

Dear Human,



Greetings and welcome to our first Human Services Council Newsletter of 2008!

I am pleased to share the first installment of the HSC Newsletter with you. This Newsletter was made possible by a grant from the Booth Ferris Foundation. In this edition, you will find exciting information about how HSC continues to grow and adapt in a changing world.

As you know and as is reported in this Newsletter, HSC negotiated a three-year COLA for the not-for-profit human services sector in the FY09 City Budget. Thank you to all our partners who made this effort a great success.

I am also delighted to inform you of two internal promotions at HSC. As of July 1, 2008, Allison Sesso is now Deputy Executive Director and Chris Winward is now Senior Policy Analyst. Congratulations to both Allison and Chris on their well deserved advancements. A warm welcome to our not so new Membership Services Coordinator, Dominic Muntanga, who is moving to this position from the Disaster Preparedness and Response program.

On a very sad note and with much regret, we say good bye and much thanks to Hayyim Obadyah, Director of Disaster Preparedness and Response. HSC suspended our Disaster Preparedness and Response program as of June 30, 2008 due to a loss of government funding. Hayyim has been phenomenal in this position where he led the coordination of the sector in disaster preparedness efforts. We will miss him dearly and wish him the best of luck.

As the economic downturn and shifting funding priorities continue to negatively impact the sector, we are grateful to our members and donors who are playing an ever greater role in supporting our work. I invite you to spread the word about HSC and help us expand our voice. More information on joining HSC is available on our website at <http://www.humanservicescouncil.org>

Thank you for your support and I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter.

Once again, welcome and enjoy!

Michael Stoller

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[HSC and the City of New York co-chair COLA Task Force Workgroups.](#)

HSC successfully negotiated a three-year COLA for the not-for-profit human services sector in the FY09 City Budget. This COLA includes a 3 percent increase in direct employee salaries effective July 1, 2008 and 2 and 4 percent increases in 2009 and 2010, respectively. These out-year COLAs are to be funded by productivity improvements and other operational savings.

To achieve these savings, the City of New York and the Human Services Council are co-chairing a COLA Task Force, made up of representatives from City government, including OMB, MOCS, and City agencies, and the not-for-profit sector, including umbrella organizations and direct

Executive Director

## Meet our newest members

HSC welcomes our newest members. A stronger HSC membership base enables the human services sector voice to be louder. Please click on the links to learn more about their services. They add more to our diversity and voice.

1. [American Group Psychotherapy Association, Inc.](#)
2. [Connect, Inc.](#)
3. [Center for Family Representation, Inc.](#)
4. [Child Development Support Corporation](#)
5. [Coalition for Asian American Children & Families](#)
6. [Families United for Racial & Economic Equality](#)
7. Midwood Development Corporation
8. [Older Adults Technology Services](#)
9. [Partnership for Afterschool Education](#)
10. [Resource for Children with Special Needs, Inc.](#)
11. [The Children's Village](#)
12. Crown Heights Service Center, Inc.
13. **Help us add more members to this list.**

**All HSC members are listed on our website. You can visit their webpages by [clicking here](#).**

For more information contact our Membership Services Coordinator  
**Dominic Muntanga**  
Email: [muntangad@humanservicescouncil.org](mailto:muntangad@humanservicescouncil.org)  
Phone: 212 836 1623

## HSC closes Disaster Preparedness & Response Program

Due to the loss of expected government funding, HSC suspended its program of preparing the not-for-profit human services sector to help people recover from catastrophic disaster. ([See The New York Times article from Saturday, July 26, 2008, for more information.](#))

HSC would like to thank all our not-for-profit and government partners in the disaster preparedness and response efforts. The Altman Foundation generously providing funding for the study of Katrina lessons learned and also for the development of the DP&R program. The New York Times Company Foundation and the Open Society Institute made financial commitments to enable the sector to respond in the event of a major disaster. Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP provided pro bono legal assistance.

HSC encourages agencies to participate in New York City Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NYC VOAD). For information on NYC VOAD, contact Katey Walsh at the American Red Cross in Greater New York, [walshk@nyredcross.org](mailto:walshk@nyredcross.org).

