

The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle starry pattern. On the left side, there are several overlapping circular elements. A prominent one is a large circular scale with tick marks and numbers ranging from 140 to 260. Other circles are partially visible, some with dashed lines and arrows, suggesting a technical or scientific theme.

INFLUENCING THE BUDGET

KATE ROBINSON

GALLO & ROBINSON

WHAT PROGRAMS ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT?

Birth to Three

Care 4 Kids

Education

Higher Education

Health Care

Mental Health Services

DDS Services

Public Safety/Courts

Housing

Environment/Parks

Energy Assistance

Transportation

GET TO KNOW YOUR LEGISLATORS

FRESHMAN Legislators:

- won't be sworn into office until January 4, 2017
- Committee assignments will come out in late December
- Read up and learn their priorities
- Leadership will want to “protect” these new seats in the next election

INCUMBENT Legislators:

Look them up on www.cga.ct.gov

- read their biographies. This tells you their priorities.
- did they serve on committees that govern your priorities last session?
- have you already reached out to them about your cares and concerns?
- have they (or their aides) responded

MAKE A CONNECTION

INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND THEN...

OPEN UP/SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE IN COMMON

- CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ELECTION/REELECTION.
- YOU ARE A CONSTITUENT, YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN COMMON, WENT TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL, ETC.

SHARE YOUR CONCERNS

- I'M ASKING YOU TO HELP PRESERVE FUNDS FOR THE RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RAP) CERTIFICATES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING BECAUSE....

TELL YOUR STORY

Why Does it Matter? How are things better? Why should anyone in state government pay attention to this?

- the RAP program has helped (MY FAMILY) individuals and families leave the shelter system and become stably housed – creating a better life for me and my family (everyone involved).
- After moving several times, my children have been in the same school for 2 years, and they are thriving. I have a part time job, and am working on a professional certificate, which will help me to earn more money, and become financially independent.

Make a closing “bid”

- Please make it a priority to Preserve the RAP Program at Current Levels.

Ask for a “Commitment”

- Will you please talk to the Chairs and Leadership in support of preserving the RAP program?

HOW TO REACH LEGISLATORS?

SENATE DEMOCRATS: 1-800-842-1420

SENATE REPUBLICANS: 1-800-842-1421

HOUSE DEMOCRATS: 1-800-840-8267

HOUSE REPUBLICANS: 1-800-842-8270

OTHER METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

Organizations

- Fact Sheet
- Coalition Action/Sign on letter
- Action alert (e-alert)
- Press Conference
- Advertisement
- Website

Individuals/Organizations

- Fact Sheet
- In person meeting
- Phone call
- Email
- Social Media (FB, Twitter, Instagram)
- Letter to the Editor, clipped and sent with note to your legislators
- Newspaper article, sent with a personal note to legislators
- US Mail (when's the last time you got a REAL letter from A REAL person?)