

Info



June 25, 2003

MH/MR COALITION

PO Box 60573, Harrisburg, PA 17106-0573

ACTION ALERT!

CALL GOVERNOR RENDELL AND THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATORS IMMEDIATELY!

Please join the MH/MR Coalition in a "phone blitz" to Governor Rendell and legislative leaders in their Harrisburg offices this week, June 23rd – June 27th, as part of our ongoing Working Together Campaign. Call immediately at the phone numbers listed below and urge support for restoration of human services funding! Please take 30-45 minutes out of your day today to save over \$150 million in state funds for human services programs in Pennsylvania!

Governor Edward Rendell 1-800-932-0784 (Governor's
hotline) or 1.717.787.2500
Senator David "Chip" Brightbill (Majority Leader)
1.717.787.5708
Senator Bob Jubelirer (President Pro Tempore)
1.717.787.5490
Senator Bob Thompson (Majority Chair, Appropriations)
1.717.787.5709
Senator Bob Mellow (Minority Leader)
1.717.787.6481
Senator Vince Fumo (Minority Chair, Appropriations)
1.717.787.5662
Representative John Perzel (Speaker of the House)
1.717.787.2016
Representative Sam Smith (Majority Leader)
1.717.787.3845
Representative David Argall (Majority Chair, Appropriations)
1.717.787.9024
Representative Bill DeWeese (Minority Leader)
1.717.783.3797

For more information contact Pennsylvania Community Providers Association
2400 Park Drive • Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone 717/657-7078 • FAX 717/657-3552
www.paproviders.org • mail@paproviders.org

Representative Mike Veon (Minority Whip)

1.717.787.1290

Representative Dwight Evans (Minority Chair, Appropriations)

1.717.783.1540

In addition to calling the Governor and the legislative leaders, please also call your local legislators at either their Harrisburg or district office and let them know you support restoration of human services funding.

The budget negotiations are at a critical point. There is no guarantee that the funding cuts to human services included in Budget 1 signed by Governor Rendell on March 20th will be restored in Budget 2 for FY 03-04. The items up for discussion are numerous including funding basic and special education in PA, property tax reform, economic development, slots at racetracks and other venues, and increases in taxes including personal income and sales tax.

The following is a basic script you can use for your telephone call:

- 1) I'm [describe yourself - a provider, staff person, consumer of services, family member of a consumer who receives services]. I'm also a voter and a taxpayer.
- 2) I support the restoration of the human services funding that was cut in the budget signed by Governor Rendell on March 20th. (For your information - these funds include: Human Services Development Fund (\$33.3M), Drug and Alcohol funding (\$104M), Behavioral Health Services Initiative (\$26M). For more details, refer to the MH/MR Coalition Budget Request for FY 2003-2004.)
- 3) Without these funds, tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians will not be able to receive vital services such as mental health treatment, services for people with mental retardation, drug and alcohol treatment, services for the homeless and meals on wheels among others.
- 4)** Thank the Governor, legislator, or their staff person for their time and urge their support for restoring human services funding for essential services to tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians.