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Happy New Year from Executive Director Michael Stoller

First, on behalf of HSC, I'd like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. 2009 was challenging, to say the least, so let us hope for a better 2010. And while the prospects for the human services sector continue to be bleak - we are hearing about even further reductions in private and public funding for 2010 - we must take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support of HSC at last month's 14th annual Leadership Awards Reception.

Because of all of you, we held our most successful event ever, netting almost \$120,000, which will help support our much-needed programs. Please note that while this is a record-breaker for us, it is a relatively modest amount for our single fund-raiser, even compared to other not-for-profits' annual campaigns. Yet we are well aware of the fiscal crunch everyone is experiencing and are deeply grateful for the strong show of support of HSC during this difficult time. **We'd like to again thank our incredible honorees: Melba Butler**, Butler Consulting; **Verona Middleton-Jeter**, Henry Street Settlement; **Frank Modica**, Hamilton-Madison House; and **Pete Moses**, Children's Aid Society. Their dedication to the sector is appreciated beyond our words to express it. We'd also like to thank **Mutual of America**, who hosted the event for us at their beautiful space on Park Avenue.



Pictured (L-to-R): Frank Modica, Verona Middleton-Jeter, Michael Stoller, Melba Butler, and Pete Moses

News on New York Budgets

New York State Budget

On January 19, the Governor released a \$134 billion FY10-11 Executive Budget proposal that closes a \$7.4 billion deficit. This Budget contains **\$5.6 billion in recurring reductions** to current spending, which constitutes 75% of the gap closing plan. The Executive Budget also proposes **increasing taxes or fee liabilities** that will generate almost **\$1 billion** in FY11, about 14% of the overall gap closing plan. If you are an HSC member, you can [follow this link](#) to go to the member's only section of our website where you can access HSC's summary of the Governor's FY11 Executive Budget.

Note that the 21-day amendment period in which **the Governor can make changes to his formal budget proposal ends February 9th**. Over the next few weeks, the Legislature will hold a series of joint public hearings on the proposal and then typically begin negotiations with the Governor. Please see our Act Now! Section for more information about what you can do to help advocate for the sector.

The **Assembly published** its "Yellow Book," which is **a document that reflects the Ways & Means Committee's analysis of the Governor's budget**. It is organized with increases, decreases, and total funding summaries per agency; you can [click here](#) to see it. The **State Senate also published their summary of the Governor's proposed Executive Budget**, known as the "Blue Book," available [here](#).

New York City Budget

On January 28, the Mayor released his FY11 Preliminary Budget plan to **close a \$4.9 billion deficit through \$1.6 billion in agency gap closing options** (including \$484 million in reductions previously made for the remainder of FY10 and \$1.1 billion for FY11). HSC will complete a full analysis of the Mayor's FY11 Preliminary Budget and share it with members soon.

ARRA Update

In September and November, **HSC provided updates and grant information about federal stimulus funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)**. We identified

Please [click here](#) to see more photos and our online journal from the event.

The festivities from our annual event and the holiday period already seem long ago. We have been busy working in a variety of areas, such as inducting three new Board members (please [click here](#) for a complete list of our Board of Directors), collaborating with our members and the Mayor's Office on the new standardized human services contract, analyzing and coordinating responses to the City and State Executive budgets, and meeting with New York City and State officials on the budgets and other human services issues. More information about these (and other) activities can be found in this newsletter.

Finally, as you are all likely well aware, deep cuts were announced to the current FY10 City and State budgets, as well as in the FY11 budgets. **Now, even more than ever, the sector needs to speak as a unified collective to fight cuts that would severely impact our sector and the clients we serve.** HSC is here to advocate on your behalf so, as you go about your New Year tasks, please remember that our voice grows stronger with more members and philanthropic support. Please forward this newsletter to someone who is interested in supporting New York's human services sector.



Many thanks,

Michael Stoller

Advocacy Results

As a result of HSC's survey and report about the difficulties being faced by not-for-profit human services agencies due to the economic crisis (the sole subject of our October 2009 newsletter), HSC developed a list of [recommendations for government agencies to help not-for-profits alleviate their financial and administrative burdens](#). We sent this list to New York State and City legislators and **worked with the New York State Comptroller's Office to implement these recommendations**. The Comptroller's Office embraced our recommendations and incorporated many of them in [their report on the not-for-profit sector](#). We thank them for their openness to working with us and look forward to continuing our work with the Comptroller and his Office on our shared issues of concern, such as the loss of public and private funding, prompt contracting, government efficiencies and assistance for not-for-profits as they struggle in the economic downturn.

