proposed Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) as a means to correct inequities that currently exist in the provision of health services and to

make the services more responsive to the individual needs of all consumers. These standards provide a common understanding and consistent definitions of culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS)[1] and can offer important guidance for New York City.

Culturally specific community-based organizations are more likely to understand the complex multi-layered challenges and obstacles and appropriately address the needs of racial, ethnic and linguistic populations groups that experience unequal access to services. Without culturally competent and language accessible services, community members may experience delayed access to services in the short term, which can result in costlier interventions in the long term. Culturally specific community-based organizations are also better equipped to form essential relationships and engage their communities in the creation and implementation of services relevant to the diverse and unique needs of the victims. They play a vital role in providing services that are relevant to their communities and address the complexity of needs.[2] With the growing racially diverse population, it is necessary for services to go beyond cultural awareness and knowledge but also ensure providers have appropriate skills and are able to use them effectively in cross-cultural situations.

- **The most vulnerable members of New York must be protected during these tough financial times.** Budget cuts should not be detrimental to New Yorkers with the greatest needs. According to New York City's Center for Economic Opportunities, Asian Pacific Americans have the second highest rate of poverty at 26%. The City must preserve services to our most vulnerable, especially children and families. Services such as workforce development, ESL, adult literacy, and child care all promote economic self-sufficiency. Therefore, cuts to these vital services hinder the participation of these communities to contribute fully to the economic growth of the city.

- **The City should ensure that small CBOs that serve emerging immigrant communities be supported.** These organizations are rooted in and have the trust of their communities. They are often the first to become aware of and respond to the community's needs in a culturally competent and linguistically appropriate manner. However, the funding for services these small CBOs provide are often not baselined and are the first to be eliminated. These include Council discretionary dollars in the form of member items and initiatives such as Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI), Adult Literacy, and Domestic Violence and other Emergencies (DoVE). A decrease in funding to these grassroots organizations translates into a diminished capacity to address the community's needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and we look forward to working with the City Council to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the services and support they need to thrive.

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[1] US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health-National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care, March 2001.
[2] US Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, OVW Grants to Enhance Culturally Specific Services for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Stalking Program, March 2012

We would like to commend members of this committee that have been so supportive and invested to ensure that all New York City youth have equal access to a robust education.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you all today.

New York City Council
Committee on Finance
FY14 Executive Budget
June 5, 2013

Testimony of Marissa Martin
Budget Policy Manager, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
on behalf of 13% and Growing Coalition

My name is Marissa Martin, Budget Policy Manager of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families. We would like to thank Chair Recchia and members of the Finance Committee for holding this public hearing on the city fiscal year (FY) 2014 Executive Plan.

The Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) co-leads the 13% and Growing Coalition with the MinKwon Center for Community Action. The 13% and Growing Coalition is a group of over 45 Asian led and serving organizations that work together to ensure that New York City's budget protects the most vulnerable Asian Pacific American New Yorkers. Coalition members employ thousands of New Yorkers and serve hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. The 13% and Growing Coalition advocates for budget priorities in six key areas: Children and Youth, Women, Low-Income Individuals, Seniors, Immigrants, and Health and Mental Hygiene.

Currently, the Asian Pacific American (APA) community is by percentage the fastest growing group in New York City, nearly doubling every decade since 1970, and is 13% of the population. Unfortunately, current levels of public funding for the Asian Pacific American community remain disproportionate to our community's needs.

CHALLENGES & KEY PROGRAMS

Currently, the Asian Pacific American community is grossly underfunded with the City's health and human service dollars. While City Council discretionary funding provides us the opportunity to be flexible, innovative, and responsive to community needs, City agencies must keep reinventing its policies and approaches in contracting out health and human service funding.

Consider that Asian Pacific American led and serving organizations receive less than 1% in public social service contract dollars and City foundation grant dollars. And yet, while many 13% and Growing Coalition members have long relied on City Council discretionary dollars to bridge the gap and continue to provide vital services in APA ethnic enclaves in Council districts city-wide, our analysis of publicly available budget documents from the FY2012 Adopted Budget revealed that **APA led and serving organizations received only 2.25% of City Council discretionary dollars and 0.32%[1] of all initiative funding.**

With this economic downturn, a cut to our community will have detrimental effects because current resources already do not meet current needs. Cutting vital services will only exacerbate existing financial conditions by creating long term economic and human costs. Unfortunately, many vital programs and services targeting APAs were cut and eliminated from the FY 2013 Executive Budget.

[1] 13% and Growing arrived at these percentages based on an analysis of publicly available information in Schedule C of the FY2012 Adopted Budget. Initiatives include both City Council sponsored-initiatives and agency programs.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH-In New York City, 22% of all Asian Pacific Americans are under the age of 18, numbering over 230,000 youth. 1 out of 4 Asian Pacific American public high school students do not graduate on time or at all and 1 out of 3 Asian Pacific American students who graduate are not college career ready.

- **Restore $66.2 Million to After School programs –** Currently, the Out-of School (OST) system serves over 56,500 children and youth in elementary, middle and high school programs with $121.4 million. As a result of consistently being placed on the chopping block the past three years, the City Council has funded $50.9 million in OST funds for 29,700 slots, $4.4 million for 5,600 Beacon slots and $1 million for 733 NYCHA Cornerstone slots. However, in November, $10 million was cut decreasing OST slots by 5,316. Restoring and baselining $66.2 million would allow the system to maintain the after school programs that are crucial to this city.

- **Prevent $59.6 Million in Cuts to Child Care –** These programs not only support working families, but also provide early education, helping to lay the foundation for future school success. The Mayor proclaimed that children are the 'future of our world, city and country', highlighted the need for a better education system, and yet proposed a $59.6 million dollars in cuts to child care that will put almost 9,000 children at risk.

- **Restore $3.3 Million to allow Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) to serve an additional 2,500 youth this summer.** In each of the last three years DYCD has had to turn away over 100,000 youth that applied for a job, with last summer's program serving just over 27,000 youth- the lowest number in over a decade. During this time frame, NYC's commitment to the program has shrunk from $23.9M to $20.6M, representing a loss of over 2,000 jobs.

WOMEN-Asian American women, almost all foreign-born, accounted for 7% of the women killed by an intimate partner, but only 4% of women who were killed by someone who was not close to them.

- **Restore $2.5 million in the Domestic Violence Empowerment Program (DoVE)** to provide community-based services to victims of domestic violence.

- **Restore $350,000 to Legal Services for Domestic Violence Victims** to continue to provide legal services to indigent victims of domestic violence appearing in court.

LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS-In New York City, 26.5% of all Asian Pacific Americans are living in poverty, and 21% of all Asian Pacific American children are living in poverty.

- **Increase the Housing Preservation Initiative from $1.42 million to $2 million** to expand and support neighborhood-based groups to develop and implement a grassroots strategy to create more affordable housing.

- **Restore $1.05 million to Legal Services for the Working Poor.**

- **Restore $830,000 of Community Consultant Contracts** reversing the 50% cut that this essential program took 2 years ago when it was reduced to $415,000.

- **Restore $1.08 million to Neighborhood Preservation Consultant Program (NPCP)** to help provide early intervention and anti-abandonments services to privately owned buildings.

HEALTH & MENTAL HYGIENE-In New York City, 1 out of every 8 Asian Pacific Americans does not have health insurance.

- **Restore $6 Million to HHC Unrestricted Operating Subsidy**-HHC a safety-net provider for 1.4 million New Yorkers and serves nearly half a million uninsured patients. HHC already has budget deficit of $1.2 billion, have closed clinics, lay-off off workers, and privatizing and contracting out their services. Even though federal aid will be given, HHC's budget will be even more strained because of the recovery efforts due to Superstorm Sandy which negatively impacted Bellevue and Coney Island Hospitals and their Ida G. Israel Community Health Center. Many of uninsured New Yorkers will gain coverage under the Affordable Care Act, but undocumented immigrants won't be one of them, and so HHC serves as a vital provider to Medicaid and uninsured patients.

- Restore $1.25 Million to Children Under Five Initiative to fund community-based outpatient mental health clinics to provide mental health treatment for children age five and under.

SENIORS-In New York City, the Asian Pacific American senior population grew by 150% since 1990. Asian Pacific American poverty rates among seniors (26%) are higher than New York City seniors in general (19%).

- **Restore Case Management Funding for Homebound Elders** - For FY13, $4 million out of $6.6 million was restored. This cut has led to caseloads skyrocketing from 70 to 90 per case manager. A full restoration, $6.6 million, is requested to ensure the safety and well being of this vulnerable elderly population. The additional $2.6 million to bring this to a full restoration is a worthy investment to allow frail elders, living in isolation, to age in place with supportive services and dignity.

IMMIGRANTS-In New York City, 73% of all Asian Pacific Americans are foreign born. 48% of all Asian Pacific Americans are limited English proficient, and 77% of Asian Pacific American seniors are limited English proficient.

- **Restore $4.6 million to the Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI)** – Two-thirds of all New Yorkers are immigrants or children of immigrants. The Immigrant Opportunities Initiative funds programs that help these New York immigrant families obtain citizenship and language skills necessary for decent jobs, and to protect their legal rights. In FY 2013, IOI was funded at $4.6 million which supported nearly 90 organizations throughout New York City to offer these services along with CUNY's Citizenship NOW program. Even when the City funded IOI at $10 Million a few years ago, this only met 10% of the need for ESOL and legal services programs. We have already seen huge cuts to IOI that has hindered the full integration of immigrants in becoming active New Yorkers who can participate in building a stronger economy and civic foundation for the City's future.

- **Restore $6.7 Million for Adult Literacy Services through the City.** We support the restoration of the City Council's Adult Literacy Initiative to $1.5 million and DYCD's Adult Literacy program to $5.2 million, both of which fund community-based programs that provide ABE, ESOL, and GED classes for immigrant and native-born New Yorkers seeking to become literate or improve their literacy competency. These funding levels would support more than 100 programs serving more than 10,000 adults and out-of-school youth. The lack of funding in the executive budget represents a loss of over $10.2 million in the City funds since FY 10. Without restorations, close to 7,000 people will lose the opportunity to take classes, which will double the total loss of program seats to nearly 14,000 since FY 10. This sharp decrease in funding has come at a time when New Yorkers are most in need of opportunities to build their skills.

- **Expand Community-based adult education classes for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).** We strongly support Speaker Quinn's proposal to invest $12.8 million to expand community-based adult education classes for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) eligible immigrants. This would add a critical 16,000 seats in the City.

- **Restore Council Discretionary Funds** – Member items, including discretionary for youth and seniors, are important to meeting the on the ground needs of community members. These dollars help to fund vital services in local districts and city-wide.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Asian Pacific American community is demanding our fair share in the City budget to ensure that our community does not get left behind. Therefore, we put forward the following principles in how our City government should address the financial crisis.

- **Award 10 percent of points in the Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation process for organizations that demonstrate their capacity to provide culturally competent and language accessible services.** It is important for New York City agencies to increase access to vital services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. The Office of Minority Health proposed Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) as a means to correct inequities that currently exist in the provision of health services and to make the services more responsive to the individual needs of all consumers. These standards provide a

common understanding and consistent definitions of culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS)[2] and can offer important guidance for New York City.

Culturally specific community-based organizations are more likely to understand the complex multi-layered challenges and obstacles and appropriately address the needs of racial, ethnic and linguistic populations groups that experience unequal access to services. Without culturally competent and language accessible services, community members may experience delayed access to services in the short term, which can result in costlier interventions in the long term. Culturally specific community-based organizations are also better equipped to form essential relationships and engage their communities in the creation and implementation of services relevant to the diverse and unique needs of the victims. They play a vital role in providing services that are relevant to their communities and address the complexity of needs.[3] With the growing racially diverse population, it is necessary for services to go beyond cultural awareness and knowledge but also ensure providers have appropriate skills and are able to use them effectively in cross-cultural situations.

- **The most vulnerable members of New York must be protected during these tough financial times.** Budget cuts should not be detrimental to New Yorkers with the greatest needs. According to New York City's Center for Economic Opportunities, Asian Pacific Americans have the second highest rate of poverty at 26%. The City must preserve services to our most vulnerable, including recently arrived immigrants, low-income, limited English proficient, children, and seniors. Services such as workforce development, ESL, adult literacy, and child care all promote economic self-sufficiency. Therefore, cuts to these vital services hinder the participation of these communities to contribute fully to the economic growth of the city.

