



70 West 36<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10018-8007  
Phone: (212) 967-0322 Fax: (212) 967-0792 [www.unhny.org](http://www.unhny.org)

## **SUPPORT ADULT LITERACY AND IMMIGRANT SERVICES**

FY 2011 City Budget Priorities

### **❖ Restore \$5.18 million for the Department of Youth and Community Development's (DYCD) Adult Literacy Programs**

The proposed FY 2011 City Budget **eliminates all City funding** (\$5.18 million) from DYCD's adult literacy programs, which serve approximately 10,000 students. These cuts come at a time of high demand for adult literacy services, as New Yorkers have become increasingly motivated to improve their literacy skills and obtain a GED in order to remain competitive in the tight labor market. DYCD's adult literacy funding primarily supports programs run by community-based organizations. The elimination of this funding threatens students' ability to continue taking classes at community-based organizations they know and trust.

### **❖ Restore \$5.0 million for the Immigrant Opportunities Initiative**

The Immigrant Opportunities Initiative (IOI) supports programs that provide ESOL classes, immigrant legal services, and citizenship assistance. Restored by the City Council last year and not included in the proposed FY 2011 City Budget, IOI helps immigrants learn English, protect their rights, and obtain citizenship.

### **❖ Restore \$1.5 million for the Adult Literacy Services Initiative**

The Adult Literacy Services Initiative, restored by the City Council last year and not included in the proposed FY 2011 City Budget, funds 62 programs that provide basic literacy, English, and GED classes for immigrant and native-born New Yorkers seeking to improve their skills.