

**Ask your Senator and Representative to Support Children's Mental Health Reform in the FY2008 Budget**

*Sample Phone Script*

1. Call and ask to speak with your Senator or Representative - it is also fine to speak with an aide. You can get your legislator's number at <http://capwiz.com/childadvocacy/dbq/officials/> and entering your zip code. Keep in mind – we are calling your STATE Senator and Representative.

2. Tell them your name and that you live in their district.

3. Tell them that you are part of a statewide campaign called the Children's Mental Health Campaign. Tell them that you would like for them to know about the campaign's budget priorities:

**1) Setting up mental health consultative services to schools**

- If someone (a teacher, guidance counselor, nurse, or principal) thinks that there is a mental health issue with a student, they will be able to access a mental health consultation through this pilot program. If the consultation leads to a "positive screen", the family will be connected to the appropriate services.
- Budget request: \$1million

**2) Creates a fund to move children from inpatient to residential facilities**

- Some children are "stuck" in acute care hospitals because state agencies can't agree on which agency pays for the appropriate treatment. This fund will pay to get children to the appropriate setting.
- Budget request: \$2 million

**3) Creates an office of compliance to facilitate implementation of Rosie D V. Romney decision**

- By creating an "office of compliance" we will ensure that this tremendous win and new plan is appropriately and quickly implemented.
- Budget request: \$1 million

4. If you are comfortable, feel free to share personal experiences related to the budget items!

5. Tell them to please contact Mindy Cohen at Health Care for All if they have any questions or want to learn how they can be supportive of the campaign. She can be reached at 617-275-2939 or [mcohen@hcfama.org](mailto:mcohen@hcfama.org)

6. Thank them for their time.