

Congress Don't Fail Us

This Campaign Toolkit is to help you contact Senators Schumer and Gillibrand along with your congressional representative to demand they fight for desperately needed aid for New York.

This document will help in your efforts by providing all you need to join this fight. Scroll through to find:

- 1) Talking points**
- 2) A sample email/letter**
- 3) Phone script**
- 4) Social Media sample posts**
- 5) Contact list of NY's representatives.**

We need you to participate in this campaign to ensure New York survives this crisis. Not only contacting your representative, but also encourage other members, co-workers, family and friends to share memes/ads on social media. All these materials are also available at www.cseany.org

1) Talking Points

STIMULUS TALKING POINTS

Without federal relief, New York's public services will be decimated.

- The COVID 19 pandemic has caused massive revenue losses and unemployment for state and local governments as we social distance and fight this crisis.
- The recently passed state budget promises serious economic distress for all New Yorkers. We are living in a new economic reality that cannot sustain the services New Yorkers need—from mental health and public health, to sanitation services and job placement.
- The very services that New Yorkers are relying on to get us through this unprecedented crisis may disappear if we do not receive billions in federal aid.
- The very workers who are showing up every day to ensure our health, safety, and way of life will soon be faced with massive layoffs.

Direct and unrestricted aid to state and local governments is desperately needed to fund the front lines and to cushion the economic blow.

- State and local governments are putting massive resources into fighting this pandemic on the front lines. We can't leave their economies shattered as we pull through this crisis.
- New York cannot weather the estimated \$15 billion loss in revenue to our state and local governments without a commitment for robust federal aid.
- \$300 billion is needed nationally for local governments, along with the flexibility in how our state and local governments can use the funds to adapt to a rapidly changing reality, not just to pay for COVID-related expenses. In addition, Congress should repeal the CARES Act restriction that limits the \$150 billion to only COVID-19 related expenses.
- While the CARES Act allows for \$500 billion in loans to small businesses and state and local governments, it is not an effective replacement for grants.

Increase Medicaid funding now

- Although the second Families First Coronavirus Response Act increased Federal Medicaid match to states by 6.2%, it's simply not enough.
- As a growing population turns to Medicaid services, we need an increase in funding to ensure that the program is fully funded and that local governments can continue to provide all critical services.

Increase Education Aid

- While the CARES Act provided nearly \$31 billion in K-12 and higher education funding, \$175 billion in additional is needed.

Congress needs to act NOW

- The simple fact is our schools, local governments, and the State of New York need billions in direct and unrestricted aid immediately to prevent disaster.
- Just as our essential workers are putting their communities first, it is time for congress to act NOW to save New York.

2) Sample email/letter

Note: most congressional offices don't provide a direct email. Instead they ask constituents to send a message through their website which you can find in part (5) contact information of this toolkit.

The Honorable [XXXXX]
[ADDRESS]
Washington, DC 20515

Dear [XXXX],

I am a constituent and proud member of CSEA, the largest public sector union in New York State. As all New Yorkers are dealing with the COVID-19 crisis, the dedicated public servants of CSEA have continued to provide the front-line and support services necessary to keep New York running. New York is losing revenue and massive unemployment on a scale never seen before. Without immediate federal relief, the state will fail and be forced to cut essential services.

Without assistance, our public hospitals, nursing homes, and facilities for the mentally ill and developmentally disabled will see devastating cuts. Our first responders, sanitation workers, and public health professionals, who all continue to put their own health and safety at risk each day, will see layoffs. Our children, whose instruction has already been disrupted, will see cuts to schools and child care that may forever alter their development. New York's pothole-filled roads and rusted bridges will remain in disrepair. And programs such as Medicaid, which protect our most vulnerable communities, will see debilitating cuts.

The simple fact is our schools, local governments, and the State of New York need billions in direct and unrestricted aid immediately to prevent disaster. I ask that you demand the President and leaders in Congress to act NOW to save New York.

