State of the State:

We're Listening for Real Investments in Children and Families

As she begins her first full term in office, Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy urges Governor Hochul to prioritize New Yorkers who are struggling to make ends meet, with a special focus on children and families.

Child poverty in New York State continues to exceed the national rate, as it has for more than a decade. This can be the year that changes. With the passage of the New York State Child Poverty Reduction Act, the State has committed to cutting child poverty in half in the next decade. The Governor can and should take meaningful action to fulfill that commitment.

The State of the State will be broadcast live at 1pm today, and can be viewed here.

Schuyler Center will be listening closely for Governor Hochul to prioritize the well-being of New York’s children and families by committing to the following:

1. **Turning the tide on child poverty in New York State.** Concrete action must be taken to achieve the codified commitment of cutting the NYS child poverty rate by 50% in a decade, with attention to reducing racial inequities. Among the most impactful poverty-reducing actions is strengthening New York’s child tax credit.

2. **Prioritizing next steps to achieve high-quality, culturally responsive, universal child care.** This must include establishing a wage enhancement program that offers significant and sustained wage supplements to the child care workforce beginning in 2023.

3. **Transforming Child Welfare** by investing in family strengthening, prevention of system-involvement, reducing institutional placements, and transparency and accountability of the system.
4. Expanding and increasing investment in child and family health in the areas of Medicaid coverage and payment, maternal health, home visiting, Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education, children’s and families’ mental health, and oral health.

For more details on actions required to achieve each of these policy priorities, visit our website.

Next week, Schuyler Center will share the data on the State of New York’s Children, and the policy solutions to ensure our children are set up to thrive.

Join the conversation on Twitter as we watch and react to the State of the State at 1pm today. If you’d like to join us for a game of State of the State Bingo – focused on Strong Families and Thriving Children - grab a card here!

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Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (SCAA) is a leading statewide policy analysis and advocacy organization based in Albany working to shape policies to improve health, welfare, and human services for all New Yorkers, especially those impacted by poverty. In 2022, SCAA celebrated the 150th anniversary of its founding by Louisa Lee Schuyler.

Learn More about Policies that Center Child and Family Well-Being
2023:
The Year New York State Puts Children & Families First

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