



# Fund Our Friends

## HELP STOP FUNDING CUTS TO CRITICAL SERVICES

The quality of life for Illinois' most vulnerable citizens is in jeopardy.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn's proposed cuts to human service providers will have a devastating impact on people with disabilities and mental illness, and other human services.

### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Go to [www.fundourfriends.com](http://www.fundourfriends.com) and **sign the online petition** (blue rectangular button) urging Governor Pat Quinn and the Illinois General Assembly not to cut human services.

Please **post the petition link** <http://goo.gl/oytb8> to your Facebook page and/or any other means of social networking you use. Ask your Friends to forward the message to their Friends. Not on Facebook? Send it to your email contacts or call them by phone.

**Click on the red "Locate your Legislators" button.** Call your state senator and state representative's offices. Two quick phone calls. One simple message: "DON'T CUT HUMAN SERVICES".

**Never called your legislator before? It's incredibly simple. Here's a script you can use:**

**Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I live in (your town here). I was hoping to speak with Representative/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ about my concern regarding the proposed cuts to human services.**

**If your legislator is available,** tell him/her your thoughts on the matter. Perhaps you are a family member or a friend of someone who has a disability or mental illness. Or, you work at a community-based organization. Perhaps you are a concerned citizen who wants to be the voice for those who can't speak for themselves.

**If your legislator is not available,** ask if you can leave a message urging him/her not to cut critical funding for human services.

**It's important that our advocacy efforts span the entire month of May.**

One large surge of messages does not have the same effect as sending many messages over a longer period of time. The more frequently an issue is talked about, the more prominent it becomes. Help make community disability services a priority. You can send various links from the "Fifteen Minutes in May" tab or the "Site Map" tab to your contacts and ask them to call or email their legislators and members of the House Appropriations Committee on Human Services chaired by Rep. Sara Feigenholtz <http://goo.gl/G2UbZ> and the Senate Appropriations I Committee, chaired by Sen. Heather Steans <http://goo.gl/bvZaq> throughout the month of May.

**Keep the issue on the forefront of legislators' minds.** Send them a link to a different song or video each week. Then during the week of May 23rd, call again to ask how it's going. What can they tell you about the cuts? Will they be restored?

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