Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York
Annual Report
During this pivotal year, the CCC team has remained a trusted and vocal champion of New York’s Children. We leverage our research, civic engagement, and advocacy to call attention to the ways the pandemic has impacted the lives of children, youth, and their families and press for budget and legislative solutions that advance recovery, equity, and well-being.

To guide this work, the CCC staff and Board of Directors adopted a vision, mission and values statement centered on diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. These values informed the development of goals and strategies that drove our intentional efforts to elevate the voices and perspectives of New Yorkers who were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In this annual report you will find examples that include our work to draw attention to the priorities developed and advanced by the NYC Youth Agenda; our participatory, community-based research focused on child welfare, early care and education, and early intervention; and our collaborative agenda setting and public relations efforts with parents, caregivers and youth in the Family Homelessness Coalition, the Campaign for Healthy Minds Healthy Kids, and the Raise the Age-NY campaign.

A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Partners,

During this pivotal year, the CCC team has remained a trusted and vocal champion of New York’s Children. We leverage our research, civic engagement, and advocacy to call attention to the ways the pandemic has impacted the lives of children, youth, and their families and press for budget and legislative solutions that advance recovery, equity, and well-being.

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During the simultaneous significant leadership changes at the state and city level, CCC remained focused on ensuring that all of New York’s leaders kept the needs of children, families and communities front and center in budget and legislative negotiations. To support these efforts, we also continued to champion federal proposals that would help state and local government respond to the increased needs of New Yorkers.

As we reflect, we are thankful for the steadfast commitment of our Board and Advocacy Council, the expertise of our staff and community partners, and the generous support of so many individuals, foundations, and corporations. Together, we achieved state and city budgets to improve access to essential services for children and families. This work creates a solid foundation upon which we will continue to build: one which puts DEIJ values into action in our research, civic engagement and advocacy in the years to come.

On behalf of the staff and Board at CCC, we thank you for your commitment to CCC’s mission and we look forward to continuing to work collaboratively to ensure that all New York children and their families are healthy, housed, educated, and safe.

Sincerely,

Jane Blair Oberle  Jennifer March

Chair, Board of Directors  Executive Director
CCC produced a variety of data-driven tools and products this year aimed at addressing equity, recovery, and well-being for New York’s children, families, and communities. Our work included reports that addressed inequities experienced by communities of color as well as projects that leveraged our established methods of participatory research and community-based assessments to uplift the voices of youth, parents, and service providers.
We started our program year with an in-depth analysis of the US Census Bureau’s **Household Pulse Survey** to surface the impact of the pandemic on children and families.

We then built upon this framework throughout the year, with the release of a new **Keeping Track of NYC’s Children** data book outlining the impacts of COVID-19 on the lives of New York City’s children and families, and the structural inequities that both preceded and emerged from the pandemic.

We released our first ever **Early Childhood Opportunities Index**. The inaugural edition, *School Ready Communities*, outlined the community-level factors that create opportunities or barriers for families in supporting their young children’s physical, cognitive, and socioemotional development, and preparedness for kindergarten.

In addition, our infographic on **Unaddressed Needs in New York’s Child Care System** illustrated through data how the early care and education system has changed over the past decade and the gaps that need to be addressed by new city and state leaders.
We also continued to leverage findings from our participatory and community-based assessment projects to elevate the voices and experiences of New Yorkers with lived experience in our advocacy efforts. Among them, we leveraged our 2021 survey of child welfare prevention service providers across New York City and statewide to illustrate the wide ranging and pressing needs that families presented. We also worked with Learning Collaborative partners to develop shared metrics and qualitative data collection to inform our efforts to improve referral and retention in early intervention services.

The team continued building upon our Keeping Track Online database as a platform to turn data users into advocates for New York’s children and families with over 45,000 unique visitors throughout the program year.

These efforts undergirded CCC’s overall work to call public attention to the opportunities and challenges experienced by children and families prior to and as a result of the pandemic and provided data-driven opportunities to advance efforts underway by government, nonprofit, and philanthropic leaders to respond to the pandemic and promote greater racial equity in child and family well-being.
An Amplified Voice for NYC’s Children

This has been a pivotal year for CCC’s advocacy, as New York welcomed new leadership at both the state and city level. We put forward an ambitious agenda that provided a framework to advance an equitable recovery for children, families, and communities.
Throughout last fall, CCC worked closely with partners to ensure the needs of NYC’s children and families remained front and center in the run up to November 2021 citywide elections. Our **Transition Plan for City Leaders** outlined the bold action needed by government to lift incomes; stabilize housing; combat learning loss; achieve child, family, and community safety; and address rising behavioral health needs. In addition, we worked collectively with campaign partners to develop transition plans for the Campaign for Children and the Family Homelessness Coalition, helping to ensure that issues around housing supports, early education, and youth services were featured in the coverage surrounding the race for mayor, city council, borough presidents, comptroller, and public advocate.

At the state level, we advocated to ensure that Governor Hochul’s first budget prioritized investments that would improve access to supports needed to promote health, safety, and well-being. Through a regular drumbeat of budget, legislative, and data analysis paired with civic and media engagement, we pressed for solutions to the systemic inequities that left New York’s communities of color disproportionately vulnerable during the pandemic.
Our Youth Action Members (YAMs), with guidance from our research team, undertook our first ever citywide youth survey reaching 1300 New York City youth. The YAMs built upon this work in partnership with young people from CUNY’s Intergenerational Change Initiative (ICI), YVote, and DYCD’s We the Youth Advisory Council to develop a comprehensive NYC Youth Agenda for Mayor Eric Adams and the City Council that reflects the needs and priorities of New York’s young people. Together more than 3,000 youth informed the Youth Agenda, elevating the needs of NYC’s youth—especially BIPOC youth—to improve access to housing, food, employment, and critical mental health resources.
Youth Voices Reinforcing Priorities
Supporting Children and Families

The NYC Youth Agenda demonstrates how the priorities advanced by CCC, including in housing security, economic mobility, and behavioral health, are top of mind for NYC youth.

Housing Security

What Surveyed Youth Say

47% of youth said they did not feel hopeful about being able to live in NYC when they grow up¹ and

54% of youth said affordable housing would make their community better.¹

What CCC Data Show

Housing stability is a youth justice issue.

Nearly one in 10 students in New York City lived in shelters, doubled up with other families, or unsheltered in the 2020–2021 school year.

More than half of households living in or near poverty are severely rent burdened (where rent makes up 50% or more of household income).²

Severe Rent Burden by Household Income Level, 2020

1 The ICI 2021 Youth Ask Youth Census Survey; 2 CCC’s 2022 Keeping Track of NYC’s Children.
Economic Mobility

What Surveyed Youth Say

Only 54% of youth feel prepared to accomplish their next professional, personal, or academic goal.¹

Less than 50% reported receiving extracurricular support for academics and tutoring or career, internship, and job opportunities.²

What CCC Data Show

The pandemic has resulted in increased barriers in youth access to higher education and the labor market.

Over a quarter of citywide youth 16-19 are unemployed, and in some community districts this percentage skyrockets to over 50%.³

The share of 16-to-24 year olds out of school and out of work is likely to climb in years to come with areas of the South Bronx and central Brooklyn in need of expanded opportunities for young people.³

Opportunity Youth (16–24-year-olds who are neither in work nor in school) by Community District, 2018–2020 (3-year average)

1 The ICI 2021 Youth Ask Youth Census Survey; 2 CCC’s 2021 Voicing Our Future Survey; 3 CCC’s 2022 Keeping Track of NYC’s Children.
**Behavioral Health**

**What Surveyed Youth Say**

**More than a third (35%)**

of youth reported wanting or needing mental health services from a professional; among these youth, only 42% reported receiving these services.¹

**69%**

of youth reported being anxious enough to make it hard to participate in their academic, social, or family lives.²

**What CCC Data Show**

**New York’s mental health system for kids is in crisis.**

Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for NY adolescents 15–19 and the 3rd leading cause of death among NY children ages 5–14.³

Accessing services is difficult when there are so few providers:⁴

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¹ The ICI 2021 Youth Ask Youth Census Survey; ² CCC’s 2021 Voicing Our Future Survey; ³ CDC; ⁴ American Academy of Pediatrics
Championing Victories for Children & Families

Working as a leader in city and state coalitions and campaigns—*Healthy Minds, Healthy Kids*; *Family Homelessness Coalition*; *Child Welfare Financing Coalition*; *Raise the Age NY*; the *Campaign for Children*; *Kids Can’t Wait Coalition*, among others—we fostered collaboration across advocates, direct service providers, impacted individuals and communities that helped achieve significant investments and legislative successes this year.
Healthy

As a leader in the Campaign for Healthy Minds, Health Kids, we worked throughout the year to call attention to the ways the pandemic has exacerbated the child and youth behavioral health crisis in New York State. Through steady media, government relations and public mobilization efforts, our advocacy helped secure significant investments in the state budget that will improve access to care. Our work has informed the state’s increased commitment of state and federal dollars to child and adolescent behavioral health services, increased rates of reimbursement for clinical care, and expanded access to a range of new services in Child Health Plus.

After years of advocacy, the Kids Can’t Wait Coalition helped make the case for the Covered Lives bill to be signed into state law and increased supports available for young children with disabilities and their families. Locally, we worked with Campaign for Effective Behavioral Health Supports in Schools to secure city resources to sustain a range of evidence-based programs for students with significant mental health needs.
Housed

Working with our Family Homelessness Coalition partners, we released a transition plan for new city leaders that laid the foundation for our successful budget advocacy. Throughout the year, we collaborated with Family Homelessness Coalition fellows—who are women with lived experience in NYC homeless shelters—to call public attention to actions needed by city and state leaders to expand access to supports that stabilize housing and enable families to move more quickly out of shelter. This included a Home for the Holidays webinar held in partnership with Trinity Church Wall Street that highlighted the real-life experiences of mothers who have navigated the New York City shelter system.

Our work informed local and state laws and programming to address the affordable and supportive housing needs of homeless youth and families and secured resources to expand access to emergency rent relief and increase the value of state and local housing subsidies. With our partners, we secured resources for shelter-based community coordinators to better address the needs of students who are homeless.
Educated

Working collaboratively with partners throughout the city and state, we helped secure historic investments in the Early Education System this year. Our work on the **Empire State Campaign for Child Care** influenced state budget negotiations that resulted in $7 billion in child care that will expand income eligibility, raise reimbursement rates, and invest in the workforce statewide.

At the city level we worked with our **Campaign for Children** partners to elevate the need for investments in infant toddler care, preschool special education, and expansion of early care and education services for immigrant households, homeless families, and in communities with unmet needs. Our advocacy also informed Mayor Adams’ Blueprint for Child Care and Early Childhood Education in New York City.
Safe

Last fall, Governor Hochul signed into law legislation to raise the age of juvenile delinquency and allow a second chance for young adults to secure youthful offender status. We built on these steps forward by effectively mobilizing to prevent a rollback of New York’s Raise the Age reforms, engaging with direct service and advocacy partners, caregivers, and youth to elevate the importance of taking a public health approach to youth and community safety. Our work throughout session advanced an agenda focused on youth opportunity and justice, and helped to secure state investments in community-based violence interrupting initiatives, youth development, and employment programming.

Working in partnership with the New York State Child Welfare Coalition, we supported the development and introduction of the Children and Families Reinvestment Act, presenting a historic opportunity for the state to develop community-centered approaches to family support, expand funding for existing child welfare and prevention programs, and to create a universal child care system.

In our work to combat child poverty, we advocated alongside state and local partners to expand and deepen tax credits which will help to lift incomes for families at the state and city level; including enhancements to the Empire State Child Credit and deepening the State and New York City Earned Income Tax Credit. At the city level, this EITC expansion represents the first reform of the local EITC in 20 years and prioritizes the largest enhancement reaching the lowest earners.
Through CCC’s Civic Engagement and Communications work, we leveraged our policy and data work to effectively engage the media, government officials, and New Yorkers at large, raising the public discourse around the pandemic’s impact on child and family well-being and the actions needed from government to advance equity, recovery, and well-being. CCC has also developed several new initiatives to increase parent, youth, and community engagement in its research, civic engagement, and advocacy.
CCC achieved more than **160 media hits** through regular outreach to city, state, and national outlets. We also continued to develop our **communications platforms**, including our organizational web site and coalition-specific web sites for our HMHK, C4C and FHC campaigns, social media platforms, and e-action network, and implemented behavioral design strategies to increase participation in CCC’s digital civic engagement tools. We leveraged these communications vehicles to support city and statewide efforts to improve the take up of the federal Child Tax Credit and to promote a series of **e-advocacy campaigns** that resulted in thousands of letters sent to state and city officials in support of CCC’s budget and legislative priorities.

Through a series of virtual rallies and events, we elevated the voices of parents, youth and service providers and highlighted the areas where government action was needed to advance equity, recovery and well-being for children and families. These efforts included a **Keeping Track of NYC’s Children Policy Breakfast** that engaged four new council members in discussions on our data and the key areas they were prioritizing in their first budget process. Our **Roadmap to an Equitable Recovery** online seminar series provided an overview of data and findings from the Keeping Track data book and outline opportunities for government to take action in areas such as behavioral health, youth justice and opportunity, and economic security for families. 
Skill and Leadership Development

Through our advocacy courses, we continued to engage and train adult and youth New Yorkers in educational opportunities to learn about the public policies and systems designed to support children, youth and families, and the advocacy efforts underway aimed at improving child and family well-being. This year’s Community Leadership Course was held virtually, and its online curriculum offered students opportunities to engage with staff and professionals in the field about the public policies and systems that are designed to support children, youth, and families in New York.

Our YouthAction Community Leadership Course in the fall engaged 19 high school students in examining behavioral health policy and equity. The spring course was held in collaboration with youth development staff from NYCHA, providing 19 young residents of NYCHA housing an opportunity to examine reform efforts underway at NYCHA and teach them about strategies to interrogate and advocate for public policies. YouthAction Members, who are graduates of the course, were integral to CCC’s state and city budget advocacy this year, attending budget advocacy meetings with elected and appointed officials as well as speaking at virtual rallies at both the state and city levels, and presenting public testimony before the City Council, the New York City Racial Justice Commission, and the Interagency Coordinating Committee. In addition, our Peer Trainers hosted Advocacy workshops for 175 youth in programs throughout the city this year.

Finally, we worked in partnership with our colleagues on the Campaign for Healthy Minds Healthy kids to launch a Statewide Intergenerational Council of Behavioral Health Advocates, which will consist of and be led by youth and caregivers who have experience with the behavioral health system and are deeply familiar with the needs of children and youth in their communities. Our work kicked off in August 2022 with a series of community conversations to identify key priorities and opportunities to strengthen community relationships.
Because we are nonpartisan and do not accept government funding in order to remain independent, we rely on the generosity of foundations, corporations and individuals and the revenue raised by our special events is critically important to sustaining our work.
Celebration Breakfast

CCC’s Celebration Breakfast was held virtually in October 2021, providing an opportunity to reflect on the work that we undertook throughout the pandemic to draw attention to and address the needs of children, families, and communities.

We presented CCC Board Member Chris Stern Hyman with our highest honor, the Eleanor Roosevelt Award. Chris was recognized for her steadfast commitment to advancing public health, education, addressing family homelessness and supporting CCC’s mission of ensuring that all children are healthy, housed, educated and safe.

We celebrated the civic activism of Jo-Ann Yoo by honoring her with the Samuel P. Peabody Award, which recognizes vision, innovation, and dedication to and for children, youth and families. Jo-Ann was recognized for her leadership advancing racial and economic equality as the Executive Director of the Asian American Federation.

We ended the morning with an inspiring conversation between Vanguard Awardees Dr. Ibram X. Kendi and Heather McGhee and moderated by CCC’s Executive Director Jennifer March about race equity in pandemic impacts and recovery. CCC’s Vanguard Award is our most forward-looking honor recognizing notable individuals who are pioneering leaders in change. Dr Kendi is the Professor and Founding Director of the Boston University Center for Antiracist Research and Author of the New York Times bestseller How to Be an Antiracist. Heather McGhee is a Race Equity and Economic Equality Advocate who authored the New York Times bestseller The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together.
CCC Celebrates at MoMA

Our spring benefit at the Museum of Modern Art was a special evening bringing CCC’s supporters together to reaffirm the importance of child advocacy. It was also an opportunity to recognize the New York Community Trust, New York’s largest community foundation and one of the oldest and largest community foundations in the U.S. The Trust has been a long-standing and generous partner, which has supported many of CCC’s seminal victories over the past decade in areas such as youth justice, child care, youth development and children’s behavioral health. We were delighted to have Roderick Jenkins and Shaun Morehead join us for the celebration and accept the award on behalf of the Trust.
Annual Meeting

At our Annual Meeting, the Board and Advocacy Council and staff gathered to reflect on CCC’s accomplishments in research, civic engagement, and advocacy, as well as the work we have undertaken to define and advance CCC’s DEIJ values, goals and strategies. We had the honor of recognizing Assemblymember Richard Gottfried and Senator Jabari Brisport with the CCC Founders’ Award, a recognition named on behalf of CCC founders Eleanor Roosevelt, Adele Levy, and the Honorable Justine Wise Polier, that is presented each year to a select few extraordinary individuals who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to child and family well-being and civic life. Both Senator Brisport and Assemblymember Gottfried spoke at the annual meeting about the significance of CCC’s long history of and current efforts to build collaborative working relationships with New York’s government leaders.

**Senator Brisport**, who chairs the Committee on Children and Families, has been a vocal leader and persistent champion for budgetary decisions that would address child and family needs in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to his retirement in June, **Assemblymember Gottfried** was the longest standing State legislator in New York’s history and has been tireless in his work to establish a system of comprehensive health coverage for all New Yorkers.
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Elcoma Nichols  
IT Support
**Statement of Activities**

Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York, Inc.

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022**

(With comparative totals for the year ended March 31, 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</th>
<th>Without Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>With Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>Total 3/31/22</th>
<th>Total 3/31/21</th>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</strong></td>
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**EXPENSES**

Program services:

| Policy and advocacy          | $1,878,156                  | $1,878,156               | $1,744,786    | $1,744,786    |
| Information and education    | 1,965,515                   | 1,965,515               | 2,002,597     | 2,002,597     |
| **TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES**   | **$3,843,671**              | $0                      | **$3,843,671** | **$3,747,383** |

Supporting services:

| Management and general       | $354,490                    | $354,490                 | $249,519      | $249,519      |
| Fundraising                  | 447,433                     | 447,433                  | 398,201       | 398,201       |
| **TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES**| **$801,923**                | 0                       | **$801,923**  | **$647,720**  |

**TOTAL EXPENSES** | **$4,645,594** | 0 | **$4,645,594** | **$4,395,103** |

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS** | (770,453) | (85,000) | (855,453) | 706,613 |

Non-operating activities:

| Investment return            | 52,663                       | 52,663                   | 521,213       | 521,213       |

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS** | $(717,790) | $(85,000) | $(802,790) | 1,227,826 |

**NET ASSETS—BEGINNING OF YEAR** | $3,255,708 | $391,667 | $3,647,375 | $2,419,549 |

**NET ASSETS—END OF YEAR** | $2,537,918 | $306,667 | $2,844,585 | $3,647,375 |
2020-2021 Donors

CCC gratefully acknowledges the many individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations that support our work. Listed below are combined donations to CCC’s 2021 Virtual Fall Breakfast and CCC Celebrates at MoMA 2022, in addition to all foundation grants and gifts from individuals during our 2021–2022 Fiscal Year (4/1/2021–3/31/2022).

Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York is tax exempt under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

$100,000 or more
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Diana & Frederick Elghanayan
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The Joseph H. Flom Foundation
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M&T Bank
The Monarch Foundation
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NYC Fund to End Youth & Family Homelessness, housed at FJC
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The Omer Foundation
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Steven Aresty
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Sherrell Andrews
Anonymous
Cecilia & Douglas Bartner
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