Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

Our Impact

President’s Message

Greetings! This year, perhaps more than ever in recent history, it is important to shine the light on what is happening in the lives of New York State’s most vulnerable residents. The Schuyler Center’s commitment to those living in poverty, especially children and families, only intensifies as much of the public dialogue focuses on wealthy individuals and corporations and those in power.

As you read about our accomplishments in 2016, our focus on child welfare, our financial status, please know none of it could be done without the generous support of our friends and partners. Thank you! And please continue to support us financially! 2017 has already proven to be full of uncertainties and challenges to the health and welfare of all, particularly those struggling to make ends meet. They depend on the social programs that have been a hallmark of our society for decades.

Fueled by these challenges, the staff and board of the Schuyler Center will continue to advocate for policies that address the economic security, health, and well-being New Yorkers whose voices often go unheard. We look forward to your help in these efforts.

Kate Breslin
President and CEO

Highlights of 2016

2016 at the Schuyler Center was busy and effective. Our work included:

◆ Completing a groundbreaking analysis on value-based Medicaid reimbursement for children. We partnered with the United Hospital Fund and Bailit Health to study how value-based payment should be different for children as opposed to adults.

◆ Providing the operational foundation for the Medicaid Matters New York (MMNY) coalition which effectively advances the Medicaid consumer perspective in health systems in New York State.

◆ Successfully advocating for a $1.5 million increase to the Foster College Success Initiative, building on our success from 2015 and doubling the program's budget to $3 million thereby ensuring support for hundreds of youth in foster care to pursue higher education.

◆ As part of the Paid Family Leave campaign, securing paid family leave in NY, which after a phase-in period, will provide eligible employees 12 weeks of paid job-protected leave to bond with a new child, care for a seriously ill family member, or address issues related to an immediate family member’s military service.

◆ Hosting a sold-out child welfare policy forum in Albany which featured child welfare commissioners from New York, Massachusetts, and Baltimore and foster care alumnae and parent advocates from NY and an open discussion of what does and doesn’t work in the child welfare system.

About the Schuyler Center

The Schuyler Center strives to make sure that New York’s public policies benefit everybody, not just those with money or power. Dedicated to public policy solutions that improve the well-being of New York’s most vulnerable families, we take a data-driven approach to identify problems, generate solutions, and hold government accountable. The Schuyler Center is a non-partisan organization focused on evaluating public policies and their impacts and proposing improvements.
Spotlight on Schuyler Center’s Child Welfare Work


**Why this focus?**
Each year nearly 70,000 New York children are involved in cases of abuse and neglect. Data from a recent federal review of the state’s child welfare system showed that New York continues to struggle to keep these children safe and to find stable, permanent homes for them.

**Why now?**
In addition to this data, the current political landscape has created considerable uncertainty in many areas including child welfare. Immigrant families are particularly vulnerable in light of President Trump’s Executive Orders issued in January, 2017.

**What works?**
- Evidence-based interventions like maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting.
- Connecting families with supports before there is any allegation of maltreatment.
- Placing children with relatives when parents are unable to provide care helps maintain connections to family and culture.
- Involving youth, parents, and others personally affected by the child welfare system to have a voice and some influence in shaping the system.

Schuyler Center December 13, 2016 Child Welfare Policy Forum

Linda S. Spears, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families
Molly McGrath Tierney, Director of the Baltimore City Department of Social Services, and other panelists
Anni Keane and Rosie Williams, alumnai of the foster care system and advocates for You Gotta Believe

Value-Based Payment for Children

*Value-based payment for health care services = paying for improved health outcomes rather than paying for visits and procedures.* Research and attention nationally and in NYS has focused on adult populations with chronic conditions.

The Schuyler Center, together with the United Hospital Fund, commissioned groundbreaking research on a child-centered approach to value-based payment in Medicaid.

**Research observations:**
- “unlike adults, most children are generally healthy.”
- “management of childhood adversities and chronic conditions has payoffs many years into the future.”

**Research conclusions:**
- substantial differences in children’s health care utilization compared to adults and differences in the “value” of children’s health care.
- future payment models need to motivate and support attention to social determinants of health, including Adverse Childhood Experiences, given the profound effect these determinants have on childhood development and subsequent adult health and social productivity.
Message from the Chair

“[One earnest woman could do more by enlisting the active sympathy and cooperation of her friends and neighbors than by days and nights of unassisted toil.]”
—Louisa Lee Schuyler, SCFA Founder

Whatever your political views, there’s no question that last November’s election has turned the world of public policy upside down. There is a sharper edge than ever to public debate, and it sometimes seems that reasoned and bipartisan solutions to our problems are a thing of the past. But it’s not true. Schuyler Center continues to use its resources, research, and reputation to bring people of good will together to address the needs of children and families in need.

Louisa Schuyler understood the power of harnessing that good will in support of those most in need in our society. It starts with sharing our passion for justice with the people we know best—our families and friends—a job made much easier by technology than it was for Louisa in 1872!

Please like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and send links to Schuyler Center’s messages to your friends and families. As always, we count on your financial support as well. Our superb staff, led by our CEO Kate Breslin, will supply you with the facts, figures, and policies to support our issue priorities, but only you can supply the same passion to achieve justice that motivated Louisa Lee Schuyler 145 years ago. Thank you.

Paul J. Kaye, M.D.
Chair, Board of Trustees


The Schuyler Center’s most recent fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 with operating revenues and endowment withdrawals of about $982,000 and operating expenses of just over $1,000,000. Dividends and interest from the endowment portfolio offset the operating loss. The independent audit of the financial operations for July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 resulted in a clean opinion with no management recommendations.

Operating Expenses by Program

Health Policy
- 64%
- 39%
- 30%
- 12%
- 11%
- 11%
- 2%
- 4%

Payment Reform
- 31%

Children’s Oral Health
- 11%

Other Health Policy & Advocacy
- 4%

Health Policy
- 64%

Payment Reform
- 31%

Children’s Oral Health
- 30%

Other Health Policy & Advocacy
- 2%

Health Policy
- 64%

Operating Support
- 64%

Grant Revenue
- 30%

Endowment Distribution
- 4%

Other Contributions
- 2%

Special Events
- 2%

Ways to Support Schuyler Center’s Work

The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. Our independence allows us to advocate appropriately and effectively for New York’s most vulnerable citizens. We need your financial support to continue meeting our mission of helping those families in the greatest need.

There are several easy ways to give to the Schuyler Center including gifts of cash or securities. Memorial and honorary gifts are also welcome. In addition, please consider joining the Schuyler Legacy Society by remembering SCFA in your will and estate planning.

Please contact Helen Smith, Director of Finance, at 518/463-1896 x140 or hsmith@scaany.org, or visit our website at www.scaany.org.
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