



ACTION ALERT

120 West 57 Street New York, NY 10019 Phone 212 586-4555 Fax 212 541-6183
 A non-profit tax-exempt organization representing New York City's community-based mental health sector.

COLA - IT'S UP TO YOU!

- To maintain the campaign's momentum you must involve your agency's staff! They can help make it a success! Please enlist them in this effort.
- Please ask your staff to FAX or WRITE to their own Assembly and Senate representative. We have a sample letter enclosed. If employees need assistance in finding their representatives in Albany, please call The Coalition (212) 586-4555 or e-mail: jmurray@cmvha.org and we will assist you.
- *In addition*, staff letters should also be directed to the Assembly leadership and Senate Republicans listed below.

ASSEMBLY:

Speaker Sheldon Silver 270 Broadway, suite 1800 New York, NY 10007 FAX: (212) 385-6799	Hon. Herman D. Farrell, Jr. Chair, Ways and Means 2541-55 A.C. Powell Blvd. New York, NY 10039 FAX: (212) 234-1868	Hon. James F. Brennan Chair, Mental Health 416 Seventh Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11215 FAX: (718) 965-9378
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SENATE:

Hon. Roy M. Goodman 270 Broadway, suite 2400 New York, NY 10007 FAX: (212) 417-5566	Hon. Guy J. Vellela 2019 Williamsbridge Rd. Bronx, NY 10461 FAX: (718) 792-3924	Hon. Serphin R. Maltese 71-04 Myrtle Avenue Glendale, NY 11385 FAX: (718) 386-7803
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Hon. Frank Padavan 89-39 Gettysburg St. Bellerose, NY 11426 FAX: (718) 343-0354	Hon. John J. Marchi 358 St. Marks Place Staten Island NY 10301 FAX: (718) 981-1270
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Sample Staff Letter

Date:

Dear _____:

I understand that you are establishing budget priorities. I urge you strongly to include a Cost of Living Allowance - COLA - for the voluntary mental health sector. I work at a voluntary mental health agency and the last increase I received was for only one quarter in 1994-95. Effectively, there has been no increase in my salary since 1987 and I am hurting financially because of it.

Co-workers and friends have departed, some for other professions because they can no longer afford to remain in a position where the work increases but the salary remains the same. State workers who perform identical functions have received increases over the past two years. This is unfair.

The State has had over \$1 billion in budget surplus in each of the past two years. We have worked long and hard, remaining dedicated to our mission. Please share with us some of the budget dividend that we helped to create. It is the right thing to do.

Very truly yours,
