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Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy Announces New President and CEO

Kate Breslin to Lead Social and Economic Justice Group Upon Retirement of Longtime Director Karen Schimke

ALBANY, NY -- The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (SCAA), a statewide nonprofit working to shape policies to improve health, welfare and human services in New York State, announces Kate Breslin as its new President and CEO. Breslin, who currently serves as Director of Policy for the Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS), takes the reins from Karen Schimke, who is retiring at the end of the month.

Since 1872, SCAA has served as a voice for social and economic justice for children, the poor, the chronically ill and disabled in New York State. During its earliest years, SCAA led the fight to reform asylums, orphanages and almshouses, to cure tuberculosis and to enhance the public health. In recent years, it has been a key champion of Universal PreK legislation, reform of child welfare laws, the regulation of care in adult homes and the implementation of welfare reform, among many other issues.

“For nearly a century and a half, SCAA has been a constant voice for New York’s most vulnerable citizens and a trusted source for policy makers at every level of state government,” said James W. Lytle, Esq., Chair, SCAA Board of Trustees. “We are delighted to welcome Kate Breslin, a proven leader who will continue this tradition with her powerful combination of policy expertise, political advocacy and passion.”

Before joining CHCANYS, Breslin served as Chief of Staff to a California County Supervisor and as a director for the California Budget Project. She is a former Housing Counselor with United Tenants of Albany and has been a health policy consultant in Liberia, Zimbabwe and Angola. A graduate of Northwestern University, Breslin also holds Master’s degrees in both Public Health and Planning from University of California/Berkley. In her current role at CHCANYS, Breslin represents the interests of the State’s federally qualified health centers and has been a leading advocate for strengthening the primary care safety nets for the most disadvantaged New Yorkers.

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Breslin takes the SCAA reins from Karen Schimke, who has led the organization since 1996. Prior to joining SCAA, Schimke served as Executive Deputy Commissioner at both the New York State Department of Health and New York State Department of Social Services. She currently serves the Paterson Administration as co-chair of both the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board and the Early Childhood Advisory Council.

Under Schimke's leadership, SCAA convened the New York Children's Action Network and co-convened the New York State Coalition for Adult Home Reform and Winning Beginning NY.

For more information, visit: www.scaany.org.

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