

June 30, 2015

Dear Governor Rauner, Speaker Madigan, President Cullerton, Leader Durkin, and Leader Radogno:

As Illinois organizations deeply concerned about the state's responsibilities and obligations to serve children, families, and communities, we write to urge you to work together to pass a fair, adequate and fully funded Fiscal Year 2016 budget, that raises the revenues needed to ensure ongoing access to services and supports, before the new fiscal year begins on July 1st. As the leaders of this great state, we ask that you lead the way in setting aside differences and partnering together in order to pass a budget that is fair and meets the needs of Illinois.

Without a fully funded budget in place by July 1st, the children and adults who rely on the services many of our organizations provide, as well as those services provided directly by the state, will ultimately be the ones who shoulder the consequences. Almost every line item in the budget carries with it a similar weight and importance. The people of Illinois depend on the state to pass a budget and fund the programs they rely upon. Families who rely on childcare assistance, individuals with physical, developmental, and/or intellectual disabilities, children and adults with mental illnesses, individuals with HIV - these are our friends, families, and neighbors who rely on a fully funded state budget.

Nonprofit organizations are the backbone of the delivery of state services to these populations and are also left to struggle with the consequences of the lack of agreement on the budget. In addition to the services nonprofits provide on behalf of the state, nonprofit community-based organizations are significant contributors to the local economy, employing thousands as well as buying goods and services from other local businesses.

With July 1st quickly approaching and no state budget in place, nonprofit organizations and their boards of directors are wrestling with uncertainty. Lacking direction from state agencies, nonprofits have no idea how much state funding they can expect or when that funding might begin.

As a result, nonprofits across the state have no choice but to contemplate and, in some cases execute, plans to terminate services, lay off staff, and close service sites. Organizations, their staff, and the families and communities they serve will absorb the costs of these actions. These are the same organizations that have for decades worked on the state's behalf to ensure the availability of these services. If the state defaults on its responsibility to provide nonprofits with some level of fiscal certainty and adequate funding so that they can operate using sound business practices, we all pay the price in the short- and long-term.

We strongly urge the General Assembly and Governor Rauner to come together and find agreement to provide the revenue needed to fund a Fiscal Year 2016 budget that invests in the people of this great state. We certainly stand ready to assist our state's leadership in this effort in any way that we can.

Signed,

A Safe Place/Lake County Crisis Center
 AARP Illinois
 Access Living
 Access Services of Northern Illinois
 ACT Now Coalition
 AFC-COMMUNITY Development Corporation
 AIDS Foundation of Chicago
 AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
 Albany Park Community Center
 Alcoholic Rehabilitation Community Home (ARCH)
 Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health
 Alexian Brothers Housing and Health Alliance
 All Chicago
 Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook
 County
 Allison's Infant & Toddler Center
 Alternatives, Inc.
 Alton YWCA
 Arab American Action Network
 Arab American Family Services
 ARCH
 Arden Shore Child and Family Services
 Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Chicago
 Association of Latino/as Motivating Action (ALMA)
 Austin Peoples Action Center
 Breakthrough Urban Ministries
 Bridge to Success
 Bridgeway, Inc.
 Brighton Park Neighborhood Council
 Brothers Health Collective
 Campaign for Better Health Care
 Carole Robertson Center for Learning
 Casa Central Social Services Corporation
 Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago
 State Representative Linda Chapa LaVia
 CCR&R Carterville
 CCRS-Urbana
 Center for Advancing Domestic Peace, Inc.
 Center for Housing and Health
 Center for Tax and Budget Accountability
 Center on Halsted
 Centers for New Horizons
 Centerstone
 Central States SER, Jobs for Progress, Inc.
 Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education
 Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
 Chicago Coalition of Site Administered Child Care
 Programs
 Chicago Commons
 Chicago House
 Chicago House and Social Service Agency
 Chicago Jobs Council
 Chicago Medical-Legal Partnership for Children
 Chicago Metropolitan Association for the Education
 of Young Children
 Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network
 Chicago Recovery Alliance
 Chicago Run
 Chicago Women's AIDS Project
 Chicago Youth Centers
 Child Abuse Council
 Childcare Network of Evanston
 Children's Home + Aid
 Children's Place Association
 Chinese American Service League
 Citizen Schools Illinois
 Clay County Health Department
 Clay County Rehabilitation Center
 Clearbrook, Child and Family Connections #6
 Community 4:12
 Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of
 Illinois
 Community Crisis Center, Inc.
 Community Elements, Inc.
 Community Organizing and Family Issues
 Community Renewal Society
 Comprehensive Community Solutions, Inc.
 Connections for Abused Women and their Children
 Corporation for Supportive Housing
 Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago
 Crosspoint Human Services
 DayOne Network
 Deborah's Place
 Delta Center, Inc.
 DeWitt County Human Resource Center
 District 207 School Based Health Center
 Don Moss and Associates
 Donors Forum
 Dove, Inc.
 DuPage Children's Museum
 DuPage Pads
 Early Childhood Coalition of the Illinois Quad Cities
 Area
 East Side Health District
 Easter Seals Central Illinois
 Easter Seals DuPage & Fox Valley
 Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago
 Ecker Center for Mental Health
 EdgeAlliance, Inc.
 El Hogar del Nino
 El Valor
 Elev8
 Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago
 Equality Illinois
 Erie Neighborhood House
 EverThrive Illinois

