

January 30, 2009

Dear San Francisco Human Services Network members and friends,

The year 2010 is already shaping up to be a defining moment for our sector. Our city faces a half billion dollar deficit, the state is in worse shape than ever, city leaders will make crucial decisions on revenue measures and budget reform, city departments will begin to implement the budget process reform and longterm planning processes mandated by last year's Proposition A, and fall Supervisors races will determine who will lead the city for the next few years.

With the help of federal stimulus funds, we are better off than we expected to be after last year's budget crisis. But general fund support for the community-based health and human service sector declined by 16% last year, and we all face the same challenge to ensure the longterm sustainability of our sector.

Nonprofits must continue to work together and participate in the policy and decision-making processes that will shape our common future. Through HSN, we have a unified forum to fight for policies that strengthen our organizations and services, and place vulnerable populations as a budget priority. **Please join our collective effort by renewing your HSN membership today!**

### **2009 in Review**

HSN played a leadership role in many crucial policy arenas last year, including:

- **City budget advocacy:** HSN was involved throughout the budget process, which culminated in the Board's restoration of \$20 million for health and human services. We analyzed the budget and kept nonprofits informed through both email updates and our new Budget Central webpage – the only place where you can find all health and human service budget information in one location. We advocated against cuts before the Mayor's Office, the Board, departments and Commissions. We partnered with our allies to form the Budget Justice Coalition, which organized rallies and media efforts, culminating in a June rally with 1000 people marching down Market Street to City Hall.

As the deficit grew, we recognized that service cuts were inevitable, and took on the task of developing "*Guiding Principles for Budget Reduction Strategies*," which we disseminated to Commissions and elected officials. We also succeeded in placing an op-ed piece in the San Francisco Chronicle contrasting the health and human service cuts with increases in fire and police budgets.

- **Long-term solutions:** The fiscal crisis has provided opportunities to bring forth long-overdue policy conversations around the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of our service system. HSN has pushed the debate in numerous forums, asking vital questions about how our sector can best deploy itself to provide services in the face of rising demand and shrinking resources. We joined with other coalitions to form the Community Budget Reform Council, which disseminated recommendations and met with Supervisors during the development of Proposition A. We provided input to the Mayor's Task Force on community-based organizations and the DPH stakeholder process. Our member meetings have provided a unique place for difficult conversations around efficiencies and consolidation, the longterm

impacts of city wage and benefit packages on nonprofit services, and the need for an inclusive city planning process that is policy and outcome-focused.

- Other policy issues and events: HSN continues to act as a watchdog for policy decisions that impact our sector and the people we serve, and to maintain opportunities for nonprofits to engage in dialogue with decisionmakers. Our monthly General Member and Public Policy Committee meetings have helped build our relationships with city leaders and explore issues in greater depth. Among our featured speakers last year were Controller Ben Rosenfield, Mayor's Budget Director Greg Wagner, Board President David Chiu, Supervisors Avalos, Campos, Dufty and Elsbernd, State Senator Mark Leno, and department heads Mitch Katz, Trent Rhorer, Anne Hinton and Maria Su. Finally, our email updates have provided our members with regular information about important issues and opportunities to get involved at city hall.

**We thank all of you for the support and participation that have enabled our success.** We hope you will renew your membership and continue working with us this year. We would especially like to see more of you at member meetings, where we have had some exceptional speakers and discussions! We also appreciate your input and ideas, and active response to our calls for comment on policies and participation at hearings.

### **Looking Ahead to 2010**

HSN will continue to work diligently in 2010 as we face the serious challenges of these times:

- FY 2010-11 budget advocacy: With the city projecting a \$522 million deficit, HSN will continue to serve as an information resource, advocate for programs that serve vulnerable San Franciscans, and put forward policy recommendations to minimize the harm and ensure that our sector will be able to maintain crucial services.

- Revenue strategies: The city cannot address our structural deficit through cuts alone. HSN is already working with policymakers and allies to explore ballot measures for November, when we will have the opportunity to pass revenue measures by a simple majority vote.