- **The City should ensure that small CBOs that serve emerging immigrant communities be supported.** These organizations are rooted in and have the trust of their communities. They are often the first to become aware of and respond to the community's needs in a culturally competent and linguistically appropriate manner. However, the funding for services these small CBOs provide are often not base-lined and are the first to be eliminated. These include Council discretionary dollars in the form of member items and initiatives such as Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI), Adult Literacy, and Domestic Violence and other Emergencies (DoVE). A decrease in funding to these grassroots organizations translates into a diminished capacity to address the community's needs.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony, we look forward to working with the City Council to ensure that all New Yorkers have access to the services and support they need to thrive.

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13% and Growing Coalition Member Organizations

Adhikaar ▪ Andolan - Organizing South Asian Workers ▪ APEX ▪ Arab American Family Support Center ▪ Asian American Arts Alliance ▪ Asian Americans for Equality ▪ Asian American Federation ▪ Asian Outreach Clinic, Child Center of New York ▪ Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS ▪ Asian Youth Center of NY ▪ Center for the Integration and Advancement of New Americans ▪ Chhaya CDC ▪ Chinatown Manpower Project ▪ Chinese-American Planning Council ▪ Chinese Progressive Association ▪ Coalition for Asian American Children & Families (co-lead) ▪ Council of Peoples Organization ▪ Damayan Migrant Workers Association ▪ Desis Rising Up and Moving ▪ Family Health Project ▪ Filipino American Human Services, Inc. ▪ Greater Chinatown Community Association ▪ Hamilton Madison House ▪ Homecrest Community Services ▪ Indochina Sino-American Community Center ▪ Immigrant Social Services ▪ Kalusugan Coalition, Inc. ▪ Korean American Family Service Center ▪ Korean American League for Civic Action ▪ Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York, Inc. ▪ Korean Family Counseling and Research Center ▪ Lower East Side Family Union ▪ MAAWS for Global Welfare, Inc. ▪ Mekong ▪ MinKwon Center for Community Action (co-lead)▪ New York Asian Women's Center ▪ New York Coalition for Asian American Mental Health ▪ NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health ▪ NYU South Asian Health Initiative ▪ SAKHI for South Asian Women ▪ Sikh Coalition ▪ South Asian Council for Social Services ▪ South Asian Youth Action ▪ Turning Point for Women and Families ▪ United Chinese Association of Brooklyn ▪ United Hindu Council Senior Center ▪ United Sikhs ▪ Women for Afghan Women ▪ YWCA of Queens

(List in formation as of April 24, 2013)

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[2] US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health-National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care, March 2001.

[3] US Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, OVW Grants to Enhance Culturally Specific Services for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Stalking Program, March 2012
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dance/NYC

IN ALLIANCE WITH DANCE USA

Written Testimony to the New York City Council on the FY 2014 Budget

By Lane Harwell, Executive Director of Dance/NYC

I submit this testimony on behalf of the service entity Dance/NYC and *all* of New York City's 1,200 dance makers and companies to call attention to the importance of the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) investment in our industry and highlight contributions of our industry to the City.

Dance/NYC requests a full restoration of DCA's budget for FY 2014 and asks that the Council hold open the possibility of an increase.

This year, as our City recovers from Hurricane Sandy, the arts and culture have demonstrated their ability to heal—lifting spirits, reinvigorating neighborhoods, and driving timely investments. To continue to do this critical work, even as their own operating resources are diminished by the storm, the arts and culture need public funding and infrastructure support. **Of the good that comes out of Hurricane Sandy, I hope it includes a significant reinvestment in DCA.**

Dance/NYC's case for funding is based on recent research, including: the State of NYC Dance (2011), based on Cultural Data Project Data; a companion piece, Discovering Fiscally Sponsored Dance makers (2012); and a Dance Workforce Census (2012), led by Dance/NYC's Junior Committee of dance workers under 30. State of NYC Dance highlights underscore the importance of nonprofit dance as a contributor to and an ambassador for our City:

- Total aggregate expenditures of 127 groups analyzed: $231 million—healthy contributions to our economy and powerful returns on investment

- Performances in NYC: 1,600; On tour: 1,300—representing the City to the world
- Paid attendance: 2+ million

The State of NYC Dance report and the CDP data it animates were made possible with DCA support, in partnership with the City Council, and demonstrate the City's strong commitment to gauging the health and opportunity of the arts—to making the most informed and strategic investments possible. The CDP data also reveal the City's leadership in supporting nonprofit dance—and the wider community of artists and audiences the sector engages—with the largest share of public support attributable to DCA in every organizational budget category, from groups with budgets less than $100,000 to groups with budgets more than $5 million.

With a New Yorkers for Dance video campaign released this week via DanceNYC.org and featured in *The New York Times*, those who care about dance are lending their person stories to illuminate the data I have described—and testifying to the importance of dance to creativity, education, communities, and the economy. New Yorkers care about the future of the art form and are looking to the Council for leadership. I am also delighted so many representatives from the dance community are testifying on the FY 2014 Budget and stand proudly with them.

In requesting a full restoration of the DCA budget, **I want to acknowledge and thank the Committee on Cultural Affairs and the Council for its commitment to advancing the City's role as a global dance capital and long history of restoring proposed cuts to DCA.**

END

The Samaritans A Safe Place to Turn in Times of Crisis

The New York City Council Fiscal Year 2014
Executive Budget Hearings
Committee on Finance – Wednesday, June 6, 2013

Testimony for the Samaritans of New York
Presented by Director of Government Relations, Fiodhna O'Grady

The Samaritans of New York, the City's only community-based organization devoted to preventing suicide that operates the City's 24-hour suicide prevention hotline, wants to thank Chair of the Finance Committee, Council Member Recchia, and all the Committee Members for their ongoing support and the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Samaritans is NYC's longest-running suicide prevention organization and established its first community suicide prevention public education program. As we look back on over 30 years of providing crisis response services to New Yorkers who find themselves overwhelmed, depressed or suicidal, we must say that the City Council's continued support for this pressing public health issue and funding of our $247,000 Hotline PEG restoration has been a key component of our success and longevity.

It is that funding and the Council's recognition that NYC needs the 24-hour safety net provided by Samaritans 100 caring volunteers, that it needs our completely confidential community hotline that has responded to over 1 million calls—frequently from those who are under-served or uninsured or overcome by stigma—that keeps our doors open.

Suicide, violence and self-destructive behavior are significant public health problems facing NYC today. Whether it's recent suicides tied to bullying, post-partum depression, returning veterans, people jumping in front of subways, the almost 30,000 NYC high school students that attempt suicide each year, etc. or the increased costs and demand on our City emergency rooms—depression and suicide have significant impact.

This makes continued funding of Samaritans hotline through the $247,000 PEG restoration as much a public health priority today as it was over 25 years ago when Department of Mental Health Commissioner Luis Marcos first contracted Samaritans.

Especially when you consider that suicide is the 4th leading cause of death for 15-34 year olds in NYC and 6th for those 35-44. That the Medical Examiner tells us that 77% of those who died from suicide in NYC had documented history of mental illness and the National Mental Health Association says as many as 60% of the people who experience mental illness receive no psychological services at all, research pointing to social stigma, cost and lack of access as the primary reasons.

Dr. Marcos recognized then as countless mental health professionals do today that there is a pressing need in NYC for an easy-to-access, non-threatening *humanistic* type of crisis response that fills service gaps, offers free ongoing emotional support and provides an alternative form of care for those who are hesitant to seek clinical care, resistant to government-run programs or are afraid to give their name or phone number.

So the benefits of Samaritans hotline's immediately accessible, completely confidential, personal response, especially in serving those with little or no health coverage or who are hesitant to seek help is clear. Even more so when you look at the costs, demand and inappropriate use of our City's emergency rooms and services.

According to a recent Harris Poll, 85% of Americans who have gone to emergency rooms said they couldn't wait to see their regular provider, with the CDC reporting that two-thirds of emergency room visits occur after hours when doctor's offices are closed and patients have nowhere to turn. The United Hospital Fund says highly frequent use of emergency rooms in NYC are associated with mental illness and substance abuse.

Samaritans is available 24/7 when most doctors and therapists cannot be reached, making it the ideal backup and alternative to emergency rooms. It provides a *bridging* function, meaning people can rely on the hotline providing them with support on an ongoing basis until they find the service they need or between appointments/treatment.

With SAMHSA estimating the average hospitalized suicide attempt costs NYS $11,509, if only 25 of the close to 60,000 calls we answered last year prevent someone from being hospitalized (a conservative estimate), then the cost of our contract is more than justified. Add the $800,000 our volunteers donate in free labor each year and for the PEG of $247,000, Samaritans saves NYC both lives and money.

Samaritans responds to people with every kind of issue and problem—youth, elderly, unemployed, homeless, victims of violence, bullying, sexual assault, GLBTQ, veterans, those coping with mental illness, substance abuse, PTSD, diseases like AIDS and diabetes and others at-risk for suicide.

And research proves that hotlines like Samaritans provide callers with significant reductions in emotional distress, hopelessness and suicidality; it also shows that the caller's emotional state and level of suicide ideation continues to improve several weeks after the call has ended.

Most importantly, Samaritans collaborates with and provides technical support in the prevention planning done by hundreds of community and government organizations, from DYCD and the Department on the Aging to the NYC Department of Education (who credit us with putting suicide prevention their public school health agenda) to Occupy Sandy, Metropolitan Council on Poverty, Graham Windham and GMHC.

Samaritans thanks the City Council for its the ongoing support, looks forward to working with you in September to promote Suicide Prevention Month in NYC and asks you, as you did last year, to fund the $247,000 PEG restoration for our confidential 24-hour suicide prevention hotline.

Thank you!

Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2013 11:00 PM
To: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: Fw: Parks Funding

Testimony

From: Sarah Gallagher [mailto:SWGall@nyc.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2013 10:14 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Subject: Parks Funding

Ladies/Gentlemen:

As the Council engages on Parks' new budget, we ask that you fully restore funding to this essential to good city life.

No question, climate change and extremes of weather and temperature make this people's resource even more vital.

Most sincerely,

Sarah Woodside Gallagher

Empowered Queens United in Action and Leadership
An affiliate of Metro IAF

85-18 61st Road, Rego Park, NY 11374
718.898.4194 | 718.898.4389
equaliaf@gmail.com | www.equal-iaf.org

FROM: Fr. William Smith, Our Lady of Light RC Church
Rev. Patrick O'Connor, First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica
Rev. Calvin Rice, New Jerusalem Baptist Chuch

TO: Speaker Christine Quinn

RE: EQUAL's Report Flooding in Southeast Queens, Summer 2013

Southeast Queens has been plagued with flooding for over 40 years, particularly since the mid 1990s. This has caused far too many homes and other property to be damaged, economic well being to be harmed, and health to be put at risk by mold, or worse, every time there is a significant amount of rainfall.

E. Thomas Oliver, a member of New Jerusalem Baptist Church and a leader in Empowered Queens United in Action and Leadership (EQUAL), lives in Laurelton, Queens. "I've seen my street [141st Ave] so flooded that people paddled past my home in canoes." Due to repeated basement flooding, he bought a $4,000 sump pump to help save his home, and "after my car was totaled by flood water in 1999, no matter what time of night the rain starts, my neighbors and I have to move our cars to higher ground." However, this problem goes far beyond Laurelton, as can be seen by the pictures from other locations. EQUAL leaders are working to ensure this problem is solved.

Background: After receiving many complaints about flooding, sewer backups and other problems, EQUAL leaders did a survey of their congregations and communities. You can find a map of the reported sites of flooding or other drainage problems, along with more details about each site, here.

EQUAL leaders have heard too many stories of economic harm and health risk. As Mr. Oliver said, "We are disheartened that our one major investment, our homes, have been terribly damaged by constant flooding. More importantly, our health has been put at risk by mold."

Another EQUAL leader, Keisha Phillips-Kong, from Our Lady of Light Roman Catholic Parrish, and native of Trinidad, lives near at 194th Street and 119th Ave in St. Albans. "Since my husband and I bought our own home in St.

Albans, I have seen flooding worse than I ever saw in Trinidad." When it rains for even a short period of time, the catch basins overflow and streets flood. "When it continues, it floods our front yard, and driveway, so that we have to hop into our truck directly from our backdoor."

