



News From

# Maggie Brooks

*Monroe County Executive*

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## **BROOKS CALLS ON GOVERNOR TO RESTORE DAY CARE FUNDING**

***State budget cuts to eliminate child care for hundreds of  
working families***

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks today called on Governor David A. Paterson to close a nearly \$12 million gap in state funding for subsidized child care. The State recently announced that its Child Care Block Grant (CCBG) allocation to Monroe County is \$30.5 million, representing a cut of \$1.8 million from last year and creating a \$12 million shortfall by September of 2009.

*“The Governor’s cuts to child care will be a devastating blow to low income families, making it much more difficult for them to transition from welfare to work,”* said **Brooks**. *“It is unacceptable for the State to deny affordable child care to families fighting to gain financial independence. I urge our community to join me in taking a stand against this shortsighted action.”*

If the Governor fails to restore full CCBG funding, it will result in the elimination of child care subsidies for approximately 1,300 children in Monroe County. Without state intervention, families of these children will have no choice but to fund day care with their near poverty-level incomes or leave their jobs and return to collecting welfare benefits.

*“These cuts have created a crisis situation that demands immediate attention from the Governor and the State Legislature,”* concluded **Brooks**. *“I have joined together with day care advocates and working families and in the coming days, we will travel to Albany in an effort to make the Governor aware of the severity of his cuts and urge him to reconsider his decision. This day care program is vitally important to our community, and we will not back down until the Governor does the right thing and restores full funding.”*

Monroe County is the leading provider of day care for low income working families, outside of New York City. Over 8,500 children and thousands of families benefit from the County’s day care program. Day care expenditures in Monroe County for the current fiscal year will total \$50 million.

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