Details about the reasons for closure are available on the HSC website

providers. An initial kick-off meeting was held on June 23 in which participants brainstormed ideas for achieving the necessary savings. Based on the ideas generated, the following workgroups were formed.

1. Purchasing
2. Audit
3. Real Estate
4. Insurance
5. Transportation
6. Contract Reform
7. Information Technology

These workgroups will meet from now through December 2008. The frequency of meetings will vary depending on the topic being addressed.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Allison Sesso  
[sessoa@humanservicescouncil.org](mailto:sessoa@humanservicescouncil.org)  
Phone: 212-836-1127.

## HSC Technology and Referral Initiative

Technology has become a pervasive part of life, but how well is the not-for-profit sector using this powerful tool to improve service delivery? Get to know the HSC technology initiatives!

As the voice of the human services sector, HSC is working in partnership with government on the development and implementation of technology initiatives aimed at improving service delivery. HSC serves as the liaison between the human service community and the City on the development of 311 and ACCESS NYC. Learn more about these initiatives:

### 311

311 is New York City's phone number for government information and non-emergency services. Since its inception in 2003, the service has expanded to cover social services and include health and human service information and referrals.

at <http://www.humanservicescouncil.org>

## Did you know?...

Governor David A. Paterson announced that New York State has now officially entered a recession. Announcing that action is necessary to reduce spending, he ordered executive state agencies to reduce spending and control hiring. [See the New York State website for details.](#)

New York City and State government officials are bracing themselves for a historic drop in taxable income, owing to the decline in pay on Wall Street. This coming plunge in pay would have wrenching effects on the local and regional economies. [Visit the New York Times website to read the article.](#)

## Save the Date!

### **HSC Board Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2008**

### **HSC Board Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2008**

**All board meetings are held at United Way of New York City, Board Room, 2 Park Avenue, 2nd Floor (Corner of 32 Street)  
Time: 8:30 a.m.**

### **HSC 13th Annual Leadership Awards Reception**

**Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2008**

**Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 pm**

**Venue: [Mutual of America](#) 320 Park Avenue 35th Floor.**

## News from HSC members.

### **Alert On Proposed CMS Changes Affecting Article 28 Clinic Reimbursements!**

Submitted by [Public Health Solutions](#)

If you are an Article 28 provider or have clients which receive treatment through Article 28 clinics please link to this important information regarding the "Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Proposed Rule on Hospital Outpatient and Community Clinic Services Impact on New York's Health Care Delivery System and Medicaid Beneficiaries." You can also link

This enhancement of the 311 Customer Call Center now links New Yorkers to vital social services provided by both government and community-based organizations. Individuals looking for child care, summer youth programs, senior centers, or hundreds of other social services now have easy access to this information through 311. The expansion of 311 also adds not-for-profits to the list of services and providers available to callers, helping New Yorkers navigate the rich and extensive network of community-based organizations that serve clients across the City. 311 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 170 languages. All calls to 311 are private-which means that the call center won't share personal or immigration information with anyone.

### **ACCESS NYC**

ACCESS NYC is a free and easy-to-use [website](#) that allows New Yorkers to get information about, screen for, and apply for benefits from over 35 City, State, and federal benefit programs.

New Yorkers can find out which programs each member of their household is potentially eligible for, print applications, find out which documents are needed to apply, find out how to apply and where to go to apply. And coming later this year, ACCESS NYC plans to include the ability to submit applications for certain benefit programs directly on the website. ACCESS NYC can be used in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Haitian Creole, Russian, Arabic, and English and is a part of the HHS-Connect project, which is led by the NYC Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.

to the list of possible cuts to NY clinics if these proposed rule changes are implemented. This information was recently released by Governor Paterson's D.C. office. Letters to support a moratorium on this proposal should be sent to your Congress Member. [Visit the HSC Members Only section for more information.](#)

[This space is designated for our members. Please send us announcements, news, and interesting issues of relevance to the sector.](#)

**Editorial Policy:** Submissions must be no more than 25 lines, font size 12, Times New Roman. HSC reserves the right to edit submissions and to decide which will be published.

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