

**Letter to the Editor**  
**San Francisco Chronicle**  
**June 30, 2008**  
**In response to Board Budget Committee Hearings**

Editor –

We thank the Board of Supervisors Budget Committee for their hard work and commitment to health and human services for vulnerable San Franciscans ("*Supes panel restores some S.F. budget cuts*", June 28).

The level of cuts in this year's proposed budget was unprecedented, threatening to dismantle or shrink hundreds of safety net programs. Many of these cuts were pennywise and pound foolish, as the loss of community-based preventive and treatment services would lead to dramatic increases in spending for the police, hospitals, jails and other institutions.

The reinstated programs touch the lives of all San Franciscans, helping not only the poor and homeless, but seniors and youth, people with HIV/AIDS and other physical illnesses, individuals coping with mental illness, domestic violence survivors, and families struggling to make ends meet.

The members of the Budget Committee, Chairperson McGoldrick and Supervisors Elsbernd, Chu, Daly and Mirkarimi showed true leadership by ensuring that the City's budget reflects the needs of all our residents.

Steve Fields  
Sherilyn Adams  
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