

Call Script To Legislators
Re: FY 2021 – 2022 New York State Budget

Hello, my name is [redacted] and I am a/an {advocate, program director, executive director, etc.} at {your organization}. I'd like to speak to a staff person who handles budget-related issues for the {Senator/Assemblymember}.

{Reintroduce yourself to the staffer}.

New York State consistently has the highest demand for domestic violence services in the country. The need has increased dramatically during the Pandemic. Yet funding for these services is either non-existent, decreasing or flat.

I am hoping the Legislature will close long-standing gaps in funding for domestic violence programs by supporting the following:

1. Adding a \$10 million emergency fund to reimburse and make whole New York's domestic violence programs, which are actually receiving less funding during the Pandemic than before.
2. Increasing TANF funding for non-residential domestic violence services to \$6 million. The current level is the same as it was 20 years ago when it was first proposed.
3. Supporting steps to modernize the way domestic violence services are funded and provided to survivors by supporting a \$5 million re-appropriation in the Aid to Localities Budget to pilot an innovative, survivor-centered flexible funding model for DV services. OCFS was unable to conduct the pilot last year due to the Pandemic.
4. Restore \$2,356,000 in the DCJS Aid to Localities budget for domestic violence programs and legal services for victims.

May I send the {Senator/Assemblymember} more information about these proposed investments? {Obtain appropriate contact information.}

Thank you!