- Longterm reforms: We will continue to push forward with our policy and budget process reform efforts, including input into the implementation of the Mayor and DPH nonprofit reports, and the implementation of Proposition A provisions for a two-year budget process, new fiscal policies and five-year financial plans.

- New Realities and Community Congress: For the first time since 2001, HSN is organizing a citywide nonprofit public policy conference to develop action items for the next few years. The "*New Realities 4*" conference will look at financial sustainability, our system of care, our partnership with the city, and employment issues. We will then join with other constituencies in a Community Congress to develop a broader community agenda for the future.

- Legislation and Policy: HSN will continue to ensure that nonprofits have a voice at the table when City policymakers face decisions affecting member agencies and the people we serve. We will

also continue to build relationships with city leaders to make sure they understand the value and challenges of our sector, and support our work. The upcoming Supervisor elections will give us an opportunity to meet and educate our new elected officials through candidate questionnaires and forums.

## **2010 Membership Dues**

HSN's work and success **depend on your active participation and financial commitment as members**. Your support also leverages the funding we receive from our foundation supporters by demonstrating the commitment of the nonprofit community.

Please note that the dues categories, which are based on your organization's annual budget, have changed this year. Some categories, particularly the largest organizations, will see a dues increase. This is the first HSN increase in several years, and is necessary to maintain our ongoing work. Some of the smallest organizations will see a dues decrease, including a new \$50 level for budgets under \$100,000.

Overall, the new dues structure is designed to reduce a level of unfairness that previously asked small organizations to pay a much higher percentage of their annual budget than the larger ones who are most able to pay. As before, dues are suggested minimums. We recognize the challenges of these times, and if you are unable to pay at the suggested level, please call Debbi at (415) 668-0444 x-2 to inquire about an adjustment.

We have also implemented a new policy that HSN email updates now go out only to paid members. By June 30, members that have not renewed will be removed from the email list.

**We ask that you pay your dues as soon as possible and to pay at the highest level possible for your organization. Please complete the dues form and return it to HSN. The form is available on our website at [http://www.sfhsn.org/documents/hsn\\_inv\\_memb\\_form\\_01-25-10.pdf](http://www.sfhsn.org/documents/hsn_inv_memb_form_01-25-10.pdf).**

Whatever your organization's level, we remind you that as important as dues are, your active participation is most important. As a member-driven organization, HSN is not its staff or even its Steering Committee – it's all of you. We welcome your feedback, ideas and input.

We thank you for your support, and look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Sincerely,

Sherilyn Adams  
HSN Co-Chair

Steve Fields  
HSN Co-Chair

Debbi Lerman  
HSN Administrator

## 2010 Meeting Schedule

### General member meetings:

General member meetings are open to dues-paying HSN members and any organization interested in becoming a member. **Meetings take place on the third Friday of the month from 9:30am - 11:30am at the LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 214 Van Ness Avenue.** All dates are subject to change. Please check the HSN calendar at [www.sfhsn.org](http://www.sfhsn.org).

January 15  
February 19  
March 19  
April 16  
May 21  
June 18  
July 16  
August - No meeting  
September 17  
October 15  
November 19  
December - No meeting

### Public Policy Committee meetings:

This committee is open to all HSN members that paid dues in 2009 or 2010. These meetings provide members with an opportunity to discuss current issues in greater depth, and to bring new issues to HSN's attention. **Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month, 10 am to 12 noon at the Progress Foundation, 368 Fell St.**

January 27  
February 24  
March 31  
April 28  
May 26  
June 30  
July 28  
August 25  
September 29  
October 27  
November 24  
December - No meeting

### Other Committees and events:

Check the HSN website at [www.sfhsn.org](http://www.sfhsn.org). The calendar page and Budget Central page are updated regularly with meeting dates and times, important city hearings and other events.

## **JOIN THE SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK FOR 2010!**

**Please provide all of the following information to help us keep our membership list current. The person listed should be your organization's main contact for HSN. You may use the back to list other staff you would like to add to HSN's e-mail list.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one of the following:** If you do not check one, we will place your agency name on our letterhead.

Yes, you may add/keep the name of my organization to the SF HSN letterhead.

No, you may not add/keep the name of my organization to the SF HSN letterhead.

**Dues Amount:** Please indicate the size of your dues payment. We rely on dues for over 30% of our budget, so please be as generous as possible. Some of our members voluntarily pay more.

<u>Agency Budget for Current Year:</u>	<u>Suggested Minimum HSN Dues:</u>	
\$0 - \$99,999	\$50	
\$100,000 - \$249,999	\$100	
\$250,000 - \$499,999	\$250	
\$500,000 - \$999,999	\$300	
\$1 million - \$1.9 million	\$600	<b>Amount Enclosed: \$ _____</b>
\$2 million - \$2.9 million	\$750	
\$3 million - \$4.9 million	\$1,000	
\$5 million - \$9.9 million	\$2,000	
\$10 million or greater:	\$2,500	

Do not let dues be a barrier to your participation — please call if you need to inquire about an adjustment. If you have questions, please call Debbi Lerman at HSN 668-0444 x-2.

**I am also enclosing a personal tax-deductible contribution to HSN for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**  
(Individuals may subscribe to HSN email updates for an annual donation of \$50.)

**Please make your check payable to:** S.F. Human Services Network, a project of Community Initiatives.

**Send payment and a copy of this form to:** Debbi Lerman, San Francisco Human Services Network  
3310 Geary Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118

2-1-1/United Way-HELPLINK  
AIDS Legal Referral Panel  
Alternative Family Services  
APA Family Support Services  
The Arc of San Francisco  
Arriba Juntos  
Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center  
Baker Places, Inc.  
Bay Area Community Resources  
Bayview Hunters Point Foundation  
Catholic Charities CYO  
Center for Human Development  
Central City Hospitality House  
Children's Council of San Francisco  
Community Awareness & Treatment Services  
Community Housing Partnership  
Community Vocational Enterprises  
Compass Community Services  
CompassPoint Nonprofit Services  
Conard House, Inc.  
Council of Community Housing Organizations  
Curry Senior Center

Dolores Street Community Services  
Edgewood Center for Children and Families  
Episcopal Community Services  
Faithful Fools Street Ministry  
Family Builders by Adoption  
Family Service Agency of San Francisco  
Good Samaritan Family Resource Center  
Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc.  
Hamilton Family Center  
Honoring Emancipated Youth  
Huckleberry Youth Programs  
Independent Living Resource Center  
In-Home Supportive Services Consortium  
In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority  
Institute for Civic and Community Engagement  
Institute on Aging  
International Institute of the Bay Area  
Japanese Community Youth Council  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
Jewish Vocational Services  
Juma Ventures

Kimochi, Inc.  
La Casa de las Madres  
Larkin Street Youth Services  
Latino Commission  
Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
Lutheran Social Services of Northern CA  
Lyon-Martin Health Services  
Meals on Wheels  
Mental Health Association of San Francisco  
Mission Community Council  
Mission Council on Alcohol Abuse  
Mission Neighborhood Centers, Inc.  
New Leaf: Services For Our Community  
Oakes Children's Center  
On Lok Senior Health Services  
Planning for Elders in the Central City  
Positive Resource Center  
Progress Foundation  
Project Open Hand  
Rebuilding Together SF  
Religious Witness with Homeless People  
Richmond Area Multi-Services, Inc. (RAMS)

SAGE Project Inc.  
S.F. AIDS Foundation  
S.F. Child Abuse Prevention Center  
S.F. Community Agencies Responding to Disaster  
S.F. Domestic Violence Consortium  
S.F. Food Bank  
S.F. Mental Health Education Funds  
S.F. Study Center  
S.F. Suicide Prevention  
Self-Help for the Elderly  
Seneca Center  
Shanti  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
SteppingStone (former N&S of Mkt Adult Day Health)  
Stop AIDS Project  
Swords to Plowshares  
Toolworks  
Treasure Island Homeless Development Initiative  
Walden House  
Westside Community Services  
Women's Community Clinic  
YMCA of San Francisco