



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 25, 2010

CONTACT:

Elisabeth Benjamin (212) 614-5461

Bob Cohen (518) 265-6183

R.I.P: 13,900 New Yorkers to Suffer Premature Death

New Report Measures Death Tally if Federal Health Reform Fails

(New York, NY) – A new report released today by Families USA, a national health care research and advocacy group, finds that if Congress fails to pass health reform, 13,900 New York adults (age 25-65) will die prematurely in the next ten years—contributing to a grand total of 275,000 premature American deaths.

Health Care for All New York (HCFANY), a statewide health advocacy coalition, urges New York’s Congressional delegation to work with the President and Congress to finalize an affordable, comprehensive health reform bill to save these 13,900 New Yorkers.

“These numbers reinforce the absolute necessity of adopting a national health reform plan,” Elisabeth Benjamin, Vice President of Health Initiatives at the Community Service Society “Time and time again we see that the uninsured go without preventative care, delay getting necessary care, or forgoing it altogether, and this report underscores the drastic consequences of federal inaction.”

“HCFANY urges our Congressional delegation to work feverishly with the President to get down to work and cut a deal on health reform now,” said Bob Cohen, Policy Director at Citizen Action of New York “There are just too many lives at stake for federal health care reform to fail.”

To read the full report and for more information please see <http://www.familiesusa.org>

###