

Protect Illinois families now. Invest in our future.



**Campaign
for Illinois'
Future**

www.campaignforillinoisfuture.org

The Campaign for Illinois' Future – a growing coalition of community organizations, advocacy groups, labor unions and working families representing over 250,000 Illinois citizens – is committed to protecting vital services for Illinois' working families, supporting job creation and ensuring true economic recovery for our state. Together, we will be working to educate Illinois voters statewide and urge the General Assembly to pass a budget that addresses the structural deficit while protecting Illinois' working families.

The state of Illinois is facing an unprecedented economic crisis. A history of unbalanced budgets and shrinking revenue has led to a \$12.4 billion budget deficit that is threatening our hospitals, schools, community centers, libraries, parks, and every agency and service Illinois families depend on.

Now is the time for Illinois lawmakers to stand up for Illinois' working families by supporting a lasting solution to this crisis - one that does not balance the budget on the backs of Illinois teachers, public servants and working families by asking them to sacrifice more than their fair share.

The Campaign for Illinois' Future calls on the Illinois General Assembly to pass a state budget that's fair to working families by:

- Protecting the vital programs and services working families count on from harmful cuts. Attempting to balance the budget by cuts alone will have disastrous consequences for Illinois families and our state's economic health. Health care, human services, education and public safety make up 96% of the state's budget. Cutting our way out of a \$12.4 billion budget hole will threaten public services and the lives of Illinois residents.
- Including a fair income tax increase. The FY10 budget must include a new revenue package substantial enough to close Illinois' structural deficit and prevent a future of harmful cuts, but it must also ensure that working families are protected from having to shoulder the burden of solving this crisis by including significant tax fairness provisions such as additional tax credits, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit, raising the standard exemption or enacting progressive tax swaps.

OUR PLAN

The Campaign for Illinois' Future will aggressively reach out to communities throughout the state through town hall meetings, direct mail, phone banks, community forums, door-to-door canvassing and e-organizing to educate the public and Illinois lawmakers around the urgent need to stop harmful cuts to critical state programs and to stress what is at stake for the people of Illinois this year.

The coalition will call on legislators to find a sufficient and lasting revenue solution to protect the vital services and programs working families depend on now and in the future.

The Campaign for Illinois' Future includes:

Access Living - Action Now - Addus HealthCare, Inc. - Albany Park Neighborhood Council - American Friends Service Committee - Applied Research Center - Arise Chicago - Association for Child Development - Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation - Brighton Park Neighborhood Council - Centers for New Horizons - Chicago Coalition for the Homeless - Chicago Jobs With Justice - Citizen Action Illinois - Chicago Metropolitan Association, Church in Society (United Church of Christ) - Clergy Committed to Community - Coalition for a United Community Labor Force - Coalition of African, Arab, Asian, European and Latino Immigrants of Illinois - Committee for New Priorities - Community Clergy Connection - Community Renewal Society - First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church - God CAN Ministries - Grassroots Collaborative - Grow Your Own Teachers Illinois - Heartland Alliance - Help At Home - Illinois Action for Children - Illinois Education Association - Illinois Federation of Teachers - Illinois Hunger Coalition - Illinois Maternal & Child Health Coalition - Inner-City Muslim Action Network - Inner Voice - Jewish Council on Urban Affairs - Lakeside Community Committee - Logan Square Neighborhood Association - Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization (MAGIC) - Mothers Opposed to Violence Everywhere - Protestants for the Common Good - Safe Cities, Inc. - Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law - SEIU Healthcare Illinois - SEIU Illinois State Council - SEIU Local 1 - SEIU Local 73 - Southsiders Organized for Unity and Liberation - Target Area Development Corporation - United Black Christians - United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America, Western Region - Voices for Illinois Children - West Town Leadership United