



Council of Senior Centers & Services of NYC, Inc.

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**ACTION ALERT
NOVEMBER 6, 2008**

ELIMINATION!

**DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING (DFTA) ELIMINATES
SIX FUNDING STREAMS BY DECEMBER 31ST**

(go to www.nyc.gov – Mayor’s financial plan, DFTA, pages 52-53)

ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- Why was a budget ax, not a careful scalpel, taken to cutting the life out of aging services? Why does the Mayor’s plan not include cuts to DFTA internally? DFTA is a small city agency and these cuts are below the bone in direct services to seniors.
- If the city’s economy improves or new revenue is created, how do seniors and their family caregivers get back services that are totally eliminated?
- Who will protect seniors in NYC with their numbers growing?

The Bloomberg administration is planning to:

<i>Eliminate:</i>	FY09	FY10
elder abuse prevention (DFTA elderly crime victims resource unit will provide services)	\$425,000	\$850,000
social adult day care (non-medical day care to fewer than 200 individuals with cognitive or physical disabilities. DFTA will assess seniors for Medicaid and other services)	\$1.18 million	\$2.36 million
caregiver support services (eliminates city funded supplement to federal caregiver support program that provides counseling, support groups, training and informational assistance)	\$888,000	\$0
congregate services initiative (ed/rec activities – these services will be provided by senior centers)	\$200,000	\$0
intergenerational programs (fosters engagement between seniors and youth)	\$504,000	\$1,008 million
non-core social services (I&R, shopping and escort services)	\$467,000	\$935,000
TOTAL	\$3,975,000	\$6,572,000

\$12.6 million total DFTA cuts for FY09:

- **\$8.6 million, July – Dec, 2008**
- **\$4.0 million, Jan – June, 2009**

Projected cut for FY2010, July, 2009-June, 2010 - \$6.6 million

Assault on aging – Please go to www.cscs-ny.org, to see the “Connect the Dots” memo. This brings the total cuts for FY09 to \$12.6 million as stated above. Plus the loss of \$7.5 million in Borough President funds. The FY10 budget shows how much money this is on an annual basis – but all this money would be eliminated in less than two months from now – Dec. 31, 2008!

After everything else the aging services network has gone through this year because of the turmoil caused by the case management, meals-on-wheels, and now the senior center RFP, these cuts will only exacerbate the instability in the lives of seniors, their family caregivers and the agencies that serve them. There will be substantially less services available to help seniors age in place in their communities with dignity. ***Who will stand up for seniors and say enough is enough?***

What you can do: Calls from seniors, board members, adult children, and others:

These budget cut decisions are being made very quickly – in the next few weeks.

Please call NOW:

- Your Councilmember(s) - You can also invite your Councilmember to your senior center in the next 1-2 weeks.
- Speaker Christine Quinn, City Council Speaker – 212-788-7210 (ask message be given to Speaker Christine Quinn)
- Mayor Michael Bloomberg – 212-788-3000 or 311 (ask message be given to Mayor Michael Bloomberg)

the message is -

“THE CITY IS CUTTING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FROM SERVICES TO SENIORS. PLEASE DON’T LET THIS HAPPEN. WHO WILL STAND UP FOR SENIORS?”

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

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