



January 28, 2009

Dear Senior Providers:

We are writing to invite you to attend a Legislative Forum on New York's response to addressing the concerns and issues confronting its aging and disabled population. The event is designed in a manner to support the work of the New York State Coalition on the Aging (NYSCA), the Statewide Caregiving & Respite Coalition of NY and the Council of Senior Centers & Services of New York (CSCS), our member organizations, and the myriad of providers who work to ensure that individuals of all ages and levels of ability receive programs and services in the least restrictive environment. Together we are confident that we can build upon the relationships and collaborations of stakeholders, including government, the private sector, non-profit organizations and providers from both within and outside the medical community.

We have invited Senator Diaz, Chair of the Senate Aging Committee and Assemblyman Dinowitz, Chair of the Assembly Aging Committee to address the participants on the New York State Budget and proposals that affect New York's aging population. Michael Burgess, Director of the NYS Office for the Aging and Mark Kissinger, Director of Long Term Care of NYS Department of Health have also been invited.

At a time when we need to be expanding the scope of community-based services, we are forced again to confront the realities of shrinking resources at all levels of government. ***It is now more than ever that we have a strong statewide advocacy voice that speaks on behalf of community-based services.*** The afternoon session will be devoted to bringing your voices to our State represents. We will prepare you for visits to your legislative representatives and after your visits we will reconvene to get you feedback. This feedback will then be shared via our websites to the other members. ***You will need to make your own appointments with your representatives.***

DATE: March 10, 2009

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Empire State Plaza, Meeting Room 4 & 5, Albany, NY

We look forward to you joining us for this important conference.

Please mail your registration and conference fee to the NYSCA Office by March 3, 2010. Should you have any questions, or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (518) 465-0641 or via email at: info@coalitionforaging.org.

Sincerely,

Joanne Macklin
Executive Director
NYS Coalition for the Aging
Statewide Caregiving & Respite Coalition of NY

Igal Jellinek
Executive Director
Council of Senior Centers & Services of NYC