



## **Citywide Budget Coalition: 90 Organizations and Counting!**

In these difficult fiscal times, we are standing together as One New York to fight for fairness in the City and State budgets. Tough times call for tough choices, but we believe this is the very moment that government needs to step up and support the most vulnerable New Yorkers. Government should:

- Invest in our communities to protect the neediest New Yorkers and to stimulate our economy;
- Make the fiscally prudent and fair choices necessary to raise revenues our City and State;
- And ask those New Yorkers who have the most to contribute their fair share.

Advocates for Children • Alliance for Quality Education • Asian American Federation • Black Equity Alliance • Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled • Campaign for Fiscal Equity • Canaan Senior Service Center • Center for the Independence of the Disabled, NY • Child Care Inc. • Citizen Action of NYC • Citizens Committee for Children of New York • Citywide Council on High Schools • Class Size Matters • Coalition for Asian American Children & Families • Coalition for A District Alternative • Coalition for the Homeless • Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies • College of Mount Saint Vincent- Institute for Immigrant Concerns • Commission on the Public's Health System • COMMUNITY ACCESS • Community Board 7, Manhattan • Community Health Care Association New York State • Community Voices Heard • Connecting to Advantages • Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies • Council of Senior Centers and Services • Cypress Hills Child Care Corp. • Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation • District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO • Education Voters of New York • Family Justice • Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies • Fiscal Policy Institute • Freedom Community Center • Goddard Riverside Community Center • Good Jobs New York • Grand Street Settlement House • Greater Chinatown Community Association • Haitian Americans United for Progress • Hamilton-Madison House • Harlem United Community AIDS Center, Inc. • Highbridge Community Life Center • Hispanic AIDS Forum, Inc. • Hispanic Federation • Hispanic Senior Action Counsel • HIV Law Project, Inc. • Homeless Services United • Human Services Council • Hunger Action Network of NYS • Institute for Community Living • Institute for the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Elderly, Inc. • Isabella Geriatric Center • Internationals Network • Jamaica Service Program For Older Adults • Korean American Family Service • Legal Aid Society • Legal Information for Families Today/ LIFT • Legal Services NYC • Lenox Hill Neighborhood House • Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center, Inc. • Medicare Rights Center • Melrose Senior Center • MFY Legal Services • National Association of Social Workers, NYC Chapter • Neighborhood Family Services Coalition • New York AIDS Coalition • New York Citizen' Committee on Aging, Inc. • New York Immigration Coalition • NY ACORN • NY Jobs with Justice • NYC Coalition for Educational Justice • NYC Employment and Training Coalition • One Stop Senior Services • Pratt Center for Community Development • Professional Staff Congress-CUNY • Project FIND • Riverstone Senior Life Services • SEIU Local 32BJ • Staten Island Inter-Agency Council for the Aging • Staten Island Legal Services • Strycker's Bay Neighborhood Council, Inc. • Stuyvesant PA Executive Board • Supportive Housing Network of New York • The Center for Law and Social Justice at Medgar Evers College, City University of New York • The Children's Village • The Committee for Hispanic Children & Families, Inc. • The Geriatric Mental Health Alliance of New York • The International Center in New York • The School for International Studies • The Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation • Thorpe Family Residence, Inc. • Time Out From Testing • UAW REGION 9A • UAW Local 2325 Association of Legal Aid Attorneys (AFL-CIO) • United Community Center, Inc. • United Federation of Teachers • United Neighborhood Houses • University Settlement House • Urban Justice Center • Village Care of New York • Violence Intervention Program • Welfare Rights Initiative • Working Families Party • YKASEC-Empowering the Korean American Community

The **One New York: Fighting for Fairness Coalition** now includes over 90 organizations and counting who advocate for and serve New Yorkers needing services such as: AIDS services, child care, child welfare, education, health care, homeless housing, housing, immigrant services, income support, legal services, disabilities support, senior services, youth services.

## **ONE NEW YORK: FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS** **Statement of Principles**

- **One New York: Fighting for Fairness.**

We come together as One New York: Fighting for Fairness, a broad-based coalition of New Yorkers demanding that our communities are prioritized and protected in this time of economic difficulty. Our elected leaders have embraced the needs of Wall Street, together we must ensure that the talk about taking care of Main Street is more than lip service. If we can prioritize a bail out for New York's financial industry, surely we can prioritize protecting the greatest needs of New York's communities. Now, more than ever, government must protect New Yorkers by not cutting AIDS services, child care, child welfare, education, health care, higher education, homeless housing, housing, immigrant services, income support, legal services, people with disabilities, senior services, youth services and other vital areas.

- **City and State Government Must Not Balance Their Budgets on the Backs of the Neediest.**

At this time of economic difficulty, it is essential that government recognizes that the neediest among us will feel the pain of economic downturn the most sharply. No matter what we must protect our community safety net and make no budget cuts to services for those with the greatest needs. Budget reductions must not produce across the board cuts to all programs and services. Such a blunt approach does not reflect our values as New Yorkers and will produce serious harm by cutting programs that are essential to our safety net. It will also be necessary to increase investment in certain critical components of our community safety to protect people from the worst consequences of the economic downturn; such investments are prudent and cost effective as they will prevent much costlier emergency expenditures.

- **We Cannot Cut Our Way Out of this Economic Downturn: City and State Must Fairly Address Our Revenue Needs.**

While many of our elected officials are talking about shared sacrifice, we are calling on them to also call for shared commitment. New York City and New York State must address the serious and immediate need for additional revenues. We must ask government to deliver fair and equitable tax policies and revenue sources that call on all New Yorkers to contribute fairly. It is a matter of fairness to our taxpayers, urgency for our communities and necessity for effective functioning of government services.

- **Budget Cuts Will Hurt the Economy; Investing in Our Communities Will Help.**

As Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz pointed out in a letter to New York State leaders earlier this year, "It is economically preferable to raise taxes on those with high income than to cut state expenditures." Stiglitz points out that, "Budget cuts reduce the level of total spending." Budget cuts will be a drag on an already hurting economy. Investing in our community needs will provide economic stimulus to our economy.

**For information call Shana Marks Odinga at 718-222-1089 x 276 or email at [smarksodinga@aqeny.org](mailto:smarksodinga@aqeny.org).**

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**Please Endorse Our Citywide Budget Coalition Today!**

# **ONE NEW YORK: FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS**

In these difficult fiscal times, we must stand together as One New York and fight for fairness in the City and State budgets. Government must invest in our communities as a way to protect the neediest New Yorkers and to stimulate our economy and government must make the fiscally prudent and fair choices necessary to raise the revenues our City and State need by asking those New Yorkers who have the most to contribute their fair share. **Please join this coalition today! Your voice is urgently needed. Sign on below to add your organization's name to this coalition and to sign on to the attached letter. Email to [smarksodinga@aqeny.org](mailto:smarksodinga@aqeny.org) or FAX it to Shana Marks Odinga at 718-246-7939. For information call Shana Marks Odinga at 718-222-1089 x276.**

**Please Add My Organization to the List of Coalition Endorsers (Print Clearly)**

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Authorized Officer or Rep \_\_\_\_\_

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