



45 Broadway | 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor | New York, N.Y. 10006-3007  
(212) 967-0322 | [www.unhny.org](http://www.unhny.org)

**UNH City Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Priorities**  
**After-School and Summer Programs**

**Summer Programs for Middle School Students**

**Services Funded:** Summer Programs for at least 34,000 middle school students.

**Challenge and Opportunity:** The Mayor's Preliminary Budget does not include funding for summer programs for at least 34,000 children, cutting programs serving youth in 50 City Council districts.

The approximately \$20.35 million in funding for these programs must be restored no later than the Executive Budget. While the City Council has historically been a great partner in our advocacy efforts to partially restore this funding annually, parents and providers need to know well before June whether they will be able to provide and participate in summer camp programs. Participants must be registered and staff must then be hired. All staff must be cleared through background checks to ensure the safety and security of all campers. Similarly, parents cannot wait until June in order to make arrangements for their children's summer. That said, if funds are not restored before June, many program providers will be forced to turn down contracts to provide programs and children will remain on waitlists unable to participate in social and developmental programming while their parents are at work.

**COMPASS After-School Programs for Elementary School Students**

**Services Funded:** COMPASS Elementary School after-school programs, which provide enriching and educational activities from a school's closing time to 6:00 pm during the school year, and for a full day in the summer

**Challenge and Opportunity:** After-School programs are essential for many elementary school students. Working parents whose jobs do not end when the school bell rings at 3:00 need quality affordable options for their children. Unfortunately, service gaps remain and a survey of after-school programs conducted by Campaign for Children found that a staggering 88% of programs for elementary school students had children on waiting lists.

Last year, the City Council invested funding to restore after-school programs serving 3,400 children. UNH urges the City to restore funding for all 3,400 slots and continue expansion of after-school programs to build towards universal access.

UNH recommendation: Restore \$8 million for after-school programs for 4,500 children and expand COMPASS to build towards universal access

*For more information, please contact Gregory Brender at [gbrender@unhny.org](mailto:gbrender@unhny.org) or (917) 484-9337*