



# Human Services Council Newsletter

Issue #26

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## Letter from the Executive Director

Allison Sesso

I am honored to take on the position of Executive Director at the Human Services Council. **In this role, I will work tirelessly to elevate the voice of the nonprofit human services industry and increase our sector's political clout.**

I recognize there are a number of membership organizations in New York, each playing a unique role in moving the needle forward on issues you care about. However, HSC is the **only** organization representing the global collective of human services agencies in New York and the **only** group that convenes conversations across the entire sector, bringing faith, ethnic, and subsector specific interests to one table.

HSC is a trade association for the nonprofit human services industry with a social justice conscience. **We lead the way on sector wide reform efforts aimed at reducing burdens and increasing opportunities.** At the same time, we add the sector's collective voice to movements focused on the underlying issues that bring people to our doors and undermine our ability to help those we serve move forward.

## HSC Welcomes

...our new Executive Director, [Allison Sesso](#)!  
...our new members, [Nazareth Housing](#) and [Phoenix House](#).

## Thanks

...[The Altman Foundation](#) and the [American Red Cross in Greater New York](#) for their generous grants to HSC to continue our disaster response, recovery, and planning work.

## Farewells

HSC gives a special thank you and farewell to: [Michael Stoller](#), former Executive Director of HSC for 11 years. Thank you all for your advocacy, leadership, and hard work with HSC!

## Upcoming Workshops and Events

NYU is hosting a panel, "[Information and Technology in Human Services: Who's at the Table and How Can We Work Together More Effectively](#)," on April 2 from 9 am - 10:30 am. Panelists include Ivy Pool, Executive Director of HHS Connect and Brad Dudding, COO of Center for Employment Opportunity. The panel will focus on how different groups of stakeholders in the human services sector understand the role of data and technology and how nonprofits can coordinate with these stakeholders to utilize data more effectively. [RSVP here](#).

The [Nonprofit Finance Fund](#) (NFF) is running a [series of webinars](#) providing tools and strategies to help inform data-driven decision making for nonprofits. HSC members receive 10% off each webinar! [RSVP](#) for the spring series "Unpacking the Nonprofit Manager's Toolbox" today!

[The Nonprofit Help Desk](#) is offering two workshops for nonprofits developing Business Continuity Plans in the event of a disaster. [RSVP here](#).

[HSC members](#) may attend workshops at the [Support Center for Nonprofit Management](#) for only \$35. To view the upcoming workshops, [click here](#).

Our goal is to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of our industry as a whole. **We aim to demonstrate the sector's contributions to communities, and to other systems, including education, healthcare, and business.** We elevate recognition of sector challenges and work collaboratively with government and other partners on solutions that allow nonprofits to thrive.

I invite current members of HSC to reach out to us with your ideas and challenges and ask that you **help us grow stronger by urging your colleagues to join HSC.** And I ask those human services providers that are not yet part of HSC to join us - **our ability to represent the sector and create positive change for our industry is strengthened by your membership and participation.**

HSC 's strength and clout comes from our members. We need you to be active participants in our efforts and I **urge all human services providers to engage in advocacy,** build relationships with those that represent the communities you work in, and communicate the challenges you face to our government and community partners. Together we can have an impact and set the sector on a positive trajectory.

Thank you for the work you do helping families and individuals throughout New York and for the incredible

## Member News

[Applications](#) for the 2014 New York Community Trust [Nonprofit Excellence Awards](#), produced by the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee, the New York Community Trust, and Philanthropy New York, is now available. The Nonprofit Excellence Awards program teaches, recognizes, and encourages outstanding management practices among New York's large and diverse nonprofit community. The deadline for applications is May 2.

The human services workplace is changing and the human services community wants to find out what you think! HSC is partnering with NASW-NYC, United Neighborhood Houses, The Behavioral Health Coalition, Local 371, Social Service Employees Union, and New York Nonprofit Press in this citywide survey. To access the survey, please click the following link: [Human Service Workforce Study](#). Your answers will help improve service delivery and advocate for better jobs and services. Please share this survey widely with your networks.

[NASW-NYC](#) has launched a campaign for [equitable social work salaries](#). Sign onto the campaign and spread widely among your networks today!

NYS has published draft regulations on continuing education for licensed social workers and will be accepting comments until April 20. For more information on the draft regulations and information on how to send in comments, [click here](#).

