



“We are a voice in Albany for New York’s vulnerable populations—children and people living in poverty. We are proud to partner with community organizations and advocates to hold government accountable to a vision of New York that is fair, equitable and serves all of its residents.”

—Kate Breslin, President & CEO

About the Schuyler Center

The **Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy** strives to make sure that New York’s public policies benefit everybody, not just those who have money or power. We are a statewide, nonprofit, policy analysis and advocacy organization working to shape policies to improve health, welfare and human services for all New Yorkers, especially those who are poor or disenfranchised.

Dedicated to public policy solutions that improve the well-being of New York’s most vulnerable families, the Schuyler Center takes a data-driven approach to identify problems, generate solutions, and hold government accountable.

Our Focus

The Schuyler Center’s work in public policy focuses on strengthening children and families as a long-term investment in the health and well-being of our state. We conduct:

- ▶ **Analysis:** defining the problem, identifying the impacted population, developing recommendations.
- ▶ **Advocacy:** using analysis to inform strategic recommendations that promote strong public policy.

We focus on the following policy areas:

Child welfare: Every child needs a safe, nurturing and permanent family. To that end, we promote effective, high-quality systems to aid at-risk families, prevent entry into the child welfare system, and improve well-being for children who are in care. We advocate for accountable public systems, including robust data regarding child outcomes and expenditures of funds.

Strengthening Families: Nearly one in four New York children live in poverty; and childhood poverty can lead to a lifetime of challenges including cognitive, behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. To address this, we promote policies that strengthen and support families, including prenatal and postpartum supports, services for families with young children and policies that secure or supplement family income.

Health: Good health is paramount to the strength and well-being of New York’s children and families. We work with government, providers, payers, and advocates to strengthen public health and prevention, promote community health and improve access to physical, dental, and behavioral health services.

Recent Successes

- ▶ **Led** an initiative that resulted in the passage of the Healthy Teeth Amendment, **protecting the oral health of the nearly 14.5 million New Yorkers** currently receiving fluoridated water by requiring public notice before fluoride is removed from community water systems and funding to maintain or build fluoridation systems.
- ▶ Successfully secured **\$1.5 million**, together with the Fostering Youth Success Alliance, for **financial, academic and other supports for approximately 340 foster youth** pursuing higher education.
- ▶ **Secured \$340 million for Innovative Pre-Kindergarten** in the State Budget, creating the opportunity for an additional **37,000 young children** to attend Pre-K, and a new investment of \$25 million for **Priority Pre-Kindergarten, targeted to high needs communities**, benefiting over **6,000 children** and their families.
- ▶ Advocated successfully for New York's creation of a Basic Health Program (BHP), a **health insurance coverage program for low-income adults** with incomes too high for Medicaid but who are likely to find Exchange coverage unaffordable.
- ▶ **Informed, influenced** and developed materials for the implementation of New York's Medicaid to age 26 for **former foster care youth**, so the more than **6,000 young people** who already left care and the nearly **1,300 youth** leaving care each year, many with significant health care needs, have **access to essential health services**.
- ▶ **Led a successful effort** to expand and institutionalize Family Assessment Response (FAR) in child welfare. FAR permits localities to offer a **proven, alternative, non-punitive response to Child Protective Services** investigations.

History

The Schuyler Center was founded by pioneering social reformer Louisa Lee Schuyler in 1872 as the State Charities Aid Association, in response to the deplorable conditions she observed in hospitals and almshouses. At its start, the Schuyler Center was built around citizen volunteers who visited county poorhouses, detecting and correcting abuses, securing the welfare of the patients, and raising institutional standards of care.

The Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy is a non-partisan organization. We neither support nor oppose any political party nor any candidate running for elected office. We focus on evaluating public policies and their impacts and proposing improvements.