



CITIZENS COMMITTEE for CHILDREN  
O F N E W Y O R K I N C .

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NEW YORK, NY  
PERMIT NO. 2883

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Securing Every Child's Birthright  
Healthy • Housed • Educated • Safe



# NEWS

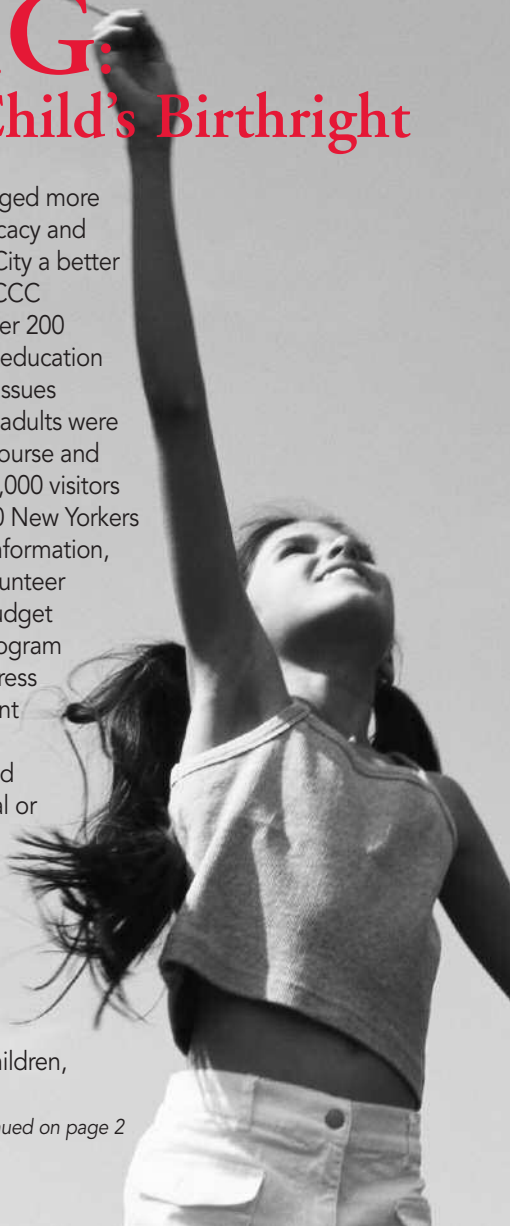
CITIZENS' COMMITTEE for CHILDREN of NEW YORK, INC.

Annual Report 2004-2005

## Thinking BIG: Securing Every Child's Birthright

In our 60th anniversary year, CCC engaged more New Yorkers than ever before, in advocacy and civic opportunities to make New York City a better place for children to live, learn and grow. CCC volunteer advocates took advantage of over 200 advocacy, fact-finding, analytic and public education opportunities to learn about and work on issues affecting children. Another 200 youth and adults were educated in our Community Leadership Course and YouthAction NYC programs, and over 400,000 visitors came to our website. In total, almost 3,000 New Yorkers attended CCC lectures, briefings, public information, press and fundraising events. Staff and volunteer advocates testified at 23 legislative and budget hearings and provided policy, data and program expertise at 28 conferences, workshops, press events and community forums. Government officials requested CCC's assistance and participation in 16 commissions, panels and advisory committees that addressed critical or emerging issues in the areas of children's health and mental health, child care, early intervention, education, family homelessness, youth development, after school programs and child welfare among others. Additionally, CCC staff joined with colleagues in 19 coalitions to improve services and supports for New York City children, youth and families.

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A MESSAGE FROM BOARD LEADERSHIP *continued from page 1*



Heidi Stamas, Board Chair, at the CCC Celebration Breakfast.



Council Member Letitia James (left) with Judith A. Garson, Board President, at a press conference to increase funding for children's services.

Imagining innovative solutions to complex problems affecting children has been at the heart of CCC's work for six decades. Despite notable gains, too many children continue to face a future where achievement and economic security are out of reach. To commemorate 60 years of service to New York City children, CCC staff and volunteer advocates spent a study year researching innovative ways to reduce risks to children and increase opportunities for success. We sought out expert counsel from the best and brightest thinkers in children's services and child and family policy to provide strategic guidance in our effort to think big about policies, programs and budgets for children.

