Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York
2022-2023 Annual Report
A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Partners,

New York’s children and families continue to feel the repercussions of the pandemic. As child advocates, we are committed to leveraging our research, civic engagement, and policy and budget expertise to press for government action.

Over the past year, CCC has championed an ambitious agenda aimed at promoting equity, well-being and justice across all communities. We have focused on an urgent call to action to advance policy, budget and legislative solutions that combat disparities and promote recovery in the face of persistent health and socio-economic challenges.

Time and again we demonstrate that there is strength in numbers. Our data-driven publications undergird our efforts to build public understanding, engage and mobilize New Yorkers, and inform the work underway by leaders in the nonprofit, government, and philanthropic sectors. We continue to play a leadership role in city and statewide coalitions and campaigns, and we support and develop new opportunities for caregivers, youth, and child and family-serving professionals to inform advocacy priorities and engage in research and advocacy.
All of this work is intentionally grounded in our diversity, equity, inclusion and justice (DEIJ) values; and we remain diligent in our efforts to learn and explore new opportunities to collaborate in strength-based ways alongside the community partners with whom we advocate.

In this annual report you will find examples of how our work is making an impact. Through our fact-based and community-centered advocacy, we engage leaders in state and city government, urging budget and legislative action to lift incomes, stabilize housing, reconnect children to developmental supports, child care, education, and youth services, and address the child and youth behavioral health crisis. As always, these accomplishments are made possible thanks to the support and partnership of individuals like you.

This coming year will be crucial. While the city and state face the loss of federal funds put in place to respond to the pandemic, we are committed to ensuring that the needs of children, families, and communities remain front and center. With your support we will remain a trusted voice in the decisions made at City Hall, in Albany and in Washington D.C.

Thank you for continuing to share in our critical vision, and for supporting CCC and the work we must do together to ensure all children are healthy, housed, educated and safe.

With gratitude,

Jane Blair Oberle  Jennifer March
Chair, Board of Directors  Executive Director
Working as a leader and partner in city and state coalitions and campaigns, this past program year we emphasized the importance of collaboration in supporting New York’s families and children. We leveraged data and policy recommendations alongside advocates, direct service providers, and community members to help attain significant investments and legislative successes, laying the foundation for a recovery that ensures children in every family and community are healthy, housed, educated and safe.
Economically Secure

In the past year, conversations around poverty reduction significantly ramped up following the state’s commitment to reducing child poverty through the Child Poverty Reduction Act. CCC’s own commitment to achieving economic stability for families informed collective work, including helping to establish a **Local Income and Asset Development Work Group**, that submitted policy and budget recommendations to the Statewide Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council. We also worked with state partners as a member of the **New York Can End Child Poverty Group** to mobilize efforts to reduce poverty through Tax Credits and minimum wage increases, among others. As a result of these partnerships and priorities, the FY’24 State Adopted Budget included expanding the Empire State Child Credit to include children under the age of four, thereby bringing credit to an additional 600,000 plus children statewide. We also supported efforts to raise the minimum wage to $17 per hour in New York City, Westchester, Suffolk, and Nassau Counties by 2026 while increasing the minimum wage to $16 in other parts of the state by 2026.

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**POLITICO**

Only half of NYC toddlers received timely services for developmental delays: report

**DAILY NEWS**

With children in crisis, families and advocates rally for more mental health support in state budget
Healthy

As the lead convener in the Campaign for Healthy Minds, Healthy Kids, CCC was instrumental alongside partners in elevating the severity of New York’s child and youth behavioral health crisis, securing substantial state investments in behavioral health support, including $30 million for mental health services in schools, $5 million for the HealthySteps program, $5 million for wraparound services for children, $10 million for youth suicide prevention, and additional funding for Home Based Crisis Intervention.

CCC likewise served on the steering committee of the Campaign for Effective Behavioral Supports in Schools, influencing city investments to support youth and community mental health and informing recommendations included in the City Council’s Mental Health Roadmap. The City’s Adopted Budget included $5 million in FY’24 for the Mental Health Continuum, $2.23 million for Developmental, Psychological and Behavioral Health Services, and funding for other important initiatives supporting behavioral health needs.

