

## Schuyler Center and Health Care for All New York's Children, Youth and Families Task Force Honors Judy Arnold

Schuyler Center co-hosted the Health Care for All New York (HCFANY) Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Task Force Spring meeting in Albany on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Judy Arnold, from the New York State Department of Health, was presented with the first Children's Health Champion Award.



*From left to right, Elisabeth Benjamin, CSSNY; Judy Arnold, NYSDOH; Kate Breslin, SCAA; Lorraine Gonzalez-Camastra, CDF-NY*

Ms. Arnold, Director of the Division of Health Reform and Health Insurance Exchange, is a true partner in the work to assure that all New Yorkers have access to high-quality health coverage. Under Ms. Arnold's leadership, New York increased the number of children with health coverage; initiated the facilitated enrollment program, the predecessor to NY's navigator program; and has worked to remove barriers to coverage and streamline enrollment. "Judy is a smart and thoughtful problem solver" said Kate Breslin, Schuyler Center President and CEO. "She works with HCFANY, Medicaid Matters NY, and other advocates to see a day when every New Yorker has quality coverage."

CYF was thrilled to be joined by Jim Knickman, President and CEO of the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHF) and Kimberley Chin, Programme Executive at Atlantic Philanthropies (Atlantic). Dr. Knickman and Ms. Chin participated on a panel moderated by Kate Breslin discussing the projects funded by their foundations, the work still needed in New York, and the types of projects foundations are likely to fund. Their presentations were followed by a robust discussion. Meeting participants got a high-level inside look into the types of projects in which foundations invest and learned that foundations focused on projects with an expectation of ROI (return on investment), that are replicable and sustainable. Ms. Chin reflected upon the impact of Atlantic's work, as Atlantic enters its final phase of grant making, and invests in projects that will provide sustainable solutions. Dr. Knickman identified oral health as one of the top priorities for children's health. Schuyler is a NYSHF grant recipient to identify policy changes at the local and state levels to improve oral health (for more information on Schuyler's oral health work please go to [www.scaany.org](http://www.scaany.org)). Two other areas Dr. Knickman identified were asthma and behavioral health. In addition, the group discussed addressing social determinants of health, an issue that many advocates have been focused on for years that is garnering attention at the state level.

The afternoon consisted of policy updates and looking forward. We took time to celebrate our collective budget victories which included passage of the Basic Health Program (BHP) and out-of-network protections from surprise bills (visit <http://www.scaany.org> under Resources for more information on the budget) as well as the successful launch of New York's health Exchange, New York State of Health. It was a moment to applaud the work of the navigators and the enrollment of over 900,000 New Yorkers into health coverage. The meeting included an update on the work of HCFANY's Public Programs Workgroup (PPG) that works to identify solutions to Exchange implementation challenges for people eligible for Medicaid and other public programs.

The final part of the afternoon consisted of a lively discussion led by Kate Breslin and Elisabeth Benjamin, Community Service Society, about CYF's priorities going forward. For the purposes of the CYF meeting, the work was bucketed into coverage and access. Under coverage, Elisabeth spoke about the 'last frontier'— coverage for immigrants, and Kate spoke about the challenges and opportunities associated with New York's Medicaid waiver, particularly the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment program ([DSRIP](#)).