



Thank You, Senate and Assembly for Rejecting the Governor’s proposal to cut funding for public health programs and combine appropriations!

Dear Senators and Assembly Members:

By rejecting the Governor’s 2018-2019 State Budget proposal to once again pool appropriations and cut programmatic funding by at least 20%, you have demonstrated an understanding of how critical these funds are to the health and wellbeing of communities across New York.

Restoration of these appropriations means that important health programs benefiting millions of New Yorkers by reducing morbidity and mortality will be able to continue their life saving work. The broad swath of programs relying on this money includes: the State’s Asthma Program, Hypertension Funding, and Obesity and Diabetes Programs. Furthermore, inadequate funding resulting from these potential cuts would destabilize maternal and child health programs, rural health networks, workforce programs, enriched housing programs serving elderly and disabled individuals, and Area Health Education Centers. Among other services, these programs promote primary care and public health careers to students in underserved communities.

We applaud the Senate and the Assembly for prioritizing the health of New Yorkers and standing up for the millions of people who depend on these services. *As budget negotiations come to a close, our organizations request that the Senate and Assembly continue to be vocal and staunch in their opposition to cuts and consolidation.*

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