As a steering committee member on the Kids Can’t Wait Coalition, CCC joined with partners to engage state legislators as champions focused on increasing provider rates for Early Intervention (EI) services, incentivizing in-person service delivery to children who need services, reducing disparities in service delivery and ensuring that children with disabilities are not turned away from child care programs.

Significant steps forward were also made thanks to the New York City Coalition to End Lead Poisoning, a coalition in which CCC worked alongside partners to see five lead prevention bills introduced and passed by City Council to address childhood lead poisoning by enhancing prevention and enforcing existing laws.
Housed

Co-leading the **Family Homelessness Coalition**, CCC advocated for improvements to city housing supports that would positively address the escalating homelessness crisis, better connecting families with housing stability and prevent evictions, as well as championing funding for rent arrears and the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP) at the state level. Our efforts culminated in the City’s elimination of the onerous 90-day shelter rule and passing of legislation that expands CityFHEPS housing voucher access to more NYC families by eliminating burdensome barriers of eligibility. At the State level though HAVP was not included in the FY24 State Budget, efforts supporting the HAVP significantly increased public awareness and legislative support; for the first time the HAVP proposal was included in both the State Senate and Assembly’s One House bills.
Educated

CCC continued to serve as a convener and steering committee member of the Campaign for Children (C4C), playing a major role in drawing attention to and advancing solutions for the city’s child care payment delay crisis, which left contracted early education providers unable to pay workers and meet operating costs, forcing classroom and program closures across the city. CCC helped keep both media and elected officials’ attention on this crisis and met with city representatives to discuss solutions and secure a wide range of operational fixes that resulted in providers receiving back payments on amounts owed and bringing stability to the system.

As CCC and C4C continued to push for high-quality, affordable child care options, our data-driven efforts to champion solutions to open seats and rebut budget cuts were recognized at the city level with budget investments to expand funding for PromiseNYC and to convert 1,500 school day, school year seats to year-round, extended-day for working families. At the state level, CCC worked as a member of the steering committee for the Empire State Child Care Campaign (ESCCC) to successfully advocate to expand access to child care for undocumented children and families, reduce parent fees, and secure bold investments to stabilize and support the workforce and expand subsidy eligibility for families.

CCC was likewise an active member of the Solutions Not Suspensions (SNS) Coalition, which continues to build significant momentum at the State level. This year was the first time in nearly a decade that significant legislative support was publicly centered on SNS legislation which would establish a framework for restorative approaches to school discipline. Additionally at the City level, CCC advocated for a host of resources aimed to support students, including restoring investments for Community Coordinators who assist students in shelter with academic and social-emotional needs.
CCC continued prioritizing child welfare and youth justice progress together with partners in the **Child Welfare Financing Coalition** and **Raise the Age NY Coalition**. These priorities included: protecting and expediting access to funding for Raise the Age implementation, investing in youth opportunities and restorative justice practices, increasing supports for families involved in the child welfare system and youth in foster care, preserving family attachment, and more. CCC was also a collaborator to refine the Children and Families Reinvestment Act, which influenced child welfare investments and mirrored CCC’s own priorities.

Thanks to steadfast advocacy, the Child Welfare Housing Voucher increased for the first time since 1981, from $300 to $725, supporting reunification and independent living. A new direct cash transfer program pilot was also launched by the Office of Children and Family Services to measure the impact of a universal cash stipend on families’ future contact with the child welfare system. Advancing youth justice and opportunities, the State Budget reauthorized the Close to Home statute and maintained $250 million for Raise the Age implementation statewide, outside of New York City.
Grounding Advocacy In the Facts

CCC’s data-driven products reflected our commitments to inclusion and accountability, utilizing research to identify inequity and inform calls to action to break down systemic barriers to well-being. Through this work, we uplifted the concerns and experiences of youth, parents and service providers and drew attention to persistent disparities and needed solutions.
This year CCC tackled research that informed both organizational and coalition priorities to support families and children in need, keeping pace with timely issues that continue to affect New Yorkers.

At the macro level ahead of state budget season, CCC released *Child and Family Well-being in New York State: Addressing Barriers to More Equitable Opportunities*, an index that illustrated barriers to well-being at the county level for 62 counties, across New York and in the five boroughs. The publication analyzed 5-year estimates from Census data to rank each county from greatest to least barriers to well-being and call attention to policy solutions and budgetary actions that address the revealed concerns of inequity. This report helped set the stage for our state advocacy ahead of the FY’24 budget discussions and reinforced our holistic approach to improving well-being.