Like Mr. Oliver and his neighbors, Ms. Phillips-Kong, her family and neighbors, must move their cars to higher ground when it rains. On their block, flooding has gotten so bad that they have had to sandbag their basement window to prevent water from pouring in from the street. "We love living here," Ms. Philips-Kong said, "but we should not have to fear the rain."

Causes

While many communities experience flooding, Southeast Queens has dealt with more than most because of a combination of factors:

1) Inadequate Storm Sewers. Southeast Queens' (like other areas) population has far outstripped the capacity of its storm sewer system, and homes were built where no storm sewers exist at all.

2) Poor Sewer Maintenance. Catch basins are often clogged. There have also been enough reports of backups to indicate sewer line maintenance needs to be improved as well.

3) Reduction of Permeable Areas. For example, the water that was absorbed by the wetlands that preceded JFK now has nowhere to go.

4) **Increased Rainfall** often attributed to global warming.

5) **Rise in the Ground Water.** Beginning in 1996, Southeast Queens residents stopped using water from wells owned by the Jamaica Water Company (JWC), and started getting drinking water from the same upstate aquifers that the rest of the City uses. This was necessary, as those wells were polluted, but not pumping them caused the water table in Southeast Queens to rise significantly.

Solutions. This problem has been brought to the attention of the agency most responsible for dealing with the flooding, the New York City Department of Environmental (DEP) by EQUAL and others trying to solve the flooding problem many times. DEP has started to take action to improve the situation, but much more is needed in several areas, including:

1) Improved Sewer and Catch Basin Maintenance. EQUAL has been able to push DEP to make progress here. EQUAL leaders surveyed flood

prone areas in the Spring of 2012 and reported several clogs and back ups to DEP. As a result of EQUAL's pressure, almost all of these problems have been resolved (examples can be seen in the photos of before and after cleaning). Further, DEP committed to cleaning al clogged drains in Community Districts 12 and 13 and confirmed 1,562 tons of debris was removed from drains in those areas.

This cleaning has led to real improvements. For example, the basements at two EQUAL member churches in Southeast Queens, (Bethany Baptist Church and Morningstar Missionary Baptist Church), and one in Sunnyside (Sunnyside Reformed Church), used to flood regularly. In response to pressure from EQUAL, DEP cleared the drains near these churches several times. Each time after the drains were cleared flooding reduced significantly, but picked up again after a few significant rains.

However, it is clear that more than a one-time cleaning blitz is needed. There was serious surface flooding as recently as May 28th, 2013 (as can be seen in some attached pictures). Further, in areas where the water table is especially high, some people's basements have been constantly filling with water, even without rain.

In flood prone areas like Southeast Queens, the City cannot wait for flood-ravaged residents to complain loudly to stop ignoring the problem. More regular maintenance of sewers and catch basins than once every three years is needed to prevent flooding before it starts. DEP said it is considering "a more proactive, less reactive" maintenance policy. It is critical that they adopt one. Catch basins in these areas should be incorporated into DEP's Flash Flood Plan, as part of this effort; DEP should also have a program for inspecting and cleaning storm sewers in flood prone areas to ensure that storm sewer capacity is not lessened by the buildup of debris.

2) Construction of New Storm Sewers and Catch Basins in Areas that Lack Them. Current DEP plans have many parts of Southeast Queens waiting years, or longer (decades after they were opened to residential development), to finally have storm sewers installed. This is particularly dangerous in flood prone areas, like the ones on the attached list. We understand that sewer extensions often take years because they have to be built out in a grid plan. New York State DEC reported that NYC DEP proposed that storm sewer pipe extensions could be built directly to flood prone areas, and could thus be done much more quickly. Sewer pipes and catch basins must be extended as quickly as possible to all the areas that need them and do not have them, including those on the attached list and any others.

3) Lowering the Water Table. The water table in Southeast Queens that rose due to wells not being pumped must be lowered. DEP's initial plan was to wait until 2016 (later postponed to 2018) when the Delaware Aquifer is to be taken offline, and then start pumping the wells again. This is far too long. Steps must be taken fair more quickly:

A) EQUAL is happy that DEP has installed three "Reverse Seepage Basins" (RVBs) at 175th Street and Sayers Ave, 109th Ave and 155th Street, and Linden Blvd. and 155th Street. Anecdotal evidence, and DEP's testimony at the March 11th, 2013 City Council Hearing, suggests that they are reducing groundwater infiltration into people's basements by draining the excess water into nearby sewer pipes. We presume the RVB's flow monitoring devices also indicate they work, since DEP testified on March 11th that they identified nine other sites where RVB's may be effective. Unfortunately, despite our request, DEP has not made data from the flow monitoring devices available to EQUAL, despite the fact that they said it would be available to the public.

Given the desperate need for action to end flooding in Southeast Queens, the fact that RVBs' appear to be effective, and cost only $10,000-$35,000 each, according to DEP estimates, EQUAL believes these nine other sites should be pursued on an emergency basis (as the first three were). Given the 40 year long crisis, residents should not have to wait through the 18 month RFP process to learn if further relief is even possible.

Further, DEP must do a comprehensive study, that will be made available, in full, to the public, of the rest of Southeast Queens to determine any other areas where RVBs' can be effective, and where other methods should be employed to help solve this problem. Any other RVBs must also be installed on an emergency basis.

B) When the JWC well at Station 24 was pumped again by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) during the summer and fall of 2012, DEC told EQUAL it was removing 2.7 million gallons per day from the aquifer, treating the water and putting in Jamaica Bay. People in the area reported the level of groundwater infiltration in their basements reduced substantially. We were greatly disappointed when Station 24 stopped being pumped. It is clear that a comprehensive plan must be developed to pump many, if not all, of these wells, not in 2018, but as soon as possible. Sustaining the pumping over the long term

will likely require finding non-potable uses for this water (as it is not clean enough to drink). NYS DEC and Council officials have reported that DEP officials suggested well water could be used for improving the water balance of Jamaica Bay, washing planes at JFK, or landscape irrigation. Other have suggested that well water could be used for geothermal heating and cooling. All such options must be studied, and a comprehensive plan must be developed and implenmented immediately.

4) Green Infrastructure (GI) is an environmentally friendly, cost effective, method of replacing lost natural drainage. While some GI does not work in areas with high water tables, other methods (like green roofs) do. Any GI that will work must be used, where appropriate, to end flooding. It is critical that a compressive study to determine what GI will work in Southeast Queens, beyond the two blue belts that DEP has already planned for Baisley Pond and Springfield Lake be done, and a that such these methods be constructed on as wide a scale as will be effective. We understand this would be a shift in focus for DEP on GI, but it is one that needs to be made.

As is stated above, we appreciate that some progress is finally being made. However, what is being done now is only a small fraction of what is needed. EQUAL is working with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Office of City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, and has reached out to other Council Members and elected officials, such as Assemblyman Scarborough, to ensure this problem is being solved. We have also had some very encouraging conversations with officials from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. EQUAL leaders met with DEP Commissioner Cater Strickland, Associate Commissioner Mahoney and several other staff members. A summary of EQUAL's view on the flooding problem can be found in a December 6, 2012 New York Daily News Op-Ed.

EQUAL is a broad-based, non-partisan, grassroots community organization made up of dues paying member congregations representing almost 4,500 families, many of whom have been effected by the serious flooding problems described above. EQUAL is also the Queens affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF); which has over 60 organizations in the US, Europe, and Australia, including three other organizations in New York City, as well as in Westchester County, Long Island, and New Jersey.

Capital Projects at Sites of Chronic Flooding or other Drainage Problems

EQUAL leaders have recently observed persistent flooding, or other drainage problems, at the sites listed, amongst others. Page numbers referred to are from DEP's project list. This is not a comprehensive list. All the flooding sites reported to EQUAL since 2011, along with descriptions and 311 reference numbers, can be found here.

A) Areas of chronic flooding where capital projects are apparently planned:

1) 158th Street and 111th Ave, 11433. 311 Ref #: C1-1-778130931.

2) 157th Street and 111th Ave, 11433. 311 Ref #: C1-1-778157271.

It appears this area is covered by Project HWQ121B3 (p 3), which is set to start in FY 2015 (estimated cost $12,317,000). Given the frequent flooding in this area, this project should be sped up as much as possible.

3) 194th Street and 119th Ave, 11412 (311 Ref # C 1-1-778151391),

Project SEQ200517 (p 17), a storm sewer build out and water main replacement, is planned for 119th Ave between 192nd and 195th Street. It is slated to begin in FY 2014 and is listed as costing $1,645,000.

Project SEQ200480 (p 16), which extends storm sewers to areas close to this intersection, would seem to have an impact here as well. It began in FY 2011 and is listed as costing $1,937159. These projects need to be completed as soon as possible.

4) 196th Street, between 118th Ave and 119th Ave, 11412. (311 Ref #: C1-1-778130571).

It seems that the combination of the above projects could provide relief here as well, but DEP has not verified that.

5) 204th St and Linden Blvd, 11412

Work appears to have begun here, through Project SEQ200489 (p 16), listed as starting in 2013 and costing $6,547,083). It is critical this work continue.

6) 146th Terrace and 183 St., 11413. (311 Ref #: C1-1-779261331).

Project HWQ562A "West of Springfield Lake" seems to include this area. It is unclear if it was completed yet. There are still flooding problems in this area.

B) Areas of chronic flooding or other drainage problem that appear to not have storm sewers or planned capital projects (but clearly need them).

1) Hillside Ave, between 192nd St and 199th St, 11423

2) 171st Street and Foch Blvd, 11434

3) 225-22 Menton Ave. 311 Ref #: 185409718.

4) 229th Street and 115th Ave, 11411

5) 146-59 222nd St., 11413.

6) 156-09 107th Ave, 11433- Frequent flooding has been reported here and it appears a catch basin is needed in the middle of the block.

7) 106th Rd. and 180th St, 11433. (311 Ref #: C1-1-778151611).

8) 226-05 (and 06) 141st Ave., 11434 (311 Ref # 185409719)

The kind of expedited sewer extensions DEC and DEP discussed may make sense in some or all of these locations.

C) Areas of chronic flooding that appear to currently have storm sewers, but still have significant flooding.

1) 115th Ave and Springfield Blvd, 11411.

2) 225 Street and 115th Ave, 11411. 311 Ref #: C1-1-778088041

3) 224th Street and 115th Ave, 11411. 311 Ref #: C1-1-778037891

4) 227th Street and 115th Ave, 11411. 311 # C1-1-778151191

5) 228th Street and 115th Ave, 11411. 311 Ref# C1-1-778151231

6) 198th Street, and 113th Ave, 11412. (311 Ref #: C1-1-778151391).

7) **196th St. and 113th Ave, 11412.** (311 Ref# C1-1-778130521).

