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Contact: 312-243-1913

### **Statement on Governor's FY20 Budget Proposal**

CHICAGO, IL – Today, we applaud Governor Pritzker's FY20 budget recommendation for not proposing cuts to human services. And we thank the governor for increased funding in some human service areas. This is vital as a strong human services infrastructure improves community well-being and benefits all members of society. But the share of state budget appropriations for human services has declined steadily for more than two decades, and both contracted funding and reimbursement rates have not kept pace with the cost of doing business, resulting in the loss of essential services for our communities.

The dollar amount for the funding of human services by the State of Illinois over the past 21 years has dropped to 16 percent of the General Revenue Fund from 26 percent, while costs have increased for human service providers during this period.

For the sector to serve Illinoisans well, human service organizations must be funded appropriately, and human service professionals paid fairly. We urge the new governor, the new administration and policymakers to stabilize the sector by restoring human service funding to its historic share of state spending and work toward funding levels that support the true cost of doing business on behalf of the state.

#### **About Illinois Partners for Human Service**

Illinois Partners is the largest shared voice of human service organizations across the state with coalition partners in every county and legislative district. Illinois Partners focuses on collective advocacy to protect funding and fair policies for human services so that all Illinois residents can reach their potential and fully engage in our communities.

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