This year our data analysis also uncovered compounding issues of unaffordability across households in NYC. In the fall, CCC analyzed American Community Survey (ACS) estimates with a focus on housing affordability, evictions, and overcrowding, and the specifics on how immigration status impacted rent burden. The resulting factsheet, *Housing Security in New York City, 2021*, revealed how housing instability during the pandemic was not faced equally among New Yorkers.

In the spring, CCC released *The Youngest New Yorkers: Building a Path Toward a Universal Early Care & Education System in New York City*, a report summarizing our year-long, community-based research on the barriers families face in accessing New York City’s early care and education (ECE) programs. The report encompassed an analysis of administrative data on enrollment and capacity in ECE programs, ECE provider perspectives, and the experiences of parents with young children. In the early summer, CCC published *NYC’S Child Care Affordability Crisis: An Analysis of Recent Data*, which broke down the percentages of households that could and could not afford child care
City Council Caucus proposes solutions to address early childhood care crisis in NYC

Several counties show signs of poor infant health, high uninsured rates, report finds

Citizens’ Committee for Children Releases New Inequality Report Card

The Youngest New Yorkers
Building a Path Toward a Universal, Early Care & Education System in New York City

City’s Immigrant Families Saw Higher Rates of Rent Burden, Overcrowded Homes in 2021: Report
for children under five based on a federally set threshold, reinforcing our priorities to expand access to affordable, high quality child care.

Additionally, we produced an **Unmet Need Behavioral Health Infographic**, detailing facts about the youth mental health crisis in New York State for the Campaign for Healthy Minds, Healthy Kids, and working as a member of the Kids Can’t Wait Coalition, CCC produced an **Early Intervention fact sheet** addressing services delays within the system, with the focus on disparities in access.

Finally, our **Youth Justice infographic** revealed that youth crime statistics were at record lows and explaining the importance of youth investment in further combating justice involvement for youth to promote community well-being. This publication led the charge for an impactful CCC Op-ed around our state budget advocacy.
Informing, Engaging and Mobilizing

With a focus on accountability to our communities, CCC implemented several new and deepened existing initiatives to increase parent, youth, and community engagement in its research, civic engagement, and advocacy. Through CCC’s Civic Engagement and Communications work, we galvanized public participation in child and family advocacy through media, partnerships, and digital communications, connecting our audiences with opportunities to support the advancement of equity and well-being. We work to create the biggest umbrella possible to engage and mobilize all New Yorkers who want to get involved.
Making Connections & Informing the Public

Connecting CCC’s work to the public discourse on child and family well-being, we worked to secure 160 media hits through which we raised the visibility of our publications, secured Op-eds and elevated the diverse voices engaged in advocacy, from community members to State legislators and City Council members, to nonprofit colleagues, to CCC staff.

We elevated our advocacy, research, and data through online channels from our e-action network to our social media platforms. We engaged our e-action network to demonstrate public support for our advocacy priorities at both the city and state levels, producing 19 targeted take action campaigns. Through our new bi-weekly newsletter, *Advocacy Pulse*, we highlighted our advocacy efforts, data and publications, and related news for our readership while connecting our own work to both the work of our partners and the public discourse. Additionally, in December we launched a monthly Youth Justice Newsletter, which highlights advocacy efforts, events and youth opportunities.

CCC also developed new online advocacy tools, including an updated and interactive *What is Effective Advocacy?* page and an Election Voter Guide that allows users to find their polling locations, elected officials, and more. To further relate CCC’s work to the broader context of city and state advocacy, as well as related data and advocacy work, we wrote and published 21 Insight blog posts that connect the dots for our advocates and supporters, elevating the impact of CCC’s work and our voice.

Updates were made to bolster our webpage accessibility, from language to user experience to narrative discussion, and expand our presence online. These changes deepened our commitment to equitable advocacy and widened our reach to supporters and impacted communities, holding space for CCC to impact policies and legislation that uplift families, youth, and children.
Lifting ALL Voices

CCC dedicated significant time to our coalition and programmatic connections this year, further engaging youth voices and the voices of parents, caregivers, community members and lived experts.

CCC spearheaded a new Campaign for Healthy Minds, Healthy Kids Youth and Caregivers Leadership Council to elevate community-voice and strengthen the campaign’s influence and impact. After a thorough application and election process from September to May, 40 intergenerational members were placed on the council, ranging in age from 14 to 60+. While this was happening, the campaign increased outreach and media connections to draw significant attention to New York’s behavioral and mental health crisis, hosting virtual rallies and town halls. The Campaign’s steadfast advocacy gained attention that landed an invite from Governor Hochul to attend the Youth Mental Health Summit, opening discussions for youth around mental health and needed priorities resulting in a series of symposiums with partners on mental health and communities of color.
As a member of the Family Homelessness Coalition, this year we welcomed the three **Family Homelessness Coalition Fellows** to our office as they continue their tenure as lived-expert advocates informing policy and priorities in housing equity.

Partnering with several community organizations, CCC has continued as part of the **Open Leadership Collaborative**, which focuses on collective impact projects to design community-led interventions to improve Early Intervention referral rates in several communities where need is high and referrals for services are low, furthering our efforts to engage impacted populations in challenging systemic inequity.

Finally, this past program year’s advocacy events seriously promoted economic equity for New Yorkers across the state, discussing investments that would strengthen financial and developmental well-being and utilizing CCC’s data to explore how policies can truly influence poverty reduction. To accomplish this, we collaborated with partners and elected officials both in-person and online to engage our networks and the public.

In the fall, CCC and Raise the Age NY Coalition partners hosted **The Path to Youth Justice in New York** virtual panel which discussed the status of youth justice in New York, advocating for youth investments and dispelling narratives about youth crime.

In early spring, CCC organized and co-hosted an online panel response to the NYS Budget with partners to examine both the Governor’s Executive Budget Proposal and the Senate and Assembly One-House Budget Proposals. The event, **Reducing Poverty Through Economic Opportunity, Housing Affordability, and Nutrition Assistance**, provided a snapshot of the various hardships facing communities across New York. Ahead of this event, CCC worked with other
partners and State representatives to advocate for a New York State budget that prioritized the well-being of children and families during the Virtual Rally for New York’s Children.

In late spring, CCC hosted The Youngest New Yorkers webinar to share new findings that illustrated the challenges NYC parents faced in accessing publicly funded child care as well as opportunities to improve the system. Then, at the in-person policy breakfast, Child and Family Well-being in New York City, CCC brought together New Yorkers and City Council Members to discuss child and family well-being in the context of city budget negotiations around family homelessness, early care and education, youth services, agency staffing issues and provider payment delays, and more.
Developing Leaders

Internally, CCC continued its long-standing annual **Community Leadership Course**, engaging 25 participants in a hybrid program to build advocacy and leadership skills. Our **YouthAction** Community Leadership Course engaged 30 NYC high school students in a newly launched year-long program that guided participants from data literacy and priority-building to hands-on advocacy efforts around youth-based policies, including Solutions Not Suspensions. YouthAction Members, who are graduates of the course, helped launch the 2023 Youth Agenda at a Policy Breakfast which was attended by more than 150 youth advocates, adult allies, and community advocates, including city officials. Four additional YouthAction Members participated in programming as peer trainers, hosting seminars to connect youth with advocacy opportunities and peer-to-peer community organizing, facilitating for such organizations as Girl Scouts of America and Big Brother, Big Sister and reaching 175 other youth.

To further our mission, vision, and values with a focus on equity, justice, and inclusivity, CCC also began reimagining its **Advocacy Council**, hosting a series of workshops and brainstorming sessions to expand the Council’s membership and accountability while uplifting CCC’s priorities.
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 2022, providing an opportunity to recognize the voices of our city’s youth and their allies.

We honored the members of the NYC Youth Agenda Steering Committee (at right)—a group of 35 young people who came together in advance of the 2020 Mayoral election to ensure that city leaders would hear from and prioritize meeting youth needs. Young people from CCC, YVote, CUNY’s Intergenerational Change Initiative (ICI) and the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development’s We the Youth Advisory Council came together to compare notes and collect further research, ultimately developing a five-point policy plan for their newly elected officials, called the NYC Youth Agenda.

