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**NYNP**

# New York Nonprofit Press

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- Elena Day, New York City Charter School Center



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**Wednesday, November 10, 2010**

Today's Headlines

**Nonprofits Seek Partnership  
with New Administration**

**Astorino Proposes Cuts  
to Westchester Taxes and Programs**

**People in the News**  
Straka Joins Jericho Project

**Around the Blogs**

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**Nonprofits in the News**

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**NYNP Employment Listings**

**7** New Jobs Today  
**28** New Jobs This Week

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## **Nonprofits Seek Partnership with New Administration**

Several leading coalitions of nonprofit service providers yesterday called upon Governor-elect Andrew Cuomo to work cooperatively with the charitable sector to preserve core services that focus on prevention, protect the needy and vulnerable, and address the needs of working families. The group urged Cuomo to draw on the vast experience of nonprofit service providers in order to identify the most effective --and least painful -- ways to close the State's looming budget deficit while still maintaining




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**Palliative and End-of-Life Care**  
The Evolution of the Field:  
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**December 10, 2010**



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critical services for those in need.

"We are here today to ensure that the partnership that the charitable sector has enjoyed with State government remains strong," said Ronald Soloway, Managing Director of Government and External Affairs, UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. "We are calling on this administration to sit down with us in partnership, talk through the issues and make sure the poor and vulnerable in this state continued to be served the way we believe they should be."

"Given our long history in working with state agencies, charities leaders are in a unique position to offer insight regarding a more efficient and effective business relationship in support of community services," said Susan Hager, President of the United Way of New York State.

The coalition also called on the Governor-elect to address a long list of State policies and practices that have weakened nonprofits and hinder their ability to provide vital services.

"It has been 26 years since the enactment of the prompt payment law," noted Hager. Yet, she noted that the State Comptroller recently reported that contracts over \$50,000 are approved late, i.e. after the contract start date, 92% of the time. "What we have, I am sad to report, is an utter failure of leadership from the Executive and a profound disrespect for the role that community charities play in providing services in partnership with state and local government employees."

These late contracts and delayed payments are extremely damaging to nonprofit service providers, said Hager. She noted both the increasing difficulty which agencies face in finding and keeping bank lines of credit and the interest expense which they incur while bankrolling the State's cash flow problems.

The group also urged the State to end its use of "across the board" cuts to address budget deficits. "The rhetoric around accountability is hardly credible when all programs are cut by a similar percentage," said Hager. "Across the board cuts ignore, incredibly, the widespread knowledge of program outcomes and evaluation, the research that documents the value of investments in prevention services as well as the knowledge that cutting some programs jeopardizes matching support from the federal government."

Andrea Smyth, Executive Director for the New York State Coalition for Children's Mental Health Services noted several recent tax policies that have been damaging to nonprofits. "The three-year limit on the amount of charitable donations that high earners can count toward tax deductions is really hurting the charities and nonprofits that people are relying on more than ever," she explained. "And the MTA payroll tax that included the payroll of tax-exempt, non-profit human service providers in 12 counties has to be revisited."

**Cao O, Executive Director of the Asian American Federation,** spoke to the financial stresses which are weakening the nonprofit service sector. To fill gaps created by inadequate government payments and program cuts, nonprofits had been forced to lay off staff, freeze salaries and use cash reserves that had been built up over decades of charitable outreach, just to keep operating for the year. "Recent State Government decisions, like those described here today, have done real damage to the charitable sector, and that this must be corrected," he said.

The charitable sector is also a critical part of the state's economy, stressed Allison Sesso, Deputy Executive Director of the Human Services Council of NYC. "According to the State Comptroller's Office, there are approximately 24,000 not-for-profit organizations in New York State, with nearly 31,000 active



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## Calendar of Events

### November

[Human Services Workshops/Good Shepherd Services](#)

[BLUE HILL TROUPE PRESENTS LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS TO BENEFIT THE CARTER BURDEN CENTER FOR THE AGING](#)

### November 2 - 13

[The 2nd Annual ArtShare for HeartShare](#)

### November 8 - 10

[Being a Successful Executive Director](#)

### November 10

[Domestic Violence: A Move Towards Recognition, Prevention and Intervention](#)

contracts. These not-for-profit agencies provide an estimated 1.2 million jobs, or 17 percent of the State's workforce," she said.

The group urged that the new Governor make a commitment to a dialogue with the charities industry and consider the following specific requests:

- Establish and appoint a Cabinet level Secretary to represent the charitable sector in the development of Administration policy and budgets and address issues that cut across state agency lines.
- Support elimination of years 2 and 3 of the cut to the deductibility of charitable contributions by wealthy wage earners.
- Pledge to uphold the Prompt Contracting Laws and stop late payments on contracts by streamlining contracting and oversight procedures which will also save the state money.
- When making program, spending and tax policy, frame decisions in a way that accounts for the value of the centuries-old charitable sector in New York State as a valued partner in services delivery.