CCC's new campaign that emerged from this effort – *Securing Every Child's Birthright* – was conceived to harness the power and commitment of New Yorkers to ensure that every child is healthy, housed, educated and safe. The goal of the campaign is to take on directly and work to eliminate the barriers to economic, housing and developmental security that stand in the way of a productive future for all New York City children. *Securing Every Child's Birthright* seeks to increase the

prosperity, assets and capacity of all children; promote housing stability and affordability; and provide early developmental opportunities for young children to grow up healthy, strong and supported by a solid foundation for learning and achievement. The success of the *Securing Every Child's Birthright* campaign will be measured by improved indicators of child well-being and the number of reforms initiated or underway that improve public policy and increase the availability of services, supports and benefits. *Securing Every Child's Birthright* will offer community leaders, elected officials and fellow New Yorkers new ways to create a brighter future for our children. Please join us by logging onto the CCC website at [www.ccnnewyork.org](http://www.ccnnewyork.org) to learn more about *Securing Every Child's Birthright* and to take action for children.

**Heidi Stamas**  
Chairman

**Judith A. Garson**  
President

**Gail B. Nayowith**  
Executive Director



**SECURING EVERY CHILD'S BIRTHRIGHT**

Healthy • Housed  
Educated • Safe



CITIZENS' COMMITTEE for CHILDREN  
OF NEW YORK INC.

## EDUCATING ADVOCATES AND DEVELOPING LEADERS

The Community Leadership Course (CLC), now in its 57th year, is CCC's hallmark program that trains New Yorkers to be effective child advocates and provides a behind-the-scenes look at the city's systems of care for children. This year's curriculum incorporated 32 program site visits, 19 guest speakers and a study of the strengths offered and challenges posed to families and children living in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. At course completion, CCC's efforts were rewarded with 20 new leaders for children joining our ranks. To keep our cadre of former CLC graduates, volunteer advocates and colleagues current on issues affecting children, we provided a series of six Policy Briefings in the fall, attended by over 195 New Yorkers, laying the groundwork for our 2004-2005 Task Force activity. In the spring, we provided six Issue Updates attended by 154 people that included training for our advocates to meet with policymakers in Albany and City Hall to discuss CCC's state and city budget priorities.

With the generous support of the Kenworthy Swift Foundation and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, we held the annual Justine Wise Polier Lecture in April, attended by 75 of our colleagues and volunteer advocates. Our keynote speaker, Anne L. Alstott, a Yale Law School professor, co-author with Bruce Ackerman of *The Stakeholder's Society* and author of *No Exit: What Parents*

*Owe Children and What Society Owes Parents*, posited ideas that reframe public discourse on government policy with regard to children, families and the welfare state. *The Stakeholder's Society's* proposal for government to make a financial investment in children at birth is already taking hold in the United Kingdom, Germany and Australia.

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**YouthAction NYC, in its sixth year, offered high school students from over 40 public and private schools and community-based organizations with weekly opportunities to make New York City a better and safer place for children.**

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In the fall and again in the spring, the YouthAction NYC Community Leadership Course (YCLC) developed young people's skills, engaging them in research, polling, field visits and discussions with community leaders, to identify service gaps and develop recommendations to improve children's lives. YCLC's 48 graduates were invited to become YouthAction NYC members. This past year, our YouthAction NYC advocates led focus groups for our Young Women's Juvenile Justice Task Force, testified at the City Council's preliminary budget hearings and conducted eight trainings with 109 of their peers at schools and community-based organizations.



YouthAction NYC members (left to right) Melissa Perez, Saadiyyah Levine, and Morla Imberet.

## KEEPING TRACK OF NEW YORK CITY'S CHILDREN

In April, CCC released the seventh edition of *Keeping Track of New York City's Children* and launched *Keeping Track Online* – an interactive database that provides customized reports about child well-being. Over 200 New Yorkers and the local press attended the conference. The latest edition of *Keeping Track* features over 300 indicators, and tracks well-being and risks to children in each New York City neighborhood. The data reports that conditions for children growing up in New York City have improved, particularly in the areas of health and safety, reflecting the city's social and economic recovery. However, improvements have lagged in some neighborhoods and particularly among African American and Latino children. Over 1,430 copies of the report have been distributed.



