An invitation from:

Frank Mauro, Fiscal Policy Institute Denise Harlow, New York State Community Action Association Ron Deutsch, New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness Brian O'Shaughnessy, Labor-Religion Coalition of New York State Lee Cutler, New York State United Teachers

ECONOMIC SECURITY/ POVERTY REDUCTION FORUM

Monday, December 15, 2008, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. NYSUT Conference Center, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY Lunch will be provided. There is no fee for the forum.

The goal of this one-day forum is to increase connections, communications and possibly even cooperation among statewide organizations concerned with poverty, economic security and social justice issues in New York State.

The purpose of the forum is:

To bring together the leaders of organizations which have both an economic security or social justice focus and a statewide mission or constituency;

To learn from each organization its priority campaign(s) or program(s) for decreasing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency/income security, especially for New York State's working people;

To learn if and how these campaigns or programs link with, or are connected with, national or international efforts;

To explore if agreement can be reached on key words or concepts that forum participants see as useful in statewide discussion/action on behalf of economic security/social justice;

To explore if agreement can be reached on one or two initiatives or campaigns on which the majority of the organizations at the FORUM can work together during 2009

To NOT form a new coalition or organization.

Space is limited. Please register as soon as possible by emailing <u>briano@labor-religion.org</u>. with names and contact information of participants. For more information or a draft agenda, contact Brian O'Shaughnessy or Lynnette Rodriguez Stec at 518/ 213-6000 ext. 6294.