

March 9, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo, Governor  
State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12210

Re: Title X Emergency Contract

Dear Governor Cuomo:

As community partners of Public Health Solutions (PHS), we urge you to immediately restore 1.8 million in funding to Public Health Solutions. In your 2021 executive budget, these emergency funds were allocated to all health care providers in New York City who had relinquished Title X funding because of serious ethical concerns under the Trump-Pence administration. **There was a recent amendment to the Executive Budget that included an unexpected cut of \$1.8 million in funding.** Without this funding, PHS' Sexual and Reproductive Health Centers will close immediately.

We rely on PHS to provide reproductive health care that is affordable, respectful of our client concerns, compassionate and high quality. PHS' centers and staff truly care about their patients and take the time to make sure they get much needed services. The **neighborhoods served have** some of the highest rates of low birthweight births, late or no pre-natal care, severe maternal morbidity (SMM), and STDs as compared to both borough and citywide rates. If these centers close, it is unclear where vulnerable New Yorkers who have relied on these services for years will be able to find the same level of care.

Failing to restore this emergency funding to PHS will result in immediate closure of these centers and take away trusted health care providers that have served the community for over 55 years. PHS never closed their doors during the COVID-19 pandemic, and staff have worked tirelessly to ensure clients receive the high-quality care that they need, despite the risk.

We urge you to prevent this tragedy and restore the funding that is essential to the survival of PHS' Sexual and Reproductive Health Centers, and support the health and well-being of the patients and communities they serve.

Sincerely,



Jacquelyn Kilmer  
CEO  
Harlem United

cc:

Senator Liz Krueger  
Chair, Finance  
Member, Legislative Women's Caucus

Senator Julia Salazar  
Chair, Women's Issues

Senator Gustavo Rivera  
Chair, Health Committee

Senator Jabari Brisport  
New York State 25<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Assembly Member Richard Gottfried  
Chair, Health Committee

Assembly Member Helene Weinstein  
Chair, Committee on Ways & Means

Assembly Member Latrice M. Walker  
New York State 55<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Assembly Member Phara Souffrant-Forrest  
New York State 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Assembly Member Nily Rozic  
New York State 25<sup>th</sup> Assembly District