COVID-19 has meant New Yorkers are "all in," staying home to ensure we're all kept safe, including those most at risk, such as older adults. This incredible collective effort must be supported by going all in to increase the aging budget to meet the existing and increasing need.

Join us in calling for these investments and go #AllforAging in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Provide Essential Funding for an Essential Program

$26.2 million for Home Delivered Meals
Currently, more than 21,000 homebound older adults are receiving home delivered meals across NYC, a number that continues to grow due to COVID-19. However, many of the community-based organizations who serve these meals lose thousands of dollars every year on the program. To address this:
- $8.5 Million for FY20 COVID Related Expenses
- $14.7 Million for FY21 Increased Demand and Adequate Rates
- $3 Million for FY21 Weekend Meal Needs

Restore Cuts & Fulfill Promises

$9.7 million baselining of one-time funds cut from the Executive Budget
- $2.8 million for Senior Centers,
- $2.84 for Home Delivered Meals,
- $1 million for NORCs, and
- $2.1 million for NYCHA community spaces.
  Additionally, the City Council's $1 million Case Management initiative should be baselined.

$10 million in new funds promised for Senior Centers
Not included in the Executive Budget, but promised as part of the Model Senior Center Budget process that took place in 2017, the Administration must add the remaining $10 million for Department for the Aging (DFTA) senior centers in FY21.

Protect Programs that Serve Seniors, Today and Always

$1.7 million to achieve salary parity for NORC Staff
COVID-19 has made it clear that inequities cannot be tolerated. Today, Naturally Occurring Retirement Community staff make $15,000 less on average than their senior center counterparts. Because of this, the nonprofits who run these programs have trouble recruiting and retaining staff. $1.7 million is needed to achieve equity across DFTA-funded programs.

$1.8 million to expand Service Coordination in Senior Housing
The Senior Affordable Rental Assistance Program (SARA) administered by HRA currently does not provide service funds for seniors referred to the program for the general lottery system. A $1.8 million investment would allow for expanded services to an initial cohort of roughly 600 SARA units. These positions are critical to virtually connecting seniors to meals and other key services.
No Cuts for Senior Services Discretionary Funding

Thank you to the New York City Council for the continued, significant investment in senior services throughout the five boroughs. Each year, the Council puts in more than $28 million in funding for senior services initiatives, in addition to individual discretionary investments.

FY21 can be no different. Now more than ever, whether held virtually or in-person, these programs are crucial to preventing isolation and supporting older adults. Examples of these key programs are listed below.

$5,100,000 for Support Our Seniors
Currently, 1 in 5 New Yorkers are over the age of 60. Continue to support senior services through the Support Our Seniors Initiative.

$1,500,000 for Immigrant Senior Centers
Continue to provide culturally competent and sensitive programs and services to our City's diverse older adults.

$5,325,325 for NORCs
Continue to support Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities throughout the City. This investment would include $1.3 million for nursing supports.

$3,315,000 for SU-CASA
Continue to support the City’s community arts engagement initiative serving older adults in senior centers in the five boroughs.

$2,040,000 for Healthy Aging Initiative
Continue to support health promotion programming for older adults.

$2,860,000 for Geriatric Mental Health Initiative
Expand mental health services for older New Yorkers by restoring $1.9 million and adding $950,000 in new funds.

Questions?
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