



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.

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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



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