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## Astorino Proposes Cuts to Westchester Taxes and Programs

Westchester County Executive Robert P. Astorino has released his proposed budget for 2011. As promised, the plan calls for reduced taxes -- a 1% drop in property taxes -- and cuts in spending. Overall, Astorino proposed to reduce total spending to \$1.786 billion, \$33 million less than this year and \$116 million below what would have been anticipated without cuts.

The budget featured a number of proposals significant to human service providers.

The overall proposed budget for the Department of Social Service was held constant at \$575 million, the same amount as this year. However, the portion of the budget that goes directly towards providing services to individuals and families in need is up by \$6 million, according to a statement accompanying the budget proposal. "This shows a solid commitment to the county's safety net," Astorino said. "Where we have made cuts, our aim has been to address duplications, overhead and inefficiency, not services."

The County Executive credited "better management" for significant savings in the areas of foster care and homeless services.

In terms of Foster Care, the county expects to save \$3.4 million a year "by bringing high-needs children back to Westchester, returning them to their families or to foster care closer to home, as opposed to more costly out-of-state and out-of-county facilities."

The county projects a net savings of \$1.9 million by closing two underutilized shelters for the homeless. "Through its programs to find permanent housing for the homeless, DSS has been able to reduce the need for shelters," said the County. "What typically used to take well over a year is now happening in about three months on average."

Slated for closing are the WestHelp family shelter in Greenburgh and the Oasis single shelter in New Rochelle, which reportedly have average vacancy rates of 55% and 64%, respectively. Oasis is scheduled to close in the first quarter of 2011 and

[The Jewish Association for Services for the Aged \(JASA\) - Volunteer Expo](#)

November 11

[Share the Harvest: Helping Neighbors in Need. The Long Island Council of Churches](#)

[United Hospice of Rockland \(UHR\) will benefit from sales at four New City businesses](#)

[JASA'S NextAct presents "Breaking News: How Media Impacts Politics and Life in New York City"](#)

November 12

[Putnam Family & Community Services' "Voices of the Heart" Dinner Dance Benefit](#)

November 13

[The Korean American Family Service Center \(KAFSC\) will host a fall fashion show](#)

[HEALTHY LIVING FORUM](#)

[AKC Canine Good Citizen Test](#)

[Sunnyside Community Services' Center for Active Older Adults - Fall Bazaar](#)

November 15

[LAC - 10th Annual Arthur Liman Public Interest Awards Benefit](#)

[The Fortune Society - 2010 Annual Awards and Benefit Gala](#)

[Sanctuary for Families hosts Above & Beyond Pro Bono Achievement Awards and Benefit](#)

[Fountain House - Please join us to celebrate Fountain Gallery's 10th anniversary](#)

November 16

[CAMBA Workshop "Internet Marketing"](#)

[Inwood House Convenes City-Wide Dialogue on Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Intervention](#)

[Hour Children is hosting the reading of Dog & Wolf](#)

November 17

[2010 Caring for Children Awards Reception](#)

[Mercy Home - Melodic Soul performs at the Barnes & Noble Court Street Brooklyn](#)

[YAI Network's Benefit for Hope Gala](#)

November 18

[NYC SBTC Duties & Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards](#)

[The Foundation for Social Change - Global Conference for Social Change](#)

[St. John's Bread & Life will hold its 13th annual Johnny's Angel Awards dinner](#)

[JASA's NextAct Lecture Series Finale. "The Battle For Gotham: New York in the Shadow..."](#)

WestHelp by the fourth quarter. With the closings, the system will still have a 20 percent vacancy rate among its remaining 10 shelters. As of September 2010, the county housed 594 single adults and families in 12 shelters. That's down from a high of 1,333 families and individuals in January 1998.

"The foster care and shelter savings represent major success stories," Astorino said. "In the case of the shelters, we are saving money because we are getting people into housing quicker. In the case of foster care, we are providing care closer to home, which helps the kids and their families, as well as county taxpayers."

### Day Care

The County Executive also proposed \$4.3 million in day care savings through two initiatives: by requiring larger parental contributions from some recipients of day care subsidies; and by setting a limit of 385 on the number of Title XX child care slots. As of the end of October, there were 289 children in the program.

"I am dismayed to see these further cuts," said Kathy Halas, Executive Director of the Child Care Council of Westchester, noting that, soon after his election, County Executive Astorino had cut child care by \$1.5 million.

For a family of three earning \$36,620 a year, the increased parental contribution amounts to about \$6 a day, according to the County's budget documents, which also noted that the parental contribution does not increase if a family has more than one child in day care. "Westchester families would still be paying a smaller parent share than families in New York City, and the same rate as residents paid between 1998 and 2005," said the County.

