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## **City of Miami Alarmed by Upcoming Cuts to its Federal Grant Programs for the Low-Income**

**Cuts are Imminent to Elderly Meals and Childcare Programs for the Poor**

**(Miami, FL February 16, 2012)** — The City of Miami was recently informed that its federal funding for the coming year (12-13) towards public services and economic development activities will be cut dramatically – approximately 34 percent – due to a formula data change used to direct these federal grants, known as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), towards metropolitan cities, urban counties and states across the country. The City of Miami's CDBG cut amounts to **approximately \$2.5 million** effective April 1, 2012, all of it being monies the federal government provides via the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to assist low-income residents and neighborhoods.

“This substantial loss of funding puts us in a crisis situation,” said Mayor Tomas Regalado. “These funds were and continue to be vital to the low-income children and seniors in our community who most need help. At this point, the City has no way of filling the gap which means children and seniors will suffer.”

Due to cuts stemming back to 2010, preliminary figures indicate the City will not be able to serve **760** seniors in elderly meals programs, **91** children in childcare programs, **255** youth in afterschool and at-risk youth programs, and **34** adults with disabilities in programs that assist them.

*Note to Press: Several Executive Directors of affected public service agencies, as well as actual clients who receive a CDBG funded benefit or service, are available for comment on camera. Please contact 305-416-2096 should your outlet be interested in scheduling an interview.*

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