8) **169-15 120th Ave, 11434**

D) Other New Sites of Flooding (observed since March 11th, 2013)

1) Bedell St and 116th Ave, 11434. 311 Ref #: C1-1-858400321, and C1-1-858398861

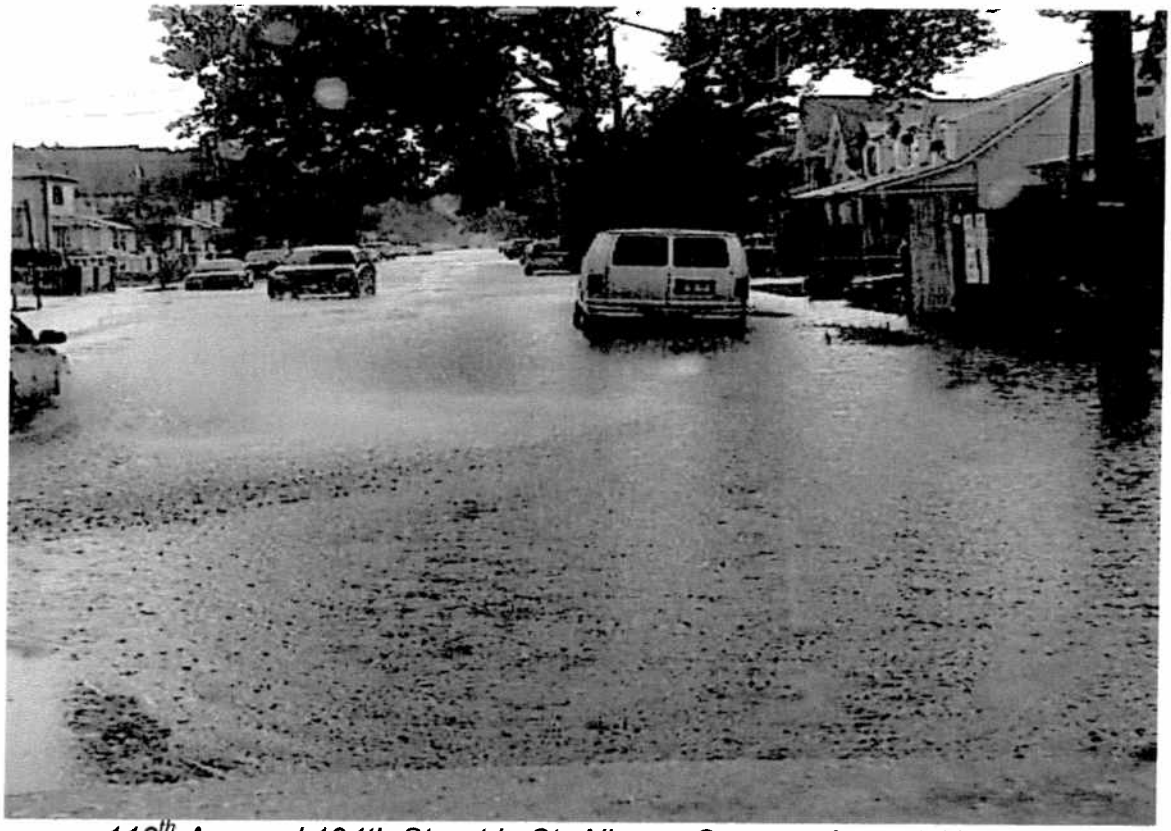
2) 116th Ave and 203rd street, 11412. 311 Ref #: C1-1-858399221

3) 113th Ave and 194th St, 11412 311 Ref#: C1-1-858400831

4) 157th St & 113th Ave, 11433. 311 Ref #: C1-1-858399071

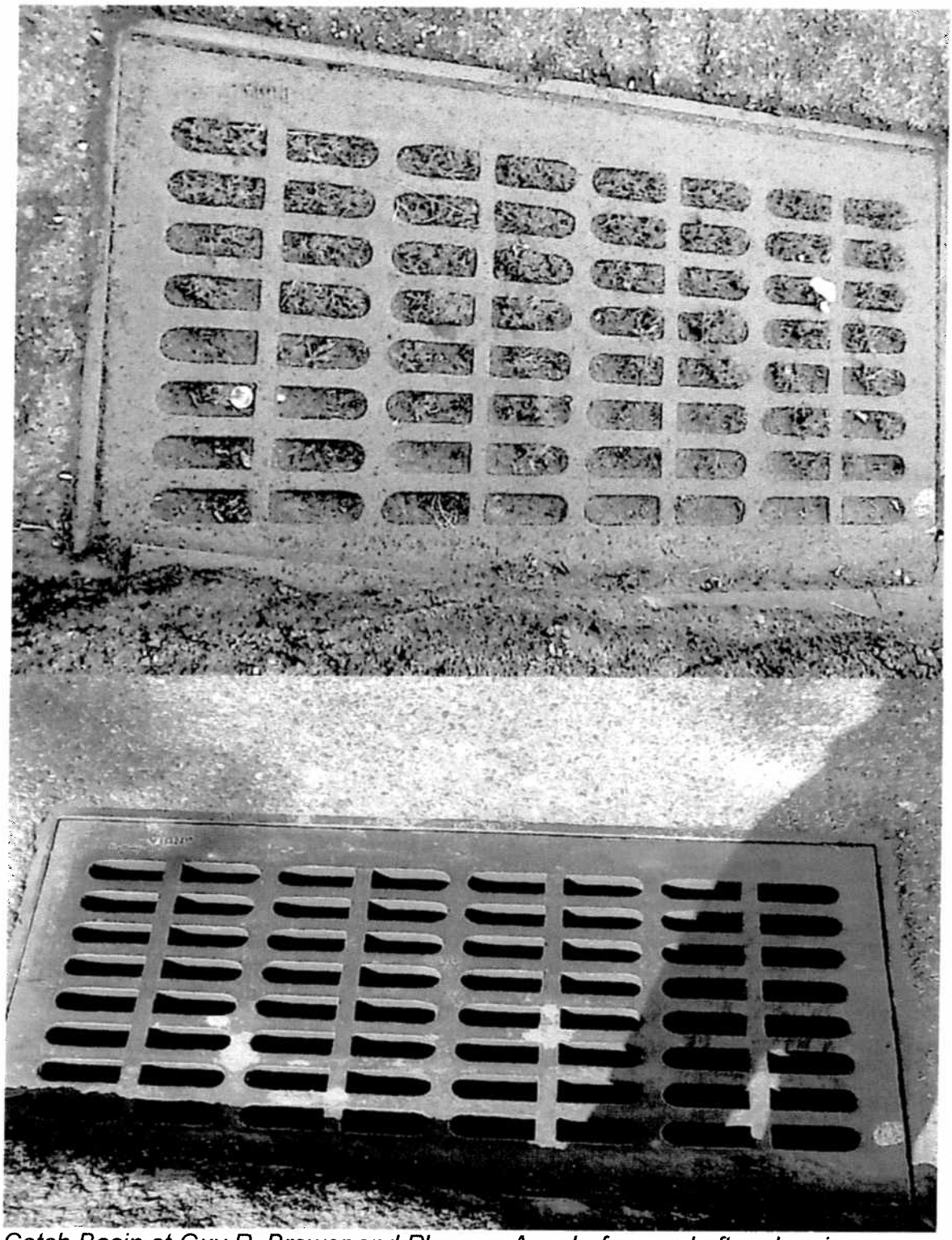
5) 113th Ave & 194th St, 11412 311 Ref #: C1-1-858400831

Photos for EQUAL Flooding Report



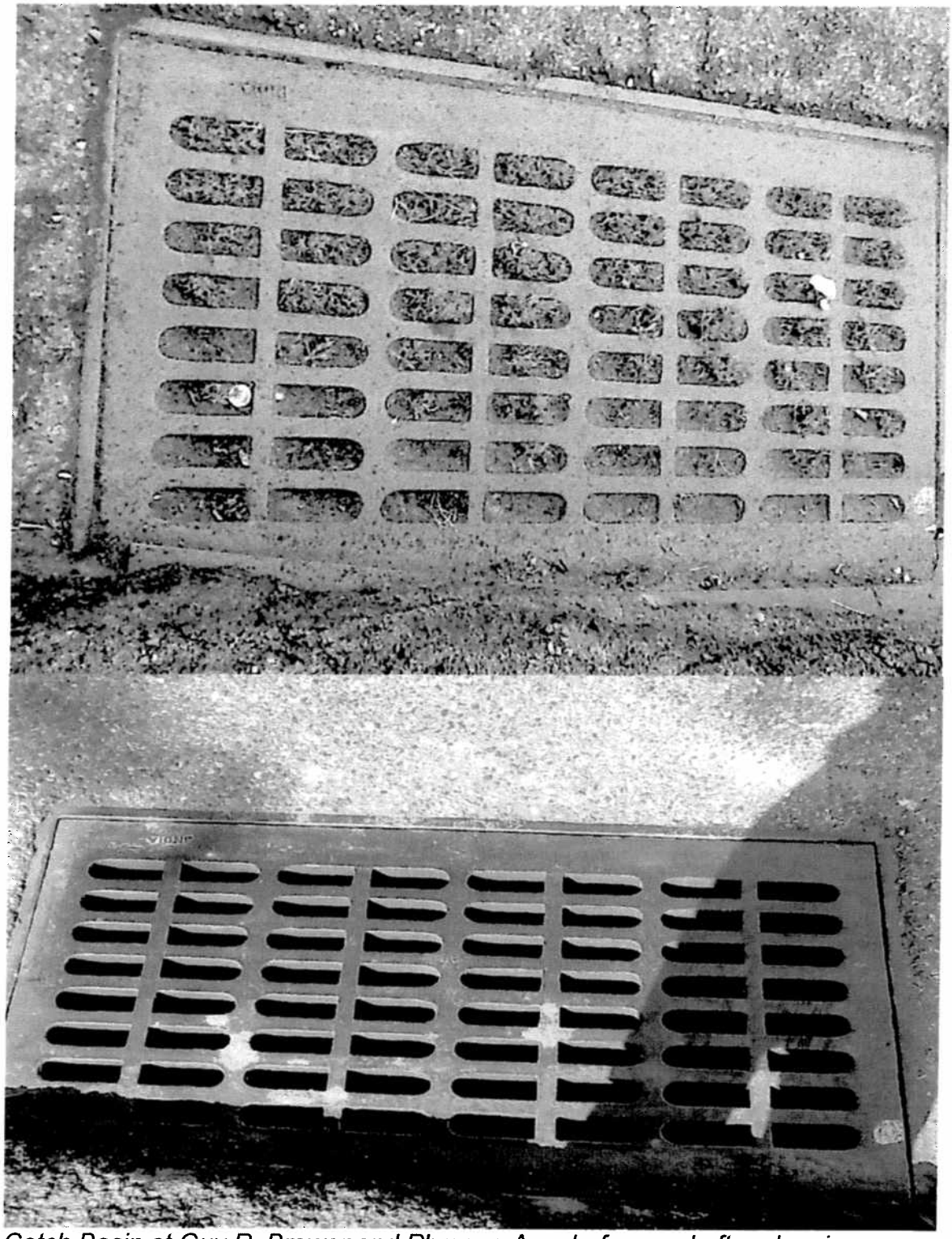
119th Ave and 194th Street in St. Albans, Queens, August 10, 2012

Front yard on 119th Ave, facing 195th St.



