



## 2003-04 BUDGET REQUEST

New York State will identify another 9,000 persons with HIV and 5,000 – 6,000 new AIDS cases in the coming year. Current AIDS Institute funding allocations, with separate appropriations for several key high-risk communities, has successfully targeted funds to areas and communities of need. In order to ensure that these constituencies continue to have access to services, and to avoid the instability that would follow from a wholesale re-shuffling of these appropriations, NYAC urges that the budget continue to maintain the current system of discrete, targeted appropriations. In order to provide life-saving services to individuals with HIV/AIDS—and prevent future infections--the New York AIDS Coalition (NYAC) urges Governor Pataki and the Legislature to support the following budget initiatives.

<b><u>SUMMARY OF 2003-04 BUDGET PRIORITIES:</u></b>	
<b>Restore HIV/AIDS Cuts</b>	<b>\$11.919M Restoration</b>
<b>Substance Abuse-Related Services</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
<b>Women-Related Services</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
<b>Incarcerated Population Services</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
<b>Housing Services</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
<b>Community-Based Services</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
<b>Young Men who Have Sex with Men</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
<b>Adult Day Health Care Programs</b>	<b>\$ 2 M Add</b>
 <b>TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED:</b>	 <b>\$25.929M</b>
 <b><u>HCRA FUNDING</u></b>	
<b>AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ADAP)</b>	<b>\$96M</b>

### RESTORE AIDS CUTS

**\$11.919 MILLION**

The Governor’s Executive Budget eliminated the following items from the 2002-03 budget:

- \$3,000,000 for Communities of Color
- \$1,518,000 for CSPs
- \$1,518,000 for MSA/CDIs
- \$250,000 for MSA/CDIs
- \$250,000 for CSPs
- \$562,500 for Permanency Planning
- \$562,500 for Treatment Adherence
- \$500,000 for Communities of Color
- \$625,000 for Specialty Contracts
- \$89,000 for NYAC
- \$179,000 for NBLCA
- \$89,000 for GMHC
- \$134,000 for Legal Services of NYC
- \$134,000 for Legal Aid Society
- \$179,000 for Homeless Housing
- \$89,000 for Public Interest Law Office of Rochester
- \$500,000 for Communities of Color
- \$750,000 for Minority/Substance Abuse/HIV/AIDS Services (in OASAS budget)
- \$990,000 HIV/AIDS curriculum/education (in State Education Department budget)

These funds provide bedrock prevention, supportive, legal, medical and housing services for people with HIV/AIDS in New York. NYAC urges the Assembly and Senate to restore these cuts in order to avoid a reduction in care.

**AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ADAP)****\$96 MILLION (HCRA)**

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) provides life-saving drugs and medical services to 22,000 people with HIV/AIDS annually. Services are provided to individuals with no health insurance, and provide savings to the state by keeping people with HIV/AIDS out of expensive hospital beds. ADAP faces an estimated \$50 million deficit in SFY 2003-04 due to inflation, an increase in program enrollment and the pending addition of new therapies. The Governor's proposed HCRA reauthorization bill will provide an additional \$96 million in ADAP funding through June of 2005, helping to ensure that service cuts can be avoided. NYAC urges the legislature to support this proposal when negotiating the HCRA legislation.

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE-RELATED SERVICES****\$2 MILLION ADD**

48% of cumulative AIDS cases in NYS are directly or indirectly attributable to injection drug use. More than 25% of pediatric AIDS cases diagnosed in New York State since 1996 resulted from perinatal transmission of HIV from women with a history of injecting drug use. Of all cases with known risk, 56.7 percent are directly or indirectly attributable to injection drug use. Over 90% of these infections occur among people of color. Support for syringe exchange programs is particularly important as this prevention measure has been proven to decrease the number of new HIV infections in the injection drug use population. As the fastest growing HIV/AIDS risk factor, more prevention and direct services need to be targeted to this community. In 2002, 10 years since the inception of syringe exchange programs, there is now evidence that HIV has been lowered to 12% among injectors (or approximately 1 in every 10 IDUs). As a public health and harm reduction approach Needle Exchange Programs (NEPs) provide the invaluable service of stopping the spread of blood borne diseases.

**WOMEN-RELATED SERVICES****\$2 MILLION ADD**

AIDS among women in New York has increased from 10.3 % in 1985 to 29.9 % in 1999 (NYSDOH). More than 90% of AIDS cases diagnosed in 1999 were women of color. As of December 2000, there were a total of 33,290 cumulative female AIDS cases reported. Of these, 48.4 percent were injection drug users and 13.1 percent had heterosexual contact with an injection drug user. Given this rapid expansion, new funds must be identified to develop effective prevention and direct services for women.

**INCARCERATED POPULATION SERVICES****\$2 MILLION ADD**

From 1996 – 1999, over 1,700 AIDS cases have been diagnosed among inmates. However, this number only reflects individuals incarcerated in New York State Department of Correctional Services facilities. No documentation regarding individuals held in city or county jails or federal prisons at time of diagnosis is available. To address the needs of this under-served population, funding is needed for health care for the incarcerated infected by HIV/HCV, HIV education and prevention, confidentiality and condom distribution, mental health and transitional services. Voluntary HIV counseling testing should also be expanded.

**HOUSING SERVICES****\$2 MILLION ADD**

Without adequate housing, medical treatment of people living with HIV/AIDS becomes extremely difficult, resulting in increased acute medical costs. Studies have shown that approximately 60 percent of people with HIV/AIDS experience at least one episode of homelessness. All of the upstate housing programs have waiting lists, and downstate, 2600 people are in emergency housing and 25,000 utilize housing related services. Increased funding is needed to help more people with HIV/AIDS access stable housing, and thereby safeguard their health.

**COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES****\$2 MILLION ADD**

Community Service Providers (CSPs), Multi Service Agencies (MSAs) and Community Development Initiatives (CDIs) have expertise in community health issues and provide a comprehensive array of care coordination, advocacy, prevention education and support services throughout New York State. CSPs, MSAs/CDIs are integral for the provision of care needed by individuals infected/affected by HIV/AIDS in New York State. Given the number of new cases of HIV/AIDS in New York State, it is imperative that funding is available to meet the needs of those utilizing the services of these organizations.

**YOUNG MSMS****\$2 MILLION ADD**

Young men who have sex with men are at high risk for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Among males ages 13-19, 41 percent of AIDS cases and 52 percent of HIV cases reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 1997 were among young msm's and young msm injecting drug users. In New York, 33.9 percent of the AIDS cases diagnosed in the 13-24 age group with an identified risk were msm. Increased funding is necessary to meet the needs of this population.

**ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS****\$2 MILLION ADD**

Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) programs serve the most vulnerable New Yorkers living with AIDS and HIV, those with multiple co-diagnoses including mental illness, chemical dependency and histories of incarceration, and homelessness. The programs are designed to improve access to care and reduce healthcare costs through fewer hospitalizations and improve adherence to regimens and provide preventative care. ADHCs have historically focused on health care services including mental health, treatment adherence, and early treatment intervention.