



ADVANCING OUR COMMUNITY

Policy and Advocacy Priorities- New York State FY21-22

Founded in 1965, CPC is a social services organization that creates positive social change. We empower Asian American, immigrant, and low-income communities in New York City by ensuring they have equitable access to the resources and opportunities needed to thrive.

Human Services

Through our human services programming, CPC is the trusted partner to more than 60,000 individuals and families striving to achieve goals in their education, family, community and career.

- **No cuts to social services or to localities:** Resist cuts to all social services programming, but at the same time resist cuts to localities. As many social services as the State provides, localities contract even more, so cuts to them will ultimately spell cuts to the hardest hit New Yorkers.
- **Fully fund human services agencies:** ensure that as essential services, nonprofits receive a yearly contract rate increase, increase wages and provide hazard pay to human services staff, re-establish the Nonprofit Infrastructure Capital Investment Fund (Strong Nonprofits Campaign)
- **Enhance the Settlement House Program** from \$2.45 million to \$5 million.
- **Early Childhood Education:** Establish a new fund for localities to serve all income-eligible families, use Economic Development Funds to support childcare programs, expand the Child Care Tax Credit, allocate \$5 million to Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) to provide additional training.
- **Child Welfare:** Restore the Open-Ended Preventive/Protective Services State-funded portion to 65/35; re-pass the Statewide Central Register (SCR) Reform Bill.
- **Care Coordination Organizations/Health Homes:** restoring \$28 million in proposed cuts to the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)
- **Adult Literacy:** Invest \$15.3 million in Adult Literacy Education (ALE), and invest \$10 Million in Family Literacy programs
- **Senior services:** invest \$13.5 million in the home-delivered “meals on wheels” program.

CPC is a member of the following human services coalitions and organizations and endorses their platforms: Strong Non-Profits for a Better New York, Human Services Council (HSC), United Neighborhood Houses (UNH), Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA), Day Care Council of New York (DCCNY), Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies (COFCCA), New York City Coalition for Adult Literacy (NYCCAL) and Live On New York.

Immigrant Justice: At a time when immigrant New Yorkers increasingly need legal services for immigration, housing and employment, it is critical to ensure access to information, resources and counsel. In New York City, 20% of all active immigration court cases are Chinese. Simultaneously, low-income, immigrant communities and communities of color experience an unfair share of profiling, surveillance, and punitive fines and fees, leading to unjust arrests and over-incarceration. CPC supports:

- **Community-based legal services:** enhancing the Liberty Defense Fund, passing the Access to Representation Act, enhancing the Office of New American Opportunity Centers funding and reinstating the previous ESOL gateway model, fully funding community-based legal services

- **Immigrant Access:** enhancing the Adult Literacy Education program, increasing Office of New Americans Opportunity Center funding and reinstating the previous, successful ESOL gateway model.
- **Fund Excluded Workers:** establish a “Mark to Market” ultra-wealth tax to fund monthly payments to immigrant workers left out of federal and state COVID-19 economic

CPC is also a member of the “Road to Justice” coalition and the New York Immigration Coalition and endorses those platforms.

Healthcare Access: Inequitable access to healthcare is a key issue in our communities, where one in five Asian Americans is uninsured, and many more are underinsured. CPC supports measures to expand coverage and services in the short term, while calling for universal guaranteed healthcare. CPC supports:

- **Passing the New York Health Act (A4738/S4840):** establish a universal, publicly financed single pay health plan to provide comprehensive health coverage for all New Yorkers regardless of age, immigration status, or financial status.
- **Preserving and expanding Medicaid services:** protecting consumers from loss of coverage or services as a result of potential Medicaid cuts and ensuring access to care coordination and needed services; equity in health outcomes by investing in culturally-competent, community-based, accessible care and services;
- **Ensuring that Medicaid programs like home health care are fully funded** with adequate wages and rightsizing Medicaid reimbursement so providers are fully compensated for the services; and support the Caring Majority campaign to increase wages for homecare workers.
- **Expanding the Essential Plan** to cover undocumented New Yorkers;

Housing & Mobility: The COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis have worsened housing and mobility issues for our communities. Asian Americans have the highest rate of overcrowded housing in New York, and evictions, homelessness, shift housing, and other informal housing arrangements are common, particularly for immigrant and LEP community members, for whom predatory landlords and hard-to-navigate systems make housing even more tenuous. Low-income, immigrant and communities of color are disproportionately affected by transportation deserts, ADA inaccessible stations, and disrupted public transportation, while simultaneously burdened with fare hikes that rise faster than wages and punitive fare evasion policing that criminalizes working class New Yorkers.

- The **Housing Justice for All platform:** the good cause eviction bill; passing universal rent control; continuing the eviction moratorium to keep New Yorkers in their homes through the duration of the crisis, and passing the Rent and Mortgage Cancellation Act of 2020 (Salazar/Niou), and housing homeless New Yorkers in vacant housing, investing \$3 billion in public housing, and fulfilling the plan to establish 20,000 supportive housing units
- **Passing the Housing Stability Support program that provides \$40 million** for public assistance-eligible families and individuals facing eviction or homelessness;
- **Investing \$10 million to provide service coordination in senior affordable housing services**
- CPC is a member of the Riders Alliance and supports their transit platform

Economic Equity: Asian Americans experience the highest poverty rate of any racial and ethnic group in New York City. CPC supports measures to promote the economic empowerment of our community members, ensure access to banking, and freedom from debt and predatory lending. CPC also supports raising revenues to fully fund the needs of people of color, immigrants and low-income New Yorkers, requiring wealthy New Yorkers to pay their fair share and creating a more equitable State:

- **Invest in our New York Act: Raise \$50 billion in revenue** to fund critical programs and services and rebuild our economy
- **Removing the 2% self-imposed global spending cap;**



ADVANCING OUR COMMUNITY

- **Passing the Inclusive Value Ledger**, a peer-to-peer savings and payments platform that would create direct, digital access to tax credits, benefits and public programs;
- CPC is a member of the Budget Justice coalition, Invest in Skills coalition, and One Fair Wage coalition and supports their platforms.

Representation for Marginalized Communities

Asian American and Pacific Islanders experience disparities in wealth, health, and education, which are not captured through State data that aggregates ethnic subgroups. There is an urgent need for quality, disaggregated data, not just for AAPIs but for all marginalized communities. For example the LGBTQ community, which cuts across all New York State racial, ethnic, and economic groups, also is not captured in State data. Low-income voters and voters from marginalized communities also face barriers to building political power because of antiquated voter policies and Board of Elections systems. To democratize all levels of government and provide better representation for marginalized New Yorkers, CPC calls for:

- **Re-passing Data Disaggregation Bill**
- **Passing the New York State Voting Rights Act (S.7528)**
- **Comprehensive Board of Elections reform**
- Just redistricting that includes the voices of marginalized communities, immigrant communities, and communities currently incarcerated. CPC is a partner organization advising the Unity Maps coalition.
- CPC is a member of the Let NY Vote coalition and supports their platforms, including restoration of parolee voting rights.