



Press Release

February 14, 2012

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***NEW YORKERS SHOW THEIR HEARTS!
3,000 VALENTINES SENT FROM CLIENTS TO
THEIR HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS***

*City-wide Displays Exhibit Valentines
with Heartfelt Messages of Need and Thanks*

NEW YORK, February 14, 2012 – Over 3,000 valentines created by clients to show their appreciation to their human services providers for the critical social services that help support their lives have been put on display in public venues throughout New York City by the Human Services Council (HSC) in connection with its “Who Cares? I Do” campaign. The valentines that human services clients have created thank providers for services that include after-school programs, day care, senior services, homeless shelters, food pantries, domestic violence assistance, and health clinics.

The valentines are on display today in 10 venues, including offices of three New York City borough presidents and two state elected officials. Other venues include two YMCAs (in Brooklyn), and community centers of Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens (Astoria) and The Children’s Aid Society (Bronx) (full list below).

Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President, said: “Senior centers, after-school programs, and domestic violence shelters are the often overlooked cornerstone of our city. HSC’s “Who Cares? I Do” campaign is a terrific platform to remind New Yorkers of the need for these vital resources. We must be vigilant in our support for social service providers and advocate against any unnecessary cuts. I want to commend the Human Services Council on this terrific campaign and am proud to host a display in my One Centre Street Office commemorating the one-year anniversary of “Who Cares? I Do.”

The heart-shaped valentines bear many messages, thoughts and sentiments that came directly from clients’ lives:

They each stated: I ♥ Human Services because

- “I have a home”
- “I don’t do dumb things since I’m in afterschool”
- “I need help with housing. I need help with food. I need help with moving. I need help with what they give.”

- “Human services [sic] is important to me because they teach me new things that I never learned before.”

“This outpouring of affection for human services providers hopefully will send a message to our political leadership about how much these services are valued and needed,” said Michael Stoller, executive director of HSC, which is running the “Who Cares? I Do” campaign to mobilize wide support to protect vital human services from government funding cuts.

The Human Services Council (HSC) is the voice of the human services community in New York. It represents thousands of New York not-for-profit organizations and advocates for the needs of the human services sector as a whole. For more information about the Human Services Council and its “Who Cares? I Do.” campaign, visit www.WhoCares-IDo.org. Follow the campaign on Twitter: @WhoCares_IDo and Facebook: [Who Cares? I Do](#).

Photos of the valentines are available from HSC.

Members of the press are encouraged to visit and photograph. Interviews with representatives of HSC and human services providers can be arranged.

For more information, please contact Pro-Media Communications: Ellen Lubell, elubell1@gmail.com, 917-743-0172 or Rachel Sugar, rsugar@pro-mediacomunications.com, 212-245-0510.

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Valentine Exhibit Locations:

Manhattan:

- **Office of the Borough President:** One Centre Street, 19th Floor
- **Office of State Senator José Serrano:** 157 East 104th Street
- **Office of Assemblymember Robert J. Rodriguez:** 55 East 115th Street

Brooklyn:

- **Office of the Borough President:** 209 Joralemon Street
- **Dodge YMCA:** 225 Atlantic Avenue, near Court Street
- **Bedford YMCA:** 1121 Bedford Avenue

Bronx:

- **Children’s Aid Society’s Next Generation Center:** 1522 Southern Boulevard
- **Children’s Aid Society’s Bronx Family Center:** 1515 Southern Boulevard

Queens:

- **Astoria CCBQ Community Center:** 23-40 Astoria Boulevard, Astoria
- **Office of the Borough President:** 120-55 Queens Boulevard