**Amendments to the New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law take effect on July 1st, 2014 and will require most organizations to follow new regulations.** These changes provide opportunities to modernize notice procedures and operation of board meetings. [Lawyers Alliance for New York](#) is offering legal assistance related to this act. For more information on the amendments or for legal assistance, [click here](#).

HSC has worked with the Nonprofit Finance Fund to develop the [Community Resilience Fund \(CRF\)](#) which provides participating organizations with resources such as individualized business planning, financial analyses, and tailored capitalization plans. Participants are also eligible to apply for "change capital" to pay for strategic investments that result in organizations becoming better equipped to meet their missions. Expressions of interest are now being accepted, for more information, [click here](#).

## Budget News

contributions you make to this great City and State. I pledge to do my part in advancing the interests of this critical industry.

I look forward to working with you on the challenges ahead.

Allison Sesso

[Click here](#) for the press release.



## 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, American Red Cross - Greater New York, Blue Ridge Foundation New York, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, The Clark Foundation, IBM Corporation, Mayor's Fund To Advance New York City, Mutual of America, New York City Council and Speaker Christine Quinn, New York Community Trust, New York Women's Foundation, UJA-Federation of NY, and United Way of New York City.

Thank you again for your generous support!  
If you'd like to contribute to HSC, you can [donate online!](#)

Help the sector by asking other nonprofit human services agencies to join HSC. Our collective voice gets louder as we add more members. Please see our [website](#) or contact [Jason Wu](#) at 212-836-1667 for more information.

*HSC's mission is to strengthen the not-for-profit human services sector's ability to improve the lives of New Yorkers in need.*

### The Voice of the Human Services Community

Please follow us on Twitter or find us on Facebook. We'd love for you to become our fans!



HSC has conducted an analysis of Mayor de Blasio's FY15 Preliminary budget. **There are currently no broad based cuts. This budget proposal accounts for investments in runaway and homeless youth shelter beds, a HASA Rent Cap for HIV/AIDS Housing Clients, restorations to homeless services that will reduce the doubling up of families, and paid sick leave.** The centerpiece of the budget is providing Universal Pre-Kindergarten and expanded after-school programs to middle school students citywide. You can find the full analysis on the HSC website in the [members only](#) section.

The City Council has announced and updated its [FY15 Preliminary Budget Hearing schedule](#). HSC encourages all organizations to draft and submit testimony.

## Advocacy News

**The City Council recently overrode a veto by Mayor Bloomberg to reinstate the FDNY fire inspection fee exemption for nonprofit organizations.** The exemption went into effect on 1/29/2014, however, any invoices from the FDNY received before this date must be paid. If you receive services from outside for profit inspectors, not the FDNY, it is likely you will still need to pay for these services.

## Opportunities from our Members

[Care for the Homeless](#) is seeking a [Licensed Practical Nurse](#) and a [Registered Nurse](#).

[Center for Urban Community Services](#) has a variety of open positions. To view them, [click here](#).

[BronxWorks](#) is seeking to hire an Executive Director. For more information, [click here](#).

## Partner News

[Mutual of America](#) has announced their [2014 Community Partnership Award Competition](#) which recognize the important contributions that nonprofit organizations, in partnership with public, private and other social sector organizations, make to society. Mutual of America presents a number of grants, and \$25,000 is awarded to the winning organization each year. [Applications](#) are due April 1.

FEMA has released the latest version of a [Resource Guide](#) containing information about grants, training, and related topics designed for those involved in Sandy Recovery. FEMA has also started the [New York Recovery Network](#), an on-line portal that brings together professionals involved in the

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recovery to sharing information and exchanging ideas.

State Comptroller DiNapoli has [released](#) a report, "[Housing Affordability in New York State](#)," evaluating New York State housing affordability trends from 2000 to 2012. His report found that housing costs have been rising sharply with increasing numbers of New Yorkers paying a larger percentage of their income for housing. [Click here](#) to read the report.

[doGreat.org](#) is a community-focused consultancy offering services to small and growing nonprofits and charitable foundations to help them maximize their impact and address immediate, concrete needs and build long-term capacity for sustainability and growth. They are offering a **10% discount** on their services until March 31, contact them today to see how they can help your organization!

Trinity Wall Street is moving and has 25 floors of good quality office furniture and supplies available for donation to local nonprofits. If your organization is in need of several pieces of office furniture and has the ability to pick up items from the Wall Street area, please contact [Ariella Louie](#).