HSC was thrilled to have received the first draft of the **Standard Human Services Contract** and to have gathered comments from our members on the draft documents. We have been advocating for the implementation of a standard approach to contracting and are excited to have reached this point. The new

opportunities that exist for not-for-profits to apply to the federal government for grants and forwarded these to our membership. Members can see our list of opportunities that remain open for submission, as well as tips for those interested in applying for these grants on the [Members-Only section](#) of our website.

HSC created [guidelines for future federal recovery spending](#) and wrote a [report](#) summarizing the issues faced by not-for-profits in addressing special ARRA reporting/tracking requirements that are unduly burdensome. We **shared these issues and recommendations with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's Office** on the federal level and with **Michelle Light, Senior Policy Advisor, Mayor's Office of Operations**, on the City level.

We are planning a final ARRA training session in February to update members on how ARRA funds were used in human services for New York. If you have questions about HSC's ARRA work, please contact [Michelle Jackson](#) at (212) 836-1588. HSC's ARRA work was made possible by a grant from the **New York Community Trust**, which ended in December.

Government Relations

contract **will be used across the City's human services agencies and will significantly reshape the terms and clauses of the sector's contracts.** HSC continues to lead the effort of a 60+ member workgroup through the negotiation process, ensuring the contract contains mutually agreeable terms and conditions. Members who are interested in participating in continued discussions should contact [Sandi Singer](#), HSC's contracts consultant. HSC is continuing to negotiate with the City on administrative rates and overhead, which will be incorporated into a City standard Fiscal Manual. We will submit our consolidated member comments to the Mayor's Office of Contract Services in February.

HSC was pleased to receive feedback from **government agencies** that they **are applying many of our principles for the FY11 State Budget** (discussed in the Act Now! section of this newsletter) to their difficult work of balancing the Executive Budget. The State heard our concerns for the sector on our recommendations for making targeted reductions rather than across-the-board cuts, pursuing revenue-raising proposals, and preserving programs that serve high-need communities.

When the City's Financial Management System (FMS) was temporarily shut down for upgrades from December 19 through January 3, HSC was notified in advance that FMS could not process contract payments during that period. **HSC's constant focus on the sector is ensuring that City agencies realize and measure the impact of their actions on our sector** and they are providing plans to minimize negative results. We appreciate that the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services recommended actions to minimize payment disruptions, which we were able to share with our members.

Upcoming Workshops

HSC is pleased to announce that we have negotiated a first-ever, limited-time discount for our members; the **Support Center for Nonprofit Management is offering 50% off all courses between now and June 30, 2010** if you are a member of HSC. (Typically, HSC members receive 25% off all courses.) The Support Center for Nonprofit Management is dedicated to improving society by helping nonprofit organizations and leaders through trainings and consulting services. Typical workshops include topics such as organizational and staff development, fundraising, financial management, and marketing and communications. Members can link to our [Trainings and Meetings page](#) for links to the course schedule and information on using the 50% discount.

HSC members can also receive a **discount on the Advanced Executive Leadership Certificate program**, which is run by the NYU Silver School of

On January 25, HSC hosted a **State budget briefing for our members** with **Kristin Proud, Deputy Secretary for Human Services, Technology and Operations; Lou Raffaele, Department of Budget (DOB) Chief Budget Examiner-Mental Hygiene; Todd Scheuermann, DOB Chief Budget Examiner-Human Services; and Dan Sheppard, DOB Chief Budget Examiner-Health.** The first hour was a briefing call by the State with an opportunity for Q&A on the Governor's proposed budget. Following the briefing with the Governor's office, HSC led a discussion on our advocacy strategy for this budget season with members in attendance.

On January 13, HSC was pleased to host **New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli** at our Board of Directors meeting. We'd like to thank Comptroller DiNapoli and his staff for presenting to our Board. He mentioned two websites: [yourmoney.ny.net](#) provides New Yorkers with information to help face a variety of money-related issues, and [openbooknewyork.com](#) details State spending, such as the status of 60,000 current State contracts. We appreciate Comptroller DiNapoli's candor in his presentation and in answering our questions. The Comptroller ended his presentation on a high note: he runs the Office of Unclaimed Funds, which holds \$9B of abandoned properties for individuals and organizations in New York. The Comptroller's Office reported that **40% of our members have unclaimed funds** and presented a check for \$17,500 to Paul Levine of the Jewish Board



Funds."

