



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!

Take Action: Go soda-free for summer '16

The Children's Agenda and community partners are calling on Rochester to go soda-free this summer. According to the Rochester City School District Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report, 24% of students reported drinking 2 or more cans, bottles or glasses of soda per day during the past 7 days (not including diet soda). Beyond obesity and overweight, such consumption has been linked to less healthy diets and a number of other negative health consequences, including dental decay, anxiety, and loss of sleep. Champions for children [Glory House International](#) and [Lake Avenue Baptist Church](#) are raising awareness of the negative impacts of sugary drinks and made the decision to eliminate the option for kids that participate in their youth ministry programs. Now is the time to go soda free and take action to remove sugary drinks from children's programs and events in your organizations and institutions.

Local Focus, National Impact



Rev. Marilyn Cunningham, Brigit Hurley, Karen Costello



WE WORK TO SUPPORT OUR FAMILIES. SOCIETY MUST DO THE SAME.

Upcoming Events

[Children's Interfaith Weekend Orientation](#)

Thursday, August 4

[Parent Leadership Training Institute \(PLTI\) Information Session](#)

Tuesday, August 9

[Greater Rochester Child Care Professional Development event](#)

Tuesday, August 9

[RCSD Attendance Blitz "Kick Off"](#)

Thursday, August 25

Help us promote SBC Cares Backpack Give Back program!



Help Small Business Council (SBC) Cares reach their goal of providing 500 students with backpacks filled with supplies for the upcoming school year. With your help this program will ensure that students have the

Earlier this month, the [Children's Defense Fund](#) invited The Children's Agenda's Interfaith Collaborative to present and participate at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute of Child Advocacy Ministry once again. TCA Policy Analyst Brigit Hurley led workshops on "Engaging Faith Communities in Advocating for Young Children" along with Reverend Marilyn Cunningham and Karen Costello of [Roc/ACTS](#). The Children's Agenda is a national leader in interfaith advocacy for children, thanks to our ongoing partnership with 100+ local Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and other faith communities through the Interfaith Collaborative and its annual Children's Interfaith Weekend. [Sign up to participate in the 2016 Children's Interfaith Weekend](#) (this October 14 - 16).



Earlier this month, 34 executive directors of state and local children's advocacy organizations from 30 states gathered together for the annual [Partnership for America's Children](#) retreat in San Antonio, Texas. Larry Marx, CEO of The Children's Agenda, is the elected co-chair of the Partnership's national Board of Directors.

The purpose of the meeting was to create a safe and constructive space where member executive directors can share concerns, learn from each other, and build and renew ties. Taken place during the shootings in Baton Rouge, St. Paul and Dallas, much of the meeting focused on eliminating structural racism and our role as children's advocates in helping to create racial equity, as well as strategies to end rampant disparities in children's health, education, and success. The meeting kicked-off with a financial management training from Michael Gellman, a Washington, D.C.-based CPA and expert advisor to nonprofits.

tools needed to succeed in the classroom this fall. Learn more about how to buy or build a backpack [here](#).

In the News

[Survey: 98 percent of RCSD pre-K parents satisfied](#)

Democrat & Chronicle

[Shaping Rochester's future entrepreneurs](#)

Democrat & Chronicle

[Barbara Deane-Williams is new RCSD superintendent](#)

Democrat & Chronicle

[Healthi Kids have a play day with Rochester](#)

Democrat & Chronicle

[Children's Institute aims to screen all Rochester 3-year-olds](#)

Democrat & Chronicle

[Huge racial disparities persist despite slow infant mortality drop](#)

USA Today

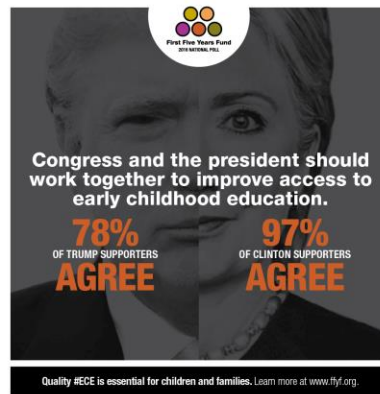
[A sea of charter schools in Detroit leaves students adrift](#)

The New York Times

[How to help students by helping their parents](#)

RWJF

The mission of the Partnership for America's Children is to support its network of state and community child advocacy organizations in effective advocacy. The Partnership connects its members to peer expertise and national resources, and it facilitates interstate collaborations to deepen the impact of child advocacy within and across states. It is a thriving organization, working together with national funders and national organizations to build and sustain progress for children at the local, state and national level. For more information about the Partnership, [visit the website](#).



PLTI parent information session



The Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) is recruiting its 5th cohort. If you are a leader who is looking to grow your leadership skills, learn more of the knowledge necessary to make change for kids in our community, and network with other caring, committed parents, you are invited to attend PLTI's information session on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 5:30 PM, Central Library, 115 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604. Dinner and child care will be provided. Details [here](#).

RSVP to Carolyn at GreaterRochesterPLTI@gmail.com. Download the [flyer](#). Check us out 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.

Trauma and racism



New Data from [First Five Years Fund](#): Voters agree Congress and the next President should work together on Early Childhood Education. Get additional data [here](#).

In light of recent shootings across the country involving police and Black citizens, TCA staff gathered to have an honest discussion about equity, race, and justice. We recognize that structural racism is a major issue and there are no simple solutions. We are committed to having longer, deeper discussions coupled with related articles and toolkits, which strengthen our internal relationships. Only this way can we contribute to improving external conditions within our larger communities. So join us...

Organizations can take the first step toward addressing structural racism and trauma in Rochester and Monroe County by endorsing the [RMAPI principles](#). The [Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative \(RMAPI\)](#) encourages organizations to create dialogue with intentional efforts focused on education, communication and partnership to eliminate barriers and disparities. [Sign the pledge!](#)

Community Leaders interested in making a difference are encouraged to join the Community Advisory Council, a group of community members involved in the decision-making process, priority setting, and advocacy of neighborhood-based decisions that impact residents' social and economic well-being. [Apply today!](#)

JOIN THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Community Advisory Council is a group of community members who will be involved in the decision-making, priority setting and advocacy of neighborhood-based decisions that impact residents' social and economic wellbeing.

The council is seeking 25 residents from the community with emphasis on residents that represent the initial catchment areas of the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative -- Beechwood, EMMA and Marketview Heights.

To apply for membership with the Community Advisory Council:

Applications are available at www.rocsthefuture.org
Send to: Tori Toliver-Powers at tori.toliver-powers@uwrrochester.org
75 College Ave, Rochester, NY 14607
Fax: 585-242-6500
Deadline: July 29, 2016

Resources:

- [Advancing the Mission](#) - Annie E. Casey Foundation
- [Racial Equity toolkit](#) - Government Alliance on Race & Equity

Did you know?

July is National Minority Mental Health Month

Like what we do? Like us on Facebook

For additional highlights and photos of TCA's activity during the month of July, "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 sincerest thanks go out to the following for their donations since our last update:

Howard and Marilyn Berman; Linda B. Brebner; Brush Family Fund; Excellus BlueCross BlueShield; Mary Jo Green; Holmes Family Foundation; David and Dawn Klein; Diane and Bob Larter; Paychex Community Foundation; Rochester's Child; United Way of Greater Rochester.

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