

My name is Michael Yagarich and I currently reside in Colchester. I have been a resident of New London County for 13 years. I am writing in concern with Governor Malloy's budget. Madonna Place is a nonprofit agency in Norwich that assists over 3,000 parents and children from New London County and southeastern Connecticut. Governor Malloy has eliminated ALL funding to the Family School Connection Program which is funded through the Children's Trust budget in the Office of Early Childhood. He has also eliminated ALL three sources of State Funding for Fatherhood in the DSS budget, in the DCF budget AND for the Family Empowerment Program from the Office of Early Childhood.

I am a father of two girls ages 4 and 11. I have struggled financially in the past and sought out programs such as these and others for educational and financial assistance and the aid that I received in return was helpful beyond description. I am personally asking your support for restoring these critical funds for extremely important programs for families in our community. Without this funding these programs will cease to exist forcing families to struggle without the aid that Madonna Place currently provides them. Please urge Governor Malloy to rescind these cuts that will hurt the low and middle income families in our state that rely on them.

Thank you for your time and consideration and if there is anything that I can do to assist in this process please do not hesitate to use my contact information below to get in touch with me.

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