



The Voice of the Human Services Community

FY11 CITY BUDGET PRINCIPLES

- 1) City agencies should consult with human service sector representatives prior to formalizing budget proposals, as well as after budget cuts are made, to ensure that the implementation of reductions does the least harm to clients.**
- 2) Make targeted reductions rather than across-the-board cuts.** When cuts in public funding are unavoidable, they should be done in a targeted manner that prioritizes appropriations to programs serving the most vulnerable and does not take away already scarce resources from not-for-profits that provide high quality services, particular in neighborhoods with the highest need. Across-the-board cuts to service programs weaken entire service systems, making all programs less effective.
- 3) Preserve the quality of remaining service programs.** The workloads, performance requirements, and outcome expectations for programs must be reduced in proportion to reductions in funding. Regulatory relief must also be provided, even if on a temporary basis, as providers and government struggle to make ends meet.
- 4) When proposing reductions, be mindful of the impact of the loss of related State and federal funding that will also be lost if City funds are reduced.**
- 5) Revenue generating proposals must also be pursued.** The budget should not be balanced through cuts alone.
- 6) Smaller providers and those serving high risk/high needs communities must be protected as program cuts always disproportionately impact the poorest, especially communities of color.**
- 7) Maintain investments in preventive services.** Community-based preventive services are a smart investment of public dollars as they prevent more costly interventions today and in the future.
- 8) Maintain the strength of the human services workforce, especially as service demands grow, through the provision of regular COLAs.**