

# Stopping Federal Cuts

*Why and How*



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

June 9, 2015

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

The Coalition on Human Needs is most grateful to its generous funders for making this webinar possible:

- The Annie E. Casey Foundation
- The George Gund Foundation
- Anonymous donors
- Our members and contributors

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Richelle Friedman,**  
Moderator

Director of Public Policy,  
Coalition on Human  
Needs

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Ellen Nissenbaum**

Senior Vice President for  
Government Affairs  
Center on Budget and  
Policy Priorities

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**David Reich**

Senior Policy Consultant  
Center on Budget and  
Policy Priorities

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Deborah Weinstein**

Executive Director,  
Coalition on Human  
Needs

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Special Guests

### Sheryl Marshall

Housing Stabilization Case  
Manager,  
House of Hope CDC  
Warwick, Rhode Island

### Shalinee Hunter

Field Rep,  
Board of State and  
Community Corrections,  
State of California

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



### Ellen Nissenbaum

Senior Vice President for  
Government Affairs  
Center on Budget and  
Policy Priorities

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Coalition on Human Needs

### Federal Budget & Tax Outlook: Opportunities and Risks

Ellen Nissenbaum  
Senior VP for Government Affairs  
June 9, 2015  
[www.cbpp.org](http://www.cbpp.org)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## Overview

- **Three budget “tracks to follow”**
- **Major negotiations likely coming**
- **Possible action on poverty too?**
- **Debt Ceiling**

cbpp.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## Key Policy Goals in Budget Process

- **Provide sequester relief**
  - **Parity**
  - **Reasonable offsets**
- **Protect the ACA and Medicaid**
- **Permanently extend expiring improvements in the EITC and CTC**

cbpp.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## Recent Policy Savings to Reduce Deficits Largely Come from

Total policy savings 2015-2024

Category	Percentage
Program cuts	77%
Revenue increases	23%

Note: Revenue increases and cuts were enacted in the 2012 American Taxpayer Relief Act and the 2013 Bipartisan Budget Act; program cuts were also enacted in the 2011 Budget Control Act and the 2014 farm bill.  
Source: CBPP based on Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation data.

cbpp.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---








---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## Working-Family Tax Credits help at Every Stage of Life

- Improved infant and maternal health
- Better school performance
- Greater college enrollment
- Increased work and earnings in the next generation
- Social Security retirement

cbpp.org

---

---

---

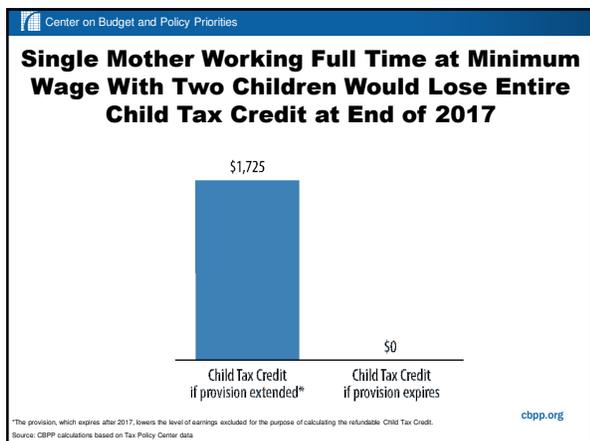
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## Key Threats Spelled Out

- Offsets for sequester relief/parity (failure to reach an agreement on caps)
- ACA/Medicaid
- Tax give-aways; EITC/CTC improvements expire
- Ryan's "Opportunity Grants"

cbpp.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Deborah Weinstein**

Executive Director,  
Coalition on Human Needs

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Sheryl Marshall**

Housing Stabilization  
Case Manager

House of Hope CDC,  
Warwick, Rhode  
Island

*Helping formerly  
homeless clients to  
secure stable housing*




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### House of Hope CDC Clients





---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Shalinee Hunter**

Field Rep:  
 Juvenile Justice Specialist  
 and Disproportionate  
 Minority Contact  
 Coordinator,





---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Juvenile Justice Federal Funding **ACT 4** JUVENILE JUSTICE

FISCAL YEAR	JJDP TITLE II	JJDP TITLE V	JABG	MENTORING	TOTAL
FY 2002	\$88.8M	\$94.3M	\$249.5 M	\$16.0M	\$546.9M
FY 2010	\$75M	\$65M	\$55M	\$100M	\$423.5M
FY 2015	\$55.5M	\$15M	\$0	\$90M	\$251.5M
% DIFF. SINCE REENACTMENT	-37.5%	-84%	-100%	+462.5%	-54.0%

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Increasing Anger About Congress' Backwards Priorities

**57%** agree government should do more to reduce the gap between rich and poor.

**68%** favor raising taxes on people earning more than \$1m per year.

**39%:** nope.

**30%:** don't.

*NY Times/CBS Poll, 5/28-31.*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Congress: Go Back to the Drawing Board



How to get them to do it, and to live with the results.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 2016-2017 Goals

- Get rid of sequestration for domestic/international discretionary programs (for 2 or **more** years)
- Do **not** replace them with cuts to benefits/eligibility in mandatory programs (like SNAP, EITC/CTC, or Medicaid)
- Parity: for every dollar added to Pentagon beyond caps, add no less than a dollar for domestic approps
- If cuts have to be replaced, seek fair revenues and savings in mandatory programs that don't hurt low-income people

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Get their attention!

**Write:**

- Letters to the Editor
- Blog posts
- Online comments
- Op-eds

**Promote:**

- Talk to columnists
- Editorial Board meetings




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Message Parts

- Explain how a service or program is **helping** people.
- Describe the **problems** when people have to go without the program.
  - Impacts of previous cuts? Estimates of future impacts?
- Put **in context**:
  - How cutting this program will block opportunity/worsen inequality/slow economic growth.
- **Thank the President/hold Congress accountable**:
  - The President is calling for increased investments; fewer breaks for the rich; less Pentagon spending than Congressional proposals and no Pentagon sequester relief without help for domestic programs.
  - **Congress should go back to the drawing board and get its priorities straight.**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Messengers

- Who can/should write letters to the editor, online comments? **Anybody.**
- Who should write op-eds?
  - Community leaders (service provider or advocacy org. leaders; religious leaders; business leaders)
  - People with direct experience (parents, people who've benefited from a service, people waiting to get service)
  - Researchers with findings to report
- Write something? Send a copy to your Senators and rep; circulate via Twitter, Facebook...

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Resources

- CHN's FY16 budget page at [www.chn.org](http://www.chn.org):
  - [How to write Letters to the Editor](#) (child care, Head Start, juvenile justice, housing vouchers, nutrition for seniors, low income tax credits, tax cuts for wealthy and corporations)
  - Links to White House and other state data
  - Info about proposed cuts
  - **Drafting help for op-eds**
    - Take Action alerts with emailable letters to Congress
- **Center on Budget and Policy Priorities** at [www.cbpp.org](http://www.cbpp.org) – federal budget/tax
- **Results** ([www.results.org](http://www.results.org)) : Tips on setting up editorial board meetings:  
[http://www.results.org/skills\\_center/working\\_with\\_the\\_media\\_milestone\\_20/](http://www.results.org/skills_center/working_with_the_media_milestone_20/)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Why should you do this?

- At least one-quarter of state budgets come from federal funding. You can't afford to lose more.
- Proponents of Pentagon spending and of tax breaks for the rich/corporations are pressing Congress ceaselessly.
- If we are silent, we lose.
- We need to educate the public and our own networks about the consequences of cuts.
- Stay connected! Get our emails! **Thanks!**



[www.chn.org](http://www.chn.org)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---