

Strategic Messaging Points re: Budget Cuts

Include a Positive Message: The cuts in the House budget are unsustainable and devastating, but we also know that the economy will come back. We need to stop the cuts AND continue making investments in our people, our schools, infrastructure and social programs so that our Commonwealth will be ready when the economy improves. (For fact sheets on MIRA's FY2010 budget items please click [here](#) .)

Make Cuts Local: The most effective way to talk about these cuts is having community people talk about community impacts.

Focus on the pain that results from cuts and layoffs: Rather than talking about how we lost X number of teachers or staff, it is better to talk about the effects of service cuts and job losses on people and families (e.g. fewer immigrants learning English, gaining citizenship, and receiving domestic violence intervention).

New Revenue: Raising new revenue must be an essential part of how we deal with this crisis. Therefore, we urge our elected officials to include new revenue in the budget so we can stop these cuts and invest in our future.