



Statement from Strong Nonprofits for a Better New York: Nonprofits Applaud Minimum Wage Funding and Capital Program Eligibility in NY Budget

March 31, 2018

Strong Nonprofits for a Better New York applauds the Governor and the Legislature for their investment of \$15 million to fund the minimum wage increase for contracted nonprofit human services organizations. This shows a firm commitment to ensuring that nonprofits, their staff, and the people they serve do not have to choose between a progressive minimum wage and the ability to serve communities; it means that nonprofits will be less likely to have to make the tough call to scale back hours, programs, or in some cases close their doors. This investment recognizes that in order to have strong New Yorkers we must have strong nonprofits.

We hope to continue working with our partners in government to make sure that nonprofits and their staff stay strong. Although this year's budget did not allocate new funds for the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Program or include much needed cost of living adjustments for human services workers, we do appreciate the expansion of eligibility for the State and Municipalities (SAM) Facilities Program to include nonprofits as eligible entities, along with municipalities, schools, libraries, and fire departments. This inclusion is a recognition of the vital role nonprofits play in our communities. This expansion, along with the investment in minimum wage are significant steps in a positive direction, and we look forward to building upon these steps to ensure human services agencies and workers have the resources they need to provide the services and supports many New Yorkers need to survive and thrive.

Strong Nonprofits would also like to recognize our 350 coalition member organizations, and Advisory Committee members whose hard work and dedication to building strong communities helped us achieve these milestone allocations.

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Strong Nonprofits for a Better New York is a Statewide coalition of more than **350 nonprofit human services providers**, calling for increased State investment in the sector's workforce and infrastructure.

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