



# Calling for a **3% increase** on human services contracts and rates for the **next 5 years.**

Nonprofit coalitions from across New York stand together in an historic coalition to call on the State to invest in a **3% increase on contracts and rates for the next 5 years** for the survival of the sector.

Human service nonprofits provide **vital services**, including after-school programs, supportive housing, homeless services, job training, substance abuse disorder/addiction and mental health services to **millions of New Yorkers** annually.

Human services funding at the State has been **slashed by 26%** since 2008, resulting in rates **lower than in 1980**. The State continues to expect nonprofits to do more with less, but the **sector cannot continue to provide quality services to communities without fair funding.**

## fast facts:



**Human services local aid has fallen by 5% annually since FY12**  
This historic disinvestment is unsustainable and has a direct impact on the quality and quantity of vital services available in every community.



**The human services workforce, upwards of 800,000 workers in New York State, bear the brunt of this divestment**  
Because wages have remained stagnant due to a lack of funding, the average human services worker is living **at or below the poverty line.**

**60%** of the workforce **qualifies for some form of public assistance.**

**39%** of New York human services organizations have **less than three months of cash on hand.**

**68%** of NY nonprofits anticipate **not being able to meet the demands for services** by their communities.

**10** years since the state last provided a **cost-of-living adjustment.**

The State should not be using tax payer dollars to **exacerbate the gender pay gap** and create **poverty level jobs**. New Yorkers deserve qualified workers and consistent services, but with low and stagnant wages, turnover rates in parts of the sector are upwards of 40 percent. Continuing to ignore this workforce has a **detrimental impact on the economy and our communities.**

The State relies on nonprofits for a broad range of essential services, **programs that touch the lives of every New Yorker**. The State must restore critical funding to human services programs and invest in the workers who are the backbone of the economy and local communities.

**Commit to the 3-for-5 investment to ensure that human services and the New Yorkers they serve can thrive!**

### CONTACT:

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### **Q and A for the Human Services Sector #3for5 Campaign**

**1) What is #3for5?**

We are calling for an annual three percent increase in contracts and rates for human services providers for five years.

**2) How much would that cost in actual dollars?**

Based on prior calculations by the New York State Division of Budget, it would cost approximately \$170 million in FY2021.

**3) What human services agencies and programs would be covered by this funding?**

All of the statewide programs under the aegis of the New York State Offices of: Mental Health, People With Developmental Disabilities, Aging, Addiction Services and Support, Children and Family Service and Temporary and Disability Assistance as well as Care Management and Early Intervention programs under the New York State Department of Health. Programs include mental health, employment, day and residential programs for people with developmental disabilities, addiction programs, child welfare, food pantries, domestic violence shelters, homeless programs, supportive housing, job training, afterschool programs and aging services.

**4) Why is there a need for a funding increase?**

For the past ten years, the New York State Budget has not included a Cost of Living Increase (COLA) or Trend Factor for the human services sector (except for one 0.2% increase), despite statutory language that requires it. This has resulted in billions of dollars denied to the human services sector. Without these critical investments, providers have reached a crisis point, negatively impacting vulnerable New Yorkers and their families who rely on these constitutionally mandated services. Our ability to provide adequate supports to those in need has been radically curtailed with limited resources and great difficulty recruiting and retaining staff -- providers are increasingly financially unstable and at risk of closure.

**5) Why is an investment in human services programs good for taxpayers?**

Community-based human services programs save New York State taxpayers millions of dollars by keeping people in their communities and out of costlier settings like emergency rooms, hospitals and institutions. The sector also employs over 800,000 New Yorkers and is a local economic driver.

**6) What would agencies do with this three percent funding increase?**

This funding would give agencies the flexibility to apply the funds as would best benefit the communities they serve, including to increase staff salaries, to pay for increased insurance costs, rent, food and fuel, for infrastructure repair and for other necessary expenses.



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**7) What organizations support the #3for5 Campaign?**

Associations which combined, provide community-based supports to over one million New Yorkers in greatest need.

The List of organizations include:

Alliance of Long Island Agencies  
Association for Community Living of New York State  
Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State  
Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies  
Developmental Disabilities Alliance of Western New York  
Families Together in New York State  
Human Services Council  
Interagency Council of Developmental Disabilities Agencies, Inc.  
Mental Health Association in New York State, Inc.  
NAMI New York State  
New York Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation  
New York Association of Addiction Services and Professionals  
New York Association of Emerging and Multicultural Programs  
New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
New York Disability Advocates  
New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
Northern Rivers Family of Services  
New York State Care Management Coalition  
New York State Coalition for Children's Behavioral Health  
New York State Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors, Inc.  
New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
Self-Advocacy Association of New York State  
Strong Non Profits  
Supportive Housing Network of New York  
The Arc New York  
The Coalition for Behavioral Health

**8) How can I get more information?**

Log on to [www.3for5ny.org](http://www.3for5ny.org)

Contact Glenn Liebman at the Mental Health Association in New York State at [gliebman@mhanys.org](mailto:gliebman@mhanys.org) or  
Michelle Jackson at the Human Services Council at [jacksonm@humanservicescouncil.org](mailto:jacksonm@humanservicescouncil.org).