Catch Basin at Guy R. Brewer and Phroane Ave, before and after cleaning

Catch Basin on Baisley Blvd, near Smith Street before and after cleaning

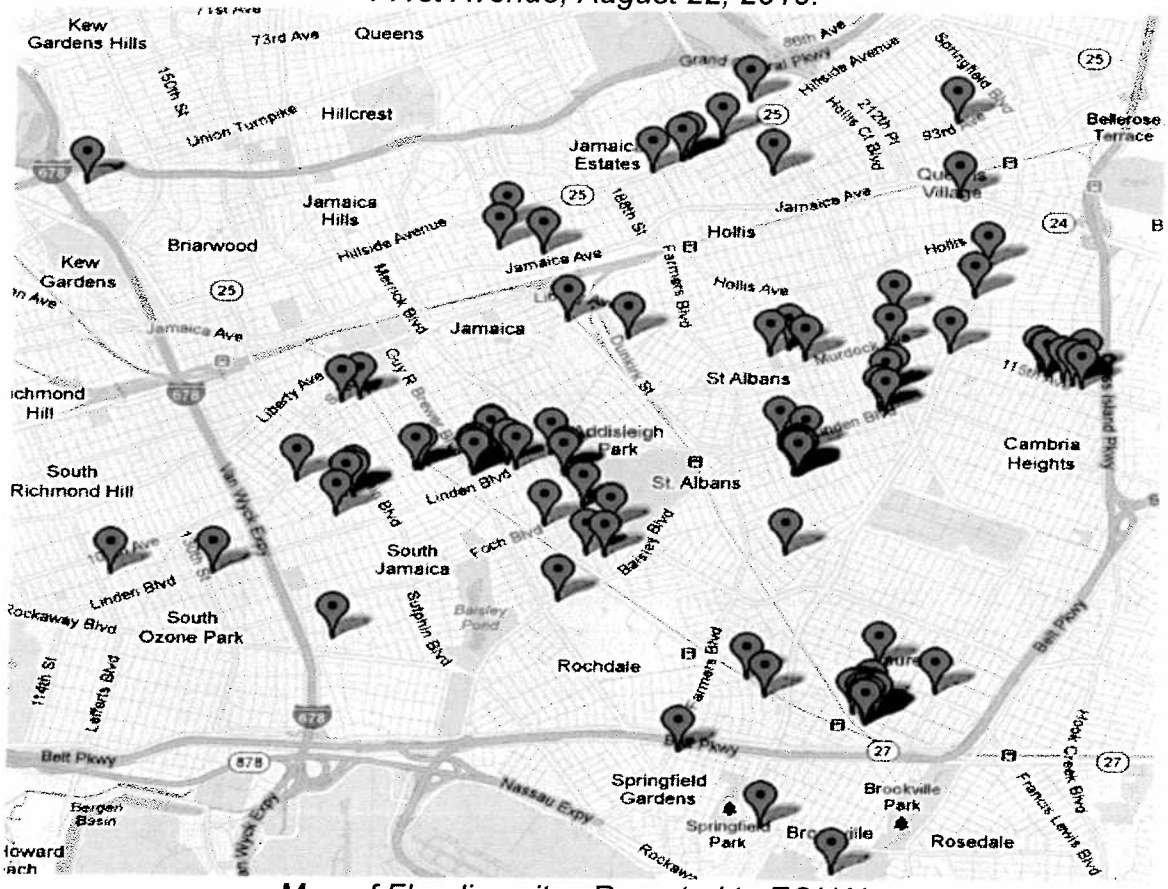


Catch Basin at Guy R. Brewer and Phroane Ave, before and after cleaning

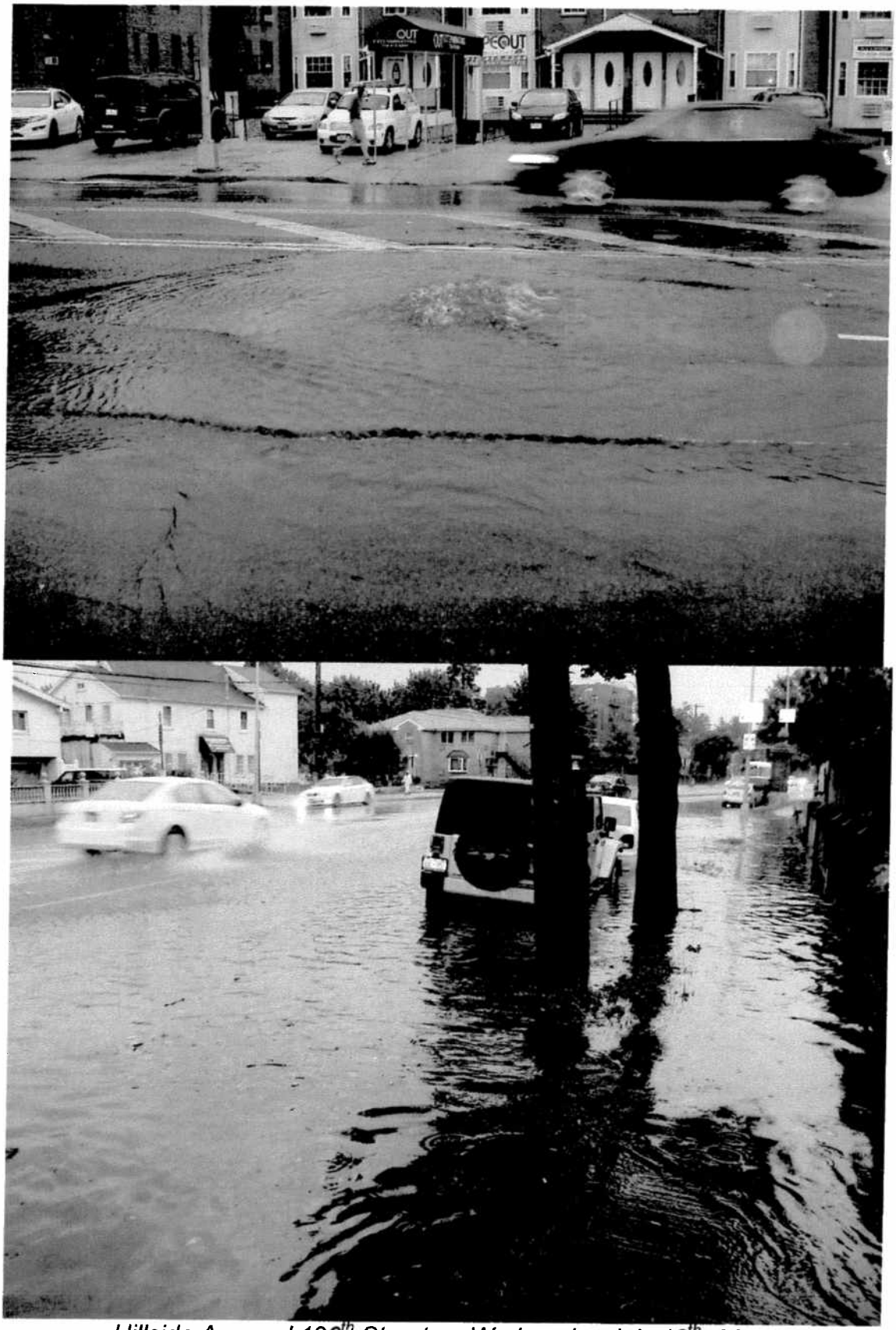
Catch Basin on Baisley Blvd, near Smith Street before and after cleaning

Photos for EQUAL Flooding Report

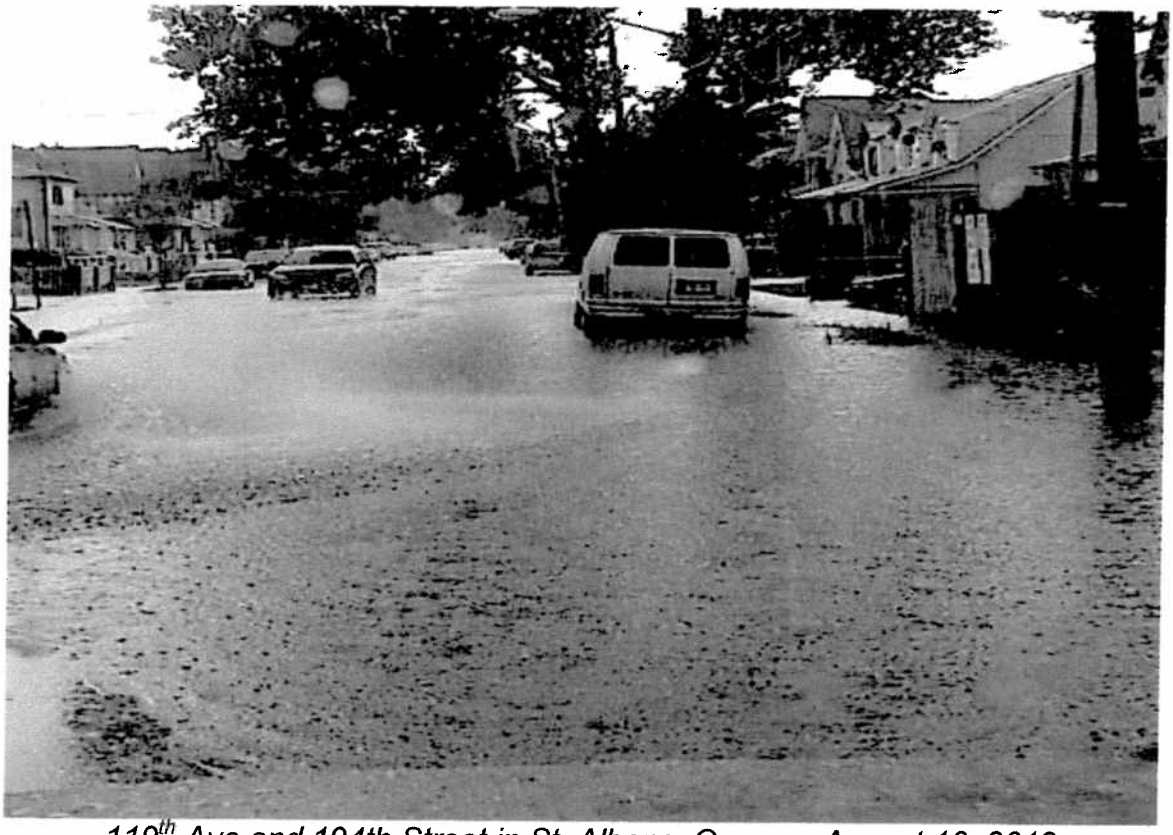
141st Avenue, August 22, 2010.



Map of Flooding sites Reported to EQUAL

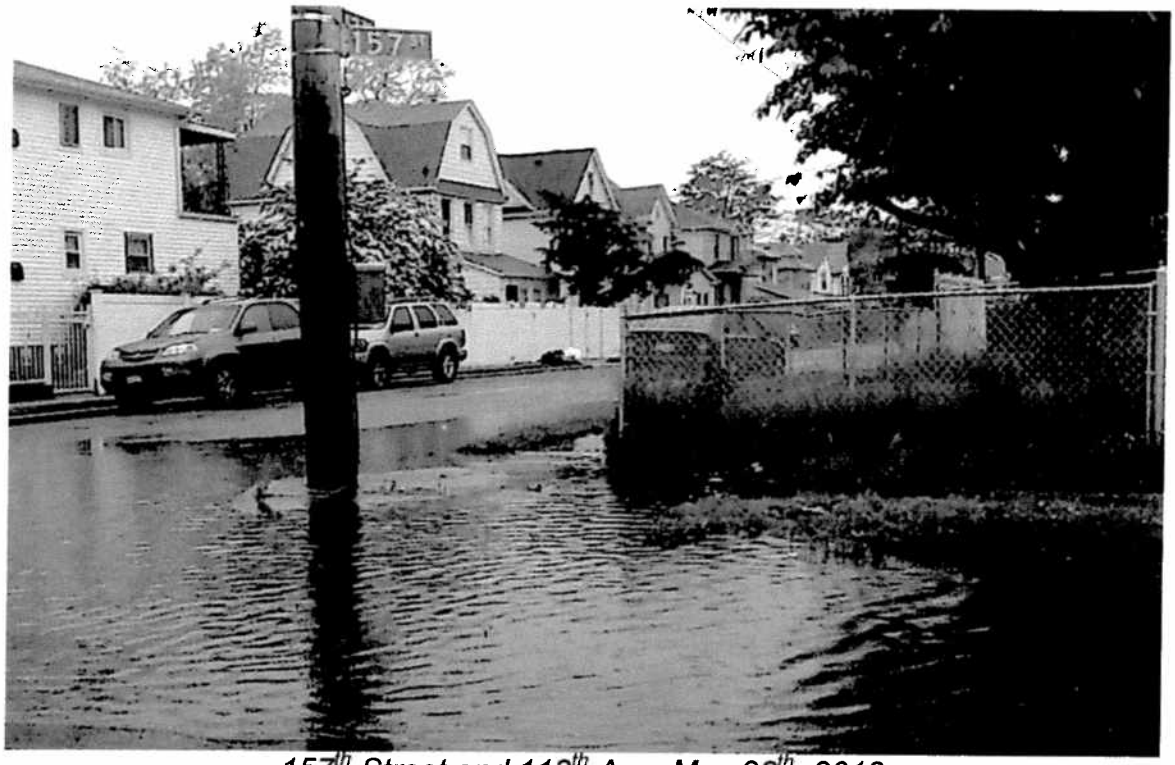


Hillside Ave and 196th Street on Wednesday July 18th, 2012



119th Ave and 194th Street in St. Albans, Queens, August 10, 2012

Front yard on 119th Ave, facing 195th St.



157th Street and 113th Ave, May 28th, 2013

Bedell Street and 116th Ave, March 12, 2013

ABT

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

June 4, 2013

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
31 Chambers Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Members of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs:

On behalf of American Ballet Theatre, I would like to thank you for the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs' tremendous support of the arts in New York City and of ABT. It is through the ongoing support of DCA that ABT is able to preserve its prominence as a world-class arts institution and to serve the community through educational outreach programming for underserved audiences. I write this letter, on behalf of ABT and all dance organizations in NYC, to request that DCA consider preserving its FY14 budget for dance.

Founded in 1940, ABT remains committed to its mission to create, to present, to preserve, and to extend the great repertoire of classical dancing, through exciting performances and educational programming of the highest quality, presented to the widest possible audience. Led by such artistic legends as Mikhail Baryshnikov and currently Kevin McKenzie, ABT today is one of the few companies in the world with the ability to present hallmark productions of classic, full-length ballets and as well as significant contemporary works. Home to many of ballet's most beloved artists, past and present, ABT currently features more than 90 dancers and performs before nearly 300,000 people annually in New York City and abroad.

