

Appropriations Committee Public Hearing on the Dept. of Social Services Budget
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Nino Kavtelade
CTFSA

PLEASE RESTORE SAFETY NET SERVICES

My name is Nino Kavteladze and I have been working as PSM for 2 years.

Safety net program is very important for our clients. We have clients who are homeless, living in shelters and some are close to eviction. Our clients are trying their best to find jobs and safe housing for their families. Safety net program is essential to provide for clients a little boost to self-sufficiency.

We provide different referrals and information about community and available services such as emergency housing, energy assistance programs, temp agencies names and contact information, upcoming job fairs, agencies which can assist creating resumes. I had clients who found jobs within a few days after I provided information about companies who would be a good fit for them; some of them started part-time work and later became full-time employees. It is very important that we provide counseling and financial assistance to help them to become self-sufficient.

Cutting funding for Safety Net program is going to harm our clients and delay their self-sufficiency.

Safety net program helps to reduce the number of people who need TANF cash and food stamps.

Please do not shred the Safety Net Services Network – too many families need this service.