



Medicaid
Medicaid Matters New York
Matters



STATE  **WIDE**
New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc



CAMPAIGN FOR
NEW YORK
HEALTH

SAVE  **NY**
PUBLIC HEALTH
CAMPAIGN

March 20, 2020

Dear New York State Congressional Delegation:

We write as lead groups for the newly-established Protect Medicaid campaign here in New York that is focusing on our state's annual budget process and its threats to our very successful and robust Medicaid program. These groups include: Campaign for New York Health, Child Health Now!, Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance Association, Health Care for All New York, Medicaid Matters New York, Metro New York Health Care for All, New York Association on Independent Living, New York StateWide Senior Action Council, and Save NY Public Health. All of us are major health care advocacy groups that many state lawmakers turn to for guidance.

We heartily thank you for the provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) that increase Medicaid funding to states (FMAP) at this crucial time of the coronavirus pandemic. They are extremely important. We particularly support the "maintenance of effort" (MOE) provisions connected to the FMAP increase, and we strongly urge that they be retained and not weakened, despite the pleas of Governor Cuomo and other governors. These aspects of FFCRA will provide a ceasefire in New York's current Medicaid budget battle between consumer advocates and those state leaders who seek to dramatically cut or restrict services, particularly to those most at risk during the epidemic. We urge you to stand strong on these provisions as you move ahead to the bill's final adoption and any subsequent legislation now in development.

With regard to the development of the New York State Medicaid budget for the coming fiscal year that begins on April 1st, we have called on Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature to

follow four key principles as they proceed. Our open letter to them can be found on the Medicaid Matters [website](#). It has been endorsed by over 150 organizations from diverse sectors.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of our request. We stand ready to work with you as further responses to the pandemic are developed at the federal level. Please do not hesitate to contact any of our organizations with any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Campaign for New York Health

Katie Robbins, katie@nyhcampaign.org or 917-657-4663

Child Health Now!

Ben Anderson, banderson@childrensedefense.org or 212-697-0942

Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Association of New York State

Bryan O'Malley, bryan@cdpaanys.org or 518-813-9537

Health Care for All New York

Amanda Dunker, adunker@cssny.org or 212-254-8900

Medicaid Matters New York

Lara Kassel, lkassel@medicaidmattersny.org or 518-463-1896 x124

New York Association on Independent Living

Meghan Parker, mparker@ilny.org or 518-465-4650 x103

New York StateWide Senior Action Council

Gail Myers, statewide4@gmail.com or 518-436-1006

Save NY Public Health

Anthony Feliciano, afeliciano@cphsnyc.org or 646-325-5317