Advocates argue that the hit to families is significantly more onerous than the County implies, particularly in light of the cuts which have already been implemented during the course of 2010.

"We are going to a 33% parental contribution rate from what was only 10% as recently as December 31st of 2009," says Halas. The rate has already been increased twice – first to 15% and then to the current 20% since that date. The new proposed contribution rate represents a 230% increase in the course of just one year.

For a family of three earning \$36,000, the monthly co-pay will rise to \$486.10 per month from \$294.60, a \$191.50 jump.

"We have been at that level before and know it doesn't work," says Halas. "It makes child care unaffordable for many families. This action is going to throw people out of work. That defeats the overall goal of this administration which is to reinvigorate Westchester's economy."

### Mental Health

In another move which is likely to have significant ramifications for nonprofit service providers, the budget proposes to close four Department of Community Mental Health clinics in Peekskill, Mount Kisco, Yonkers and Mount Vernon.

The driving force behind the decision is plunging state reimbursement rates that would more than double the county's cost to run the clinics, from \$1.2 million to \$3 million, according to the County statement. Operating the clinics also presents a conflict for the county because the Department of Community Mental Health is acting as both a provider of services and the regulatory watchdog of those services. Most other counties have already gotten out of the clinic business.

November 19

[NYC SBTC Nonprofit Accounting Basics for Board Members](#)

[NYC SBTC Developing a Fiscally Accountable Nonprofit Board](#)

[Family Nutrition Day. "Save a Life. It May Be Your Own. Get Tested for HIV." - Harlem Dowling](#)

November 30

[Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk Honors Volunteers at Annual Friends Reception](#)

December

[Human Services Workshops/Good Shepherd Services](#)

December 1

[CAMBA Workshop "Free Money for Your Business"](#)

[New Partners for Community Revitalization, Inc. - "Evolution In Brownfields: From Policies...](#)

December 2

[SCO Family of Services 2010 Shepherd's Ball](#)

[NASW 4th Annual Leadership Awards Dinner](#)

December 3

[Life WORC's 39th Anniversary Holiday Gala Dinner Dance](#)

[Staten Island Mental Health Society presents its annual Dr. Richard M. Silberstein Award](#)

[CityWide Disaster Services - CDS Emergency Preparedness Workshop](#)

December 3- 23

[Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck, IGHIL Present "A Celebration in Lights"](#)

December 4

[High Tea with Central Nassau Guidance](#)

December 6

[HSI invites you to attend a unique evening of art and film](#)

[RSM McGladry - Annual Not-for-Profit Conference](#)

December 7

[NYC SBTC Understanding Your Legal Obligations as a Nonprofit Board Member](#)

[NYC SBTC Human Resource Issues for Nonprofit Boards](#)

[CAMBA Workshop "Starting a Home-Based Business"](#)

[SoBRO \(South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation\) ~ 38th Anniversary Gala](#)

December 8

[NYC SBTC The New Form 990: A Focus on Board Governance](#)

"It just doesn't make sense for the county to compete with nonprofit agencies when they can provide the necessary care and save taxpayers money in the process," Dr. Grant Mitchell, the Commissioner of Community Mental Health.

Nonprofit providers operating Article 31 mental health clinics appeared ready to take on the additional service responsibility. "Nonprofits in Westchester certainly have the capacity to provide high quality services to people with serious mental illness," said Dr. Amy Kohn, Executive Director of the Mental Health Association of Westchester. "That is our core mission. That is our commitment. That is what we do."

### Youth Programs

Astorino proposed to allocate \$1.5 million to the agencies that receive funds through Invest in Kids, a reduction of \$634,000. The agencies will be asked to reapply and compete for funds.

All funding for the Cornell Cooperative Extension, which runs programs for youth and adult horticultural, fitness and nutrition, is being eliminated for a saving \$1.3 million. The service was deemed non-essential to the running of county government.

### Reactions

As we went to press, providers and advocates were combing through budget documents in an attempt to learn more on the likely impact to specific proposals.

While taking serious issue with some of the proposed cuts, several providers indicated that the budget was far from a blanket attack on human services.

"It is not a slash and burn budget," said one Executive Director who preferred not to be identified.

"It looks like the administration developed the budget with a lot of thought," said Cora Greenberg, Executive Director of the Westchester Children's Association. "Having said that we believe that some of the things they are proposing are against the long term interests of the county as a whole and certainly against the interests of the people who depend on the services they have chosen to cut."

Moving forward, the budget process will now move to the Board of Legislators which will begin holding hearings next week. "During these tough economic times, our residents can't afford to pay more taxes, however we continue to believe that the county must be responsive to those people most in need. Our budget decisions cannot place an unfair burden on those who have the least," said Kenneth Jenkins, Chairman of the Board's

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## People in the News

### [Straka Joins Jericho Project](#)

The Jericho Project has announced the appointment of Doreen M. Straka to the role of Senior Director of Workforce Opportunities.