Pictured (L-to-R): Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, Paul Levine, and Michael Stoller. Photo courtesy of J. Kohomban.

On January 12, HSC hosted a meeting where the **City presented its draft of the Standard Human Services Contract to our members.** Members had an opportunity to ask questions about the draft contract and learn about the City's perspective as the process for developing the standard contract for human services progresses. **Marla Simpson, Director, Mayor's Office of Contract Services; Louisa Chafee, Director of Management Innovation, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services; Jennifer Walty, NYC's Nonprofit Contract Facilitator; and Elisa Velazquez, General Counsel, Mayor's Office of Contract Services,** came to the meeting and we thank them for collaborating with HSC on this important work. More information about this work is in the Advocacy Results section of this newsletter.

Social Work, Division of Lifelong Learning and Professional Development. The Advanced Executive Leadership Certificate Program is intended for not-for-profit executives and emerging leaders from Social Work and related fields. Accepted seminar participants will meet for 8 bi-weekly sessions to examine issues, dilemmas and paradoxes they face in their agency work; strategy-planning models will be developed to address these issues. This program is under the direction of **Phil Coltoff**, Visiting Professor and Executive-in-Residence, and includes guest faculty, such as our own Michael Stoller.

The Winter/Spring schedule from the Procurement Training Institute (PTI) is out; remember that due to HSC's advocacy, **PTI classes are open and free to any not-for-profit provider with a City contract.** Some courses that might be of particular interest to HSC members are:

- Best Practice in Good Governance and Fiscal Oversight for NFPs, February 2
- Returnable Grant Fund, March 4
- Practical Approaches to NFP Finances and Internal Controls, May 19
- New IRS Tax Form 990, May 20

If you are an HSC member, you can see more information about PTI courses and how to enroll by visiting the [Trainings and Meetings page](#) in the members' only section of our website.

Save the Date!

HSC Executive Committee Meeting - Open to Executive Committee Members only. RSVP to [Cecelia Burchett](#), 212-836-1230.

Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2010
Time: 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Location: HSC - 130 East 59th Street, Room 712

HSC Board Meeting on Standard Human Services Contract - Open to Board Members only. RSVP to [Cecelia Burchett](#), 212-836-1230.

Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2010
Time: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Location: HSC - 130 East 59th Street, Room 712

HSC Advocacy Action Response Group - Open to all members. RSVP to [Michelle Jackson](#), 212-836-1588.

Date: Thursday, February 11, 2010
Time: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Location: HSC - 130 East 59th Street, Room 653

On November 24, **Kristin Proud, Deputy Secretary for Human Services, Technology and Operations presented to our members in person** at a special session to share information and expectations regarding the FY11 State budget. She graciously heard our concerns for the sector as we offered recommendations on ways to balance the budget while minimizing the impact on New York's most fragile residents.

Act Now!

Below are the dates of the **Joint State Legislative hearings on the 2010-2011 Executive Budget** that are human services-related. These hearings will occur from February 1-10 in Albany. **We encourage you to provide testimony at one or more hearings.**

2/1 - Economic Development
2/1 - Taxes
2/2 - Education
2/3 - Mental Health
2/3 - Housing
2/9 - Health/Medicaid
2/10 - Workforce
2/10 - Health and Human Services

To find specific times, locations, and contact information, please [click here](#).

With the help of its federation and coalition leaders, **HSC created a list of 8 principles for City and State legislators to follow when making budget decisions.** HSC sent the City principles to the Mayor and all City Commissioners and the State principles to the Governor and all State Commissioners in December. **We encourage all members and friends of the human services sector to use these principles in their advocacy efforts.**

With thanks to the Citizens Corps Council, we provided a **comprehensive resource list for New Yorkers who wish to contribute to the relief efforts in Haiti** as well as for New Yorkers who have been affected by the earthquake. Please see the fourth item under "What's Hot at HSC!" on our [website](#) for more information on what is going on and how you can help.

Did You Know?

New members who join HSC now, with half the year over, **pay only half the dues for our 2010 fiscal year**, which ends June 30, 2010. [Click here](#) to find a membership application and information on how to join. If you have any membership questions, please contact [Cynthia Tao](#).