Sincerely,

3) Sample Phone Message

Note: Congressional offices are closed due to the COVID-19 crisis. This will make calling the office difficult to reach a live person because most staff are working remotely.

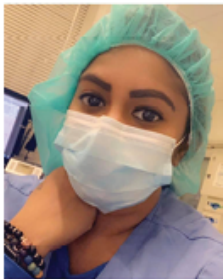
Hello my name is _____ and I am a CSEA member working as _____. New York is losing revenue and facing massive unemployment without immediate federal relief our state will fail. The simple fact is our schools, local governments, and the State of New York need billions in direct and unrestricted aid immediately to prevent disaster. I ask that you demand the President and leaders in Congress to act NOW to save New York. Thank you for your time.

4) Social Media Memes

Use one of the dozen different themed Memes to send a message to **Senator Schumer and Gillibrand**. Simple copy and paste a Meme to your Facebook post and in your comments make sure to tag **@senschumer@senkirstengillibrand**

Use the congressional contact information found (5) later on in this toolkit to add your Congressional Representative.

ACTION NEEDED!!!



I am a nurse on the front lines caring for COVID-19 patients. What happens to public hospitals when our state runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs **Unrestricted Aid to Survive**

Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



I work for Social Services making sure access to vital programs from food stamps to child protective services are available. What happens to these vital services when our county runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs **Unrestricted Aid to Survive**

Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



I am a childcare provider caring for the children of first responders. What happens to this vital service when our county runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs **Unrestricted Aid to Survive**

Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



We are bus drivers working during this crisis to drop off meals and homework to students at their front doors. What happens to this vital service when our school district runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
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Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



We are water district employees repairing and maintaining water main lines for clean, drinkable water. What happens to this vital service when our town runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



I work for the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities caring for our most vulnerable. What happens to this vital service when our state runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



I'm a school custodian still keeping our buildings safe as our schools provide childcare for first responders. What happens to this vital service when our school district runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators
[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



We are DPW workers who continue to maintain our roads and clear debris after storms. What happens to this vital service when our town runs out of money?
[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)
[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

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[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)
or call 202-224-3121



YOUR ACTION NEEDED!!!



We are sanitation employees who continue to collect trash and recyclables during this crisis so we have clean and safe communities.

What happens to this vital service when our cities run out of money?

[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)

[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators

[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)

or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



I work for the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance helping families get assistance like housing aid and Social Security Disability.

What happens to these vital services when our state runs out of money?

[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)

[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators

[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)

or call 202-224-3121



YOUR ACTION NEEDED!!!



We are cafeteria workers who continue to make sure students have nutritious meals during this crisis.

What happens to this vital service when our school district runs out of money?

[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)

[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators

[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)

or call 202-224-3121



ACTION NEEDED!!!



We are county corrections officers who can't work from home because we are watching over dangerous criminals.

What happens to this vital service when our county runs out of money?

[#neededtodaygonetomorrow](#)

[#publicserviceproud](#)

Congress act NOW!
New York needs Unrestricted Aid to Survive

Send that message to our U.S. Senators

[@senschumer](#) [@SenKirstenGillibrand](#)

or call 202-224-3121



5) Contact Information

Contact your two U.S. Senators

Senator Chuck Schumer (D)

Email/Website:

www.schumer.senate.gov

Facebook:

@senschumer

Twitter:

@senschumer

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D)

Email/website:

www.gillibrand.senate.gov

Facebook:

@senkirstengillibrand

Twitter:

@gillibrandny

Don't forget to contact your Congressional Representative.

If you don't know who your representative is, look them up on this website.

