



Dear Advocate,

Here's the latest news and items of interest from *The Children's Agenda*. We also invite you to visit [our website](#) and let us know how we're doing. We'd love to hear from you!

## Home Visitation Programs Address Health Disparities

As reported in ACT Rochester's August [Racial/Ethnic Disparities Report Update](#), infant mortality rates in Monroe County are significantly disproportionate for African-Americans, with 15.1 deaths per 1,000 live births. Evidence-based home-visitation programs such as Nurse Family Partnership have made a significant impact, resulting in fewer child deaths, fewer pre-term births, and fewer expectant mothers with pregnancy complications. The program pairs first-time mothers of low-income families with trained registered nurses for home visits on a weekly to monthly basis, beginning in the mother's second trimester and continuing until the child is two years old. As *The Children's Agenda* works to advance programs and policies that improve health outcomes, especially for our community's most vulnerable children and families, we're advocating for increased funding so that at least 400 additional families have access to effective evidence-based home-visitation, like the Nurse Family Partnership. Please join us as we push for programs proven to work by joining our advocacy network. There's no time to wait. [Sign up today!](#)



## Upcoming Events

[Children's Interfaith Weekend Orientation](#)

Monday, September 12

[RCSD Attendance Blitz](#)

Thursday, September 15

[Healthy Baby Network Countdown to Kindergarten](#)

Saturday, September 17

[Urban Wellness Summit](#)

Thursday, September 29

[Children's Interfaith Weekend](#)

Friday, October 14 - Sunday, October 16

## In the News

[Early Childhood Development seen as key](#)

Rochester Business Journal

[Study: Economic segregation in ROC among worst in US](#)

Democrat & Chronicle

[The good news about educational inequality](#)

The New York Times

[The biggest issue candidates ignore](#)

Huffington Post

[Added sugars and cardiovascular disease risk in children](#)

American Heart Association

## ROC the Future's Annual Retreat & ROCKy Awards



Earlier this month, ROC the Future held its annual Convener's Retreat and its second annual ROCKy Awards ceremony. Conveners came together to acknowledge recent achievements and to discuss future plans. ROC the Future announced a decline in chronic absence among students of the Rochester City School District. An Attendance Improvement Initiative, launched by RCSD in 2012 with help from ROC the Future, is intended to proactively address issues related to chronic absence rather than track absences that have already occurred. 33% of RCSD students were chronically absent during the 2015-16 school year. More on improving educational outcomes will be shared at the annual State of Our Children Address scheduled for October 25th.

*Did you know?*

*The City of Rochester included in its 2016-17 Budget a Children & Families Funding section, which builds on the ROC the Future framework. Learn more [here](#).*



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## Carolyn Lee-Davis celebrates 10 years with The Children's Agenda



Carolyn Lee-Davis, Policy Director, recently celebrated 10 years at The Children's Agenda. Carolyn leads The Children's Agenda's early education work, analyzing, advocating, and collaborating with community partners to increase access for local children. Carolyn also directs the [Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute \(PLTI\)](#). To learn more about Carolyn's work, "Like" the PLTI page on [Facebook](#)!

*PLTI teaches parents who wish to improve the lifelong health, safety and learning of children, how to become practiced change agents for the next generation.*

## Leadership Announcement



**Rachel Pickering**, who has been with The Children's Agenda since 2013, was recently named Chief Operating Officer. In her prior role as Director of Community Health Initiatives, Rachel provided support, strategic guidance, and organization to Rochester's Healthy Weight Leadership Council—cultivating long-term, broad-based childhood healthy weight in Rochester. Read Rachel's [complete bio](#).

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During the month of August, The Children's Agenda participated in RCSD'S Attendance Blitz Kickoff as well as RCSD's & WDKX's Back to School Rally. For additional highlights and photos, "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and "Follow" us on [Twitter](#).



**THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!**

The Children's Agenda does not accept any government funding, and none of our work is possible without the generous support of private individuals, foundations, businesses and others. Our

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Scott Adair; Roberta Borg; Children's Institute; Greater Rochester Health Foundation; Dr. Joseph and Marie Merenda; Alan G. and Gail L. Newton; Nanette Nocon; Reverend Peter W. Peters; Rochester Area Community Foundation.

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