Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York State Executive Chamber – State Capitol Building Albany, New York 12224 Dear Governor Hochul:

In order to be truly "New York Strong" we must first take care of those most vulnerable in our state. One way to do this is to create a budget that uses equity and justice as its guiding principles. There are many important initiatives that need to be supported, but two that we would like to advocate for are the closing of the NYS Child Tax Credit loophole so that it will cover those who are most vulnerable - children ages 0-4. The second issue we are raising up is our concern for the over 40% of New Yorkers who have reported struggles with their mental health during the pandemic. Many service providers are finding it extremely difficult to provide the critical services at current rates. Therefore, we are also petitioning for a 5.4% COLA and a \$500 million investment in workforce, service, and support in the Executive Budget.

Respectfully yours,

(signature) (print name)

Email:

(address/zip)

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