



# 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.

## **Transitional Funding Bill Introduced in Assembly!**

Assemblyman Richard N. Gottfried, Chair of the Assembly Health Committee, is sponsoring bill A.9306, which would provide supplemental payments to community health centers, community mental health agencies, substance abuse facilities, prenatal care providers, family planning clinics, and homeless health care programs as they transition into a managed care environment.

As you know, this issue is an important part of stabilizing the mental health system that we addressed in this year's budget briefing book.

Please write to him and other Assembly Health Committee members in support of this bill. Attached is a copy of the correspondence sent out by The Coalition in support of this bill.

**The  
Coalition  
of Voluntary  
Mental Health  
Agencies, Inc.**

120 West 57 Street  
New York, NY 10019  
Phone 212 586-4555  
Fax 212 541-6183  
mailbox@cmvha.org

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Mary D. Redd, ACSW  
*President*

Alan B. Siskind, Ph.D.  
*Vice President*

Barry Roff, Ph.D.  
*Treasurer*

Joyce M. Pilsner  
*Secretary*

Mildred Allen, Ph.D.  
Peter Campanelli, Psy.D.  
*At Large*

Kenneth Popler, Ph.D.  
*Past President*

Phillip A. Saperia  
*Executive Director*

**DIRECTORS**

Lorraine Ahto  
Victoria Anyikwa  
Jane Bardavid  
Beverly Brooks  
Susan Buchanan  
Gayle DeRienzi  
Joan DiBlasi

Thelma Dye, Ph.D.  
Paul Feuerstein, CSW  
Ophie Franklin  
Maria Elena Girone  
Sandra Hagan  
Pearl Johnson

Hannah Achtenberg Kinn  
Ronald Kushner  
Ernest Lumer, CSW  
David Mandel  
Jean Newburg  
Ray Schwartz  
Vincent Valentino  
Jonas Waizer, Ph.D.  
Steve Warren  
Ethel Wyner, Ed.D.

**HONORARY DIRECTORS**

Martin S. Begun

\*Richard M. Cohen, Ph.D.

\*Richard Colabella

Gaby A. Dyner

Jerome M. Goldsmith, Ed.D.

Hon. George L. Jurow

Harold Kase, Ed.D.

Peter G. Neaman

Cecile Schwartzman

\*Joseph Wagman

*\*deceased*

A non-profit tax-exempt  
organization representing  
New York City's community-  
based mental health sector.

February 27, 1998

Hon. Richard N. Gottfried  
Chair  
Assembly Health Committee  
LOB 822  
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Assemblyman Gottfried:

As I told you in person, we are sincerely thankful to you for introducing, A. 9306, which would provide supplemental payments to community health centers, community mental health agencies, substance abuse facilities, prenatal care providers, family planning clinics and homeless health care programs as they transition into a managed care environment.

The impact from the transition from a fee-for-service system to a managed care system will have a dramatic effect on Medicaid recipients; already there is undue stress on the safety net of community providers that care for them.

By granting the needed funds to community providers the legislation will assist in the transition to managed care by allowing them to:

- Expand management information systems
- Enhance record-keeping and reporting functions
- Upgrade financial and accounting systems
- Improve productivity and reconfigure operating procedures
- Improve the physical plant
- Enhance the quality of patient care and access to care
- Provide training and technical assistance related to managed care readiness
- Develop and enhance quality assurance and utilization review capability

We appreciate your sponsorship and offer our support.

Very truly yours,

Phillip A. Saperia  
Executive Director



United Way Helps Here