New York City remains the home base of the Company with three prominent performances seasons each year (Spring Season at the Metropolitan Opera House, Fall Season at the David H. Koch Theater, and Winter Season at BAM). New York is also the focus of the majority of ABT's education and training efforts; the Company reaches nearly 15,000 students and families each year by providing access to world-class dance to those who would not otherwise have the opportunity.

Educational outreach programming includes in-school workshops that introduce students to the art form of classical ballet; year-long residencies in which students learn to create and perform an original dance with the help of ABT Teaching Artists; and specially designed narrated performances for young audiences. ABT distributes more than 2,500 complimentary tickets to participating students and parents to enjoy a live ABT performance. ABT also provides substantial scholarships to students with need in ABT's pre-professional *Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School*, enabling access to the highest quality artistic training.

All of ABT's artistic and educational endeavors are made possible by the generous support of the philanthropic community, and we sincerely hope The Department of Cultural Affairs will uphold its commitment to the performing arts in New York City by maintaining its dance budget in 2014. American Ballet Theatre is proud of the indelible impact its artistic and educational programming has made on New York City and its residents, and we look forward to building upon the Company's tradition of excellence in future years.

Sincerely,

Rachel Moore
Chief Executive Officer

The Peter T. Joseph Studios At the Lawrence A. Wien Center for Dance & Theatre
890 Broadway New York NY 10003-1278 Tel 212 477 3030 Fax 212 254 5938

GAYNOR MINDEN
NEW YORK

To Whom It May Concern:

Twenty years ago, a husband-and-wife team founded Gaynor Minden, a New York business best known for creating the world's most innovative, fully modern pointe shoe.

It's no accident, really, that it grew here in New York City—one of the greatest artistic and economic capitals in history. John Minden was a native New Yorker and business professional, his wife Eliza Gaynor Minden a dancer who grew up going to the ballet in New York.

Today, our company is a multi-million dollar business with a global reach, and we're still headquartered in the same Chelsea brownstone. Our American-designed and American-made pointe shoes are worn from Siberia to Chile, New Zealand to New York. We cater to the greatest prima ballerinas in the world: Svetlana Zakharova of the Bolshoi Ballet, Alina Cojocaru of the Royal Ballet, and Gillian Murphy of American Ballet Theatre.

We employ 23 people, 14 of them New York City residents. Most moved to New York in the first place because of dance.

We flourish and remain here because of the strength of the dance community. Many professional dancers first tried our shoes in the NYC showroom when they were in town performing at Lincoln Center or the Joyce Theater. In the summer, young dancers flock to our boutique, squeezing in a fitting between intensive dance classes and evening performances.

Over half of our boutique customers come from abroad– from 93 countries and counting! Last year, Brazilians visiting New York City for dance spent over $100,000 in our shop—and that's just one country!

Gaynor Minden is by no means the largest NYC dance retailer, either. We are one of half a dozen shops that cater to this vibrant and varied market.

Having a healthy New York City dance community—with local dance schools, employed professional dancers, and performances that draw dance-lovers from around the world—is vital to our business, helping us drive the economy of the city. We greatly appreciate the continued full support from the City Council of New York to maintain New York City as not only the cultural but economic center of the international dance community.

Mary Hodges
Administrative Director

140 WEST 16TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10011
TEL: 212-929-0087 FAX: 212-929-4907 WEB: DANCER.COM

DANCERS RESPONDING to AIDS

Founding Director
Denise Roberts Hurlin

Producer
Christopher Davis

Associate Producer
Sarah Cardillo

DRA Advisory Council
Ella Baff
Mikhail Baryshnikov
Leah Brandon
Trisha Brown
Ronald K. Brown
Joan Myers Brown
Jacqulyn Buglisi
Terese Capucilli
John Carrafa
Laura Colby
Patrick Corbin
Mark Dendy
Susan Epstein
Joan Finklestein
Donlin Foreman
Cynthia Gregory
Susan Jaffe
Virginia Johnson
Bill T. Jones
Deborah Jowitt
Joe Lanteri
Lar Lubovitch
Sharon Luckman
Robert Mann
Susan Marshall
Peter Martins
Joseph Melillo
Mark Morris
David Parsons
Charles Reinhart
Jack Schlegel
Linda Shelton
Art and Nancy Stone
Ivan Sygoda
John Tomlinson
Joe Tremaine
Doug Varone

Founding Director
Hernando Cortez

May 28, 2013

The New York City Council
Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
250 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Dear Speaker Quinn,

Dancers Responding to AIDS (DRA) founded in 1991 by former Paul Taylor Dance Company members Denise Roberts Hurlin and Hernando Cortez, relies on the extraordinary compassion and efforts of the performing arts community to fund a safety net of social services for those in need. As a program of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (BC/EFA), DRA supports more than 400 AIDS and family service organizations nationwide as well as the essential programs of The Actors Fund. Through these organizations and programs, DRA and Broadway Cares help to ensure that those in need have access to medicines, counseling, a healthy meal, a safe place to sleep and emergency financial assistance.

At performance venues all across New York City – The Joyce Theater, New York Live Arts, The Kitchen, City Center Theater, The David H. Koch Theater , Brooklyn Academy of Music – The Gilman Opera House, The Harvey and The Fisher, Cedar Lake Theater, New Victory Theater, Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church, Dixon Place, Florence Gould Hall, Symphony Space, Skirball Center, Gerald Lynch Theater, Schimmel Theater, Aaron Davis Hall, Baruch Performing Arts Center, Dance New Amsterdam, Manhattan Movement Center and more all graciously allow dance companies to make audience appeals on behalf of DRA after their performances. This grassroots effort is repeated at Broadway theaters as well culminating in millions of dollars annually supporting social programs in New York City.

The funding available to dance companies through the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)ensures that these dancers will continue to perform at these venues and continue to fundraise for Dancers Responding to AIDS, providing for the health and well-being of tens of thousands of New Yorkers. In 2012 eighty-five AIDS and family service organizations were awarded $895,000 through Broadway Cares National Grants programs. Organizations like CitiWide Harm Reduction in The Bronx, After Hours Project in Brooklyn, Crossroads Food Pantry in Manhattan, River Fund New York in Richmond Hill-Queens, and Community Health Action of Staten Island all depend on the hundreds of dancers working hard at their performances to provide for those grants. Last year $4.6 million was awarded to The Actors Fund, where direct services are provided to performing artists through programs like The Dancers' Resource.

Performing at any venue in New York City is filled with challenges but the rewards are boundless. For the dance community in New York City funding by DCA is vital to their artistic survival and offers a way for these artists to give back to their community – making them proud to call New York City home.

Sincerely,

Denise Roberts Hurlin
Founding Director
Dancers Responding to AIDS

Tom Viola
Executive Director
Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS

9 N. MOORE ST. #4, NEW YORK, NY 10014 • 212.966.1001
INFO@ARMITAGEGONEDANCE.ORG• WWW.ARMITAGEGONEDANCE.ORG

June 4, 2013

The New York City Council
Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
250 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Dear Speaker Quinn and members of City Council,

When a plane full of New York City Ballet dancers landed in Moscow in 1962 for their first Russian engagement, an interviewer greeted them: "Welcome to Russia, home of classical ballet." New York City Ballet founder George Balanchine famously replied, "I beg your pardon. America is the home of classical ballet. Russia is the home of romantic ballet." More specifically, he meant New York City.

The dance community of New York City reflects our city itself – it is the diverse center of the dance universe. We are the home to two of the best ballet companies in the world. I'm proud to live in the city that lays claim to Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Agnes de Mille, and Mikhail Baryshnikov. We are the city that pioneered modern dance, housing the laboratories of Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Alvin Ailey, and Paul Taylor. We kept pushing and experimenting, giving birth to the post-modern movement out of the Judson Memorial Church, Trisha Brown, Lucinda Childs, Yvonne Rainer.

In 2009-10, according to a Dance/NYC study based on data from the Cultural Data Project, the city boasted close to 200 dance organizations around the 5 boroughs, with over 230.7 million spent by these groups. I worry that this number may have gone down since then, and know that some company are downsizing their operations, cutting the number of dancers and rehearsal weeks, in order to stay in business during the recession.

We are more than just a community of artists though; the influence of the dance community of New York is felt across the city.

When I saw the proposed cuts to the Department of Culture's budget, I had to do something. As the General Manager of Armitage Gone! Dance, I have struggled firsthand with the challenges facing every dance organization in the city. The recession has impacted the scope of foundational support across the board, private donations are down as people are more cautious about their spending, and today we are presented with a cut to our third primary lifeline: government support. The bottom line is we need the continued support from our government -- at the city, state, and federal level -- to make it possible for us to leverage support to stimulate alternative sources. We need this diversity to be sustainable as a community. We provide the highest level of dance artistry and diversity in the world and the most comprehensive dance curriculum in the country. We are a community that contributes so deeply to social and educational programs for the city that a cut in our funding would have a devastating effect.

My goal today is to present community testimony on behalf of my peers and colleagues who are also on the ground every day making dance and all of its essential education and community programs possible. I would like to read quotes from some of these letters of support that demonstrate the strength and cooperation of our community that address the needs of our city:

From Dance Theatre of Harlem Artistic Director Virginia Johnson: "The Department of Cultural

9 N. MOORE ST. #4, NEW YORK, NY 10014 • 212.966.1001
INFO@ARMITAGEGONEDANCE.ORG• WWW.ARMITAGEGONEDANCE.ORG

Affairs has played a pivotal role in enabling Dance Theatre of Harlem to address a myriad of cultural, educational, health, social, and economic needs through the art of ballet. And while the perceived lack of intrinsic value of an art experience may underlie the proposed cuts, our achievements over the past four decades show that the transformative power of the arts makes adequate funding support of DCA both necessary and prudent."

From Gaynor Minden Administrative Director Mary Hodges: "Today, our company is a multi-million dollar business with a global reach, and we're still headquartered in the same Chelsea brownstone. Having a healthy New York City dance community -- with local dance schools, employed professional dancers, and performances that draw dance-lovers from all around the world -- is vital to our business, helping us drive the economy of the city."

From American Ballet Theatre CEO Rachel Moore: "New York City remains the home base of the Company... New York is also the focus of the majority of ABT's education and training efforts; the Company reaches nearly 15,000 students and families each year by providing access to world-class dance to those who would not otherwise have the opportunity. ABT distributes over 2,500 complimentary tickets to participating students... and provides substantial scholarships with needs in ABT's pre-professional Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School, enabling access to the highest quality artistic training."

From Dancers Responding to AIDS Founding Director Denise Roberts Hurlin: "The funding available to dance companies through the Department of Cultural Affairs ensures that these dancers will continue to perform at venues across the city... In 2012, 85 AIDS and family service organizations were awarded $895,000 through the Broadway Cares National Grants programs, including CitiWide Harm Reduction in the Bronx, After Hours Project in Brooklyn, Croosroads Food Pantry in Manhattan, River Fund New York in Queens, and Community Health Action of Staten Island."

It also noteworthy that Manhattan Movement and Arts Director of Programming Erin Fogerty and New York City Ballet Principal Daniel Ulbricht raised $96,000 at their Dance Against Cancer Gala, benefiting the American Cancer Society and the work they are doing in New York City.

We are more than tutus and tiaras when you want a night out on the town. We are New Yorkers. Living, working, making, learning, teaching. We pilot educational models that are replicated worldwide. We help maintain the city's reputation of being the dance capital of the planet. We provide creative ways to solve many of our city's social problems, and are proactive in doing so. We improve the test scores, memory retention, social acceptance, likelihood of getting into higher education, self-esteem, and physical health of the next generation of New Yorkers. We help young people discover their potential to become the future doctors, teachers, politicians, scientists, and entrepreneurs of this city. We help break down social barriers of class and race across income levels. We promote discussion and self-reflection. We provide empowerment to the citizens of New York City. Please consider restoring the Department of Culture's 2014 budget.

Thank you,

Phil Chan
General Manager
Armitage Gone! Dance

ARMITAGE GONE! DANCE

May 30, 2013

DANCE
THEATRE OF
HARLEM

Speaker Christine Quinn
New York City Council
224 West 30th St., Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Dear Speaker Quinn:

This letter is written in support of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Dance Theatre of Harlem has received funding from the Department of Cultural Affairs to bring the excellence and aspiration of art, specifically ballet, to the Harlem community for the past 26 years. And while the impact of ballet as an aesthetic choice for the Harlem community may not have been immediately apparent, the impact Dance Theatre of Harlem has had on the lives of young people and their families is enduring and demonstrable.

