

# *Medicaid* **Medicaid Matters New York** *Matters*

## The state budget must not be balanced on the backs of low-income New Yorkers!

Through the 30-day budget amendments, the Governor is slashing health care spending. These are public dollars intended to serve low-income people who rely on Medicaid for their health, independence, and well-being.

Medicaid Matters, the statewide coalition representing the interests of New Yorkers who are served by Medicaid, urges the Legislature to **reject the across-the-board Medicaid cuts in the Governor's amended budget.**

In addition, the Legislature must take the following actions in this year's state budget to protect Medicaid consumers, as well as the safety-net providers on which they rely:

### Reject:

- Drastic changes to the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance program, which would decimate the program and lead to institutionalization
- Amendment to the regulations governing reductions in personal care hours
- Reduction of Medicaid benefits for low-income people on Medicare who rely on Medicaid or Qualified Medicare Beneficiary benefits to make Medicaid affordable
- The elimination of "prescriber prevails"
- The elimination of spousal and parent refusal, which may force families to choose between keeping a loved one at home and being able to afford basic necessities
- Increase of non-prescription drug co-pays from 50 cents to one dollar

### Add:

- Funding to expand Essential Plan eligibility to undocumented adults
- Statutory language proposed by NYC Health + Hospitals and supported by consumer and community advocates to fix the way hospitals are compensated for serving low-income people who are uninsured or on Medicaid, replacing the 30-day amendment proposal on indigent care pool funding
- Additional funding for the Community Health Advocates program

### Support:

- The initiative to provide Medicaid coverage to inmates prior to reentry