

June 29, 2015

Dear Governor Rauner, Speaker Madigan, President Cullerton, Leader Durkin, and Leader Radogno:

As Illinois organizations deeply concerned about the state's responsibilities and obligations to serve children, families, and communities, we write to urge you to work together to pass a fair, adequate and fully funded Fiscal Year 2016 budget, that raises the revenues needed to ensure ongoing access to services and supports, before the new fiscal year begins on July 1st. As the leaders of this great state, we ask that you lead the way in setting aside differences and partnering together in order to pass a budget that is fair and meets the needs of Illinois.

Without a fully-funded budget in place by July 1st, the children and adults who rely on the services many of our organizations provide, as well as those services provided directly by the state, will ultimately be the ones who shoulder the consequences. Almost every line item in the budget carries with it a similar weight and importance. The people of Illinois depend on the state to pass a budget and fund the programs they rely upon. Families who rely on childcare assistance, individuals with physical, developmental, and/or intellectual disabilities, children and adults with mental illnesses, individuals with HIV - these are our friends, families, and neighbors who rely on a fully funded state budget.

Non-profit organizations are the backbone of the delivery of state services to these populations and are also left to struggle with the consequences of the lack of agreement on the budget. In addition to the services non-profits provide on behalf of the state, non-profit community-based organizations are significant contributors to the local economy, employing thousands as well as buying goods and services from other local businesses.

With July 1st quickly approaching and no state budget in place, non-profit organizations and their boards of directors are wrestling with uncertainty. Lacking direction from state agencies, non-profits have no idea how much state funding they can expect or when that funding might begin.

As a result, non-profits across the state have no choice but to contemplate and, in some cases execute, plans to terminate services, lay off staff, and close service sites. Organizations, their staff, and the families and communities they serve will absorb the costs of these actions. These are the same organizations that have for decades worked on the state's behalf to ensure the availability of these services. If the state defaults on its responsibility to provide non-profits with some level of fiscal certainty and adequate funding so that they can operate using sound business practices, we all pay the price in the short and long-term.

We strongly urge the General Assembly and Governor Rauner to come together and find agreement to provide the revenue needed to fund a Fiscal Year 2016 budget that invests in the people of this great state. We certainly stand ready to assist our state's leadership in this effort in any way that we can.

Signed,

A Safe Place/Lake County Crisis Center  
 AARP Illinois  
 Access Living  
 Access Services of Northern Illinois  
 ACT Now Coalition  
 AFC-COMMUNITY Development Corporation  
 AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
 AIDS Legal Council of Chicago  
 Albany Park Community Center  
 Alcoholic Rehabilitation Community Home (ARCH)  
 Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health  
 Alexian Brothers Housing and Health Alliance  
 All Chicago  
 Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County  
 Allison's Infant & Toddler Center  
 Alternatives, Inc.  
 Alton YWCA  
 Arab American Action Network  
 Arab American Family Services  
 ARCH  
 Arden Shore Child and Family Services  
 Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Chicago  
 Association of Latino/as Motivating Action (ALMA)  
 Austin Peoples Action Center  
 Breakthrough Urban Ministries  
 Bridge to Success  
 Bridgeway, Inc.  
 Brighton Park Neighborhood Council  
 Brothers Health Collective  
 Campaign for Better Health Care  
 Carole Robertson Center for Learning  
 Casa Central Social Services Corporation  
 Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago  
 State Representative Linda Chapa LaVia  
 CCR&R Carterville  
 CCRS-Urbana  
 Center for Advancing Domestic Peace, Inc.  
 Center for Housing and Health  
 Center for Tax and Budget Accountability  
 Center on Halsted  
 Centers for New Horizons  
 Centerstone  
 Central States SER, Jobs for Progress, Inc.  
 Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education  
 Chicago Coalition for the Homeless  
 Chicago Coalition of Site Administered Child Care Programs  
 Chicago Commons  
 Chicago House  
 Chicago House and Social Service Agency  
 Chicago Jobs Council  
 Chicago Medical-Legal Partnership for Children