Faculty Advisory Council, Illinois Board of Higher Education
Family Counseling Center, Inc.
Family First Center of Lake County
Family Focus
Family Focus DuPage
Family Rescue
Family Service and Mental Health Center of Cicero
Family Shelter Service
Federation for Community Schools
First Step Learning, Inc.
Ford Heights Community Service Organization
Fox Valley Montessori School
Friedman Place
Futures Unlimited, Inc.
Gads Hill Center
Garden Center Services
Goldie's Place
Good Samaritan House of Granite City
Good Shepherd Center for Exceptional Children
GROW in Illinois
Hamdard Center for Health and Human Services
Health & Disability Advocates
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
Healthcare Alternative Systems, Inc.
Healthy Families Chicago
Heartland Alliance
Hepzibah
Heritage Behavioral Health Center
Hesed House, Inc.
Hispanic Community Education and Services
HOPE Fair Housing Center
Housing Action Illinois
Housing Forward
Housing Options for the Mentally Ill in Evanston, Inc.
Howard Area Community Center
Howard Brown Health Center
Human Resources Development Institute
Human Support Services
Hyde Park Neighborhood Club
IARF
ICG Rehab Services
IFF
Illinois Action for Children
Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans
Illinois Asset Building Group
Illinois Association for Infant Mental Health
Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children
Illinois Association of Free and Charitable Care Clinics (IAFCC)
Illinois Association of Hispanic State Employees
Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR)
Illinois Collaboration on Youth
Illinois Federation of Teachers
Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL)
Illinois Occupational Therapy Association
Illinois Partners for Human Services
Illinois Physical Therapy Association
Illinois Primary Health Care Association
Illinois-Iowa Center for Independent Living
Imagine Englewood If
IMPACT CIL
INC Board, NFP
INCCRRA
Inspiration Corporation
Instituto del Progreso Latino
Interdependent Living solutions Center
Interfaith House
Interfaith Leadership Project
Jane Addams Senior Caucus, Healthcare and Economic Justice Committee
Jasper County Health Department
KCCDD
Kilmer Sullivan School Based Health Center
La Casa Norte
Land of Lincoln Goodwill Industries, Inc.
L'Arche Chicago
Latino Organization of the Southwest
Latino Policy Forum
Lawrence Hall Youth Services
League of Women Voters of Illinois
Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House
LIFE Center for Independent Living
LifeLinks Mental Health
LINC, Inc.
Logan Square Neighborhood Association
Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois
Madison County Housing Authority
Madison County Partnership to End Homelessness
Marillac St. Vincent Family Services
Marion County Health Department
Mary Crane Center
Mary Crane Center Lathrop
Mary Crane Child Development Programs
Massac County Mental Health
Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois
Mental Health Summit
Mercy Hospital & Medical Center
Mercy Housing Lakefront
Metropolitan Family Services
Muslim Women Resource Center
NAMI Barrington Area

NAMI Chicago
 NAMI Illinois
 New Foundation Center, Inc.
 New Moms, Inc.
 Nicasa
 North Center for Handicapped Children
 North/Northwest Suburban Task Force on
 Supportive Housing for Individuals with Mental
 Illness
 Northwestern Illinois Center for Independent Living
 Northwestern Settlement House
 Oak Park Regional Housing Center
 One Hope United
 Onward House
 Open Communities
 Options & Advocacy for McHenry County
 Ounce of Prevention Fund
 PACE, Inc. Center for Independent Living
 PACT, Inc.
 Parents Organized to Win Educate and Renew Policy
 Action Council (POWER PAC)
 ParentsWork
 Park Lawn School & Activity Center
 Pediatric AIDS Chicago Prevention Initiative
 Peoria County Bright Futures
 Phoenix Crisis Center
 Pillars
 Planned Parenthood of Illinois
 Polish American Association
 Prevent Child Abuse Illinois
 Prevention First
 Private Citizen
 Project IRENE
 Project Oz
 Puerto Rican Arts Alliance
 Quad City Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
 Raise Your Hand for IL Public Education
 RAMP Center for Independent Living
 Ray Graham Association
 Responsible Budget Coalition
 Rosecrance
 SAL Family and Community Services
 San Jose Obrero Mission
 Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
 School Health Link
 Self Advocacy Council of Northern Illinois
 Serenity House Counseling Services, Inc.
 Service Employees International Union Local 73
 Shelter, Inc.
 Sinai Community Institute
 Skipalong Early Care & Education
 South Side Office of Concern
 South Suburban Family Shelter
 South Suburban Housing Center
 Southwest Organizing Project
 Sparc
 SPARK Aurora Early Childhood Collaboration
 St. Bernard Hospital
 St. Procopius Church
 Statewide Independent Living Council of Illinois
 Stephenson County Health Department--Healthy
 Families
 Streator Unlimited, Inc.
 Suburban Access, Inc.
 Sudden Infant Death Services of Illinois, Inc.
 Supportive Housing Providers Association
 Swedish Covenant Hospital
 Teen Living Programs
 Teen Parent Connection
 The Alliance for Human Services
 The Cara Program
 The Center for Youth and Family Solutions
 The Children's Place Association
 The Douglas Center
 The Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc.
 The Fellowship House
 The First Step Day Care
 The Inner Voice, Inc.
 The Josselyn Center
 The Night Ministry
 The Resurrection Project
 The Salvation Army Evangeline Booth Lodge
 Thresholds
 Through A Child's Eyes
 Together We Cope
 Transitions Mental Health Services
 Trinity UCC Child Care Program
 UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago
 UMMA CENTER
 Union County Counseling Services, Inc.
 United African Organization
 United Way of Lake County
 University Blackhawk Park School Linked Health
 Center
 Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern IL
 VNA Foundation
 Voices for Illinois Children
 Wabash County Health Department
 WCI Center for Independent Living
 WellSpring Resources
 Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living
 YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago
 Young Invincible
 Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley
 Youth Service Bureau Springfield
 YSB / IFRP
 YWCA of Quincy