To give you an idea of the impact of DCA funding that is jeopardized by cuts in its budget:

- 100% of students attending the Dance Theatre of Harlem School's Cabriole Program graduate from high school and 8 out of 10 of them continue on to college.
- 33 % of Dance Theatre of Harlem School's Professional Training Program have received professional employment contracts for the 2013/14 season
- In one year our Dancing Through Barriers program brings relevant, constructive arts education services to between 11,000 and 15,000 students in the New York metropolitan area.

The newly resurgent Dance Theatre of Harlem is dedicated to taking art to the community: into the streets, community centers and places of worship within Hamilton Heights to bring a higher quality of life to a New York City neighborhood that is often poorly resourced and underserved. The Department of Cultural Affairs has played a pivotal role in enabling Dance Theatre of Harlem to address a myriad of cultural, educational, health, social, and economic needs through the art of ballet. And while the perceived lack of intrinsic value of an art experience may underlie the proposed cuts, our achievements over the past four decades show that the transformative power of the arts makes adequate funding support of DCA both necessary and prudent.

I respectfully ask that you strongly consider restoration of funds for the Department of Cultural Affairs to the adopted FY 2013 levels or the possibility of an increase.

Most Sincerely,

Virginia Johnson
Artistic Director

Everett Center for the Performing Arts · 466 west 152nd street New York, NY 10031
ph. 212-690-2800 fax 212-690-8736 · dancetheatreofharlem.org

Testimony submitted at the New York City Council's FY 14 Executive Budget Hearing
Committee on Finance
June 5, 2013

On behalf of The Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies, I thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on the Mayor's Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Executive Budget proposal. My name is Jason Lippman, and I am the Senior Associate for Policy and Advocacy of The Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies (The Coalition).

Each year, the City Council provides funding to help fill gaps in the public behavioral health system. City Council funded initiatives are used to meet a wide range of mental health and substance use needs for New Yorkers who are currently underserved. However, over the past few years these programs have undergone multiple rounds of budget cuts. Since FY 2009, programs like the Children Under Five Mental Health Initiative, the Geriatric Mental Health Initiative, and Mental Health Contracts have been cut significantly. Especially alarming, the Alcoholism/Substance Abuse Voluntary Sector program, which served hard to reach individuals throughout the City with chronic substance use issues, was entirely eliminated. We understand that the City Council has faced difficult choices during tough economic times, but we are deeply concerned that funding for the initiatives mentioned remains intact and does not whittle further away.

Mental Health Contracts

We are grateful to the City Council for providing funding through the Mental Health Contracts initiative to **The Coalition's Professional Learning Center** and 5 distinct agencies serving all five boroughs. It is through the City Council's support over the last 15 years that The Coalition is able to provide education, technical assistance and training—unique learning

opportunities—for staff and leadership of publicly funded behavioral health agencies. These learning experiences are available to local providers in every New York City community on pivotal issues related to organizational development, best practices, system transformation and regulatory issues that financially impact nonprofit community-based programs. They are not offered by government agencies or other sources.

With the behavioral health system transitioning to managed and integrated care, community-based providers are relying more heavily on The Coalition. Through our Professional Learning Center, we empower the City's nonprofit providers to navigate and, hopefully, to survive an uncertain world filled with mandated reforms. This year, we are helping agencies to understand the role and impact of managed care in its various formations (the Fully Integrated Duals Advantage (FIDA) program, Health and Recovery Programs (HARPs), and Managed Long Term (MLT)) as well as the implementation of Health Home networks to coordinate health and behavioral health care to individuals with serious mental health, substance use and comorbid health issues. These are high need individuals who require complex care coordination to better their care and integrate their services, eventually saving money on high intensity care modalities. As these transformations unfold, several changes are occurring through mandated requirements under the Affordable Care Act, HIPAA Breach Notification, Business Associate Agreements, adjustments in national billing codes and State driven Medicaid redesign. This year alone, The Coalition will have conducted 20 workshops for more than 1,000 mental health and substance use clinicians, peer advocates, support staff and administrators in over 100 agencies on these crucial issues and more.

We ask the City Council to restore at least $85,000 in funding for The Coalition's Professional Learning Center. Over the years, this contract was cut from its original amount of $100,000. A full restoration would allow The Coalition's Professional Learning Center to continue and expand the guidance and technical assistance we offer to all New York City providers, who operate with limited resources, in every community and neighborhood. In doing so, we help them be prepared and up-to-date on all of the new mandates, compliance issues and frequent changes in rules and regulations.

Mental Health Contracts not only funds The Coalition's Professional Learning Center, but also supports the functioning of a transitional shelter for homeless women with mental illness run by the Center for Urban and Community Services (CUCS). Through the Mental Health Contracts initiative, the City Council makes it possible for the Child Center of New York to provide mental health and substance use outreach to Asian immigrants who typically do not seek treatment due to the cultural stigma associated with receiving behavioral health services. Additionally, the City Council, through this initiative sustains a senior health and consultation center which offers affordable primary care and mental health services operated by Greenwich House. This helps seniors to cope with and adjust to the major life changes that come with aging.

The Mental Health Contracts initiative is one of the City Council programs that have experienced profound cuts. Since FY 2009, funding for this initiative has been cut by 61%. Currently only 6 providers (down from 11) receive funding from the City Council to reach underserved and minority populations, but their impact on the lives of people with mental illness and substance use disorders is quite substantial. A restoration at $390,000, and replacement of the funds that have been cut from the Mental Health Contracts initiative, would enable these providers and perhaps others to offer comprehensive behavioral health services to the most vulnerable and high need populations in New York City.

Children Under Five Mental Health Initiative

Through the Children Under Five Mental Health Initiative, the City Council enables 8 diverse agencies in all 5 boroughs of New York City to serve a cohort of children who exhibit behavioral difficulties because they have experienced or been exposed to traumas like domestic violence and abuse. The City Council is the only entity that funds these programs. This initiative helps to fund clinicians who are proficient in the types of interventions that work well with young children who may not yet be able to verbalize their experiences. They utilize trauma informed interventions to deliver innovative evidence-based and cutting-edge treatment modalities, including art, dance and movement therapy. Providers offer relationship-based assessments, interventions, treatment, referrals, as well as workshops for parents and

grandparents on caring for children with emotional difficulties. These programs also offer an array of linkages for children and their families to access pediatricians, preschool teachers and child welfare workers.

Because of help from the City Council, thousands of children between the ages of 0 and 5 have received services, potentially changing the outcomes of their lives. The need for this initiative grows greater each year as more children are removed from nursery school and kindergarten classes due to behavioral problems. Unfortunately, since FY 2009, funding for the Children Under Five Mental Health initiative has been reduced by 25%. We strongly support restoring the $1.25 million funding that was allocated to this program in FY 2013, and reinstating the financial support that has been cut from this vital program over the years. Identifying and evaluating children who may be exhibiting social and behavioral problems during the first few years of their life will prevent serious problems in adulthood. Left untreated, children's mental health issues will likely worsen and bring larger costs later on, both financially and in terms of life outcomes.

Geriatric Mental Health Initiative

We ask the City Council to continue and strengthen its support for the Geriatric Mental Health Initiative in FY 2014. This year, the City Council allocated $2 million to 25 community-based agencies (in all five boroughs of New York City) to provide specialized services to seniors dealing with behavioral health issues. These programs are run in places where older adults receive other services, in settings where they feel more comfortable, such as senior centers, religious and social group settings, primary health healthcare provider locations or in their own homes. The range of services offered includes outreach, education, depression and substance use screening, assessment, individual and group counseling, referral to treatment, as well as support for family caregivers. Through this initiative, older adults receive help with depression, anxiety, isolation, bereavement and any other circumstance that can occur as one ages, often accompanied by loss of family and social networks.

The need for this initiative has increased substantially. Offsite visits to homebound elderly with mental illness are no longer covered by Medicaid. In addition, travel throughout

the City can be burdensome or even impossible for many elderly adults. These special initiative dollars help to fill the gap and make mental health assistance possible for them. Each year, the population of older adults in New York City grows along with the number of older adults with symptoms of mental illness. Regrettably, the Geriatric Mental Health Initiative has also seen its share of cuts, about 15% in reductions since FY 2009. We respectfully ask that these funds be restored to at least last year's value.

Mental Hygiene Contracted Services PEG

The Coalition appreciates the City Council for partially restoring the "Mental Hygiene Contracted Services" cuts proposed in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DOHMH) budget for the current fiscal year (FY 2013). Through assistance from the City Council, 10 psychosocial clubs, and bridger programs (including 1 club house) are able to continue running their programs in the community. Psychosocial clubs allow people to recover from mental illness and live productive, stable lives. They are cost effective and strengthen the peer networks, kinship and community ties essential for recovery. Some even offer vocational training and job placement opportunities. Bridger programs link people who are discharged from state psychiatric centers to appropriate community supports, including safe, affordable housing. In addition, the Council enabled 15 medically supervised outpatient services and outpatient rehabilitation programs for people struggling with drug addiction or alcoholism.

While the Council restored $2.7 million of the proposed $4.9 million cut to Mental Hygiene Contracted Services in FY 2013, the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for next fiscal year (FY 2014) does not include funding for the programs that were either cut or restored by the City Council. We once again ask for the Council to continue its support for these programs at a minimum of $2.7 million, if a rescue plan cannot be worked out with the Department.

CONCLUSION

On behalf of the over 130 agencies that we represent throughout New York City and beyond, The Coalition respectfully urges the Council to help ensure that the safety net provided by the community-based behavioral health sector is not only maintained, but made stronger, and more effective.

Jason Lippman, Senior Associate for Policy & Advocacy
The Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies
90 Broad Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10028
212-742-1600 x102
jlippman@coalitionny.org

About The Coalition

The Coalition is the voice for community behavioral health in the New York City metropolitan area. We represent over 130 non-profit behavioral health agencies which together serve more than 450,000 adults and children and deliver the entire continuum of care throughout the diverse neighborhoods of New York City and surrounding counties.

Founded in 1972, the mission of the Coalition is to coordinate the efforts of government and the private sector toward efficient delivery of quality behavioral health services to children, adults and families. The Coalition promotes policies and practices that support the development and provision of community based housing, treatment, and rehabilitation and support services to all people with mental illness and addictions disorders. Our members serve a wide spectrum of consumers, including the fragile elderly, people who are homeless, those who struggle with AIDS and other co-morbid health conditions, victims of violence, and other special needs. Coalition members help people with mental illness and addiction disorders to recover and lead productive lives in their communities.

The Coalition provides quality learning opportunities, technical assistance and training to staff and leadership of its member agencies and to the professional community on vital issues related to rehabilitation and recovery, organizational development, best practices, quality of care, billing and regulations/contract compliance, technology and finance.

Anderson, Nicole

From: Edwards, Tanisha
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 2:50 PM
To: Anderson, Nicole
Subject: Fw: Hi Ms. Edwards, May name is Maria Garrett and in I live in Canarsie Brooklyn. I am unable to attend the hearing to June 5th, but I would like to have my voice heard on behalf to the NYC Parks.I live by Fresh Creek nature Preserve. on East 108th stree

---

From: The Fresh Creek Association [mailto:freshcreekassociation@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 02:49 PM
To: Edwards, Tanisha
Subject: Hi Ms. Edwards, May name is Maria Garrett and in I live in Canarsie Brooklyn. I am unable to attend the hearing to June 5th, but I would like to have my voice heard on behalf to the NYC Parks.I live by Fresh Creek nature Preserve. on East 108th stree B...

Statement for City Council Budget Hearing on NYC Parks

June 5th, 2013

The Kissena Corridor Park Conservancy has been in existence since 2006 as a not-for-profit entity. Our organization has been actively participating in events initiated by the Partnership for Parks and the NYC Department of Parks. This includes "It's My Park Day"; planting over 7,000 trees as part of the Million Tree Program; bulb plantings; providing information display tables at community events in promoting passive use of the Kissena Corridor Park; and assisting the Green Thumb Program to reform the Evergreen Community Garden, Inc. we are involved in enhancing the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being necessary to build a healthier and greener multicultural community garden for leisure and/or their personal consumption.

