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Mayor Bloomberg Must Save Child Care and After-School for 47,000 Children!

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The City Council Women's Caucus is deeply troubled by Mayor Bloomberg's proposed cuts to child care and after-school programs. These cuts will have severe ramifications, particularly for low-income, working mothers and their children. We urge the Administration to fully fund the subsidized child care and after-school systems. The Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) Preliminary Budget, combined with the EarlyLearn NYC (EarlyLearn) and the Out-of-School Time (OST) RFPs, will deny more than 47,000 children the services and resources necessary to ensure their future success, and will force working parents to make potentially unsafe arrangements for their children in order to keep their jobs and maintain their livelihoods.

According to the 2010 Census, 42.8% of New York City children live in single parent families. Child care and after-school programs are necessary for parents, particularly single mothers, to be able to participate in the work place and provide much-needed income stability for their families. Losing child care and after-school services will undoubtedly force many low-income working mothers to make impossible choices, including whether they can afford to continue to work without access to child-care and after-school programs, or whether a non-licensed provider is a safe option for their children.

The Executive Budget must baseline enough funding to maintain all 47,000 child care and after-school slots and fund Early Learn and OST at appropriate rates. At a minimum this means restoring and baselining \$104 million to the Administration for Children's Services for child care and \$66 million to the Department of Youth and Community Development for after-school programs. We simply cannot afford to abandon the programs that allow working mothers

to maintain jobs and support their families while their children receive the early childhood education and after-school support they need to ultimately become college and career ready.

Sincerely,



JESSICA LAPPIN
Council Member
5th District - Manhattan
Women's Caucus Co-Chair



ROSIE MENDEZ
Council Member
2nd District – Manhattan
Women's Caucus Co-Chair