HSC is pleased to announce exciting **changes to our advocacy structure** that we feel will further strengthen and unify the sector. Our Board approved the formation of a **new committee, the Budget**

HSC Board Meeting - Open to Board Members only. RSVP to [Cecelia Burchett](#), 212-836-1230.

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Time: 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Location: United Way of New York City Board Room, 2 Park Avenue, 2nd Floor (Corner of 32nd Street)

News from HSC Members

Safe Space NYC organized a high school student college tour that provided a frightening lesson on racial profiling. Please [click here](#) to read the article from the *New York Times* about it.

Announcements

As we wistfully say goodbye to the Executive Directors who served the following organizations for so many years, we also happily welcome their successors:

- **Children's Aid Society** - Richard Buery, Jr.
- **DOROT, Inc.** - Mark Meridy
- **Families United for Racial & Economic Equality** (FUREE) - Valery Jean
- **Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey, Inc.** - Bill Forrester
- **Hamilton-Madison House** - Mark Handelman
- **Lighthouse International** - Mark Ackermann
- **New York Aids Coalition** - Brittany Allen
- **Partnership for Afterschool Education** - Alison Overseth
- **Veritas Therapeutic Community** - Sherry Thomas

We congratulate these leaders on their new positions and look forward to continuing our work with their organizations.

We'd like to also congratulate our members who recently received significant grants. You can click on the links below to read more from the *New York NonProfit Press (NYNP)* about the important work our members are doing.

- **Children's Village** received \$221K for [disconnected youth](#).
- **Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York, Support Center for Nonprofit Management**, and other NY not-for-profits received \$1 million combined for [capacity building](#).
- **The Coalition for Asian American**

Advocacy Committee (BAC), to replace the Advocacy Committee. The BAC is composed of leaders from each federation and coalition member of HSC, as well as our Executive Committee, and is **responsible for developing advocacy priorities and strategies for the sector around State and City budgets**. Supplementing the BAC is an **Advocacy Action Response Group** (AARG), which includes representatives from every HSC member organization. The AARG is **responsible for implementing action responses**, including letter-writing campaigns, press conferences, rallies, and meetings with elected officials.

We'd like to thank **Ed Geffner, Project Renewal, Inc.**, our Advocacy Committee Chair, for his long service and exemplary leadership of a key HSC committee. We'd also like to welcome our new Chairs: for BAC, **Ron Soloway, UJA-Federation of New York**, and **Wayne Ho, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families**, and for AARG, **Gary Carter, Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service**, and **Chris Molnar, Safe Space NYC, Inc.** We look forward to working *with* and *for* you on our advocacy efforts.

HSC sent its **first-ever marketing brochure** to the printer this month. We'd like to thank **partisan communications** for their outstanding work in designing and crafting this brochure. Our appreciation of their professionalism and talent is unbounded. We feel fortunate to be able to raise the profile of HSC and the human services sector through the work of agencies like **partisan communications** and also **Pro-Media Communications**, who created a video about HSC and the human services sector, featuring member agency Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service. Look for the brochure in February and you can link to the [video](#) here.



HSC released its 2009 Annual Report, which covers our fiscal year 2009, from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. We mailed copies to our members already; you can [download additional copies](#) of the report from our website.

The United Way of NYC launched its BoardServeNYC initiative. This initiative is a **free service that connects individuals looking to volunteer their governance skills with organizations seeking board members**. [Click here](#) if you would like to read more information about the program. If you are an individual interested in volunteering to serve on a board or an agency who seeks new board members, you can visit the [United Way website](#) for details on how to apply for the program.

HSC is proud that many of our members have already taken the **People's Institute for Survival and Beyond's "Undoing Racism"** workshop. **HSC and the**

Children and Families received \$500K for [capacity building of Asian organizations](#).

Citizens Advice Bureau is now **BronxWorks**. Please read the [NYNP](#) article for more information on this change.

Job Opportunities

Supportive Housing Network is looking for a [State Advocacy Director](#), [Administrative Assistant](#), and a [Green Supportive Housing Initiative Director](#).

Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service is looking for an Administrator / Director of Patient Services. For more information, [click here](#).

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation is looking for a variety of positions. For more information, [click here](#).

