



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVOCACY!

IT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The Cost of Providing Care (COPC) Coalition is certain that members of the Senate and Assembly clearly heard the message about nonprofit community providers' need for a COPC increase.

And we have all of you to thank for the impact we have made!

Although budgetary constraints allowed for less than what we strived to gain – 3 percent, effective January 1, 2008, rather than 4.1 percent, effective July 1, 2007 – our advocacy efforts have made an impact.

Governor Corzine originally proposed a 2 percent COPC increase, to be effective January 1, 2008. So, the 1 percent higher increase shows we were heard through a variety of effective advocacy strategies:

- Testifying at hearings
- Sending press releases and letters to editors statewide
- Meeting with State legislators
- Sending letters and e-mails to State legislators and Governor Corzine
- Holding a rally in Trenton

The COPC Coalition is already gearing up to advocate for a COPC increase to be tied to the inflation rate and automatically included into the budget in FY 2009 and every year thereafter.

We will continue to depend on our partnership with all of you to ensure that returning legislators remain aware and supportive of community providers' needs and that newcomers to the Senate and Assembly hear us and understand and support our issue.

So, take at least a moment to celebrate our achievements and be ready to fight for and achieve more in FY 2009 and beyond!