

# NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL

2024 - 2025

On January 16th, Governor Hochul presented the Executive budget proposal. Her proposals reflect a vision of how state government can build a strong future. We greatly appreciate her consideration of the needs of children and families and the numerous initiatives she included to address needs such as maternal and infant health, youth mental health and affordable housing. However, children need **bolder action** that **changes systems** in ways that are **effective** and **equitable**.



## WHAT THE GOVERNOR PROPOSED

- \$13.9M to support a **5% increase in Early Intervention rates** for in-person services
- An additional **4% rate add-on** for services in rural and underserved areas
- Removal of school psychologists from Early Intervention providers

## WHAT CHILDREN NEED

- **Increase Early Intervention reimbursement rates by 11% for all in-person services** to attract more providers and reduce wait times for children
- **Cost study** to update the rate formula and ensure long-term investments that keep up with rising costs
- **Student loan forgiveness program** to attract professionals to the Early Intervention sector



- **No new investments in child care affordability beyond what was committed last year**
- As previously committed, this budget provides \$1.8B toward child care assistance
- Expand eligibility for increased differential payment rate for **high quality providers**
- \$5M to **pilot Family Child Care Networks** statewide to provide support to home-based providers

- **Permanent state child care fund** to increase child care worker compensation
- **Increase rates for legally-exempt child care providers** to 75% of the family child care rate and to 85% for providers eligible for an enhanced rate
- **Commitment to a cost estimation model** to determine child care reimbursement rates
- **Dedicated funds to supplement child care rates** for children with special needs
- Help families access child care right away by passing and funding **presumptive eligibility**



## PK-12 EDUCATION

### WHAT THE GOVERNOR PROPOSED

- **Total school aid of \$35.3B**, an increase of \$825M including **\$507M increase in Foundation Aid -- \$409M less** than the Division of Budget predicted in the fall
- Additional **\$1.4M for redesign of NYSED's tuition rate setting** method for special education
- Additional \$11M for **school meals** for total of over **\$200M**

### WHAT CHILDREN ALSO NEED

- **Universal Pre-Kindergarten funding model** that keeps up with the rising costs for all UPK programs by recalculating the per-pupil amount annually and indexing to K-12 funding increases
- **Universal free school meals** in all school districts
- New York State to meet its obligation to **fulfill the educational needs of all students** regardless of zip code, income or race



## CHILD POVERTY

- **\$50M in one-time funds** to address child poverty in Rochester, Syracuse and Buffalo
- Federally-required investment in **summer food program at \$13M**

- **Working Families Tax Credit** to provide a tax credit of \$500 - \$1,600 per child up to age 17



## HEALTH & MENTAL HEALTH

- **\$7.5B over three years** to fund implementation of the Medicaid 1115 waiver amendment
- Commitment to submit application to allow **continuous enrollment in Medicaid and Child Health Plus** from birth up to age six
- **\$74M in Patient-Centered Medical Home** enhancements for adults and children
- **Increased access to doula services**
- Double funding for early **childhood mental health consultations** provided by seven regional centers to **\$1.7M**
- **\$9.6M** to create **12 new youth ACT teams** to support youth recovery from substance use
- **\$2M** to expand **peer-to-peer supports** including Teen Mental Health First Aid and safe spaces

- **Expand home visiting** by increasing funding for ParentChild+, Nurse-Family Partnership and Healthy Families NY
- **Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates** for youth mental health
- **Provide Medicaid reimbursement for school-based services** for all children, with and without IEP or 504 plans



## OTHER CHILDREN'S ISSUES

- **40 hours prenatal Paid Family Leave**
- \$17.7M increase to **after-school programs** for a total of **over \$100M**
- \$4.7M increase in **youth employment programs** for a total of **\$88.8M**

*New York has the capacity to make these investments in children. All we need is the will.*