Space for Rent

NYC Employment & Training Coalition, along with Fiscal Policy Institute, have 1,500 sq. feet of office space available for immediate sublease, one block from City Hall. The space includes 4 furnished private offices, a cubicle, and shared access to a 40-person conference room with amenities. Rent includes most utilities and 24/7 building security and access. Rent is \$37 per sq. foot. Convenient to subways and buses. Contact Rebecca Brown Cesarani by [email](#) or phone at (212) 253-6872.

This space is designated for our members. Please send us your announcements, news, and issues of relevance to the sector.

Editorial Policy: HSC reserves the right to determine suitability for publication and to edit submissions.

Our Sponsors

HSC is grateful to our members and funders who support our work on behalf of the human services sector.

Valued supporters of HSC include:

Altman Foundation

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Mutual of America

New York City Council

New York Community Trust

Taproot Foundation

human services community we represent are strongly committed to antiracist work; we are thrilled that our Board of Directors reiterated its commitment to maintaining the momentum - despite the multitude of needs during these difficult economic times - by convening a task force on antiracist work in June, with two follow-up meetings during the summer and fall. Over a dozen Board members pledged to work on this important initiative with HSC.

HSC has an online information portal - an online community that is available exclusively for members. All levels of staff are invited to use this site to create their own pages, exchange ideas on the forum, start a discussion, add to the community blog, post photos and videos, add calendar listings, create their own groups, and much more. We hope this site makes connecting with others in the human services community easier for our members. If you haven't already joined, you can register by [clicking here](#).

HSC continued its work on the development of a group purchasing initiative for the not-for-profit sector in New York. Working in partnership with the United Way of NYC, HSC is advancing a solution aimed at **reducing the cost of commonly-purchased goods by the not-for-profit sector**. The last meeting of the Strengthening Nonprofit Taskforce's Workgroup on Group Purchasing, headed jointly by **Gordon Campbell, United Way of NYC**, and Michael Stoller, took place on December 2; the next meeting is scheduled for February 3rd.

On November 18, Allison Sesso, HSC Deputy Executive Director, presented at a retreat on the impact of the reforms to the Rockefeller Drug Laws on human services providers. **HSC is helping to ensure that low-level drug offenders are re-integrated into society as effectively as possible**. We are working with our members, such as the **Drug Policy Alliance**, to find referrals and services for this population.

Latest Additions to HSC

United Way of New York City

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all [our members](#) for their continued support. We realize the not-for-profit sector is facing the toughest budgetary constraints in years and our members must make difficult trade-off decisions regarding where and how to spend limited funds. We are pleased and grateful to have you with us.

Thank you again for your support!

If you'd like to contribute to HSC, you can make a tax-deductible donation by sending your check to:
Human Services Council
130 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022

* A special thanks to the Booth Ferris Foundation, whose generous support enables us to publish this Newsletter.

Since our August newsletter, we have seen one student intern come and go - and are also fortunate to have three interns who started last fall remain with us through the 2010 school year. We truly appreciate their time and dedication to HSC. Please help us welcome **Gabriel Brown**, web development intern, **Leslie Holmes**, policy intern, and **Shazah Sabuhi**, membership services intern. Their hard work has become invaluable to us!

Pictured (L-to-R):
Gabriel Brown, Shazah Sabuhi, and Leslie Holmes.



We'd also like to thank **Melissa Rhodes**, who was our policy intern last fall, for her work in supporting HSC's public policy and advocacy efforts. You can read more about our interns' backgrounds by [clicking here](#)

Please also welcome our latest new and returning members:

- [Educational Alliance](#)
- Home Attendant Services of Hyde Park
- [New York Disaster Interfaith Services](#)
- [People's Institute for Survival and Beyond](#)
- [ReServe Elder Service, Inc.](#)
- [Vera Institute of Justice, Inc.](#)

As always, we appreciate the work of our members to help the sector and their clients. Please click on the links above to go to their websites (if available) to find out more about the important work they are doing.

We hope you enjoyed reading this quarter's edition of the Human Services Council Newsletter. Please feel free to share your thoughts about this newsletter with us. We'd love to hear from you.

If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Tao, Membership Services Program Manager, taoc@humanservicescouncil.org or (212) 836-1623. You can also learn more about HSC's mission and work by visiting www.humanservicescouncil.org.

HSC's mission is to build broad recognition and support for the substantial and essential contributions of the not-for-profit human service sector to the citizens and the fabric of New York City.

The Voice of the Human Services Community

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