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COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

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June 28, 2010

Hon. Michael Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Hon. Christine Quinn
Speaker of the Council
224 W. 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, New York 10001

Dear Mayor Bloomberg and Council Speaker Quinn:

At its Full Board meeting on June 17, 2010, CB#2-Man., adopted the following resolutions:

CB 2 Resolution on The Senior Program at The First Presbyterian Church

Whereas the Senior Program at the First Presbyterian Church has been providing a drop-in-center for, and serving meals to senior citizens for more than 10 years, as a satellite site of The Caring Community,

And Whereas this Senior Program currently has 100 members and serves nearly 70 meals daily,

And Whereas The Caring Community has recently ended its funding to several of its sites, including The Senior Program at The First Presbyterian Church, due to its own budget shortfall,

And Whereas this will cause overcrowding at the remaining sites and require multiple seatings, in order to accommodate everyone,

And Whereas members of The Senior Program at The First Presbyterian Senior Program have demonstrated their heartfelt attachment and commitment to the program by personally dedicating themselves to its survival by undertaking creative ways to raise some of the funds needed to stay open,

And Whereas some of these fundraising efforts will involve: tutoring students, teaching E.S.L., creating a city-wide newsletter for senior center users, soliciting support from local businesses, and requesting donations from seniors who use the program,

And Whereas by no longer operating under the auspices of the Department for the Aging, this program will be able to operate at a much reduced budget, eliminate some of the higher-priced budget items that would otherwise be required, such as high-salaried professional staff, and rely more on local volunteers,

And Whereas The Senior Program at the First Presbyterian Church is situated in one of the more aesthetically pleasing locations, with high ceilings, lots of light and air, wider doorways hallways and aisles, providing a much safer and fully accessible premises than most of the remaining local Senior Programs,

And Whereas many Seniors who depend upon this food program, and who would go hungry without it, would have trouble traveling further in order to get to another program,

And Whereas the meal program at Senior Centers is only one aspect of the many services that are being provided, and while it is often the attraction that first brings Seniors to participate, once they are involved they can then be introduced to other important and necessary services,

And Whereas a petition has been signed by 110 members, employees and volunteers of the Program calling for its continuation,

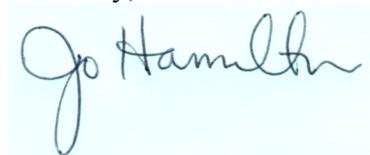
Therefore Be It Resolved that Community Board 2 Manhattan recognizes The Senior Program at the First Presbyterian Church Senior Program as a most valued resource in our community, and commends it for its effort to stay open despite the major defunding of its program,

And Therefore Be It Further Resolved that CB2 requests our elected officials to do all they can to assist The Senior Program at The First Presbyterian Church Senior Program to stay open by awarding any discretionary funds possible to this very worthy cause.

Vote: Unanimous, with 40 Board members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Keen Berger, Chair
Social Services & Education Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JH/gh

cc: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator
Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member
Sandy Myers, CB2 liaison, Man. Borough President's office
Lolita Jackson, Manhattan Director, CAU