



For Immediate Release

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A Brighter Revenue Forecast + Stronger Economy = Opportunities to Secure Every Child's Birthright

New York, NY – Citizens' Committee for Children of New York (CCC) is heartened by reports from City Hall today that a stronger revenue forecast and rebounding economy is beginning to pay off for children and with public support, can secure every child's birthright to be healthy, housed, educated and safe. CCC's analysis of the Mayor's early proposals for FY'06 contained in the 2005 January Financial Plan released today, finds that children are better off at the sounding bell of budget negotiations than they have been in years. Reforms made in the Administration for Children's Services, the Department for Homeless Services, Department of Youth and Community Development and Department of Education, produce savings, new direction and create funding opportunities for children.

The Mayor's proposals also recognize long-held City Council priorities and fund foster care services, services to prevent child abuse and neglect, after school programs and child care and the Mayor continues many current-year funding priorities for services New York City parents need and depend on for their children.

"Children are well-positioned in this budget proposal for the first time in years. We are pleased to see \$25 million baselined for child welfare services, \$10.9 million for child care and \$12.5 million for after school and youth development programs, among other important efforts for children and youth. Yet we are concerned about \$100 million in cuts to core children's programs, left to the Council to restore," said Gail B. Nayowitz, CCC Executive Director.

Responding to the skeptics, CCC cautions the Mayor and the Council against negotiating an election year budget that come next year will, pull the rug out from under children and families.

"This year we want the Mayor and the City Council to begin to think expansively about children and continue to advance innovative solutions to provide for the basic needs of children – economic security, housing security, and developmental security. These are foundational issues. Without securing them, we leave today's and future generations at risk," said Heidi Stamas, CCC Chairman.

The chart below highlights the impact of the Mayor's proposals on vital services to children and families (\$25 million for child welfare; \$10.9 million for child care; \$12.5 million for youth services), new investments proposed by the Mayor (\$20 million for child welfare; \$20 million for the day care contract) as well as a new \$34.5 million cut to Early Intervention services for disabled children birth to 3 years.

Administration for Children's Services

Program	Cuts CTL*		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Preventive Services			\$7.8 million	
Foster Care Board and Care Rates			\$11.8 million	
Substance Abuse Programs for Foster Care Youth	\$2.6 million		\$5 million	
Life Skills Training			\$500,000	
DoEd Specialized School Placement for Foster Care Youth				\$3.8 million
Foster Care Rates				\$7 million
Preventive Services				\$4.7 million
After Care Services				\$4.7 million
2,500 Child Care Slots			\$9 million	
1,400 Quality Child Care Slots	\$10 million			
Fees for Working Parents			\$1.9 million	
School Age Child Care Restructuring	\$15 million			
Day Care Contract				\$20 million

Department for Housing Preservation and Development

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Anti Eviction and SRO Legal Services	\$2.5 million			
City-Wide Task Force on Housing Court	\$350,000			

Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Anti Eviction and SRO Legal Services	\$2.75 million			

Department of Education

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Teachers' and Principals' Choice	\$16 million			
Reduce Class Size in the Grades K-3	\$10 million			

Department for Youth and Community Development

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention			\$10 million	
Beacons	\$8.1 million			
After-3 Program			\$2.5 million	
City Council Discretionary Youth Funds	\$5.2 million			
Miscellaneous Youth Programs	\$3.9 million			
Drug Prevention, Runaway and Homeless Youth, Youthlink	\$863,000			
Summer Youth Employment	\$11.4 million			

Department for Juvenile Justice

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Community Based Intervention	\$500,000			

* City Tax Levy (CTL)

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Infant Mortality	\$2.8 million			
School Based Health Clinics	\$536,000			
Asthma Control Initiative	\$445,000			
Early Intervention		\$34.5 million		

Health and Hospitals Corporation

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment	\$1.55 million			
Outpatient Pharmacies and Medication Waivers	\$1.25 million			
Summer School Nurses	\$2.5 million			
Mental Health Treatment for Children Under 5	\$670,000			

Human Resources Administration

Program	Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
	Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
Legal Assistance for the EITC	\$765,000			
Food Pantries	\$670,000			

TOTALS

Cuts CTL		Adds CTL	
Not Baselined	New Cut	Restoration	New Add
\$99.8 million	\$34.5 million	\$48.5 million	\$40.2 million

For more information on CCC, please visit <http://www.kfny.org/>. To schedule interviews, please contact Rose Anello at 212-673-1800 x13.

For six decades, Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc. (CCC) has convened, informed and mobilized New Yorkers to make the city a better place for children. CCC's unique approach to child advocacy is fact-based, balanced and effective. Casting light on the issues, engaging allies, fueling civic discourse, identifying improvements and envisioning alternatives has made CCC New York's leading child and family advocacy organization.