Chicago Metropolitan Association for the Education of Young Children  
 Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network  
 Chicago Recovery Alliance  
 Chicago Run  
 Chicago Women's AIDS Project  
 Chicago Youth Centers  
 Child Abuse Council  
 Childcare Network of Evanston  
 Children's Home + Aid  
 Children's Place Association  
 Chinese American Service League  
 Citizen Schools Illinois  
 Clay County Health Department  
 Clay County Rehabilitation Center  
 Clearbrook, Child and Family Connections #6  
 Community 4:12  
 Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois  
 Community Crisis Center, Inc.  
 Community Elements, Inc.  
 Community Organizing and Family Issues  
 Community Renewal Society  
 Comprehensive Community Solutions, Inc.  
 Connections for Abused Women and their Children  
 Corporation for Supportive Housing  
 Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago  
 Crosspoint Human Services  
 DayOne Network  
 Deborah's Place  
 Delta Center, Inc.  
 DeWitt County Human Resource Center  
 District 207 School Based Health Center  
 Don Moss and Associates  
 Donors Forum  
 Dove, Inc.  
 DuPage Children's Museum  
 DuPage Pads  
 Early Childhood Coalition of the Illinois Quad Cities Area  
 East Side Health District  
 Easter Seals Central Illinois  
 Easter Seals DuPage & Fox Valley  
 Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago  
 Ecker Center for Mental Health  
 EdgeAlliance, Inc.  
 El Hogar del Nino  
 El Valor  
 Elev8  
 Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago  
 Equality Illinois  
 Erie Neighborhood House  
 EverThrive Illinois

Faculty Advisory Council, Illinois Board of Higher Education  
 Family Counseling Center, Inc.  
 Family First Center of Lake County  
 Family Focus  
 Family Focus DuPage  
 Family Rescue  
 Family Service and Mental Health Center of Cicero  
 Family Shelter Service  
 Federation for Community Schools  
 First Step Learning, Inc.  
 Ford Heights Community Service Organization  
 Fox Valley Montessori School  
 Friedman Place  
 Futures Unlimited, Inc.  
 Gads Hill Center  
 Garden Center Services  
 Goldie's Place  
 Good Samaritan House of Granite City  
 Good Shepherd Center for Exceptional Children  
 GROW in Illinois  
 Hamdard Center for Health and Human Services  
 Health & Disability Advocates  
 Health & Medicine Policy Research Group  
 Healthcare Alternative Systems, Inc.  
 Healthy Families Chicago  
 Heartland Alliance  
 Hepzibah  
 Heritage Behavioral Health Center  
 Hesed House, Inc.  
 Hispanic Community Education and Services  
 HOPE Fair Housing Center  
 Housing Action Illinois  
 Housing Forward  
 Housing Options for the Mentally Ill in Evanston, Inc.  
 Howard Area Community Center  
 Howard Brown Health Center  
 Human Resources Development Institute  
 Human Support Services  
 Hyde Park Neighborhood Club  
 ICG Rehab Services  
 IFF  
 Illinois Action for Children  
 Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans  
 Illinois Asset Building Group  
 Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health  
 Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children  
 Illinois Association of Free and Charitable Care Clinics (IAFCC)  
 Illinois Association of Hispanic State Employees  
 Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
 Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR)

Illinois Collaboration on Youth  
 Illinois Federation of Teachers  
 Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL)  
 Illinois Occupational Therapy Association  
 Illinois Partners for Human Services  
 Illinois Physical Therapy Association  
 Illinois Primary Health Care Association  
 Illinois-Iowa Center for Independent Living  
 Imagine Englewood If  
 IMPACT CIL  
 INC Board, NFP  
 INCCRRA  
 Inspiration Corporation  
 Instituto del Progreso Latino  
 Interdependent Living solutions Center  
 Interfaith House  
 Interfaith Leadership Project  
 Jane Addams Senior Caucus, Healthcare and Economic Justice Committee  
 Jasper County Health Department  
 KCCDD  
 Kilmer Sullivan School Based Health Center  
 La Casa Norte  
 Land of Lincoln Goodwill Industries, Inc.  
 L'Arche Chicago  
 Latino Organization of the Southwest  
 Latino Policy Forum  
 Lawrence Hall Youth Services  
 League of Women Voters of Illinois  
 Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House  
 LIFE Center for Independent Living  
 LifeLinks Mental Health  
 LINC, Inc.  
 Logan Square Neighborhood Association  
 Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois  
 Lutheran Social Services of Illinois  
 Madison County Housing Authority  
 Madison County Partnership to End Homelessness  
 Marillac St. Vincent Family Services  
 Marion County Health Department  
 Mary Crane Center  
 Mary Crane Center Lathrop  
 Mary Crane Child Development Programs  
 Massac County Mental Health  
 Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois  
 Mental health summit  
 Mercy Hospital & Medical Center  
 Mercy Housing Lakefront  
 Metropolitan Family Services  
 Muslim Women Resource Center  
 NAMI Barrington Area  
 NAMI Chicago  
 NAMI Illinois