Our current focus has been, and will continue to be, the development of a ¾ acre Meditation Garden on the site of the former New York Hospital Queens (NYHQ) parking lot, across from the Oncology Center of NYHQ. The purpose is to provide a respite and healing environment for cancer patients, other patients and the staff and community. It will be a permanent asset for Queens adding great beauty across from the Hospital as well as Kissena Corridor Park.

We have already funded a design and materials list which has been reviewed by the Queens Park Design Department. Their recommendations are being complied for our fund raising efforts and will be in our hands soon.

Our estimated budget is $800,000, which we request at this time.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by

Roland G. Wade, President
Kissena Corridor Park Conservancy, Inc. 718-939-6289 718-762-6383

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lt. Eddie Boles

Address: Uniformed Fire Officers Association

I represent: _____

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Preston Rivera

Address: _____

I represent: FURIOUS Youth

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: June 5, 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lynn Kelly, CEO

Address: Snug Harbor Cultural Center

I represent: Cultural Institutions Group

Address: 1000 Richmond Terrace, SI, NY 10301

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Desiree Marshall

Address: _____

I represent: FUREEous Youth

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Eric Valentin

Address: _____

I represent: FUREEous Youth

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kelvin Tejada

Address: _____

I represent: FUREEous Youth

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Darlene Thompson

Address: _____

I represent: FUREEous Youth

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☑ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: WILLIAM SLADE

Address: 10 HEMINGWAY AVE APT 8Z4

I represent: BLACK MALE INITIATIVE

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sarah Feldenthal

Address: _____

I represent: Merk Council

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. Budget

☐ in favor ☑ in opposition

Date: 6/4/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Christy PARVE

Address: 2 Park Ave 2nd Floor, NY 10016

I represent: Homeless Services United

Address: 2 Park Ave 2nd Floor, NY 10016

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Christian Zaborskie

Address: 48-46 45th St.

I represent: Queens Library Guild local 1321

Address: Queens Library

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Gladys Dixon

Address: 546 Main St apt. 11K NY NY 10044

I represent: HHC Community Advisory Board

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

RAPP

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

RAPP

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Danielle Reese

Address: Center Against Domestic Violence/RAPP

I represent: RAPP

Address: 25 Chapel St, Brooklyn

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

RAPP

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13 CAAAP

RAPP

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Emily Cacoras

Address: 885 Flatbush Ave, Bklyn 11226

I represent: CAMBA

Address: 1720 Church Avenue, Brooklyn

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

RAPP

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Danisha [redacted] Eadly

Address: _____

I represent: STEPS

Address: 1968 2nd Ave NY, NY 10029

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK RAPP

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sheila MUNIM (RAPP

Address: STEP

I represent: STEP

Address: 1968 2nd Ave NY NY 10029

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6-5-13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dr. Randi Herman, CSA 1st V.P.

Address: 40 Rector St. 12th Floor NYC 10006

I represent: CSA - Council of School Supervisors & Administrators

Address: 40 Rector St. 12th Floor NYC 10006

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Rick Jones by Archana Prakash

Address: 317 Lenox Ave. 10th fl. NY NY 10027

I represent: Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem

Address: 317 Lenox Ave., NY NY 10027

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Roman Charnolusky

Address: 2201 Bay Ridge Pkwy GA Brooklyn NY 11204

I represent: BMI Kingsborough

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Danny Vlhar

Address: 11 Winton st Long beach NY

I represent: Black Men initiative

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☑ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dixon Savius

Address: 3030 Surf Ave

I represent: ~~Bmi~~ Black Men Initiative

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Batala Aristide

Address: ~~11~~ 1212 ocean Avenue

I represent: Black Male's Initiative

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sean Basinski

Address: 1073 First Avenue

I represent: Street Vendor Project

Address: 123 William St, NYC

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Susan Lacera

Address: Queens Botanical Garden

I represent: 43-50 Main St. Flushing NY 11355

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Vagnes De La Rosa

Address: 5812 Queens Blvd

I represent: Sports + Arts In Schools Foundation

Address: 5812 Queens Blvd.

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Children's issues

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Stephanie Gendell

Address: _____

I represent: Citizens' Committee for Children

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sanman Thapa

Address: _____

I represent: Chhaya CDC

Address: 37-43 77th St. 2nd Floor
Jackson Heights

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Alfred Siegel

Address: _____

I represent: Center for Court Innovation

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Matt Sparkman

Address: 1 Hogan Place 4th St

I represent: Manhattan Love

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Raphael Schweizer

Address: 664 Thwaites Place Apt. 4E

I represent: Bronx Park East Community Association + Pelham Parkway CCC

Address: 664 Thwaites Place Apt. 4E Bronx, NY 10467

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☒ in opposition CUTS

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Anthony Feliciano

Address: Commission on the Public's Health System

I represent: _____

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

School-based Health Centers *Date:* 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dr. David Appel

Address: _____

I represent: Montefiore Medical Center

Address: Bronx, NY

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

School-based Health Centers *Date:* 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lorraine Gimzaloz-Camastra

Address: _____

I represent: Children's Defense Fund - NY

Address: 15 Maiden Lane, Suite 1200, NY, NY 10038

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Martha Rowen

Address: 101 Clark St. 2C Bklyn NY 11201

I represent: Citizens Defending Libraries

Address: 62 Montague St. Brooklyn NY 11201

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. Library Budget Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 06/05/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Michael D. D. White

Address: 62 Montague St. Bklyn 11201

I represent: Citizens Defending Libraries

Address: 62 Montague St. Bklyn 11201

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: PHILIP CHAN

Address: 341 SOUTH 4TH ST, BROOKLYN NY 11211

I represent: ARMITAGE GONE! DANCE

Address: 9 N. MOORE ST, NEW YORK NY 10014

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jonathan Rosenberg

Address: 1 Centre St

I represent: John Liu

Address:

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: John Liu

Address: 1 Centre St

I represent: People of NYC

Address:

Library Budget

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Marsha Kinler

Address: 215 Adams St

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. Int 491 - FDNY + Screening Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: JUNE 5, 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Constance Lesold

Address: 340 MARINE AVE., BKLYN, 11209

I represent: _____

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: JUNE 5 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JOSEFINA SANFELIU

Address: 229 12TH ST. BROOKLYN NY 11215

I represent: LATINOS AGAINST FDNY CUTS

Address: SAME

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. Bid Resolution Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Georgiana Grose

Address: 105 Ashland Pl, Brooklyn

I represent: East Greene SNAP - IMRI proj

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Frank Proscia, M.D.

Address: Doctors Council SEIU 50 Broadway NY

I represent: Doctors Council SEIU

Address:

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Karen Yau

Address: 50 Broad St

I represent: Coalition for Asian American Children & Families

Address:

*speaking on behalf of Michael Cordiello, Local 1181

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date:

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Vito Pitta, Local 1181 ATU

Address:

I represent:

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mabel Everett

Address: _____

I represent: Day Care Workers Local 205, DC 1707

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: G L Tyler

Address: _____

I represent: DC 1707 Day Care

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Tyesha Branch, Program Director of Education and Youth

Address: CAMBA

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL Public.
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: June 5, 2013.

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Michael Mulgrew, President.

Address: 52, Bway

I represent: United Federation of Teachers

Address: 52 Bway

THE COUNCIL 9:46am
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mr X

Address: IRTINDBMT@GMAIL.COM

I represent: _____

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Henry Garrido

Address: 125 Barclay Street, NY NY 10007

I represent: Associate Director, DC37

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

Public Safety
911

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Alma Roper

Address: 125 Barclay Street, NY NY 10007

I represent: 1st Vice-Pres, L.1549, DC37

Address:

Public Safety

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ralph Palladino

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: 2nd VP, L.1549, DC37

Address:

Public Safety
911

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: John Armstrong

Address: 125 Barclay Street, NY NY 10007

I represent: Member, L.1549, DC37

Address: (Police Comm. Tech)

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

Public Safety
Civilianization

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Janice Darden

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: Member, L. 1549, DC37

Address: (Police Admin. Aide)

Public Safety
911

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dr. Paul ~~Landesberg~~ Landsbergis

Address: _____

I represent: Assoc. Professor, SUNY Downstate Medical Center

Address: _____

Libraries

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Val Colon

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: President, L. 1930, DC37

Address: (New York Public Library)

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

Libraries

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Eileen Muller

Address: 125 Barclay St NY NY 10007

I represent: President, L.1482, DC37

Address: (Bklyn Library Guild)

Libraries

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Vicky Hill

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: Member, L.1482, DC37

Address: (Bklyn Library Guild)

Libraries

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Christian Zabriskie

Address: 125 Barclay Street, NY NY 10007

I represent: Member, L.1321, DC37

Address: (Queens Library)

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

Culturals

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Peter Vroeland

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: President, L. 1559, DC37

Address:

Health

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Fitz Reid

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: President, L. 768, DC37

Address:

DOE issues

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Santos Crespo

Address: 125 Barclay Street NY NY 10007

I represent: President, L. 372, DC37

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: June 5 '13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ZEV KING

Address: 1918 - 54th St.

I represent: _____

Address: 1918 - 54th St. Brooklyn, N.Y. 11204

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Randi Herman, First Vice President

Address: 40 Mentor St.

I represent: CSA

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Andrew Holleck

Address: _____

I represent: NY Building Congress

Address: 44 West 28th Street
New York NY

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: DAVID M. FRANKEL, COMMISSIONER

Address: _____

I represent: FINANCE

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 1

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MICHAEL DE LA FORCE

Address: P.O. Box 367 NEW YORK, NY 10032

I represent: SAVE OUR HOMES, INC.

Address: 244 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE C289 NY, NY 10001

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MIN UM-MANDHYAN.

Address: 32 BROADWAY SUITE 1101.

I represent: NYC SEXUAL ASSAULT ~~PROGRAM~~ INITIATIVE.

ASSAULT & VICLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6-5-2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Majid Newbold

Address: 50 Broad Street

I represent: New York City Coalition Against Hunger

Address:

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joseph M. Mpa

Address: 1322 Riverside Drive

I represent: Community Voices Heard

Address: 115 East 106th St.

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/13

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ALICJA SALWA

Address: ONE GUSTAVE PL., NY, NY

I represent: MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL SEXUAL

Address: ASSAULT & VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

2nd appearance Card

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Andrew Hallock

Address: _____

I represent: NY Building Congress

Address: 44 West 28th St. NY NY

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mona Davids, NYC Parents Union

Address: 225 Bdwy, Ste. 1902. NY 10007

I represent: NYC Parents Union

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: June 5, 2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dr Frank Prascia (Doctors Council)

Address: _____

I represent: Doctors Council SEIU

Address: 50 Broadway

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☑ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: DANIELLE REECE

Address: IRVING WASHINGTON HS

I represent: RAPP

Address: CADV 25 CHAPEL ST, B'KLYN, NY 11201

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: CONNIE MULOPO

Address: 2108 RYER Ave. Apt 93, Bronx NY

I represent: _____

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Alice B Quinn

Address: 47 Platt St Brooklyn

I represent: Colony South Brooklyn Houses Inc.

Address: 297 Dean Street Brooklyn

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☒ in opposition to POP Budget cuts

Date: 6-5-2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: John Medina

Address: Manhattan

I represent: Community Voices Heard

Address: 115 E. 106th St

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Diane Drozeck

Address: 45 Tremont Ave

I represent: Self

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Robert Lederer

Address: 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451

I represent: Bronx Health Link

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☒ in opposition to POP Budget cuts

Date: 6-5-2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ann Valdez

Address: 115 E. 106th St,

I represent: Community Voices Heard

Address: Coney Island

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☒ in opposition to POP Budget cuts

Date: 6-5-2013

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joseph Mpa

Address: Bronx

I represent: Community Voices Heard

Address: 115 E. 106th St

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: FRANCOIS FLEURENTIN

Address: 2094 PITKIN AVE (IMRI)

I represent: ENT DIAGNOSTIC + TREATMENT CENTER

Address: 2094 PITKIN Ave BROOKLYN NY 11213

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Independent Budget Office

Address: Ronnie Lightman

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: George Sweeting

Address: IBO

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Geraldine Glos

Address: 105 Ashland Pl

I represent: Fort Greene SNAP (WR)

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/5/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Randi Levine

Address: 151 W. 30th St, NY, NY

I represent: Advocates for Children of New York

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms