150 Years of Advocacy, Compassion, and Leadership
150 years of advocacy, compassion & leadership

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

"If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters...Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

~Frederick Douglass~

Thank you for your century and a half of advocating for New York’s children & families

TheChildren’sAgenda
Smart Choices. Bold Voices.
Dear Louisa,

THE YEAR IS 2022, and your legacy of advocacy, compassion, and leadership lives on in the organization you founded.

Today, we are the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy, in your honor. Every day our team works for a more equitable and just New York State, where all children and families are supported.

We are proud to report that today’s SCAA is a state and national leader in advocacy for public policies that center children and families impacted by poverty and other disadvantages.

This probably doesn’t surprise you – as we’ve learned more about your life and work, we’ve discovered the many ways your vision for SCAA set us on our current path. Your attention to policies with evidence to back them up, and your belief in looking beyond “the way things have always been” created an organization built on the knowledge that government can and must do better for all.

While we no longer lead citizen delegations to tour state-run poor houses, we still seek out data and evidence to support the most effective and just policies. In partnership with like-minded organizations, we deliver that data and policy analysis to the Governor (a woman, you may be pleased to hear), the NYS Legislature, and colleagues across the state. The process and the policies have evolved since 1872, but the roots you planted in advocacy, compassion, and leadership remain strong.

As we celebrate SCAA’s 150th anniversary, we are proud to continue your vision of tying compassion to active change, and achieving results.

Since 1872, this organization has had far-reaching impact. Historic successes include developing modern public health laws, spearheading major public health initiatives, actively working to eradicate tuberculosis and diphtheria, advancing child-centered child welfare reforms, securing more compassionate mental health care, and securing new attention and funding for young children and their families.

In 1875, you successfully advocated for passage of the first State law related to the treatment of children living in poverty. We share your belief in the power of effective legislation with appropriation. Today, our goals have gone beyond better treatment of those impacted by poverty to upstream solutions that meaningfully reduce child poverty, year over year. Perhaps our proudest recent accomplishment is spearheading the inception and passage of The Child Poverty Reduction Act, which sets a goal for New York State to reduce child poverty by half by 2033.

Louisa, on days when we feel discouraged, we remember your tenacity. When we need inspiration, we remember your determination to fight for what is right, regardless of the barriers that must be overcome. And when the pace of government change seems too slow, we recall just how much reform and evolution has occurred since you first set out on your mission.

Thank you, Ms. Schuyler, for showing us that change is possible, and for blazing the trail toward a brighter future.

Kate Breslin
with the Board of Trustees and Staff of the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
As a society, we talk a good game about how important our children are, but we don’t put our money where our mouth is in terms of the allocation of public resources.

Paul Kaye, M.D.

SCHUYLER CENTER’S 150TH ANNIVERSARY IS A TIME OF CELEBRATION, REFLECTION, AND RENEWED COMMITMENT TO OUR MISSION.

We were born as the State Charities Aid Association in 1872, and while we’ve changed our name a few times along the way, we’ve always been proud to be known as SCAA.

In 1872, when Louisa Lee Schuyler founded SCAA, many children lived in poverty, worked in poorhouses, and lived in shelters and orphanages under questionable conditions and safety. Minimal attention was paid to their needs by all levels of government.

We have made some progress in New York since then, and we are proud of the many ways in which SCAA has contributed to that progress. There’s so much more work to be done, however, and an independent and respected voice is still needed in Albany to push our State into doing what is necessary to give every child born a fair chance at a good life.

One in five New York children live in poverty and children of color are disproportionately represented among them. We talk a good game about how important our children are, but we don’t put our money where our mouth is in terms of the allocation of public resources. Whether it’s support of young families in need of social, emotional, and financial assistance; the crisis in quality affordable child care; the paltry sums of Medicaid money that go to children’s health and developmental needs; or the problems of adolescents in foster care trying to make their way into adulthood, we have so much more to do.

Last year’s passage of The Child Poverty Reduction Act, championed by the Schuyler Center, is a start in recognizing inequities and the need for solutions, but much more advocacy is needed to translate that landmark legislation into reality.

The Schuyler Center Board of Trustees is proud to support Kate Breslin and our exceptional staff as they work on these issues every day, focusing advocacy on issues that need it most and often get little attention. We have a remarkable Board of passionate individuals who also enjoy each other’s company.

I thank you for joining us in this celebration of our history and commitment to our mission. Please consider how you can continue to support our work: through partnership, financial support, and most of all your personal commitment to justice. We’re always looking for new Board members who share that passion – if you are interested in learning more about service on the Schuyler Center Board of Trustees, please reach out to me or to Kate.

Our history shows us that fighting child poverty takes partnership. Thank you for being part of the Schuyler Center story.

Paul Kaye, M.D.
Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors!

**PLATINUM**

![The Children's Agenda](image)

**DIAMOND**

![Hunger Solutions New York](image)

**GOLD**

![Council of Family and Child Care Agencies](image)

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Greenberg Traurig proudly supports Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy’s 150th Anniversary Celebration and its vision of advocating for lasting change on behalf of those impacted by poverty, especially children and families.
Ensuring the Next 150 Years

The Louisa Lee Schuyler Legacy Society

Most donations to Schuyler Center’s $9 million endowment have been through bequests, donations in honor of a particular person, or challenge grants. In the last few years, we have established The Louisa Lee Schuyler Legacy Society. It is an opportunity for donors to endow the Schuyler Center and ensure the future impact of our work. There are many ways to make a gift to the Legacy Society, including a charitable bequest in a will or living trust.

Please go to our website for more information: scaany.org/donate

A History of Philanthropy

SCAA’S ENDOWMENT

SCHUYLER CENTER’S ABILITY TO RETAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE and non-partisan approach to public policy is due, in large part, to its financial endowment which was established in the early 1900s.

Today, the endowment stands at approximately $9 million, $782,000 of which is permanently restricted. The donations which comprise that amount were received by what was then the State Charities Aid Association, beginning in the 1920s. The largest donation was a $500,000 bequest from the estate of Mrs. Anna Richardson Harkness who died on March 27, 1926. Mrs. Harkness was a philanthropist and the widow of Stephen V. Harkness who, at the time of her death had an estate valued at $85 million. More than half of it she left to public charities after having already donated tens of millions of dollars to charities during her lifetime. Stephen Harkness, a shrewd businessman and early partner of John D. Rockefeller, made his fortunes in whiskey and oil. Shortly after meeting Mr. Rockefeller, Harkness lent him $70,000 tiding the future oil king over the worst crisis of his career. Interestingly, in the late 1920s through the early 1930s, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. created a successful challenge to benefit SCAA’s endowment. He donated $1 for every $6 SCAA raised. This challenge ended up occurring during the Great Depression, yet SCAA still raised $304,500 resulting in a $60,900 endowment gift from Mr. Rockefeller.

Several other funds comprise the $782,000. The Gertrude Stevens Rice Fund comprised $29,500 at the time of its restriction. Mrs. Rice was one of the founding members of SCAA, sitting in Louisa Lee Schuyler’s living room on that initial day, May 11, 1872. In addition, in 1892 Gertrude Rice was the Chairman of the Committee on Finding a New Secretary (aka Executive Director), and offered Homer Folks the job on a one-year trial basis. To allay any fears Folks may have had for his future, she added, “Should the arrangement prove entirely satisfactory, the position would probably be of some permanence.” [SCAA minutes, Dec 30, 1892]. Homer Folks served fifty-five years as SCAA’s Executive Director, the longest tenure of any SCAA Executive Director. The SCAA Endowment Fund was renamed The Homer Folks Fund at the time of Mr. Folks’ retirement in recognition of his exemplary service to and long tenure at SCAA. The restricted portion of that fund is $78,670.
150 years of amplifying small voices

We are proud to celebrate the thoughtful analysis and tireless advocacy of SCAA to improve the lives of children and families living in poverty across New York State.

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Congratulations to the Schuyler Center on the 150th Anniversary of Service and Louisa Lee Schuyler’s legacy.
Louisa Lee Schuyler
Advocate, Organizer, Changemaker

With contributions by Richard Skolnik, PhD, Louise Skolnik, DSW, and Kathryn Delehanty

“Those who unite with us as active workers, must bring with them an earnest hope and a large patience. They must overlook present discouragement for the sake of the great and lasting results to be attained in what may be a far-off future. They must remember that the first step toward the reform of our present Poor-law system, is by faithfully and persistently exposing its defects. Their work will... sooner or later bear fruit.

“No worker need join our ranks who cannot bear discouragement. No giver is asked to support it who cannot recognize its scope and value. That, under these circumstances, both workers and givers have been found who... have faithfully arrived on this reform movement in spite of all its discouragements, and whose numbers are constantly increasing, strengthens our faith and gives us renewed hope for the coming year.”

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER, SCAA ANNUAL REPORT, 1875

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER WAS AN ADVOCATE FOR PEOPLE IMPACTED BY POVERTY and mental illness at a time when the most common solution was institutionalization, pushing people further to the margins of society, out of sight and out of mind.

In the 1800s, Louisa used her privilege and shrewd organizing skills to shed light on conditions in poorhouses and almshouses and successfully advocate for laws that required better treatment of those needing State aid. She founded the State Charities Aid Association (SCAA) for this purpose.

THE SCHUYLERS
Born into a family of privilege, a great granddaughter of General Philip Schuyler and of Alexander Hamilton, Louisa leveraged her position on behalf of those with fewer resources. She came of age at a time of independent, women-led reform work, ushered in by the Civil War and the support needed on the home front.

Louisa’s values were greatly influenced by her great grandmother, Eliza Hamilton, who died when Louisa was 17 and was committed to helping children in need. In the musical Hamilton, the character of Eliza sings about “the orphanage” – indeed a real place to which Eliza had devoted herself, in every way, decade after decade, to maintaining and supporting. Louisa’s own life-long concern for the well-being of children likely can be traced back to her awareness of Eliza’s legacy with the orphanage.

Louisa certainly saw other Schuyler women engaged in charitable work, and they often worked alongside one another – especially during the Civil War.

THE CIVIL WAR AND THE WOMEN’S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF
The war would alter the United States forever, and would mark a formative experience for Louisa Lee Schuyler as a leader and organizer. In 1861, at age 24, Louisa was placed on the Executive Committee of a new organization, the Women’s Central Association of Relief (WCAR).

She was put in charge of coordinating the activities of hundreds of similar citizen groups around the country. For the next several years, Louisa and her mostly female associates labored tirelessly in pursuit of their mission – mobilizing the civilian home front in support of the Union war effort. WCAR dispatched nurses, sent medical supplies, and ensured Union troops had what was needed. Continuous shipments of supplies, carefully boxed, including foodstuffs, were directed to where they were needed most – over 25,000 packages were shipped over the course of the war.

AN ORGANIZER AND ADVOCATE
The stress of the war effort, combined with post-war devastation, prompted Schuyler to retreat to Europe to restore her health. During this time, she was able to process the trauma of the war, as well as the future of hospitals. In the fall of 1871, Louisa, together with her sister

scaany.org

150 Years of Advocacy, Compassion, and Leadership

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Louisa used her social standing and keen organizational skills, honed by her Civil War relief efforts, to enlist New York’s most influential minds to serve on the Board. Early board members included Theodore Roosevelt, Frederick Law Olmsted, Charles Loring Brace, Professor Theodore Dwight, William Cullen Bryant, Grace Dodge, Joseph H. Choate, Josephine Shaw Lowell, Gertrude Stevens Rice, and Mrs. Hamilton Fish. Some of SCAA’s earliest financial benefactors were women, including Anna Harkness and Margaret Olivia Sage (Mrs. Russell Sage).

SCAA helped create the first nursing school in the country at Bellevue, the hospital for the poor in New York City. Louisa leveraged her position in society by urging her wealthy friends to join visiting committees, bringing their social power to amplify recommendations and secure policy change. The visiting committees went to almshouses and State institutions in order to see the deplorable conditions firsthand, which inspired their activism. In the relatively unregulated almshouses, people ate unpalatable food, slept in crowded, unsanitary conditions, and were put to work doing hard labor.

Reports from the time say many children were abandoned, malnourished, ill-clothed, left unattended in unheated tenements or simply fending for themselves on the streets. Some children were sent to almshouses, with or without parents. In 1875, three years after its founding, SCAA advanced a bill called the Children’s Law, which removed children over age 3 from almshouses with adults, revolutionizing the way children living in poverty were treated. (The first child protection agency in the world, the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, was established the same year.)

While the history of child welfare in the United States can be characterized by a continuous thematic shift between family preservation and child safety, Louisa’s push to consider the welfare of children living in poverty was not common at the time.

After the beginning years of advocating for children, SCAA worked on improving policies for people with mental illness and helping to end preventable blindness in children.

**A LIFE OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

A pioneering social reformer, Louisa Schuyler’s life was dedicated to public service. As stated by SCAA’s early Executive Director and friend to Louisa, Homer Folks, “Perhaps Miss Schuyler’s greatest characteristic was that of complete readiness to undertake the thing that needed to be done when convinced that that was what needed to be done, wholly irrespective of the difficulties that seemed to be in the way.”

In 1901, the New York Times observed that to say “Louisa Lee Schuyler was a humanitarian and a pioneer in social work would be an understatement.” Years later, that paper noted that, “No woman of her generation in New York did more in initiating and carrying forward constructive reforms in the public care of the sick of body or mind, the poor and the helpless.” These reforms, it added, have become “the commonplaces of modern philanthropy.”

In 1915, Louisa was conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) degree from Columbia University, only the second time in 161 years that honor had been given to a woman. Eight years later, at a White House ceremony, she received the Roosevelt Memorial Association’s Medal of Honor for her “distinguished service to the American people through improvements in the welfare of adults and children.”

The American Dictionary of Biography says of Louisa, “had she been a man…she would have been a captain of industry.” Today, she is recognized as a captain of the social services, public health, and legislative advocacy.

**LOUISA’S LEGACY OF ACTION LIVES ON**

Louisa Lee Schuyler envisioned a system and a government that truly served those in need. She advocated for proven public policy solutions as a vehicle for serving all citizens. She believed in shining a light on the corners that often go ignored, and in holding government accountable to serving everyone, regardless of income or status.

The organization founded by Louisa Lee Schuyler 150 years ago continues to do just that. SCAA is recognized today as a state and national leader in analysis and advocacy for poverty-fighting public policies that center children and families. Louisa’s legacy of advocacy, compassion, and leadership lives on in SCAA’s work every day.

Renamed the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy in 2000, in Louisa’s honor, SCAA’s work over the past 150 years has transformed New York State’s public health and welfare systems, held government accountable time and again, and has stayed true to Louisa’s mission of advocating for the needs of those often pushed to the margins.

The impact of Louisa’s advocacy can be seen not only in New York State, but in how the country as a whole approaches social welfare and public health. In living out her ideals and believing that change was possible, Louisa Lee Schuyler pushed government leaders to do better. Her work brought about – and continues to bring about – “great and lasting results,” exactly as she intended.
Throughout her life, Louisa Lee Schuyler gathered, supported, and uplifted other women. The more we learn about her life, the more we find evidence of this.

In 1915, Columbia University conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) upon Louisa. The New York Times and others reported that she was the first woman to receive this honor.

Louisa did the research, however, finding this to be incorrect. In a statement to the press and to Columbia University, she publicly shared the name and work of the first woman to receive the honor: Maria Mitchell, an astronomer from Vassar College. Louisa was in fact the second woman to receive an LL.D. from Columbia.

Louisa’s letter to the press (right) included the list she compiled of all the women who had previously received honorary degrees from Columbia – LL.D. and otherwise.
Eliza and Louisa

The Schuyler Family’s Legacy of Helping Children

Public service was a tradition in the Schuyler family, and Eliza Schuyler Hamilton passed that tradition on to her great-granddaughter, Louisa. Eliza lived a long life, and she and Louisa spent time together at Eliza’s home. Eliza died when Louisa was about 17 and letters in the collection at the Schuyler Mansion in Albany, New York reference the family visiting her.

Louisa likely heard stories of Eliza’s childhood at Schuyler Mansion. In the early 20th century, Louisa and her sister Georgina helped save the Schuyler Mansion as a historic site. They passed along many of the family’s items, which remain part of the Mansion’s collection to this day.

The link between Eliza and her great-granddaughter Louisa lives on: “the orphanage” founded by Eliza in 1806 (and referenced in the musical Hamilton) still exists today as Graham Windham. Today, the organization is a Schuyler Center partner. Both organizations advocate for children and families, especially those impacted by poverty and the child welfare system.

The Schuyler women left a strong legacy of advocating for children. It’s remarkable that both Eliza and Louisa founded organizations that continue to carry out that mission today.

Louisa Lee Schuyler and Bellevue College of Nursing, NYC

IN THE 1860S AND 70S, LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER AND HER SISTER GEORGINA visited Bellevue Hospital in New York City and grew concerned that the nurses caring for patients were untrained, often unknowingly spreading infection and disease. Having learned about Florence Nightingale’s work in England, Louisa and SCAA set out to professionalize the field of nursing in the United States, starting with Bellevue.

SCAA believed formal education and training was the path toward that professionalization.

Louisa and SCAA advocated for the establishment of a Nursing College at Bellevue and, in 1873, that work came to fruition with the founding of the first school of nursing in America: Bellevue Nursing College. The Nightingale plan for nurse training was adopted as the model for Bellevue, teaching strict hygienic practices. Sister Helen Bowdin from London was appointed the school’s first superintendent.

SCAA’s Miss Euphemia Van Rensselaer was credited with creating the white and blue uniforms students would wear when it opened in May 1873. Soon thereafter, SCAA’s Mrs. William Osborn donated a building to serve as lodging for the school’s students.

Bellevue Nursing College was an important step toward transforming nursing into a profession, as it served as a model for many other nursing schools across the country. These schools transformed healthcare in America and, at a time when few career pathways existed, created opportunities for countless women.

Testifying to the success of the nursing school was the fact that by 1879, 63 students had enrolled, and 15 years later it could boast of 424 graduates, 19 of whom subsequently would serve as superintendents of other nursing schools. Launching the training school for nurses at Bellevue must stand as one of the landmark achievements of Louisa Schuyler and SCAA, representing an enduring contribution to the welfare of all Americans.

In 1915, a special tribute in the Social Service Review (“Louisa Lee Schuyler: An Appreciation”) informed readers that the American Nurses Association and the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, meeting in convention, had telegraphed congratulations to Louisa on the occasion of her honorary degree conferred by Columbia University. The author then added, “No careful student of the history of nursing in this country can fail to appreciate the debt this profession owes to this far-sighted philanthropist.”

Congratulations Schuyler Center on 150 years of advocacy!

www.casanys.org
Hand-selected by Louisa Lee Schuyler to lead SCAA, Homer Folks was passionate about social welfare and public health. He worked closely with Louisa Lee Schuyler and became a leading figure in the eradication of tuberculosis.

As described in the forward to a collection of his papers, “Homer Folks brought to his work for the association a belief in the obligation of society to help those in need, human sympathy, a fine intelligence, integrity of purpose, a passion for facts, the ability to base action on facts rather than theories, a genuine liking for people, and a great capacity to listen to others. The S.C.A.A. afforded him an unusual opportunity for the expression of his deep convictions.”

Folks was one of the first people to preach that the protection of children starts with the protection of family units – children in poorhouses were a symptom of poverty and the economic conditions their families were in.

Folks said about Louisa and her belief in systemic change, “finding poorhouses wretchedly managed, she did not proceed to establish a series of private homes for the aged, but insisted that the poorhouses should be brought up to standard; finding the insane badly off in local institutions she did not develop a large activity of private charity in the care of the insane, but helped to establish an efficient, adequate, competent State system for their care; finding Bellevue Hospital in a bad way, she did not throw up her hands and promote the multiplication of private hospitals, but undertook very concretely and directly the redemption of Bellevue.”

As Executive Director of SCAA, Folks made major contributions to progressive social policies: removing children and mentally ill persons from almshouses; establishing the family court and probation systems; providing home care to strengthen families of neglected children; condemning and reducing child labor; establishing public aid for dependent mothers; creating services to prevent and treat mental illness; infusing social work into medical treatment and public health care; and promoting programs to combat communicable diseases. He was instrumental in the drafting and passage of New York’s Public Health and Public Welfare Laws and formation of the U.S. Public Health Service.

Mr. Folks recognized that the problems of public health and public welfare were inseparable. With an uncanny insight into the dangers of bureaucracy, Folks felt strongly that private citizens have a duty to oversee and promote sound standards of health and welfare. He believed in and worked through knowledgeable and dedicated citizen leaders, starting with the Board, committees and affiliates of SCAA. Homer Folks’ dedication, insight and strategic skills made him a trailblazer in social welfare.

Louisa Lee Schuyler stressed the importance of public policy and public support, and together she and Folks created a legacy with SCAA that continues as the organization to this day advocates for real and high-level change for families and children across New York State.

Unchanging Purpose, Changing Program

“[E]ven if I could list all the different things we have done during seventy years, I would still be utterly unable to list the things which we will do, not during the next seventy years, but during even the next five years. In a word, the S.C.A.A. has had an unchanging purpose for seventy years, but an ever-changing program. That is perhaps the most interesting and characteristic aspect of the S.C.A.A., and the one which makes it such fun to have a hand in it. It is one of the things which has kept me here for forty-nine years. It requires constantly fresh thought and hard thought; the adaptation of old principles to new circumstances without precedent.”

Homer Folks, Delivered at the 70th Anniversary Meeting of the SCAA, New York City, May 4, 1942
1872 Louisa Lee Schuyler, great-granddaughter of Alexander Hamilton, founded SCAA in response to deplorable conditions she observed in hospitals and almshouses in New York City.

1903 SCAA awarded gold medal at International Congress on Tuberculosis, for having organized most effective statewide TB campaign.

1918 SCAA Tuberculosis staff loaned to Red Cross to organize and direct 3 month emergency campaign against influenza in NY, NJ and CT.

1919 3,000th child was placed in a family home by SCAA Child Placing Agency.

1921 SCAA prepared first ever compilation of New York laws relating to children.

1928 Tuberculosis death rate (exclusive of NYC) lowest in state history – 76 per 100,000 population or 50% lower than in 1907.

1928 30th anniversary of SCAA child placing work commemorated – in 30 years, 4,290 children were placed in free family homes.

1929 Diphtheria mortality in NYS, outside of NYC, decreased by 42% due to four year diphtheria prevention campaign by health agencies.

1929 30,000 mothers with children were assisted since the founding of the SCAA Mothers’ and Babies’ Department in 1893.


1968 To preserve the integrity of the state’s planning of health facilities, SCAA successfully defeated efforts of the for-profit nursing home industry.

1970 Launched “See for Yourself” campaign sponsoring visits by community leaders to impoverished households, a model later replicated by 23 states.

1972 Created NYS Coalition for Family Planning to foster accessible family planning services for all who need them, regardless of ability to pay.

Reflecting on our past. Transforming the future.
### 1993
- Enactment of the Community Mental Health Reinvestment Act to use funds from the closure of state facilities to pay for community-based services

### 1997
- NYS establishes Office of Children and Family Services, long promoted by SCAA

### 2000
- Secured expansion of NY’s refundable Child & Dependent Care Credit, worth more than $35 million to assist eligible families pay for child care

### 2000
- Secured increase in the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) from 25% to 30% of the federal credit. In aggregate, state EITC worth more than $700 million by 2003

### 2021
- The Child Poverty Reduction Act, spearheaded by Schuyler Center, is signed into law, setting a bold statewide goal of cutting child poverty in half and reducing racial inequity.

### 1993
- New York adopts School Breakfast mandate, one year after SCAA and the Nutrition Consortium launched the School Breakfast Campaign

### 1995 & 1987
- SCAA convinced lawmakers to remove income tax burdens on working New Yorkers with poverty or near poverty wages

### 1998
- SCAA helped create the state’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program, and the infant formula rebate system within the WIC program

### 1994
- Advocated and won enactment of a state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to supplement low and moderate wages for more than 1 million NY families

### 1999
- SCAA succeeds in securing an additional increase in the EITC to 25% of the federal credit

### 2000
- Secured increase in the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) from 25% to 30% of the federal credit. In aggregate, state EITC worth more than $700 million by 2003

### 2005
- Launched the New York Children’s Action Network (New York CAN), bringing together coalitions, organizations, and individuals concerned about children and family issues to cast light on importance of supporting all NY children

### 2006
- SCAA as a founding member of Winning Beginning NY, secured $50 million in new Universal Pre-K funding in the 2006-07 state budget – the first funding increase in over 5 years; also helped secure Pre-K funding in subsequent years

### 2015
- SCAA leads effort resulting in funds and legislation to improve oral health

### 2018
- First 1,000 Days on Medicaid initiative, led by SCAA, receives state funding

### 2022
- A coalition of advocates, parents, and providers, Empire State Campaign for Child Care secured unprecedented funding for child care affordability and workforce support in the 2022-23 NYS Budget.

### 2021
- SCAA succeeds in passing Family Assessment Response (FAR) legislation, permitting alternative responses to child maltreatment reports

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**Accomplishments**

- **Health**
- **Children & families**
- **Economic security**
CONGRATULATIONS ON 150 YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR POLICIES THAT STRENGTHEN NEW YORK'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES AT PREVENT CHILD ABUSE NEW YORK PREVENTCHILDABUSENY.ORG

STRONG FAMILIES ARE SAFE FAMILIES
Congratulations to Our Partners

Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

150 Years of
Championing the Well-Being of New York’s Children and Families
The Community Service Society of New York commends

The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

Congratulations on 150 Years of Advocacy, Compassion, and Leadership.
Why Schuyler Center Focuses on Children and Families Living in Poverty

The foundational principle of Louisa Lee Schuyler’s work was that democracy could, and must, be made to work in those areas appropriate to it. She focused her efforts on organizing and bringing a voice to communities and their disenfranchised members in order to inform and influence government policy, believing government must be made to function well for all.

We do the same today. We effectively share data and advocate for evidence-based approaches and policies that center the most disadvantaged New Yorkers. We focus on families and children living in poverty because we must—for many reasons including:

- Hundreds of thousands of New York’s children live in families below 100% of the federal poverty level and when children in low-income families just above poverty are included, the number exceeds a million children;
- The American Academy of Pediatrics reports that poverty and other adverse social determinants have a detrimental effect on child health and are root causes of child health inequities;
- Poverty and racial inequities are inextricably linked, with children of color experiencing poverty and near poverty at nearly twice the rate of white children and existing systems perpetuate this;
- Poverty and child welfare are linked, with children living in lower income families at higher risk of experiencing childhood traumas, which are correlated with health and socio-economic problems as adults;
- Poverty among young adults is climbing and now sits at nearly 20%;
- Poverty contributes to negative outcomes for children, including disparities in school-readiness and continued lags in learning.

Our state and country were founded on principles of equality. We have a long way to go. And we won’t stop.
Our Policy Priorities

**CHILD WELFARE**
Children need safe, nurturing, and permanent families. Schuyler Center promotes policies that advance or maintain effective, high-quality systems that serve at-risk families, prevent entry into the child welfare system, reduce the persistent racial disparities in the child welfare system and improve child well-being for children who are in foster care.

**CHILD CARE AND PRE-K**
Seventy-five percent of brain growth and 85% of intellect, personality and social skills develop before age 5 — in the first 2,000 days of life — so it is imperative that we invest in our youngest children long before they enter school. An accessible, affordable, and high-quality early care and learning system supports children, families, and the economy.

**CHILD POVERTY**
Schuyler Center promotes policies that strengthen and support families, including those that secure or supplement a living wage. Nearly one in five New York children live in poverty; the rate is significantly higher in many New York City neighborhoods and several upstate cities.

**HEALTH**
Schuyler Center works with government, providers and advocates to improve access to high-quality physical, dental, and behavioral health services. This is for New York’s most disenfranchised residents, particularly related to New York’s implementation of health care reform and redesign of the Medicaid program.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
Health is not just the absence of disease, but overall physical, mental, social, emotional, and community well-being. Investment in prevention, early intervention, and health coverage and access to care for children, caregivers, and families, will promote optimal health and development and mitigate the need for more intensive and costly interventions in the short- and long-term.

**PARENTAL MENTAL HEALTH**
Schuyler Center is at the center of efforts to improve policy and practice for screening, referral, and treatment for parental mental health in New York. Untreated depression or other mental health disorders can take a toll on the health and well-being of parents and children.

**ORAL HEALTH**
Schuyler Center is working to eradicate the most common chronic disease in children — tooth decay. Children with tooth decay are often unable to eat properly, concentrate in school, or focus beyond their pain. Poor oral health in childhood often means a lifetime of disease and expense.

**NEW YORK STATE BUDGET**
State budget analysis and advocacy is a cornerstone of Schuyler Center’s work. We understand that no matter how visionary the policy or initiative, it will fail without adequate investment.
KATE BRESLIN

Passionate Advocacy, Inspiring Leadership

Kate Breslin, President & CEO of The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy, embodies the ideals of advocacy, compassion, and leadership.

With Kate at the helm, the Schuyler Center is building upon its long history as a strong, independent voice and coalition-builder that holds government accountable and helps shape public debates around social policies. Kate has spent her career analyzing and advocating in support of thoughtful policy solutions that improve the lives of people in the U.S. and abroad.

Most recently, Kate was appointed to the New York State Child Poverty Reduction Task Force by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. In September 2021, Kate was presented with the Florette Angel Memorial Child Advocacy Award. This national award, given by The Partnership for America’s Children, is awarded to exceptional child advocates by their peers — the people who truly understand what it takes to do this work and do it well.

Kate plays a leadership role in statewide coalitions focused on health and serves on several health policy advisory bodies relating to social determinants of health, early childhood health and well-being, health information systems, value-based payment, the health workforce, and oversight.

A trusted mentor to her staff, Kate leads with kindness and encouragement, fostering a supportive workplace while expecting excellence.

Like Louisa Lee Schuyler, Kate displays a resolute persistence to do what is needed, deeply values collaboration, approaches problems with thoughtfulness and thorough examination, and is a steadfast champion of others. These characteristics exemplify Kate, and are the marks of a brilliant, inspiring leader.

Kate is a passionate advocate for low-income children and families, and those facing barriers based on historic, systemic racism. Under her leadership, that is what Schuyler Center strives to do every day.

“We and New York State are lucky to have a tireless advocate for children and families in Kate Breslin. Her work, and that of the Schuyler Center and its smart and passionate staff, has changed lives for the better. Continuing the thread of advocacy that Louisa Lee Schuyler and her colleagues began, we are thrilled that Kate continues to illuminate the responsibility of government and its people to advance the health and well-being of all New Yorkers.”

Kalpana Bhandarkar, Schuyler Center Board of Trustees

SCAA Executive Directors

(now President & CEO)

John H. Finley 1889 – 1892
Homer Folks 1893 – 1947
Rowland Burnstan 1947 – 1948
Harry S. Mustard 1950 – 1955
Wilson G. Smillie, M.D. 1955 – 1957
Gordon E. Brown 1957 – 1976
Thomas McKenna 1976 – 1985
Karen Schimke (Pres. & CEO) 1996 – 2010
Kate Breslin (Pres. & CEO) 2010 – present
Throughout its history, Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy has successfully advocated for statewide policies that lift New York State’s children out of poverty and promote their health and well-being.

Schuyler Center’s advocacy and leadership have accomplished crucial milestones for New York State. In recent years, these milestones include:

**Child Poverty Reduction** – Schuyler Center spearheaded the Child Poverty Reduction Act legislation and secured overwhelming bipartisan legislative support. Signed into law by Governor Hochul on December 1, 2021, it sets a bold statewide goal of cutting child poverty in half and reducing racial inequity.