"Doreen Straka is one of the most knowledgeable people in the country on employment for individuals in supportive housing programs," said Jericho Project Executive Director Tori Lyon...[read more](#).

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## Around the Blogs

[NYC SBTC Duties & Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards](#)

[Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck, IGHL Present "A Celebration in Lights"](#)

[December 13](#)

[Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester's Annual "Tree of Life" Reception](#)

[December 14](#)

[CAMBA Workshop "Developing the Business Plan - Secrets and Strategies"](#)

[December 15](#)

[HSC 15th Annual Leadership Awards Reception](#)

[December 21](#)

[Utopia Home Care Offers Free Caregiver Training](#)

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[Jennifer Siaca](#)

### **The Big Announcement: NYC's New Chancellor**

Within 24 hours, Mayor Bloomberg's selection of Cathie Black as the new Chancellor of the NYC public education system became old news... a ton of reporting, analyzing, supporting, and criticizing has already been done. I won't do any of those things here, but I will provide links to some of the more interesting and informative articles written about Ms. Black and the Mayor's choice for the next leader of our schools from a variety of perspectives and interests. You decide: will Ms. Black be good for NYC's children?... [read more](#).

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## **Nonprofits in the News**

Media Reports on Nonprofits and Human Services

### **Mother of Girl Who Died Is Charged With Murder**

Carlotta Brett-Pierce, the mother of a drugged and malnourished 4-year-old girl who weighed 18 pounds when she died in September has been indicted on murder charges. The grand jury is also looking into other aspects of the girl's care, including the actions of the city's Administration for Children's Services, which had a case file open on the girl but by its own admission might have gone months without checking on her well-being. Read more in [The New York Times](#).

### **Affordable housing plan funded**

The Allen A.M.E. Neighborhood Preservation and Development Corp. has been awarded almost \$12 million to build affordable senior housing in the Rockaways. Read more in the [Daily News](#).

### **Goldman to lend \$25M for charter schools**

Goldman Sachs Group Inc. will lend \$25 million to Local Initiatives Support Corp. to finance 16 charter schools in New York City and New Jersey. Read more in [Crain's New York Business](#).

### **\$1 million welfare scam busted in Kingston**

Authorities on Tuesday raided a Broadway gas station that they said was tied to a scam in which up to \$1 million in Ulster County social services money was stolen over a period of nearly two years. Read more in the [Kingston Daily Freeman](#).

### **Holocaust Fund Was Defrauded**

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany was defrauded of more than \$42 million by a group that included six employees and custodians of the fund, according to a federal indictment unsealed yesterday. Eleven other defendants were outsiders who recruited and funneled applicants to the programs. See more in [The New York Times](#).

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## **NYNP Employment Listings**

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[CASE MANAGER - LIAAC](#)

[Long Island Association for AIDS Care, Inc.](#)

[PROJECT MANAGER -](#)

[Long Island Association for AIDS Care, Inc., LIACC](#)

[ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - LIAAC,](#)

[Long Island Association for AIDS Care, Inc.](#)

[HEALTH EDUCATOR -](#)

[Long Island Association for AIDS Care, Inc., LIAAC](#)

[SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM MANAGER - LIAAC,](#)

[Long Island Association for AIDS Care, Inc.](#)

[Administrative Director of Social Services -](#)

[The City of New York DEPARTMENT OF HOMELESS SERVICES](#)

[Community Liaison - Women's Prison Association](#)

[Accountant II - The Guttmacher Institute](#)

[The Chief Program Officer - Lenox Hill Neighborhood House](#)

[New York Managing Director - Arabella Advisors](#)

[PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT - Services for the Underserved](#)

[PT SPEECH THERAPIST - Services for the Underserved](#)

[Clinical Supervisor - Unique People Service](#)

[Clinical Director - Unique People Service](#)

[Lending Manager](#)

[Program Director - Leake and Watts Services Inc.](#)

[Executive Director - Minds Matter](#)

[Director of Human Resources - Lincoln Hall](#)

[Contract Analyst - CUCS](#)

[Vice President of Finance/Assistant Treasurer - YMCA of Greater New York](#)

[Bi-lingual Family Trainer - Computers for Youth](#)

[Maintenance Worker - Goddard Riverside Community Center](#)

[Clinicians - Steinway](#)

[Director of Finance and Administration - New York Asian Women's Center](#)

[Medicaid Trainer - Center for Development of Human Services/SUNY Research Foundation](#)

[Family Specialist - PSCH, Inc.](#)

[Clinical Social Workers - FECS](#)

[Adoption Training Specialist -  
Regional NYS Office of Children and Family Services](#)

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