

# Welcome to the ECAC Membership Meeting

3/24/22





New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council Membership Meeting  
 March 24, 2022 – 10:30 am to 3:30 pm  
 Location: Empire State Plaza, Meeting Rooms 3 & 4

**Vision: All young children are healthy, learning, and thriving in families that are supported by a full complement of services and resources essential for successful development**

Agenda Item	Topic	Presenters	Time
<b>Networking: Optional</b> Meeting room open, we welcome you to come early and network			10:00 am – 10:30 am
<b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Announcements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• Introduction Activity</li> <li>• Announcements and Updates               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Celebrating New Members and Nominees</li> <li>-CCF Announcements &amp; Recusal forms</li> <li>-CCATF Legislation</li> <li>-Trauma Informed Informational Toolkit</li> <li>- Family Engagement Best Practices for State Agencies</li> <li>-NYSB5 media campaign</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Sherry Cleary, Patty Persell, Elana Marton, Kristen Kerr, Meredith Chimento, Yvette James	10:30am – 11:25am
<b>State Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)</li> <li>• NYS Education Department (SED)</li> <li>• NYS Department of Health (DOH)</li> </ul>	Nora Yates, Jason Breslin, Ray Pierce	11:25am – 11:55am
<b>Home Visiting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home Visiting Coordination Initiative (HVCI)</li> </ul>	Jenn O'Connor & Maggie Dickson	11:55am – 12:15pm
<b>Office for New Americans (ONA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data and Immigration Policy and <i>Voyage: the multi-lingual resource</i></li> </ul>	Laura Gonzalez-Murphy, Cynthia Stewart, & Carmel Lulihi	12:15pm – 12:45pm
<b>Lunch</b>	Lunch on your own		12:45pm – 1:30pm
<b>Advocacy &amp; Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood Advocacy and the State Budget</li> <li>• The Powerful Opportunity for NY to Fight Childhood Poverty: A Perspective from Philanthropy</li> </ul>	Jenn O'Connor Kelvin Chan	1:30pm – 2:30pm
<b>Family First Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family First Prevention Services Act Plan: Reimagining Child Welfare Services</li> <li>• Discussion: Implications for the ECAC &amp; our next Strategic Plan</li> </ul>	Cassandra Kelleher- Donnaruma	2:30pm – 3:25pm
<b>Next Steps and Closing Remarks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next steps</li> <li>• Adjourn</li> </ul>	Patty Persell	3:25pm – 3:30pm

Next ECAC Membership Meeting is June 23, 2022 from 10:30am - 3:30pm at the Empire State Plaza

# Welcome and Introductions

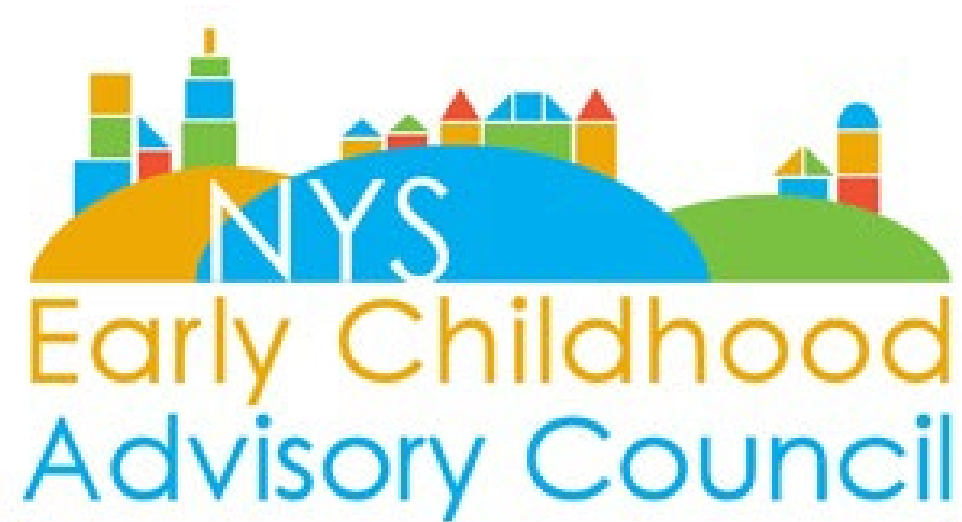


# Announcements





# Congratulations to our Newly Appointed Members & New Nominees



Building Success for Children  
Ensuring Success for New York

# Congratulations to Renee Rider



# Recusal Agreement

Elana Marton



Building Success for Children  
Ensuring Success for New York

# Child Care Availability Task Force Legislation

SPONSORED BY

Kristen Kerr



Jabari Brisport  
(D, WF) 25TH SENATE DISTRICT

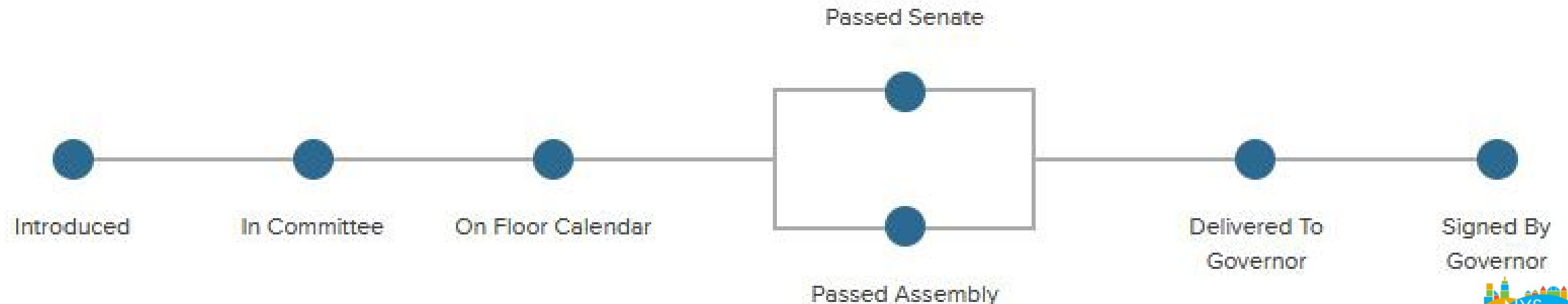
**Senate Bill S7846**

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

2021-2022 Legislative Session

Relates to the focus of the child care availability taskforce

CURRENT BILL STATUS - SIGNED BY GOVERNOR



# Trauma Informed Organizational Toolkit

Meredith Chimento



**Council on Children and Families**



# ECAC Strategic Plan – Goal 2

## Family Engagement and Leadership

### Family Engagement Best Practices Guide

#### Goal 2B - #1

- “Promote family engagement practices currently used by Head Start for state agencies (and non profit agencies)”.
- Created Family Engagement Best Practices Guide to fulfill this goal.



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# Family Engagement Best Practices Guide

- Team comprised of PAC parents, non profits and an ECAC member.
- Question and answer format. Examples of guide content:
  - Importance of family engagement.
  - Barriers to family engagement.
  - Actions for implementation.
  - Incentives.



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# Family Engagement Best Practices Guide

## Family Engagement: Best Practices for State Agencies

State agencies benefit from the opinions, perspectives and stories that families provide. Families bring resiliency to the policy table, demonstrating their strength and resourcefulness as they navigate the work of raising children. These abilities and talents offered by families can assist agencies with system design and program monitoring, improvements and evaluation, as well as other agency needs. These are some of the benefits of amplifying and sharing family voice through family engagement.

Family engagement is defined as a collaborative and strengths-based process through which state administrators, early childhood professionals and families build positive and goal-oriented relationships to effectively support the healthy development of children and the greater community. Throughout this document, we will interchangeably use "families" and "parents." Given today's current dynamics, the shift and concept of parents has evolved.

When we speak of families, we mean a child's adult caretaker (biological parents, foster parents, siblings, grandparents, etc.), as all have a shared responsibility within family engagement with systems to ensure optimal growth within their homes, schools and communities. Family voice is the contribution to this process and viewed as the opinions, perspectives, ideas families and parents bring to the policy and outreach table.

The positive outcomes of engaged families are powerful: increased support for children's learning at home, empowered parents, well-informed agencies and policies, and improved family well-being.

This document was created by a team of non-profit organizations, state agencies, and parents to assist state agencies with a focus on early childhood education design. However, information in this document is applicable to all agencies considering family engagement.



We hope that this information will guide organizations with the implementation of this worthwhile concept.

# Family Engagement Best Practices Guide

## We want your help.

- Want to distribute this guide to state agencies and other agencies/groups who have an interest in family engagement and leadership. Are there people who should be on the distribution list?
- Please forward names/agencies you believe should be part of the distribution to:  
[yvette.james@ccf.ny.gov](mailto:yvette.james@ccf.ny.gov)
- Deadline for submission: **April 1, 2022**
- Any questions, please email me or call at: (518) 473 – 8081
- Thank you for your time!



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# NYSB5 Media Campaign



# New York State Updates





**Office of Children  
and Family Services**

# **ECAC Meeting**

**March 24, 2022**

**Nora Yates**



# Agenda

- Child Care Desert grant
- Stabilization grant monitoring
- Subsidy Update
- Other updates
  - COVID-19 test kit distribution

# Invest in NY: Child Care Desert Grant

# Award Calculation – Center Based

**Center-based** child care awards are calculated on a per licensed/registered/permitted child care slot basis

Modality	Location	Award Amount per Slot	Maximum Award Amount Cap
Group Day Care (GDC)	New York City	\$9,000	\$500,000
Day Care Center (DCC)	Long Island RO and Westchester RO	\$9,000	\$500,000
	All other regions	\$7,000	\$400,000
School Age Child Care (SACC)	New York City	\$3,300	\$300,000
	Long Island RO and Westchester RO	\$3,300	\$300,000
	All other regions	\$2,500	\$200,000

# Award Calculation – Home Based

Home-based child care awards are calculated on a program basis.

Modality	Location	Award Amount Per Program
Family Day Care (FDC)	New York City	\$18,000
	Long Island RO and Westchester RO	\$18,000
	All other regions	\$14,000
Group Family Day Care (GFDC)	New York City	\$30,000
	Long Island RO and Westchester RO	\$30,000
	All other regions	\$23,000



# Award Calculation – Bonus

\$3,000

\$3,000 per infant/toddler slot\*

\$3,000

\$3,000 per non-traditional hours slot\*\*

*\*services provided to a child between the ages of birth up to when a child turns 3 years of age, or two years for NYC DOHMH programs.*

*\*\*After 7 pm until 6 am, as well as weekends and the following federal holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. NYC DOHMH non-traditional hours apply for Article 47 permitted programs.*



# Award Calculation

- Awards will be prorated based on the duration of grant per provider
- Actual payments may be impacted by not achieving deliverables
- Initial amounts are not guaranteed grant amounts
- Payments begin after licensure **and pre-award requirements are met**



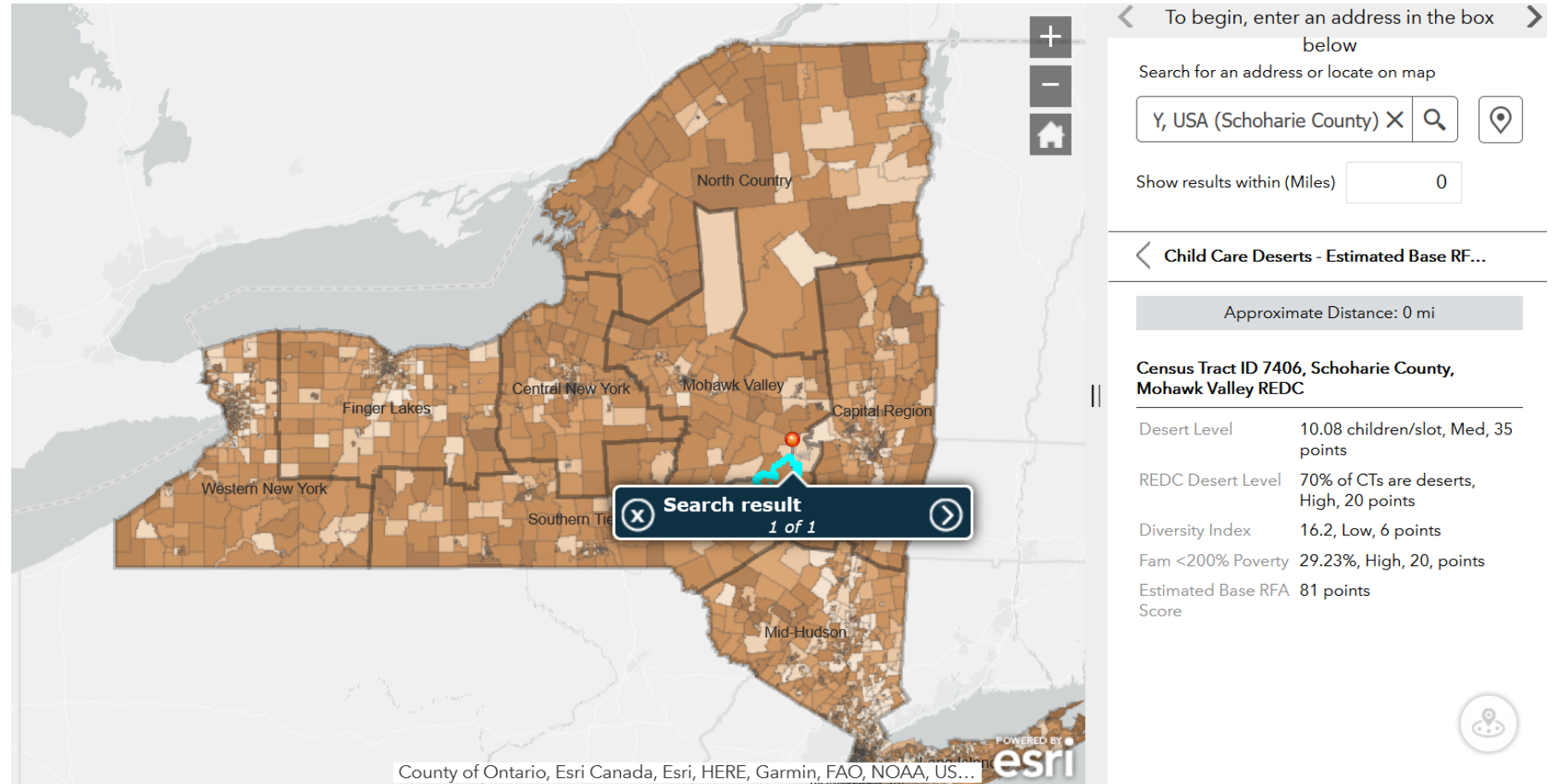
# Child Care Desert Map

[https://bit.ly/cc\\_deserts](https://bit.ly/cc_deserts)

Estimated base score by address

Child Care Deserts Map  
Instructions online:  
[Child Care Deserts Map  
Instructions English](#)

[Child Care Deserts Map  
Instructions Spanish /  
Español](#)



# Stabilization Grant Monitoring

# Stabilization Grant Monitoring

- Weekly emails to providers reminders on eligible expenses and documentation requirements
- Best practices videos from ECLC on how providers spent Stabilization and documented the expenses
- Waiting on guidance from Office of Child Care on audit requirements, NYS working on audit plans



Weekly Dashboard posted online: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/>



# Child Care Assistance Program

# Child Care Assistance Funds are Available

- OCFS wants to see more families apply for Child Care Assistance (aka subsidy)
- OCFS is working with local districts to
  - Improve web sites
  - Evaluate the categories of families they serve and family share
- Please help us get the word out!



# Child Care Assistance Summary Update

- The definition of low income was standardized across the state for families earning up to 200% of the State Income Standard (SIS) for their household size.
- Generally, the child care subsidy is now for 12-months at a time provided that the family income stays below the maximum threshold. Families keep eligibility unless they meet specific reasons allowing case closure.
- The family share range has been decreased significantly. It can now be as low as 1% and is capped statewide at a 10% maximum.



# Child Care Assistance Summary Update

- Child care subsidy must continue through the end of the eligibility period, even after a child turns 13 years old. This means that providers may be able to serve children past their 12th birthday.
- Districts now must pay for up to 24 absence days per child per licensed, registered, or enrolled legally exempt provider per year, regardless of the reason for the absence or contract status of the provider. If a child is provided care by multiple providers in one year, each provider is entitled to up to 24 absences, as needed.
- The definition of engaged in work, for those who are not in receipt of Temporary Assistance was reduced from a minimum 20-hour-per-week work requirement to a 10-hour-per-week work requirement.





# Childcare Subsidy Focus Groups

Youth Research, Inc. (YRI), will work with the Division of Child Care Services, local districts, providers, and childcare subsidy applicants to conduct virtual focus groups.

YRI will use focus groups to identify commonly occurring issues or barriers to implement changes that significantly enhance subsidy utilization, which may include:

- Process improvements
- Technical support for applicants
- New protocols or tools
- Direct support to local districts and applicants from OCFS-staff

YRI will summarize stakeholder and parent feedback on the larger issues affecting their experiences.



# Other Updates

# COVID-19 Test Kits

- OCFS continues to partner with the Early Care and Learning Council to coordinate distribution through the State's 35 Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) agencies
- CCRR's have received additional shipments for distribution and are doing outreach to providers in the counties they serve to distribute.
- THANK YOU to everyone that continues to help make this initiative a success!!







# NYS Education Department (SED)

Jason Breslin



New York State  
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

# NYS Department of Health

Ray Pierce



**Department  
of Health**

# The Home Visiting Coordination Initiative (HVCI)

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*ECAC Meeting March 2022*





# The HVCI



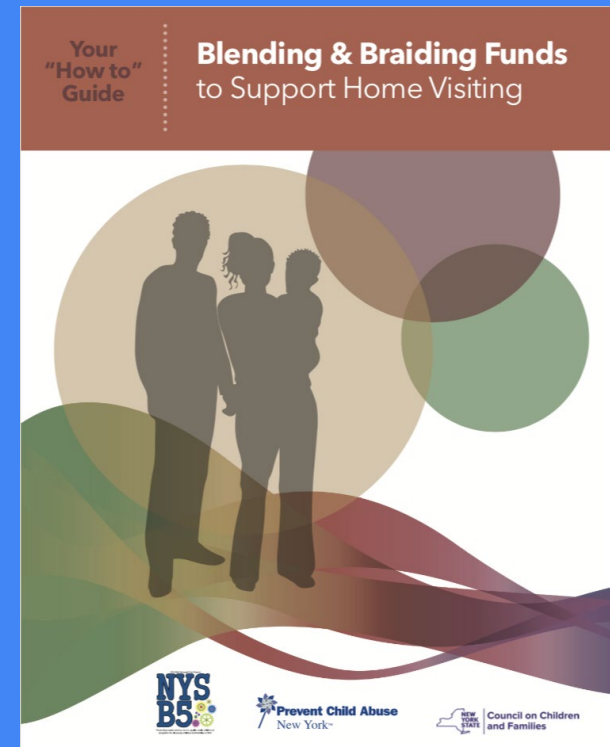
- History— impetus for the HVCI came out of SCAA’s statewide home visiting workgroup.
- Initial funding was a \$100,000 legislative award.
- This allowed us to host monthly webinars on a variety of topics of interest to home visitors and other MCH/ECE folks.
- A few years ago we received both PDG and Raising NY funding to take the HVCI to the next level.

# What Does the HVCI Do?

- Intent is to connect home visiting programs within and between regions, as well as to other community services and supports— like child care.
- There are 11 regional teams throughout the State, led by local BackBone Organizations (BBOs).
- Each region has one or two priorities that they are working on— such as implementing coordinated intake and supporting the workforce.

# The Products

- Year One Final Report
- Year Two Mid-Project Update
- Two Virtual Summits: first on universal HV, second on public awareness
- Blending & Braiding Guide



# The Big Idea

- A theme (and a goal for us at PCANY) has always been universal home visiting
- There are currently two universal HV bills in circulation that we are trying to align and amend
- Family Connects work in Monroe County has served as a model

# The Budget Ask

- \$11M for Healthy Families NY (in all three budget proposals)
- \$1.5M for Nurse-Family Partnership (in Assembly proposal only)
- \$400,000 for ParentChild+ (in neither one-house, but....)



# Home Visiting

**Public Awareness Campaign 2022**

*What home visiting is...*  
*What home visiting is not...*  
*How a program can benefit you!*



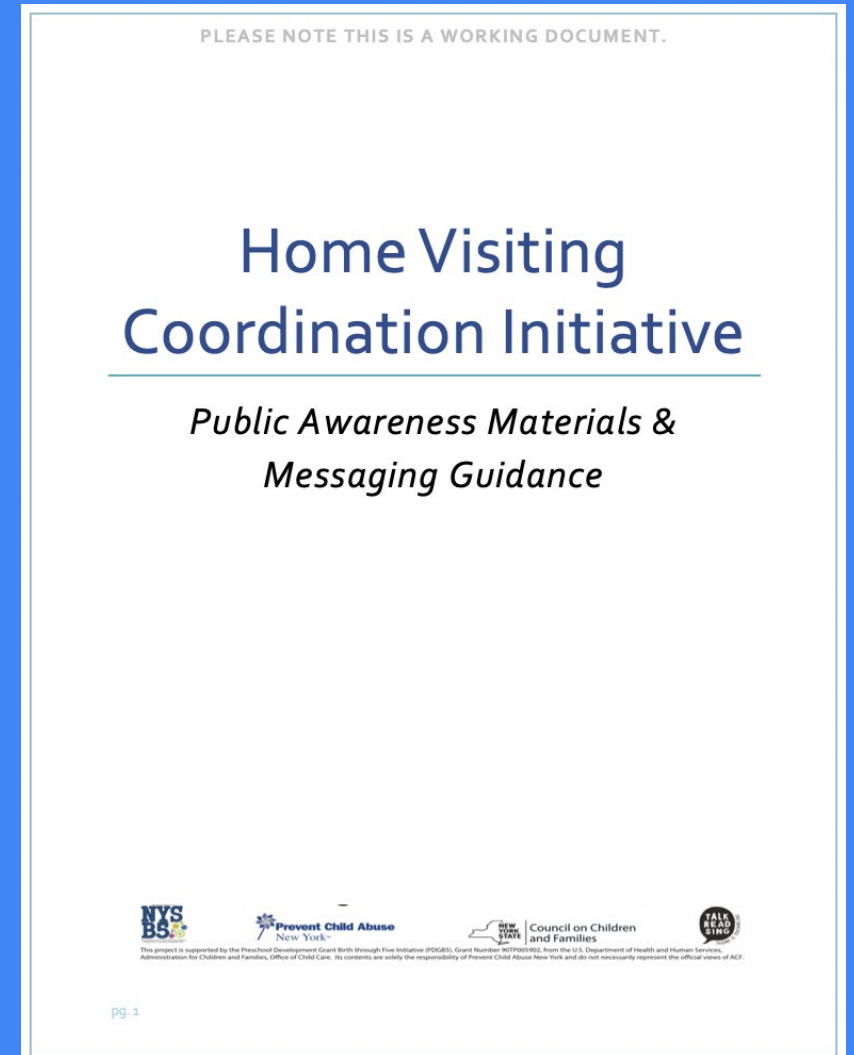
# HVCI Public Awareness Campaign

- Why a campaign???
- The process:
  - decided to adapt the national Talking is Teaching (Talk, Read, Sing) campaign
  - hired two consultants to assist with messaging
  - convened parents to get their input
  - consulted with home visitors and regional teams
  - worked with a graphic designer
  - translated materials into Spanish, Mandarin, and Haitian Creole



# Next Steps

- Every region has met with us to determine roll-out; each approach is different
  - Social media
  - Material dissemination (at events, to physicians....)
  - Video testimonials
- BBOs will track outputs, not outcomes, through the spring





## Template for Instagram



Let's Talk About how  
**HOME VISITING**  
Benefits You

<b>Voluntary</b> Home visitors offer information, support, and resources. They come to you...when you want them to.	<b>Connection</b> Home visitors can help provide you with diapers and formula.
<b>Strengthens Skills</b> Home visitors can help provide tips to feed your picky eater or to help with potty training.	insert organization info, program info 

## Template for Facebook



“

Insert quote from testimonial here

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Name  
Program



This project is supported by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Initiative (PDGBS), Grant Number 90TP005902, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. Its contents are solely the responsibility of Prevent Child Abuse New York and do not necessarily represent the official views of ACF.



**CHILDREN DON'T COME WITH A MANUAL.**  
 HOME VISITORS PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WITH THINGS  
 LIKE BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT, FEEDING YOUR PICKY  
 EATER, POTTY TRAINING, AND SAFE SLEEP PRACTICES.



**WANT PREGNANCY AND PARENTING SUPPORT?**  
 HOME VISITING IS A FREE, VOLUNTARY PROGRAM THAT  
 MATCHES NEW AND EXPECTANT PARENTS WITH CARING  
 PROFESSIONALS THAT HELP PARENTS UNDERSTAND  
 THEIR BABY'S HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT.  
**HOME VISITORS COME TO YOU... WHEN YOU WANT THEM TO!**

**FUN**



**FREE**



**WELCOMING  
 OF ALL  
 FAMILIES**

Let's  
**Talk** ABOUT  
**WHAT HOME  
 VISITING**  
 IS

**FAMILY  
 FOCUSED**



**SUPPORTIVE  
 AND  
 FRIENDLY**



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 and Families



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STRENGTHENS PARENTING SKILLS!

CONNECTS YOU TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES!



Home visitors help connect parents with resources they need, from finding local healthcare providers to formula and diapers, toys and books!

Children don't come with a manual. Home visitors provide assistance with things like breastfeeding support, feeding your picky eater, potty training, and safe sleep practices.

OFFERS ADVOCACY, PARTNERSHIP, AND SUPPORT!

# Let's Talk ABOUT HOW Home Visiting BENEFITS YOU

WELCOMES ALL!



You are the expert of your own life. Home visiting connects you to a larger community where you belong and your voice matters.



Parenting is one tough job! Want support? Home visiting is a free, voluntary, and proven program. Home visitors come to you... when you want them to.



VALUES YOUR EXPERIENCE!

Home visitors acknowledge and honor a person's experience, including those who face injustices based on race and from other parts of identity. Programs are committed to removing obstacles and inequities and home visitors can help families navigate through barriers.



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# LET'S TALK ABOUT THE IMPACT OF HOME VISITING



**As a trusted healthcare provider, you are a source of support for families.** You answer questions that are medical in nature, yet also connect families to community resources. We're here to help you connect new and expectant families to one of the most transformative and vital resources in our community – evidence-based/evidence-generated maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting.

**Various programs have different outcomes; but all programs demonstrate effectiveness in one or more of the following areas:**

- Decreasing child abuse and neglect
- Improving health and mental health outcomes for mother and child
- Increasing school readiness
- Reducing the likelihood of maternal mortality
- Increasing self-sufficiency among families

Home visitors—whether they are nurses, social workers, or paraprofessionals—empower parents by working with them to better understand child development and social determinants of health and connect them to community services such as Early Intervention (EI) and nutrition assistance.

## LET'S TALK ABOUT DATA AND STATS

### Prenatal Care



One study found a **48%** reduction in low birth weight (LBW) deliveries among women who enrolled before the 31st week of pregnancy.

### Return on Investment



Cost-benefit analyses show that high-quality programs offer returns on investment ranging from \$1.75 to \$5.70 for every dollar spent, due to reduced costs of child protection, K-12 special education and grade retention, and criminal justice expenses.

### ER Visits



ROI for Medicaid recipients' emergency room usage in the first year of a child's life alone is \$3 for every \$1 invested. One study found that children whose families received home visits were 35% less likely to have to visit an ER.



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# Some of the Ways



## Keeping Appointments

Help to arrange/navigate transportation, prescription & paperwork reminders.



## Communicating Via Visits, Text & Video

Flexible ways of delivering consistent, positive support.



## Connecting to Resources

Referrals to the local diaper bank, WIC, and help parents apply for SNAP.



## Reinforcing Safe & Healthy Behavior

Safe sleeping, lactation & feeding, bonding & attachment, early learning.



## Providing Early Detection & Intervention

Post-partum and early developmental concerns. Screening for ASQ and monitoring parental mental health.

## Growing With Your Child

Trusted, consistent relationship that evolves to meet family needs.



Free,  
Voluntary  
**HOME  
VISITING**  
Can Help

**Home Visitors walk by a parent's side in the first years of life.**

Services and programs vary by region.  
Flip the page for more information.



# Contact Info

[www.nyshomevisitcoord.com](http://www.nyshomevisitcoord.com)

Jenn O'Connor, Director of Policy and Advocacy/NYS Director of the HVCI  
joconnor@preventchildabuse.ny.org

Maggie Dickson, Policy Assistant and HVCI Development Coordinator  
mdickson@preventchildabuse.ny.org





# The NYS Office for New Americans Ramirez June Initiative



NEW YORK  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY.

Office for  
New Americans



NEW YORK  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY.

Department  
of State



NEW YORK  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY.

Developmental  
Disabilities  
Planning Council





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# Agenda

- Office for New Americans Overview
- Who are new Americans?
- ONA Ramirez June Initiative



# Presenters



**Laura Gonzalez-Murphy, M.S., Ph.D.**

Language Access Coordinator & Director of Immigration Policy & Research  
NYS Department of State (DOS)



**Cynthia Stewart, M.S.**

Developmental Disabilities Navigator  
NYS Office for New Americans (ONA)



**Carmel Lulihi, MPA Student**

Research Assistant to the ONA Ramirez June Initiative  
NYS Office for New Americans (ONA)

# The ONA Ramirez June Initiative and its Partners Celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month!







# The New York State Office for New Americans (ONA)



**NEW YORK**  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY.

**Office for  
New Americans**



**NEW YORK**  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY.

**Department  
of State**



# The Office for New Americans Ramirez June Initiative

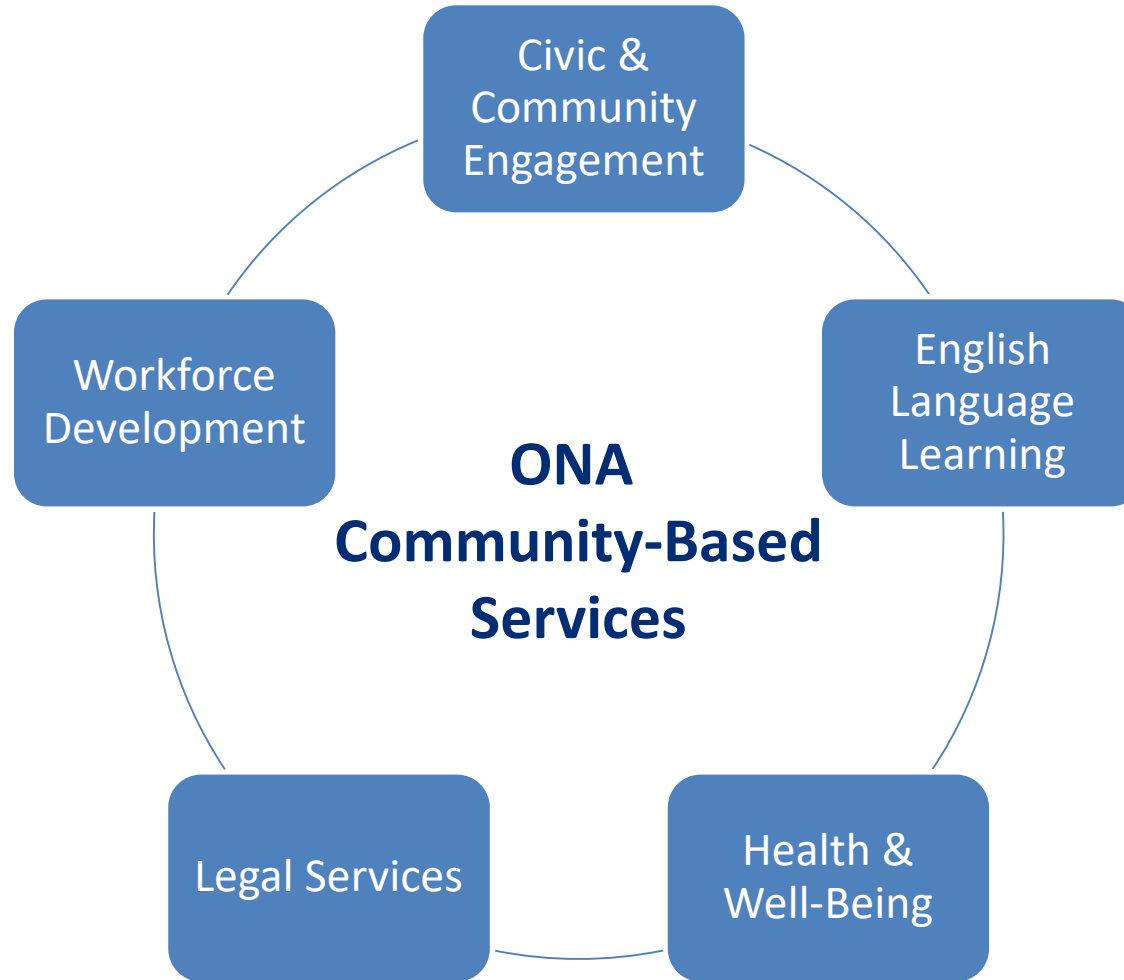
- Builds capacity to support new Americans in connecting with vital resources, information, and services in NYS.
- Funded by the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.
- Engages immigrant communities and service providers to expand access to services through technical assistance, outreach, and creating resources.



**Office for  
New Americans**



**Developmental  
Disabilities  
Planning Council**





# ONA Cell-ED



- Free English training and skill building through any mobile phone, tablet or computer.
- Helps parents with limited English proficiency support their children to read in English.
- **Has courses to build skills for life and work, including an Early Development course which aims to build a culture of reading for kids, ages 3-7, in new American families.**







Who are New Americans?





4.4 million new Americans in NYS.  
Almost 25% of the total population of 19.45 mil.





## New Americans Are:

- Immigrants
- Refugees, asylees
- Unauthorized individuals
- All newcomers who reside in the U.S. and their families.
- Your neighbors!



Many new American families are mixed status. This means different family members have different immigration statuses.

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A woman with her hair in a ponytail is seen from the side, holding a large Ukrainian flag (blue and yellow) in a grassy field. The background is a soft-focus landscape with trees and a bright sky. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner of the image.

New York State is  
proudly home to the  
largest Ukrainian  
community in the U.S.  
including **148,700**  
individuals.

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# Immigration Support for Ukrainian NYS Residents and Arrivals

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- **1,817** Ukrainians have been resettled by the Bureau of Refugee Services (BRS) located with the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) since fiscal year 2016.
- Approximately **3,060** Ukrainian residents in NYS are eligible for Temporary Protected Status (TPS).





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## Language Access & Cultural Considerations

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- Most individuals from Ukraine speak Ukrainian and use the Ukrainian alphabet. Ukrainian is the official state language.
- Russian is the second most widely spoken language in Ukraine.
- Both Ukrainian and Russian communities may be negatively affected by the invasion of Ukraine.
- The rise in anti-Asian violence following the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates how immigrant communities can be impacted as a result of interpretations of world news and the **importance of making NYS a welcoming environment for all immigrants.**





What are the top non-English languages spoken in Albany County?



1



2



3



4



5



6



Español

1

中文

2

한국어

3

اردو

4

Italiano

5

русский  
язык

6

Español  
Spanish

1

中文  
Chinese

2

한국어  
Korean

3

اردو  
Urdu

4

Italiano  
Italian

5

русский  
язык  
Russian

6



The new American families who inspired the ONA Ramirez June Initiative.

# Barriers for New Americans with Developmental Disabilities

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Language access barriers.

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Challenges accessing disability assessments.

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Immigration barriers especially when parents and children do not have Social Security Numbers.

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Barriers navigating disability systems, the need for culturally and linguistically competent case management.

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Challenges accessing medication and supplies.

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Support needed for new American children with behavioral challenges.

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Bullying and exclusion of children with disabilities.





ONA Ramirez June Initiative  
Outreach to new American communities

# ONA Ramirez June Initiative Outreach

¿Do you have a child with disabilities in your family?



**Join the conversation!** Thursday, April 7, 2022,  
5:00-7:00 p.m. at the **Trolley Barn**,  
489 Main St, *Poughkeepsie*, NY 12601

Spanish and English, interpreters will be available.  
Refreshments and childcare support will be available.



If you are interested in attending, send a text through  
**WhatsApp 845-249-5787**

***\*For Families & Services Providers***

**Understanding Trauma and Supporting the Resilience of New American Children**

An ONA Ramirez June Initiative Webinar  
Thursday, April 7, 2022, 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Register: <https://bit.ly/SupportingResilience>


Register: <https://bit.ly/SupportingResilience>

***\*For Services Providers***

# Voyage



New order form: <https://bit.ly/OrderVoyage>



# ONA Ramirez June Initiative Social Media

**The ONA Ramirez June Initiative Celebrates New American Women with Developmental Disabilities!**

**#DDawareness2022 #IWD2022**



**New Americans with disabilities have the right to be free from discrimination.**

If you have experienced discrimination, call **888-392-3644** or visit [dhr.ny.gov](http://dhr.ny.gov).

Any immigrant in need of assistance in NYS can call the New Americans Hotline, **1-800-566-7636**.



# ONA Ramirez June Initiative Outcomes

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- **424** individuals shared that they feel they are better able to support and help others to support individuals with IDD and their families as a result of their grant participation.
- **60** outreach events, webinars, and presentations.
- **2,817** copies of *Voyage* distributed to about 70 recipients.





Questions?

# Connect with ONA



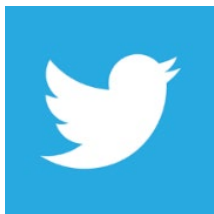
[NewAmericans@dos.ny.gov](mailto:NewAmericans@dos.ny.gov)



[dos.ny.gov/office-new-americans](https://dos.ny.gov/office-new-americans)



[facebook.com/nysnewamericans](https://facebook.com/nysnewamericans)



[twitter.com/nysnewamericans](https://twitter.com/nysnewamericans)



# Lunch Break




Building Success for Children  
Ensuring Success for New York

# Policy and Advocacy Update

ECAC Meeting March 2022



# Budget Process

- 
- Senate and Assembly released their responses to the Executive Budget a few weeks ago (One-House Bills)
  - Budget Subcommittees currently debating/negotiating (on time budget is April 1st)
  - Advocates continue to advocate for increases in funding and revisions to implementation language

# Child Care

- Budget request (ask) of \$5B
- Senate proposed \$2.4B (this year)
- Assembly proposed \$3B (this year)
- They disagree about how to implement...





# Senate Child Care



- \$2.2B for subsidies (broken down as follows):
- Increase to 300% FPL (Aug 2022), 400% (2023), 500% (2024)
- No co-pays under 300% FPL, no more than 10% of income up to 400% FPL (2023), no more than 10% of income up to 500% FPL (2024)
- No immigration/work status requirements
- Eligible children— under age 5 (does not include school-age)
- Move to reimbursement at 85th percentile of market rate in 2023-24, 100th percentile of the true cost of care in 2024-25
- \$3,000/year for two years for full-time staff
- \$200M for infrastructure

# Assembly Child Care



- Total is unclear on subsidies: \$500M for stabilization grants (workforce), \$370M for subsidy rate increase
- Increase to 260% FPL (Aug 2022), 325% FPL (2023), 400% FPL (2024); counties can go to 400% this summer
- Maximum of 10% of income over FPL
- No immigration/work status requirements
- Eligible children– 6 weeks through 12 years (stat)
- Move immediately to 90th percentile of market rate
- Stabilization grants– providers must maintain/increase wages
- \$200 for infrastructure

# Home Visiting

- Executive and both houses proposed **\$11M increase to Healthy Families NY**
- Assembly proposed **\$1.5M for Nurse-Family Partnership**
- **ParentChild+** is requesting \$200,000 for core work and \$200,000 for partnerships with home-based child care programs

# Pre-K

- Budget request of \$500M (full-day for all four-year-olds at a rate of \$10,000/child)
- **Assembly proposes a \$125M increase** (\$10,000/child and \$25M to increase rates for current programs)
- **Senate proposes a \$250M increase** (two-year phase-in; any unused funding available to increase the per-child rate in existing programs; \$5M to hold Pre-K harmless if there are pandemic-related enrollment issues)





# Afterschool

- Budget request of \$169M to increase the per-student rate to \$4,300 for three programs: Advantage Afterschool, Empire State After School, and Extended School Day/School Violence Prevention Program
- **Both houses restored the \$5M** that the Executive cut from the **Advantage program**



# Early Intervention and QUALITYstarsNY

- EI: The Assembly proposed an 11% rate increase to providers (\$31.8M)
- QSNY: Executive and both houses proposed a \$5M increase



# Child Welfare

- **Both houses propose restoring to 65/35** the State share of preventive services. This funding had been cut to 62/38 back in 2008. Counties had to make up the difference.
- **Assembly** proposes:
  - 11% COLA increase for human services staff
  - Fully funding Kinship Navigator (total \$2.6M)
  - \$55.2M in the Foster Care Block Grant and \$26.9M in the Adoption Subsidy Program
- **Senate** proposes:
  - Funding KinGAP outside of the Foster Care Block Grant (\$25M).

# Child Poverty/Tax Credit

- **Both houses propose increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) from 30% of the federal credit to 37%; the Senate recommends a four-year phase-in.**
  - The Assembly further proposes doubling benefits for low-income persons with no qualifying children
  - Paying the EITC out in three installments of 25% of the credit, with the remaining balance paid at the time of tax filing

# Get Involved!

- Write an email



- Make a phone call



- Tweet



We will get you  
whatever you need to  
help make this final  
push.

Thank you!



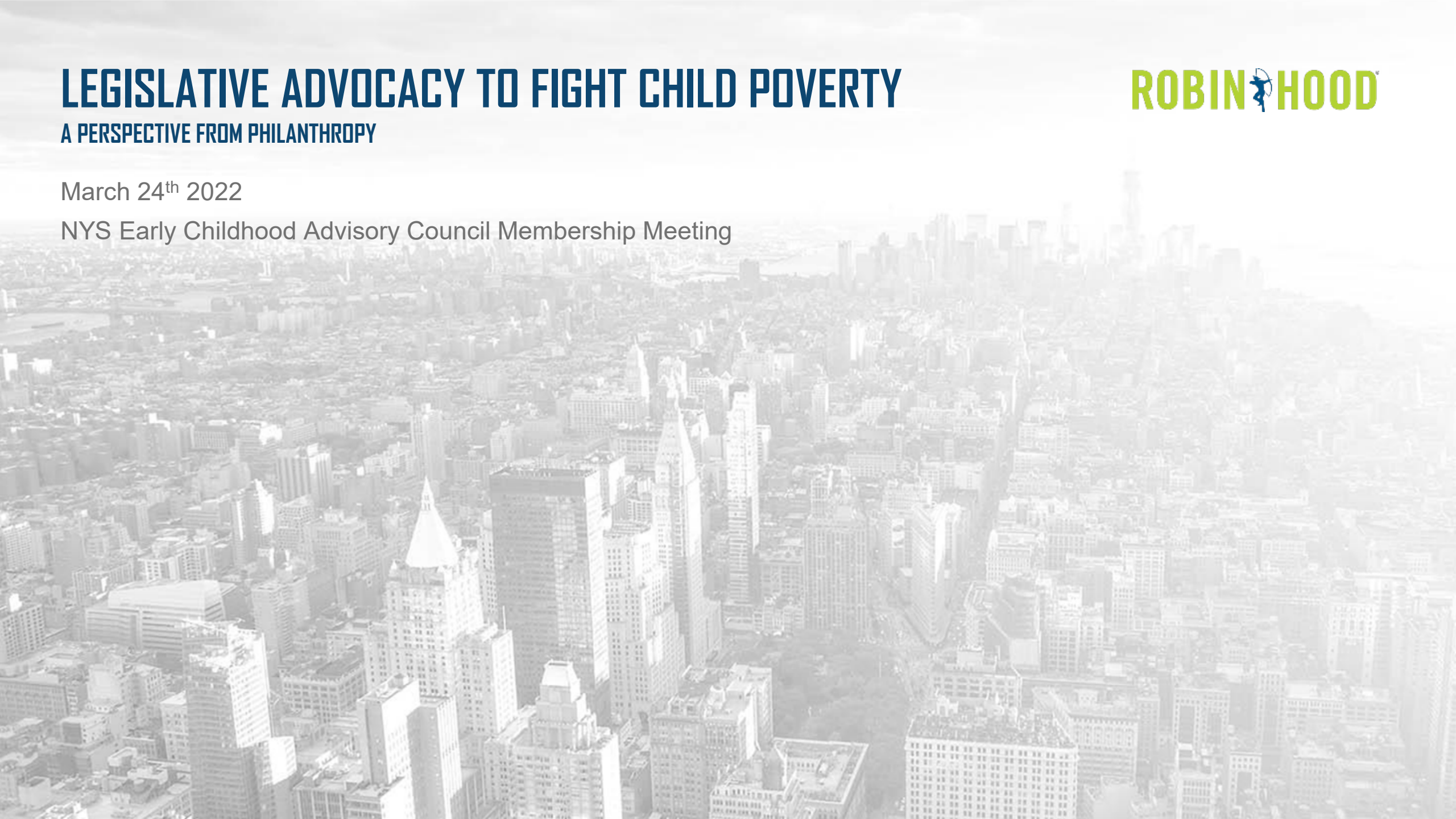
# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TO FIGHT CHILD POVERTY

A PERSPECTIVE FROM PHILANTHROPY



March 24<sup>th</sup> 2022

NYS Early Childhood Advisory Council Membership Meeting



BACKGROUND

## BACKGROUND: STATE OF CHILD POVERTY IN NY

- 1 in 5 children in NY live in poverty
- The situation is worse for black, indigenous, and brown children: 1 in 3 live in poverty

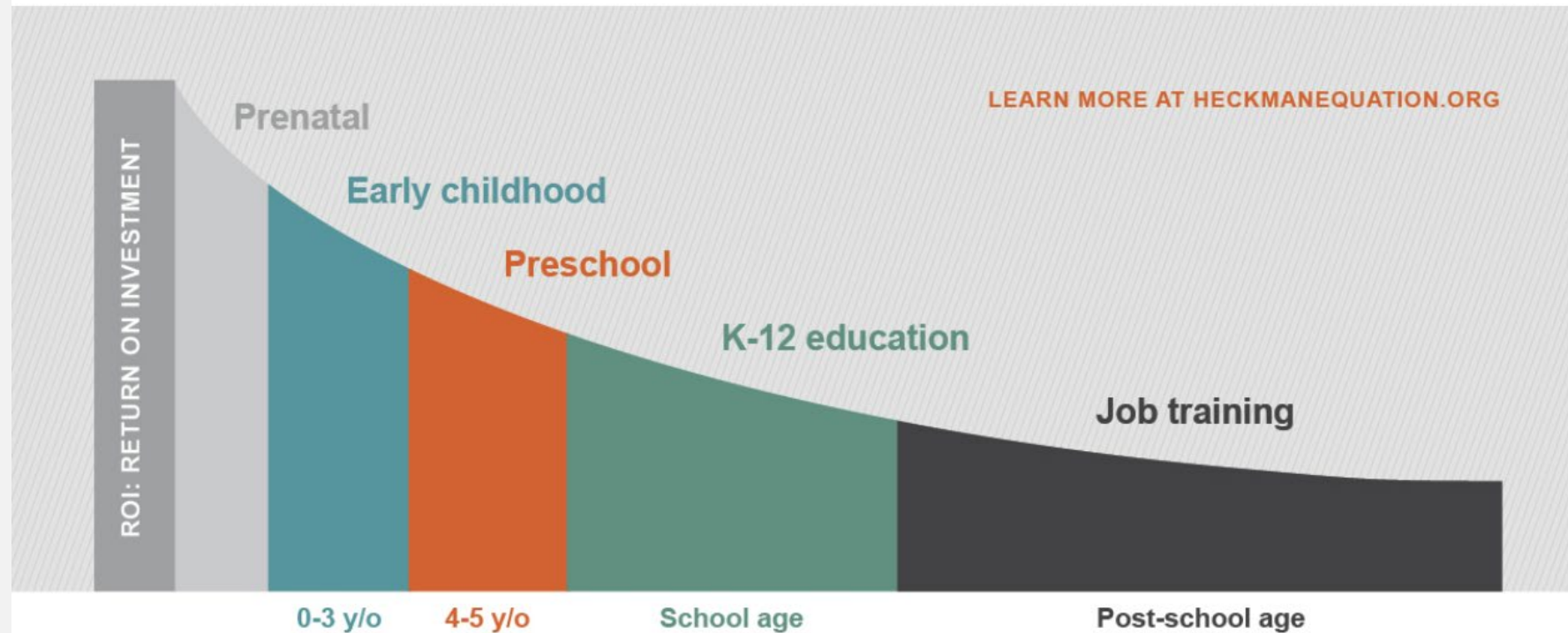
Source: Anne E Casey Kids Count Data Center, 2019

# BACKGROUND: AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE ON FIGHTING CHILD POVERTY



Return on Investment

## Economic impact of investing in early childhood learning.



Source: [James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics](#)

## BACKGROUND: HOW THE CHILD POVERTY ISSUE IS MANIFEST AS A CHILD CARE ISSUE

	All families	Below 500% of poverty	Below 500% of poverty			500+% of poverty
			Below 200%	200-299%	300-499%	
You had to turn down a job, change jobs, or take a leave due to child care issues	25%	28%	30%	24%	25%	16%
You decided not to look for a job due to child care issues	22%	23%	22%	25%	21%	20%
You had to go from full-time to part-time due to child care issues	18%	19%	21%	21%	13%	14%
You had to quit a job due to child care issues	16%	17%	20%	10%	16%	11%
You were let go or fired because you missed work due to child care issues	7%	7%	11%	4%	0%	6%
ANY of the above	42%	46%	50%	46%	38%	31%

Source: [Robin Hood Poverty Tracker](#), forthcoming publication

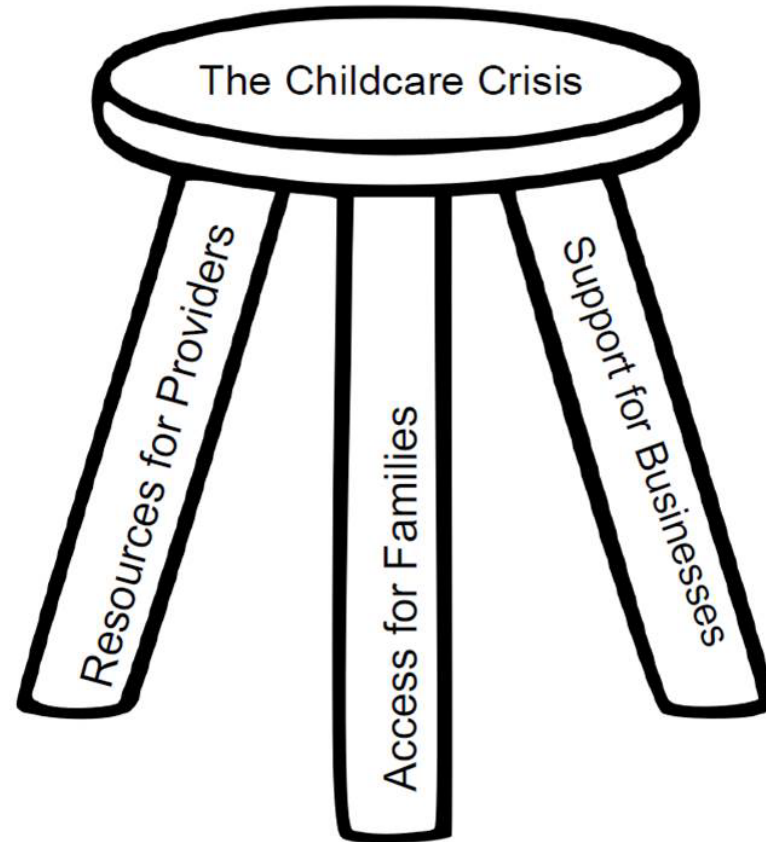


## BACKGROUND: POVERTY RATE AMONG CHILD CARE WORKFORCE

- The Child Care Workforce, too, is deeply affected by poverty: 1 in 4 child care providers live in poverty

Source: [NYC Office of the Comptroller](#)

# THE CHILD CARE CRISIS: THE THREE-LEGGED STOOL



Source: The Education Trust-NY

LEGISLATIVE SOLUTIONS

# COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS ON CHILD CARE

	Governor	Senate	Assembly
<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	\$1.2 Billion	\$2.4 Billion	\$3 Billion
<b>Eligibility Expansion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>225% FPL – Oct. 2022</b></li> <li>• 265% FPL – April 2023</li> <li>• 300% FPL – April 2024</li> </ul> *Cty option to expand 300% FPL Oct. 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>300% FPL – Aug. 1, 2022</b></li> <li>• 400% FPL – Aug. 1, 2023</li> <li>• 500% FPL – Aug. 1, 2024</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>260% FPL – Aug. 2022</b></li> <li>• 325% FPL – April 2023</li> <li>• 400% FPL – April 2024</li> </ul> *Cty option to expand to 400% FPL in 2022
<b>Co-Payments for Families receiving care</b>	Maximum – 10% of income over FPL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Below 300% FPL – NO CO-PAYS as of Aug. 1, 2022</b></li> <li>• 300-400% FPL – no more than 10% of income over FPL beginning Aug. 1, 2023</li> <li>• 400-500% FPL – no more than 10% of income over FPL beginning Aug. 1, 2024</li> </ul>	Maximum – 10% of income over FPL
<b>Work/immigration status requirements</b>	NO CHANGE  Retains current work/activity/immigration requirements	<b>ELIMINATES WORK AND IMMIGRATION STATUS REQUIREMENTS</b>	NO CHANGE  Retains current work/activity/immigration requirements
<b>Who does expanded eligibility apply to?</b>	Expanded eligibility applies to 6 weeks through 12 (current eligibility)	Expanded eligibility applies to only 5 years of age and under (approximately)	Expanded eligibility applies to 6 weeks through 12 (current eligibility)

Source: [Schuyler Center](#)

# THE PUBLIC'S OPINION ON CHILD CARE EXPANSION

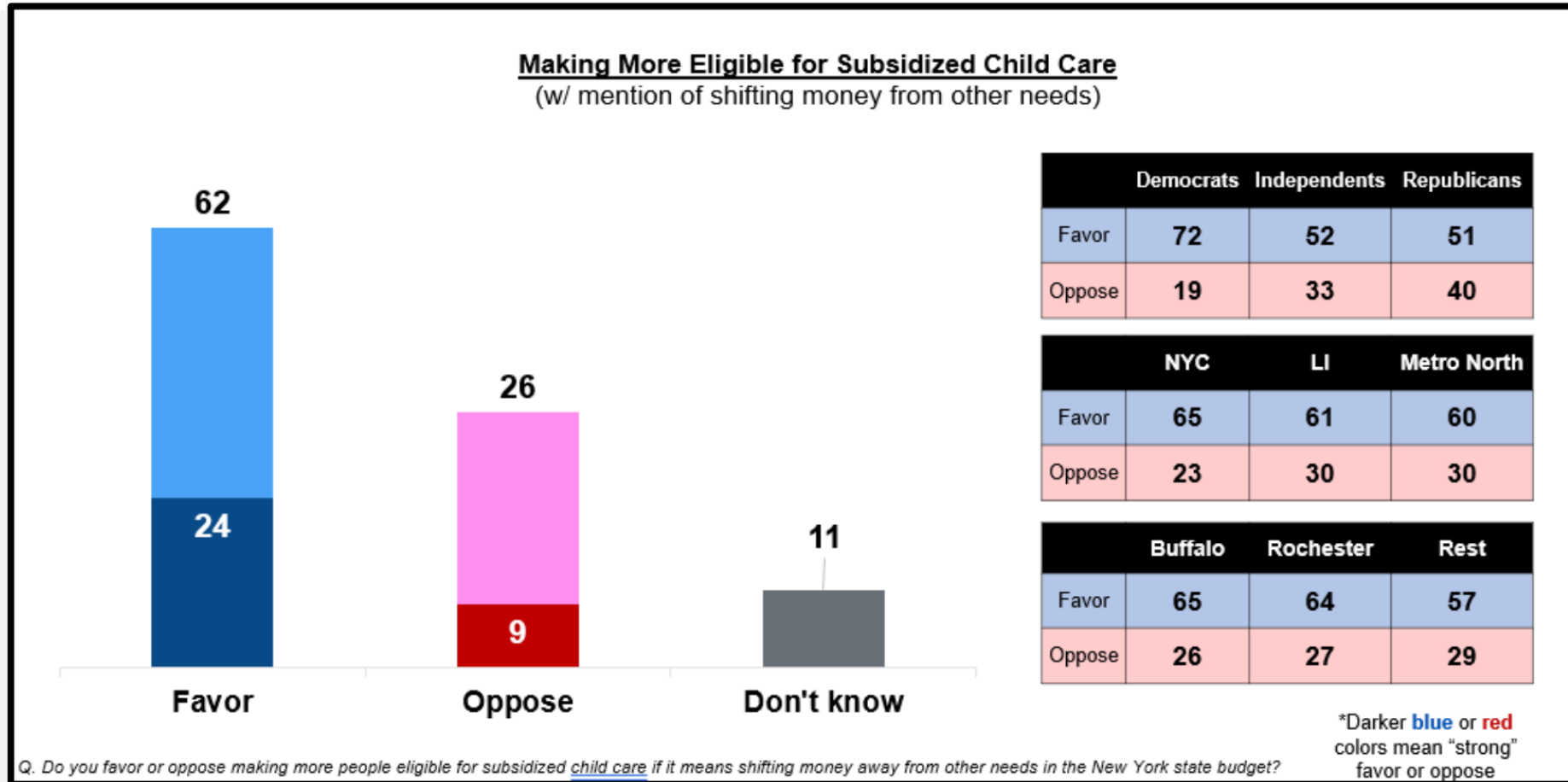


# THE PUBLIC SUPPORTS EXPANDING CHILD CARE:

- 62% of New Yorkers favor making more families eligible for child care subsidies through the state budget, while just 26% oppose
- Voters of all parties favor expanding state investments in child care by double digits, including:
  - Democrats (72% support, 19% oppose)
  - Independents (52% support, 33% oppose), and
  - Republicans (51% support, 40% oppose)

Source: [Robin Hood commissioned HarrisX Poll](#)

# SUPPORT FOR MORE ELIGIBLE FOR SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE EVEN AT THE EXPENSE SHIFTING FUNDING AWAY FROM OTHER NEEDS IN NYS BUDGET



Source: [Robin Hood commissioned HarrisX Poll](#)

# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

**For more information, contact**

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**[kchan@robinhood.org](mailto:kchan@robinhood.org)**



**Office of Children  
and Family Services**

# **Family First Prevention Services Act: New York State Prevention Plan and Reimagining Child Welfare**

**March 24, 2022**

# Agenda

- I. Family First Preventive Services Act /New York's Prevention Plan
- II. Child Welfare Transformation
- III. Discussion and Questions and Answers



# Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)



NEW  
YORK  
STATE

Office of Children  
and Family Services

# Background – Overview

The *Family First Prevention Services Act* (FFPSA) was enacted as part of the federal Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123)

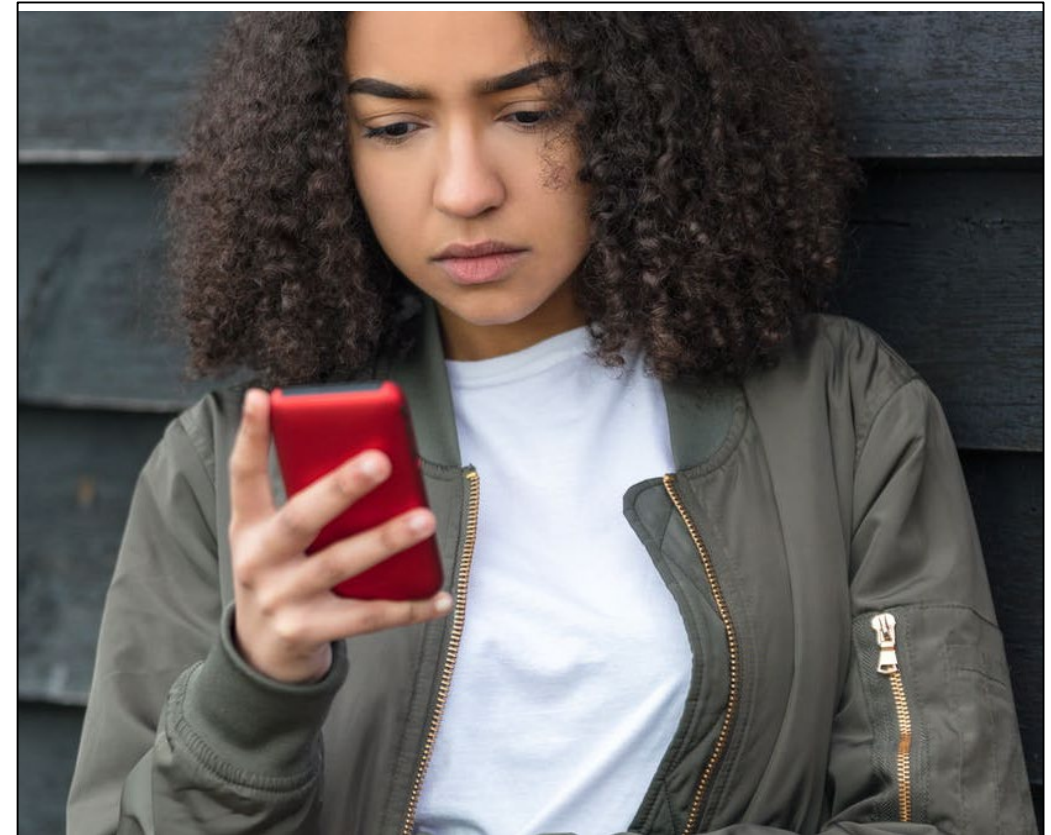
- Reforms federal financing to prioritize family based foster care over residential care by limiting federal reimbursement for certain residential placements
- Aimed at providing higher quality care in congregate settings with focus on entire family
- Goal is to reduce lengths of stay and prevent recurrence of placement



# Background – Overview

FFPSA has two major components:

- Prevention Services – New Title IV-E reimbursement available, at state option, for evidence-based programs
  - NY must comply with congregate care provisions before it can access
- Congregate Care – reforms federal financing to prioritize family-based foster care and places limits on reimbursements for congregate care



# FFPSA: Congregate Care – Brief Overview





# What is a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)?

## Requirements for a QRTP

- Trauma-informed treatment model
- Licensed nursing and clinical staff on-site during business hours and on-call after hours
- Family participation in treatment and six months post discharge family support services
- Nationally accredited





# QRTP Placements – What Must Occur

Any placement of a child in a QRTP that is made on or after September 29, 2021, triggers a series of legal requirements:

- Assessment of child’s needs by a “qualified individual” (QI) within 30-days of the placement’s start
- Court review of placement within 60-days of the placement’s start
- Placements beyond one year (or a total of 18 non-consecutive months) require approval by “head of state”
- Failure to comply will result in loss of federal title



# FFPSA: Prevention



# FFPSA Provisions: Prevention

Creates new opportunities by providing federal funds for preventive services...

- States with an approved prevention plan can receive 50% reimbursement for qualified in-home parenting, substance abuse and mental health services provided to
  - “candidates for foster care” and their caregivers and
  - children in foster care who are pregnant or parenting and their caregivers



# FFPSA Provisions: Prevention

To draw down prevention funds, states must

- Be implementing FFPSA congregate care provisions,
- Have an approved five-year state prevention plan, including state's definition of "candidates for foster care" and
- Use programs rated and approved by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse.



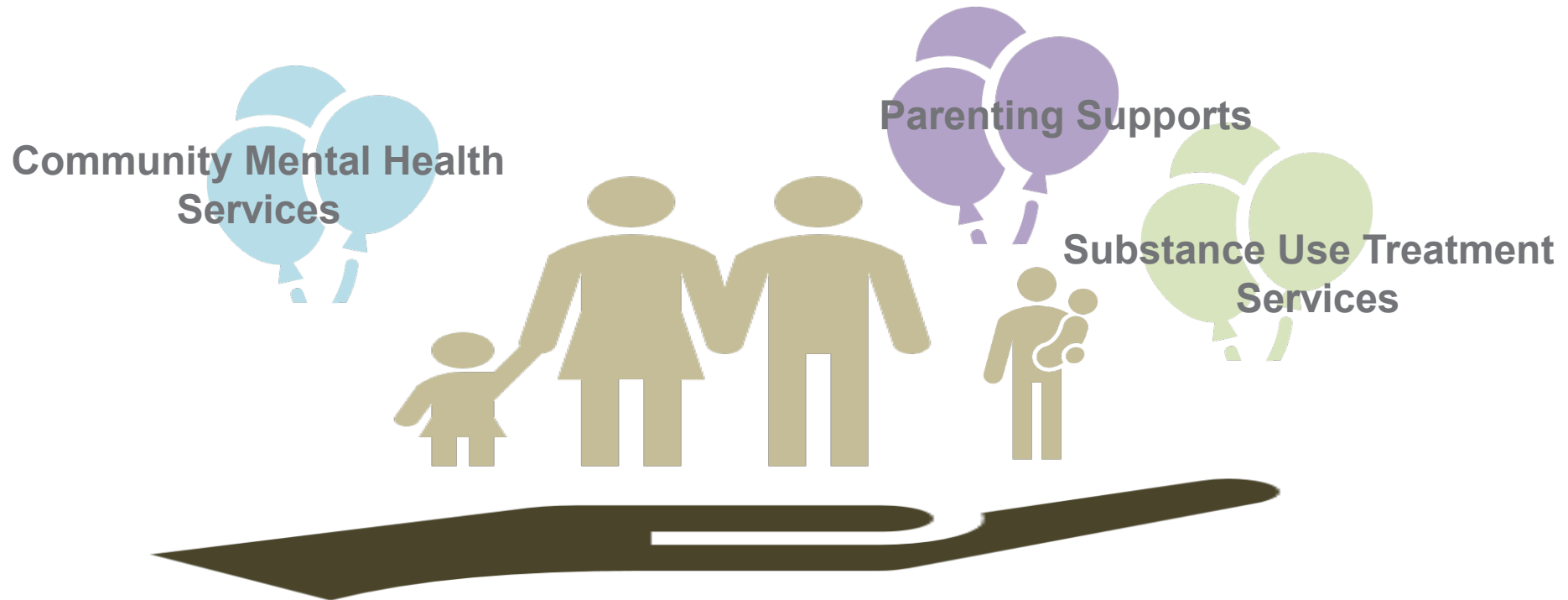
# FFPSA Provisions: EBPs

States can only claim for evidenced-based programs (EBPs) rated and approved by the federal clearinghouse as

- Promising,
- Supported or
- Well-supported.



# Family First Prevention Services



Keep children safely at home and enhance family well-being through an expanded array of evidence-based preventive programs (EBPs)



# NYS's Prevention Plan

- Draft plan outlining New York State larger prevention vision and how state will leverage Family First provisions to obtain “child-family well-being system” shared with planning partners for feedback
- Has been submitted to the federal government for consideration
- Implementation will begin when federal approval is received, and state systems are able to support documentation and claiming requirements



# OCFS Vision



# OCFS Prevention Vision

- Theory of Change
- New York State Logic Model
- Building upon New York State's momentum
- A renewed focus on understanding of well-being
- Critical role of federal partners and investments
- New York's transformation policy and practice strategies

# Theory of Change

*Poverty-related factors should not be why families come to the attention of child welfare*

OCFS will look to:

- Leverage a vast array of preventive services, including economic and concrete supports; and
- Reduce disproportionality and disparity by incorporating the voices of those with lived experiences as we advance policies and practices that strengthen economic security and concrete supports.
- Use adaptations of EBPs to serve families of color and LGBTQ.





# New York State Logic Model

- Increase the number of children and families receiving Family First and other needed preventive services by expanding the populations to be served.
- Use of evidence-based services
- Outcomes
  - Parents and children will experience improved family functioning as they active the desired outcomes indicted by the provided service.
  - The number of children and families with Family First EBPs and primary prevention programs will increase, leading to a reduced number of children removed from their homes, fewer foster care entries and fewer repeat CPS contacts.

# Building Upon New York State's Momentum

- Family resource centers
- Parenting education programs
- Home visiting programs
- Domestic violence programs
- Continue robust open-ended preventive funding
- Kinship Navigator, kinship programs and permanency resource centers



## A Renewed Focus on Understanding of Well-being

- Promote not just child well-being, but also parent and community
- Focus on the needs of the entire family.
- Work with others (sister state agencies, local districts, preventive providers, community-based organizations, etc.,) to address the needs of families.



# Critical Role of Federal Partnerships and Investments

- Look to the federal government to allow for more flexibility to robustly leverage Title IV-E funds through Family First to serve families in need upstream before they become involved in the child welfare system.
- Infuse community-based child abuse prevention and Title IV-B funds with additional resources and flexibility that are needed to eliminate racial inequity and disparity through expanded upstream family-strengthening supports.

# New York's Transformation Policy and Practice Strategies

- Recognize that the health and well-being of individuals and communities depends on multiple systems at the community and societal levels that leverage existing resources before child maltreatment occurs.
- Establishing integrated interagency public health approach to serving and strengthening families to tackle complex social needs and promote parent, child and family well-being by focusing on prevention, cross-system collaboration and community supports.



NYS Preventive Services Continuum  
Vision: Family First and Beyond

**TERTIARY  
PREVENTIVE SERVICES:**

Families receive preventive services following contact with child welfare

**SECONDARY PREVENTIVE SERVICES:  
“LIGHT-TOUCH FAMILIES”**

Families have identifiable needs that place them at higher risk for child maltreatment/foster care but are not yet known to child welfare. Supportive services are provided outside of the formal child welfare system.

**EARLY/PRIMARY PREVENTIVE SERVICES:  
“NO-TRACK FAMILIES”**

Resources are provided to all families to address economic, health, housing, child care, education and social needs

# Child Welfare Transformation



# Child Welfare Transformation

Beyond Family First,, OCFS has or is in the process of implementing many new initiatives to transform child welfare:

- SCR reform
- Mandated Reporter Training Revisions
- Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs) materials
- New reimbursement for parent and child representation in child welfare legal proceedings/efforts and investments to increase quality legal representation
- Banning prone restraints for children in OCFS congregate care settings
- Blind removals and Kin first Firewall



# Reimagining Child Welfare

Despite huge transformation in child welfare there are still ways we can reimagine the system to better serve children and families around New York State:

- Expansion of Family Assessment Response (FAR)
- Expansion of Home Visiting Programs including Healthy Families New York
- Connecting families in need to more community-based services





# Discussion and Questions?



# Next Steps & Closing Remarks

# Thank you!



Building Success for Children  
Ensuring Success for New York