**Child Care Affordability** – Schuyler Center founded and leads the Empire State Campaign for Child Care, the voice for universal child care in the state. Among its accomplishments:

- Secured unprecedented funding for child care in the 2022-23 NYS Budget.
- Established and guided a statewide Child Care Availability Task Force, which issued a comprehensive plan to expand access to high-quality child care and provides child care educators with compensation and support reflective of the extraordinary value of their work;
- Expanded subsidized child care to thousands of additional families;
- Established a sharp reduction in the cost low-income working families must pay for subsidized child care, cutting many families’ annual child care bills by more than half.

**Child Welfare Accountability** – A leader of the NYS Child Welfare Coalition, Schuyler Center secured legislation requiring the State’s Office of Children and Family Services to compile and publicly report data on utilization of crucial family strengthening programs.

**Pre-Kindergarten Expansion** – Schuyler Center fought for, and won, funding that expands pre-K availability to hundreds of thousands of young New Yorkers.

**Juvenile Justice Reform** – Together with fellow child advocates, Schuyler Center successfully fought to raise the age of juvenile justice responsibility in New York State.

**Medicaid Policy that is More Accessible and Better Meets Consumers’ Needs** – Schuyler Center is the home of Medicaid Matters, the statewide voice for Medicaid consumers, focused on improving health care access for low-income New Yorkers and people with disabilities.

**Parental Mental Health Concerns** – Advocacy work by Schuyler Center elevated the urgency of addressing parental mental health by meaningfully engaging women with lived experiences in shaping policy around these issues.

**The First 1,000 Days on Medicaid Initiative** – The result of advocacy work by Schuyler Center and Medicaid Matters, this initiative uses emerging science to drive investments in early childhood development to ensure the best outcomes for our youngest residents. This NYS Medicaid initiative resulted in millions of dollars of additional funding to serve families with very young children.

**Dental Disease Prevention** – Schuyler Center secured NYS funds and policy to ensure local communities have the tools, resources and accurate information they need to implement community water fluoridation, the single most effective prevention strategy for dental disease.

**Preventive Services Funding** – Analysis and advocacy by Schuyler Center secured enactment and implementation of the innovative and family-focused Family Assessment Response (FAR) approach to child welfare and protection of child welfare preventive services funding. FAR allows child welfare agencies to respond in a more flexible and family-centric manner to reports of child abuse or neglect, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

**College Funding for Foster Youth** – In partnership with fellow child advocates, the Schuyler Center successfully advocated for the Fostering Youth Success Act. This Act established a funding stream to support foster youth in accessing and attending college.
Congratulations to the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy on 150 years of service to New York’s children and families.

nursing.nyu.edu

Congratulations to SCAA for 150 years of advocacy, compassion, and leadership.

Best wishes from the New York State Association of Counties

Martha Sauerbrey
NYSAC President
BEFORE THE PANDEMIC, poverty affected the lives of one in five New York children and, in some communities — including Rochester, Buffalo, and Syracuse — nearly one in every two children. Before the pandemic, a Black child was two times more likely to live in poverty than a white child. Before the pandemic, New York’s child poverty rate was higher than 31 other states. During the pandemic, hundreds of thousands more children and families plunged into poverty, though it was temporarily mitigated for some by the federal child tax credit. The pandemic widened and laid bare racial inequities. In March 2021, 31% of New York adults reported it had been somewhat or very difficult to pay for usual household expenses and 24% reported not being current on rent or mortgage, with eviction or foreclosure in the next two months likely. 

Like it has done for 150 years, Schuyler Center set out to change this trajectory through evidence-based, effective public policy. The Child Poverty Reduction Act, conceived by Schuyler Center and partners, carves the beginning of a path to cut child poverty in New York State. This legislation declares policymakers’ intent to cut child poverty in half in eleven years and establishes the Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council, tasked with developing a plan to do it. The Council is directed to evaluate specific policies and their impacts on child poverty and racial inequities; make concrete budget and policy recommendations with benchmarks and timelines; and publicly share data to make sure that New York meets its goal.

In 2021, The Child Poverty Reduction Act, sponsored by Senator Jessica Ramos and Assemblymember Harry Bronson, went before the Legislature with 41 co-sponsors in the Assembly and 24 co-sponsors in the Senate. Legislators’ votes in support were overwhelming and included Democrats and Republicans from rural, urban, and suburban communities that span the entirety of New York State. Outside of the Legislature, nearly 60 partners, coming from all corners of the state and all walks of life, joined Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy in pushing for passage of this crucial legislation.

Enthusiasm for this bold and urgently-needed initiative came from pediatricians, parents, educators, child care providers, colleges and universities, community health centers, hospital leaders, child welfare agencies, libraries, youth bureaus, and community-based organizations. These are the people who, every day, see and try to cure child poverty’s ills. These are the people who know it would be better for our children, our families, our communities, and our state, if we prevented poverty before it seeded poor health, problems in school, and reduced opportunity.

The Child Poverty Reduction Act is a bridge from today, when we make policy and budget decisions and hope they don’t plunge more children into poverty, to a day when New York is intentional about reducing child poverty and improving equity. The law creates an expectation of analysis, measurement over time, and public accountability about whether and how a wide variety of policy and budget decisions affect opportunity and economic security for our most vulnerable children.

Following the Great Recession in 2008, poverty rates rose — and continued to climb for six years until 2015, when they finally dipped slightly. The post-COVID recovery must be different, for the sake of every single child and family whether they live in Buffalo, Batavia, or Brooklyn. There is no time to waste, and New York State has committed to being a national leader in child-poverty reduction. Let this be the legacy of the pandemic: when the cracks were revealed, New York’s leaders stepped up to repair, rebuild, and transform. And the public held them accountable.

Schuyler Center is optimistic that The Child Poverty Reduction Act is the foundation to truly build a better New York State for everyone.

To learn more about this law and what it means for New York State, visit scaany.org/child-poverty
Lessons from a Pandemic: Cracks Revealed, and Solutions that Work

The COVID-19 pandemic forced every one of us — individuals and organizations — to re-evaluate everything: how we rely on each other, where and how we work, the systems in place to support us in times of crisis, and how our goals align with what is happening around and to us.

Schuyler Center’s work — shaping public policy to make it fairer and more focused on those in need — is as important as ever.

As attention to systemic racism, inequities, and power structures continues to grow, we are all called to re-examine our implicit biases. The racial, social, and economic disparities exposed by COVID-19 cannot be overlooked, and must not be forgotten.

Disease does discriminate. Resources and access to care matter. Zip code, income level, and race and ethnicity are all significant contributing factors to health outcomes.