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

District 1 - Congressman Lee Zeldin (R)

Email/website:

www.zeldin.house.gov

Facebook:

@repLeeZeldin

Twitter:

[@RepLeeZeldin](https://twitter.com/RepLeeZeldin)

District 2 - Congressman Peter King (R)

Email/website:

www.peterking.house.gov

Facebook:

@congressmanpeteking

Twitter:

[@RepPeteKing](https://twitter.com/RepPeteKing)

District 3 - Congressman Thomas Suozzi (D)

Email/website:

www.suozzi.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepTomZuozzi

Twitter:

@RepTomSuozzi

District 4 – Congresswoman Kathleen Rice (D)

Email/website:

www.kathleenrice.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepKathleenRice

Twitter:

[@RepKathleenRice](https://twitter.com/RepKathleenRice)

District 5 – Congressman Gregory Meeks (D)

Email/website:

www.meeks.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepGregoryMeeks

Twitter:

@RepGregoryMeeks

District 6 – Congresswoman Grace Meng (D)

Email/website:

www.meng.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepGraceMeng

Twitter:

@RepGraceMeng

District 7 – Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez (D)

Email/website:

www.velazquez.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepNydiaVelazquez

Twitter:

@NydiaVelazquez

District 8 – Congressman Hakeem Jeffries (D)

Email/website:
www.jeffries.house.gov

Facebook:
@repJeffries

Twitter:
@RepJeffries

District 9 – Congresswoman Yvette Clarke (D)

Email/website:
www.clarke.house.gov

Facebook:
@replyvetteclarke

Twitter:

District 10 – Congressman Jerry Nadler (D)

Email/website:
www.nadler.house.gov

Facebook:
@CongressmanNadler

Twitter:
@RepJerryNadler

District 11 – Congressman Max Rose (D)

Email/website:
www.maxrose.house.gov

Facebook:
@RepMaxRose

Twitter:
@RepMaxRose

District 12 – Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D)

Email/website:
www.maloney.house.gov

Facebook:
@RepCarolynMaloney

Twitter:
@RepMaloney

District 13 – Congressman Adriano Espaillat (D)

Email/website:
www.espaillat.house.gov

Facebook:
@RepEspaillat

Twitter:
@RepEspaillat

District 14 – Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (D)

Email/website:
www.ocado-cortez.house.gov

Facebook:
@repAOC

Twitter:
@RepAOC

District 15 – Congressman Jose Serrano (D)

Email/website:
www.serrano.house.gov

Facebook:
@RepJoseSerrano

Twitter:
@RepJoseSerrano

District 16 – Congressman Eliot Engel (D)

Email/website:
www.engel.house.gov

Facebook:
@RepEliotLEngel

Twitter:
@RepEliotEngel

District 17 – Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D)

Email/website:
www.lowey.house.gov

Facebook:
@RepLowey

Twitter:
@NitaLowey

District 18 – Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney (D)

Email/website:
www.seanmaloney.house.gov

Facebook:
@repseanmaloney

Twitter:
@RepSeanMaloney

District 19 – Congressman Antonio Delgado (D)

Email/website:

www.delgado.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepAntonioDelgado

Twitter:

@repdelgado

District 20 – Congressman Paul Tonko (D)

Email/website:

www.tonko.house.gov

Facebook:

@reppaultonko

Twitter:

@RepPaulTonko

District 21 – Congresswoman Elise Stefanik (R)

Email/website:

www.stefanik.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepEliseStefanik

Twitter:

@RepStefanik

District 22 – Congressman Anthony Brindisi (D)

Email/website:

www.brindisi.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepBrindisi

Twitter:

@RepBrindisi

District 23 – Congressman Tom Reed (R)

Email/website:

www.reed.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepTomReed

Twitter:

@RepTomReed

District 24 – Congressman John Katko (R)

Email/website:

www.katko.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepJohnKatko

Twitter:

@RepJohnKatko

District 25 – Congressman Joe Morelle (D)

Email/website:

www.morelle.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepJoeMorelle

Twitter:

@RepJoeMorelle

District 26 – Congressman Brian Higgins (D)

Email/website:

www.higgins.house.gov

Facebook:

@RepBrianHiggins

Twitter:

@RepBrianHiggins

District 27 - Vacant