It also was an opportunity to recognize the work and legacy of two 2022 Eleanor Roosevelt Award Honorees.

Debra-Ellen Glickstein accepted the award on behalf of her organization, NYC Kids Rise, a nonprofit that engages entire communities in their work to provide NYC public school kindergarteners with access to a NYC Scholarship Account to save for college and career training in the future. NYC Kids Rise became a universal initiative available to all public school kindergartners in 2021. In addition, we honored Kevin Ryan, outgoing President and CEO of Covenant House International who since 2009 has employed research, data, and best practices to refine and advance the work to end youth homelessness and build a strong focus on advocacy to promote just laws to protect young people facing homelessness and survivors of human trafficking.
The event included remarks from keynote speaker, **Dr. Andrew Solomon**, an award-winning author, Professor of Clinical Psychology at Columbia University and lecturer at Yale University who has been instrumental in raising visibility and expanding awareness of child and adolescent behavioral health needs and the crises families face accessing care.

Dr. Solomon sat down with CCC Executive Director Jennifer March and several of our Youth Agenda honorees to discuss what’s needed to respond to the youth mental health crisis.
CCC Celebrates at MoMA

Our spring benefit at the Museum of Modern Art was a special evening bringing CCC’s supporters together to ensure every child is healthy, housed, educated and safe. The event honored Ellen and Dr. Steven J. Corwin. Ellen is an accomplished public health advocate, retired nurse and long-standing CCC board member. Dr. Steven J. Corwin is President and CEO of NewYork-Presbyterian, one of the nation’s largest, most comprehensive healthcare systems. Our annual Gala was an opportunity to spotlight child advocacy, partnerships, and the strong community of New Yorkers who share the goal of making New York City and State a better place to live for all children and families.
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Policy and Advocacy Associate

Lorraine Tate
Executive Assistant

Elcoma Nichols
IT Support
## Statement of Activities

**Citizens’ Committee for Children of New York, Inc.**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023**

**(WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022)**

### Public Support and Revenue

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Without Donor Restrictions</th>
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<td>Other income</td>
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<td>Net assets released from restriction</td>
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<td><strong>Total Public Support and Revenue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>(215,443)</strong></td>
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### Expenses

**Program services:**

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**Supporting services:**

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### Change in Net Assets from Operations

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**Non-operating activities:**

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<td>Investment return</td>
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<td>(133,714)</td>
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### Change in Net Assets

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**Net Assets—Beginning of Year**

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**Net Assets—End of Year**

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2022–2023 Donors

CCC gratefully acknowledges the many individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations that support our work. Listed below are combined donations to CCC’s 2022 Fall Breakfast, CCC Celebrates at the Museum of Modern Art 2023, and all foundation grants and gifts from individuals for our 2022–2023 Fiscal Year (4/1/2022-3/31/2023).

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
Margaret Hess Boyden
Diana & Fred Elghanayan
Nancy & Alan N. Locker
New York Community Trust
Robin Hood Foundation
The Trinity Church Wall Street
van Ameringen Foundation

$50,000 or more
Altman Foundation
Anonymous
Jody & Brian Berger
The Catherine & Joseph Aresty Foundation
Constance Christensen
Ellen & Steven J. Corwin
Tom & Madeline Elghanayan
The Greater New York Hospital Association
The Hearst Corporation
The Monarch Foundation
The Neil S. Hirsch Foundation
New York Foundling Hospital
NewYork-Presbyterian
The New York Women’s Foundation

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind Wharton & Garrison LLP
Katherine Farley & Jerry I. Speyer
The Waltraud Ireland Charitable Giving Fund

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<td>David &amp; Frances Magee</td>
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<td>Mrs. Henry Hart Rice</td>
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<td>Jane &amp; Paul Rittmaster</td>
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<td>Sheri Cyd Sandler</td>
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<td>Gil Shiva</td>
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<td>Linda &amp; Gilbert Snyder</td>
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<td>May Soll</td>
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<td>Nancy Solomon</td>
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<td>Heidi Stamas</td>
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<td>Phoebe R. Stanton</td>
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