The pandemic revealed the many areas where our systems are inequitable and failing, but it also showed us that the right policy interventions can work — and dramatically.

While many of the public policies that helped families navigate these last few tumultuous years were temporary, they can show us the way forward. With strong family-focused initiatives, like fully refundable tax credits; high-quality, affordable child care and pre-K; paid family leave; fair wages; and access to home visiting, early intervention and mental health care, New York children and families can emerge from the pandemic healthier, stronger, and set up to thrive.

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RELENTLESS COLLABORATION:
The Decades-Long Movement for Early Care and Education

A HISTORY OF PARTNERSHIP
From the start, Schuyler Center’s story has been one of achievements through collaboration and partnership. Time and again, the organization has advanced its priorities through statewide committees and campaigns.

In that tradition, Schuyler Center’s advocacy for investment in early care and education has continuously extended the table and invited more voices to the conversation.

The most recent child care advocacy collaboration, the Empire State Campaign for Child Care, counts over 100 organizations as members: child care centers and providers, labor unions, educators, child advocates, parent advocates, families, housing and economic development groups, business owners, and others.

We have stayed in this fight for decades because the data are clear: affordable, accessible, high-quality child care is crucial for New York State’s children, families, and economy.

Including the voices of those impacted by failures of the current child care system has strengthened this grassroots effort and helps to ensure that the right policy solutions are advanced and implemented.

1990s/2000s: JOINING FORCES FOR UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN
In the mid-1990s, Schuyler Center and the NYS Child Care Coordinating Council launched the Child Care that Works campaign. The campaign included dozens of organizations, and focused on bringing awareness to the statewide need for child care. The campaign evolved to include advocacy for universal pre-kindergarten (UPK) as well.

In 1997, legislation creating a path to statewide UPK promised every child access to high-quality, state-funded pre-kindergarten by the 2002-03 school year. Many years later, this effort helped achieve UPK in New York City, but the promise was not fulfilled for the rest of the state. Significant and incremental gains have been made toward universal pre-kindergarten in recent years, with Schuyler Center’s engagement through Winning Beginning NY and the Ready for Kindergarten, Ready for College campaign. Nearly 20 years after passing legislation promising universal access to pre-kindergarten, the 2021-22 State Budget allocated $105 million for UPK in 210 school districts without programs and the 2022-23 budget also added pre-k funding.

2017: STRONG GRASSROOTS TAKE HOLD
Empire State Campaign for Child Care (ESCCC) was founded in the wake of threats to cut $27 million from the New York State child care subsidy program during the 2017 State budget negotiations.

Together, legislators – led by leaders of the Legislative Women’s Caucus; the Women of Color Task Force of the Black, Hispanic, Puerto Rican and Asian Legislative Caucus; and the Assembly Task Force on Women – and advocates fought against those cuts. As a result, cuts in the final budget were substantially less, and there were some wins for after school programs. But the child care subsidy program took a hard hit, and other critical issues impacting child care were ignored.

Representatives of 50 organizations came together in July 2017 to share concerns and ideas for child care advocacy. The group envisioned a statewide grassroots movement with the capacity to educate and motivate elected leaders to increase New York’s investment in child care. The goal: State legislation and funding to allow all New York families access to safe, supportive, quality child care.

In October 2017, this group officially became the Empire State Campaign for Child Care. Today, more than 100 organizations are ESCCC members.

2022: THE CALL IS HEARD – HISTORIC CHILD CARE INVESTMENTS, WITH MORE LEFT TO DO
Child care challenges for parents, providers, and the workforce were on full display at the height of the COVID 19 pandemic, and continued to grow.

With the strong and persistent voice of the Empire State Campaign for Child Care leading the way, the 2022 State legislative session saw greater attention to child care than ever before. Budget proposals from both the Senate and Assembly included significant child care funding to support families, providers, and the workforce.

In the end, the final 2022-23 New York State budget made important child care investments representing a foundational step forward on the path to universal child care. That path leads to greater economic opportunity, early education equity, compensation for the child care workforce that is comparable to that paid to K-12 educators, and a New York State that supports all children and families.

ESCCC is celebrating the significance of the moment while vowing to hold New York State leaders accountable to promises made and work yet to be done.

Empire State Campaign for Child Care, led by Schuyler Center alongside:

Alliance for Quality Education
The Children’s Agenda
Committee for Hispanic Children and Families
Day Care Council of New York
ECE on the Move
Prevent Child Abuse NY
Western New York Child Care Action Team

INCLUSIVE ADVOCACY FOR BETTER PUBLIC POLICY
The campaign for early education and child care has relied on partnership, collaboration, and centering the experiences of the families and the workforce directly impacted by public policy and funding decisions. The more our efforts are led by the families, child care providers, and the child care workforce the more powerful the message and effective the policy solutions. When advocacy efforts are led by those impacted by policies and legislation, we are more likely to get the final product right, bringing us closer to a New York in which everyone has the opportunity to thrive.
Congratulates

Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy

on 150 years of Leadership in Advocacy for Children and Families in New York.

As you celebrate your past and envision your future, we look forward to continuing our work with such an outstanding partner in advocacy for policies to strengthen New York's children and families.

Kathleen Brady-Stepien, President & CEO
Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies
www.cofcca.org

Who We Are

Families Together in New York State is a family-run organization that represent families of children with social, emotional, behavioral and cross systems challenges. Driven by our lived experience, our goal is to ensure that ALL families and youth have the support they need in order to succeed. Through public policy and coordinating systems, we represent thousands of families from across the state whose children have been involved in many systems including mental health, addiction, special education, juvenile justice and foster care. Our board and staff are made up primarily of family members and youth who have navigated these systems.

Our Goals

- Families are resilient and resourceful
- Family driven and youth guided practices are essential for our wellness
- Strength-based practices should be sensitive to each family's culture and needs
- Services should be individualized and community-based
- Our lived experience gives us a unique expertise

Families Together in New York State


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Voices of Schuyler Center Trustees
What does the work of the Schuyler Center mean to you?

LAURIE SHANKS
Emerita Clinical Professor of Law, Albany Law School
Schuyler Center tackles the most critical problems we face in our society and does so in concrete, practical, and nonpartisan ways. As an organization, SCAA understands that our future is dependent on the health, welfare, and education of all children in New York. The SCAA team is recognized as leaders by policymakers, direct service providers, and non-profit groups.

I am confident that the Schuyler Center will continue to be a leader in ferocious advocacy for our most vulnerable population.

KALPANA BHANDARKAR
18 years of experience in health care administration and strategy; many years of experience engaging non-profit organizations on strategy, fundraising, policy, and advocacy.

