



2018 SCAP Advocacy Agenda

Federal Advocacy

The recent 2 yr. budget deal reached by Congress and signed by the President calls for an increase to non-discretionary spending of approximately \$63 billion in 2018 and \$68 billion in 2019. Because the individual spending bills have not been completed, this does not guarantee that local priorities will be met. Thank Congress for approving the budget deal. Then share your priorities as follows.

For the second year in a row the President has proposed deep cuts to federal programs and elimination of many of the programs provided by SCAP and others. While Congress has enacted a 2-yr budget deal, the Administration's budget is an indication of priorities, including cuts to vital programs. Experience shows us that when an administration has a priority to cut vital programs, erosion over time does in fact occur.

SCAP supports the National Community Action Foundation's recommendations.

- Federal Community Services Block Grant funds – maintain FY2016 funding levels at \$715 million
 - Critical to ensure innovative solutions to poverty at the local level. The only dedicated federal funding stream for anti-poverty.
 - Funding was eliminated in the President's budget
- Federal Li-HEAP - maintain FY 2016 levels of \$3.39 billion
 - NY receives over \$360 million in Li-HEAP funding
 - Funding supports energy conservation activities and ensure low income households can keep the power on through emergency utility payments
 - Funding was eliminated in the President's budget

www.ncaf.org

SCAP supports the New York Association of Training and Employment Professional's (NYATEP) recommendation.

- Level funding the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) at \$842.4 million for Adults Account, \$1.3 billion for the Dislocated Worker Account, and the WIOA Title II for \$635.2 million. WIOA helps job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market. It also aims to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.
- Fund The Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) at 2017-18 levels of \$68 million. HPOG provides education and training to low-income individuals for occupations in the health care field.

<https://www.nyatep.org/>

Questions can be addressed to: Debra L. Schimpf, Chief Executive Officer @ dschimpfceo@scapny.org

There are over 2.8 million NY residents living in poverty or 15.7%. In Schenectady County the rate is 12.6% and in the City of Schenectady it is 22%. The Child Poverty Rate in Schenectady County is 20.9% and in the City of Schenectady it is 40.1%.



Tax Plan and the Repeal of the Individual Mandate in the Affordable Care Act

The individual mandate required every person to acquire health insurance to decrease the overall cost of health by increasing the number of healthy people within the pool of insured. The creation of the health care marketplaces to accommodate this requirement enabled millions to purchase insurance at more affordable prices.

According to the Center for American Progress, New York will be more affected than most other states with this repeal.

- Approximately 843,000 will become uninsured by 2025
- Insurance companies will need to raise their rates by 10% to account for the decrease in insured healthy people

There continues to be efforts in Congress to reduce Medicaid spending and the Administration is allowing States to impose work requirements on Medicaid enrollees. While a majority of people receiving Medicaid who can work do this is not supported by SCAP. There is no requirement, or funding authorized, to support expanding child care (further exacerbating our child care crisis), and no additional funding for work preparedness or training. For states that support this, additional costs will be incurred that will further pressure existing resources.

<https://www.americanprogress.org/tag/budget-tax-and-infrastructure/view/>

<http://fiscalpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Human-Services.pdf>

SCAP supports the recommendations of the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

- \$2.6 billion (increase of \$217 million) for HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants. This will provide additional housing to 40,000 people
- There is a 15% cut in the President's budget.

<https://endhomelessness.org/>

Other areas impacting low income people:

- College less affordable – the President's budget eliminated subsidized loans
- Deep cuts to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps) – The President's budget cuts SNAP by \$190 billion over the next 10 years.

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