



March 6, 2009

To: Connecticut General Assembly Legislators

From: Alyssa Goduti, Vice President for Public Policy, Connecticut Community Providers Association (CCPA)

RE: New CCPA Survey Information – Impact of Proposed 0% Increase for Community Providers

Connecticut's Community Providers deliver vital human services to over 500,000 individuals with disabilities and other significant challenges. As you know, community providers have struggled for decades with funding that falls far short of meeting the costs of providing services.

CCPA recently issued a survey to measure the impact of the Governor's proposed 0% increase for community providers. As you are aware, there was no Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in the FY09 budget for community providers, and the Governor's FY10, FY11 budget proposal "level funds" most private provider accounts. A 0% COLA over a three year period means that private providers will be forced to reduce services, rather than expand to meet the growing needs of Connecticut residents. The survey of private provider member agencies shows that many have reduced services, cut the size of their workforce and taken other steps to control costs due to decades of under-funding. During the current economic downturn, inadequate funding puts an even greater strain on the system because demand for the services provided by the community providers increase.

View CCPA's survey [results here](#). The first chart shows the steps providers have already taken to cope with 0% in FY09. The second chart shows the additional planned actions providers will take with continued 0% increases for FY10 and FY11.

We look forward to working with you to address this serious issue. Please feel free to contact me at (860) 257-7909 or by email at agoduti@ccpa-inc.org.

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