SCAA comprises some of the most important advocates in the state and country – keeping its finger on the pulse of what children and families need to maintain health and comfort, whether they have access to it, and if not, how to enable that access. As we push for equity in health care, income access, education, and other domains, Schuyler Center will remain strong in its advocacy.

ROB PLATTNER
Former Deputy Commissioner for Tax Policy, NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, 2007-2018
Schuyler Center is rightly recognized as the most respected and effective organization in Albany addressing public policy issues that can improve the lives of New York’s most vulnerable populations.

OLIVIA XIAOYU WANG, PHD
Senior Advancement Officer at RPI and NYAEYC Board Member
I believe in Schuyler Center’s mission and excellence in advocacy. As an educator, administrator, and researcher in early childhood education, children and families are near and dear to my heart.

LOUISE SKOLNIK, DSW
Professor Emeritus of Social Work
Schuyler Center’s mission and accomplishments are consonant with my profession’s commitment to support vulnerable individuals through policies and legislation that promote social justice.

A just society must care for and about the voiceless. Schuyler Center has, for the past 150 years, been a consistent and forceful advocate for children, women, the economically disadvantaged, and other vulnerable groups. Its ongoing leadership is sorely needed in today’s challenging times.

RON UBA
Retired Regional Director, New York State United Teachers and Mediator, U.S. District Court
Schuyler Center’s thorough research and zealous advocacy have improved the lives of so many of our disadvantaged citizens.

THE ALLIANCE FOR QUALITY EDUCATION CONGRATULATES
The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy
on your 150th Anniversary

We’re delighted to be partners with you in the fight to make this world a better place for children.
It is important that ALL families have advocates in places where legislative policy and important decisions are being made; especially if they cannot speak for themselves. I am proud to stand up for those who do not know the system, and who are too often forgotten when policies are being made.

PAUL KAYE, MD
Pediatrician, Sun River Health

I have always appreciated the nuanced, insider approach that has characterized SCAA’s successes over more than a century. Using facts coupled with stories and observations from the field, we have relied on dogged persuasion rather than bombast to win the trust of policymakers of both parties. Our endowment gives us the freedom to speak our mind and the independence to be free from self-interest.

Under the leadership of Kate, our current remarkable staff is making steady inroads in reversing decades of inequity and injustice.

Notable Early SCAA Board Members
(listed chronologically)
Frederick Law Olmsted
Rev. Henry C. Potter, D.D.
Theodore Roosevelt, Sr.
Charles Loring Brace
John Jay
Caroline Sterling Choate
President Theodore Roosevelt
Dr. Emily Blackwell
Carl Schurz
Joseph H. Choate
Elihu Root
Henry L. Stimson
Henry Morgenthau, Sr.
Iphigene Ochs Sulzberger

The Schuyler Center’s mission aligns with my personal beliefs about the dignity of all people and the imperative that systems must treat people with fairness. Working here allows me to bring institutions and people together to explore the shortcomings, failures and successes of systems and identify solutions to reduce inequities and promote what improves the lives of families.

The history of the Schuyler Center is integral to our work because it is a touchstone for our values.

CRYSTAL CHARLES
Policy Analyst; 2 years with Schuyler Center

Schuyler Center blends data, advocacy, and collaboration to effectively advance policies that stabilize, strengthen, and empower children, families, and communities that often go overlooked and undervalued. This is the kind of work I’ve always wanted to do and I’m grateful to be part of a team of passionate people.

We are mission-driven and it is encouraging to be backed by 150 years of enduring values.

CAROLE TOZZI
Administrative Associate; 40 years with Schuyler Center

Schuyler’s advocacy work serves as a voice for vulnerable children and families. We may not provide direct services, but we are equally important as those organizations that do. Much of Schuyler’s advocacy work is especially important to me this year—child care, early care, pre-K. My son will be getting married next month and starting a family soon after. The important legislation we are working on in these areas will impact my son and other families like his.

ALEA SIMONS
Policy Analyst; 6 months with Schuyler Center

The work the Schuyler Center does is important in providing an outside voice and perspective to legislators and policy makers. By analyzing and breaking down policies for organizations and providers we help them understand the true impact.

JAMES FARRELL
Administrative Support Coordinator; 5 months with Schuyler Center

Schuyler Center’s work is important to me because I believe in a New York that supports and provides for all of its citizens, regardless of socio-economic status. I believe that positive change starts with investment in children, education, and healthcare for all.
DEDE HILL
Director of Policy; 6 years with Schuyler Center

We help amplify the voices of those too often left out of policy conversations, especially low-income families and children, and to bring those voices to policy-making tables. We spend our days trying to make government systems work better, more efficiently and effectively for low-income New Yorkers, for New Yorkers facing the barriers created by racism and inequality.

HELEN SMITH
Director of Finance and Operations; 11 years with Schuyler Center

Working at Schuyler has given me a true appreciation of the importance of public policy, especially policy at the state level. Schuyler Center’s unfailing mission to help those living in poverty, who need equitable and robust public policies, is critically important in a society where this kind of mission is less and less valuable to those with wealth and power.

NICOLE CORREIA
Director of Communications; 7 months with Schuyler Center

The work of the Schuyler Center is driven by a mission of economic and racial equity through public policy. Government can be a force for good through the right approach and policies, and our work offers proof of what can be done.

As a parent, I believe that every child should be supported in a loving environment, nurtured, and provided with opportunities to flourish. The Schuyler Center works in pursuit of those goals at a systemic level, and our history reminds us that change is possible.

Analysis is Our Middle Name

Schuyler Center regularly provides data and policy analysis related to our priorities. Lawmakers, partners, and State agencies rely on our thorough analysis to aid in decision-making. Our reports include:

- **The State of New York’s Children** – Each January, this data briefing and publication examines how New York children are faring in the areas of health, education, economic security, and child welfare.

- **First Look, Next Look, and Last Look** – As the New York State budget process moves forward, Schuyler Center continuously analyzes how budget proposals could impact the state’s children and families, especially those impacted by poverty.

- **Policy briefings, webinars, and reports** – Throughout the year, Schuyler Center’s Policy Team releases reports looking at the impact of public policies, conducts webinars around policy priorities, and shares data analysis around child poverty, health, and well-being.

Congratulates
The Schuyler Center
for Analysis and Advocacy
on 150 years of exemplary leadership and advocacy for New York’s children and families
Together we make a difference.

Manatt is proud to support the Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy celebrating 150 Years of advocacy, compassion, and leadership.