Schuyler Insider for January 13, 2023

This Must Be the Year that NYS Prioritizes Children and Families

As she begins her first full term in office, Schuyler Center 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.

NYS leaders must prioritize the well-being of New York’s children and families - especially those impacted by poverty - 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. We are hopeful about the child care proposals outlined in Governor Hochul's State of the State address this week.

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.

Stay tuned next week as Schuyler Center releases the latest data on the State of New York’s Children, and the policy solutions to ensure our children are set up to thrive.
Child Poverty Reduction Actions

Child poverty in New York State continues to exceed the national rate, as it has for more than a decade. Child poverty reduction is at the core of Schuyler Center's work, and so many of the barriers to child well-being come down to family economic security.

We recently joined a diverse group of anti-poverty organizations in signing a letter to Governor Hochul urging her to prioritize child poverty reduction in her Executive Budget. Read the letter here.

The Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council, of which Schuyler Center CEO Kate Breslin is a member, met for the second time this week. Learn more about the Council and their directives.

This must be the year New York State turns the tide on child poverty, our children can’t wait any longer.
New! Policy Guide for Legislators

This week, Schuyler Center published the 2023 Policy Guide for Child and Family Well-Being. The Guide outlines Schuyler Center's policy priorities, areas of expertise, resources, and availability as a partner in policymaking.
On the Schuyler Insider Blog:

State of the State: We're Listening for Real Investments in Children and Families

Centering Child Well-Being: Policy Priorities for 2023

Statement: Schuyler Center Congratulates Governor Hochul

Schuyler Conversations: Childhood Oral Health Policy

Schuyler Conversations: Kids and Medicaid

Support Schuyler Center's Poverty-Fighting Mission
Child poverty is a policy choice, with policy solutions.

Join Schuyler Center in the fight to eradicate child poverty in New York State.

www.scaany.org/donate

We are a statewide, nonprofit, policy analysis and advocacy organization working to shape policies to improve health, welfare and human services for all New Yorkers, especially children and families impacted by poverty.

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