New Foundation Center, Inc.  
 New Moms, Inc.  
 Nicasa  
 North Center for Handicapped Children  
 North/Northwest Suburban Task Force on  
 Supportive Housing for Individuals with Mental  
 Illness  
 Northwestern Illinois Center for Independent Living  
 Northwestern Settlement House  
 Oak Park Regional Housing Center  
 One Hope United  
 Onward House  
 Open Communities  
 Options & Advocacy for McHenry County  
 Ounce of Prevention Fund  
 PACE, Inc. Center for Independent Living  
 PACT, Inc.  
 Parents Organized to Win Educate and Renew Policy  
 Action Council (POWER PAC)  
 ParentsWork  
 Park Lawn School & Activity Center  
 Pediatric AIDS Chicago Prevention Initiative  
 Peoria County Bright Futures  
 Phoenix Crisis Center  
 Pillars  
 Planned Parenthood of Illinois  
 Polish American Association  
 Prevent Child Abuse Illinois  
 Prevention First  
 Private Citizen  
 Project IRENE  
 Project Oz  
 Puerto Rican Arts Alliance  
 Quad City Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO  
 Raise Your Hand for IL Public Education  
 RAMP Center for Independent Living  
 Ray Graham Association  
 Rosecrance  
 SAL Family and Community Services  
 San Jose Obrero Mission  
 Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
 School Health Link  
 Self Advocacy Council of Northern Illinois  
 Serenity House Counseling Services, Inc.  
 Service Employees International Union Local 73  
 Shelter, Inc.  
 Sinai Community Institute  
 Skipalong Early Care & Education  
 South Side Office of Concern  
 South Suburban Family Shelter  
 South Suburban Housing Center  
 Southwest Organizing Project  
 Sparc  
 SPARK Aurora Early Childhood Collaboration

St. Bernard Hospital  
 St. Procopius Church  
 Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois  
 Stephenson County Health Department--Healthy  
 Families  
 Streator Unlimited, Inc.  
 Suburban Access, Inc.  
 Sudden Infant Death Services of Illinois, Inc.  
 Supportive Housing Providers Association  
 Swedish Covenant Hospital  
 Teen Living Programs  
 Teen Parent Connection  
 The Alliance for Human Services  
 The Cara Program  
 The Center for Youth and Family Solutions  
 The Children's Place Association  
 The Douglas Center  
 The Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc.  
 The Fellowship House  
 The First Step Day Care  
 The Inner Voice, Inc.  
 The Josselyn Center  
 The Night Ministry  
 The Resurrection Project  
 The Salvation Army Evangeline Booth Lodge  
 Thresholds  
 Through A Child's Eyes  
 Together We Cope  
 Transitions Mental Health Services  
 Trinity UCC Child Care Program  
 UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago  
 UMMA CENTER  
 Union County Counseling Services, Inc.  
 United African Organization  
 United Way of Lake County  
 University Blackhawk Park School Linked Health  
 Center  
 Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern IL  
 VNA Foundation  
 Voices for Illinois Children  
 Wabash County Health Department  
 WCI Center for Independent Living  
 WellSpring Resources  
 Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living  
 YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago  
 Young Invincible  
 Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley  
 Youth Service Bureau Springfield  
 YSB / IFRP  
 YWCA of Quincy