



## CDF Action Council

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 11, 2005**

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### **New York City Youth Tell City Council To Oppose Federal Budget** *Council Says Federal Budget Will Harm New York's Children and Families*

Young people from throughout the five boroughs of New York City will testify before the New York City Council on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. about the impact of the just-adopted federal budget on the City's children and families. The Youth Hearing and Speak Out is sponsored by Youth in the Movement to Leave No Child Behind, a project of the Children's Defense Fund — New York.

The event will be held in the City Council Chamber in City Hall, presided over by City Council Members Lewis Fidler and Gale Brewer. Council Member Brewer will also introduce a Resolution calling on the New York City Council to condemn the recently passed Federal Budget Resolution because of the harm it will inflict on the most vulnerable children and families in New York City.

According to Donna Lawrence, Executive Director of the Children's Defense Fund — New York, the federal budget "will provide the wealthiest Americans with billions in unfunded tax cuts while shrinking vital programs and services such as Medicaid, the State's Children's Health Insurance Program, after-school programs, nutrition programs for pregnant women and infants, education, housing, Head Start, food stamps and more. As a result, the Children's Defense Fund remains firmly against this unfair assault on children."

Council Member Brewer pointed out that, "New York stands to lose more than \$1.3 billion in federal Medicaid dollars from 2007-2010 due to this new federal budget. This could provide health insurance coverage to 113,900 uninsured New York children. In contrast, every millionaire in New York will receive \$136,298 a year in tax cuts under this budget resolution."

Now that these deep cuts have been adopted by the Congress, the Children's Defense Fund is working with a coalition of children's advocates from around the nation to minimize the impact on children.

"The goal of the hearing is to urge New York City's local, state and federal elected leadership to leverage their influence to make children and the poor a priority during the next few months as the final budget decisions are made," said Lawrence. "The personal stories of our youth are the most compelling arguments we have to encourage our leaders to invest in New York's children and families."

Find a List of co-sponsoring organizations at: <http://www.cdfny.org/YIMCosponsors.pdf>

# PRESS ADVISORY

**DATE:** Thursday, May 12, 2005

**EVENT:** Youth Hearing and Speak Out

**TOPIC:** The impact of federal budget cuts on New York children and families; announcement of proposed City Council resolution “Congress’ Budget and Tax Proposals Harm New York” to be introduced by Council Member Gale Brewer of Manhattan

**PARTICIPANTS:** Young people from throughout the city will testify

**TIME:** 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** City Council Chamber, City Hall, New York

**SPONSORS:** Youth in the Movement to Leave No Child Behind, a project of the Children’s Defense Fund — New York; New York City Council Members Gale Brewer and Lewis Fidler; 20 co-sponsoring groups (see release)

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