



Non-Profits Tell State: No More Funding Cuts

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We've all heard about governments tightening their belts, but what you may not have heard is how that belt-tightening is hurting non-profit social service agencies.

Representatives from several of those groups gathered Friday at the First Lutheran Church in Moline to announce a new effort to help agencies continue to provide important services. Agencies like the United Way of the Quad Cities, Arrowhead Ranch, Churches United, Transitions Mental Health Services, Skip-Along Child Development and Bethany for Children and Families have joined a statewide group known as Illinois Partners for Human Service. The group has begun a campaign to remind Illinois lawmakers that non-profits are helping the state deliver vital services to the community, and they can't do it without funding.



The group points out that in the past six years, demand for human services has gone up by \$169 million while agencies are dealing with cuts amounting to about \$385 million.

An example of one service that is considered vital is subsidized childcare. One woman who benefits from the subsidy spoke at the meeting. Christina Danielson says she and her boyfriend have five children and their family would be on the streets without affordable childcare.

"If it were to be cut, I wouldn't be able to work full-time. We would have to worry about how to pay our mortgage and how we would be able to pay for our family. We would be out on the street. We would be homeless because we wouldn't be able to afford all that stuff. We need to have both incomes in the home," Danielson said.

Illinois Partners for Human Services is demanding that there be no more cuts to human services, prompt payment for services and no unilateral changes in contracts with the state.

For more information on the campaign and how you can get involved, [click here](#).



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