## ENSURING THE SAFETY AND CARE OF ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN

This year, CCC reached many advocacy goals for the child welfare system. A collaborative effort of our child welfare colleagues in and outside of government, convened by the Chief Judge of the State of New York, led to the passage of S.5805 – *permanency* legislation – in June. The legislation will streamline Family Court proceedings, provide continuous representation for parents, and require the early identification of parent and kinship resources. In August, the Governor vetoed

*dual track* legislation that would have restructured Child Protective Services without the fiscal resources needed for technical support, additional family support services and evaluation of demonstration projects.

In February, the NYC Administration for Children's Services (ACS) unveiled a plan to *rightsized* the child welfare system and redirect funding from under-utilized foster care beds to increase the availability of services to prevent child abuse and neglect. This year, \$26.8 million will fund community-based preventive, after care and independent living services. The Mayor's FY'06 Executive Budget base-lined child welfare funding for the first time in four years, alleviating the need for the City Council to restore core funding for foster care and preventive service programs.

Finally, as reports of the participation of foster care children in HIV/AIDS clinical drug trials in the 1980s and 1990s surfaced, CCC testified before the City Council's General Welfare Committee and assisted with efforts to better understand the scope of the problem and ways to prevent it in the future. To this end, ACS asked CCC, the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS and the Gay Men's Health Crisis to take the lead to provide ongoing guidance and quality review of policies and protocols related to clinical trials.



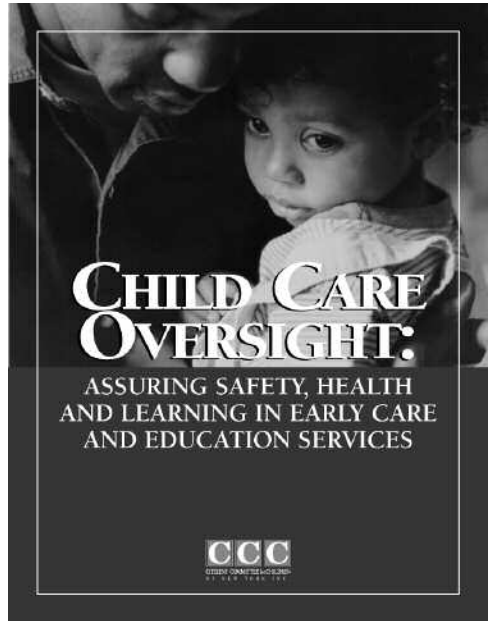
## ADDRESSING THE EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE NEEDS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Last fall, CCC released *Child Care Oversight: Assuring Safety, Health and Learning in Early Care and Education Services*.

Three years of research by our Task Force on Child Care Quality Oversight laid the groundwork for the implementation of needed operational reforms in the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Bureau of Day Care that increase safety and quality in publicly-funded child care programs.

Three local laws improving parent and public access to information about child care programs were enacted this year.

Our Task Force on Early Care and Education for Children with Special Needs assessed the availability and range of services provided to young children with special needs in child care, Head Start, Universal Pre-Kindergarten, Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education programs. The Task Force developed findings and recommendations based on a series of meetings with administrators of early care and education programs at the NYC Department of Education, NYC Administration for Children's Services and NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; a parent and a provider focus group; and 17



program site visits. These findings and recommendations were presented to policymakers and include: coordinating early care programs provided by three different city agencies to increase access for children with special needs; improving quality of services for children with developmental disabilities and delays; and ensuring that young children with special needs receive services in a normative learning environment. CCC will continue its advocacy in this important area with the release of a report in Winter 2005.

## INFORMING THE OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME INITIATIVE

CCC released policy briefs on *Out-of-School Time Funding and Regulations* and *Best Practices in Out-of-School Time* (OST) to inform the city's reorganization of after school programs. Two-years of research and data collection provided policymakers with a wealth of information on OST supply and demand, best practices, funding, regulations and public opinion.



## SECURING HOUSING STABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY

The Family Homelessness Special Master Panel was housed at CCC and concluded its second and final year working with the NYC Department of Homelessness Services and The Legal Aid Society to improve the system of services and supports for homeless families with children.

In April, the Mayor created a Housing Trust Fund, with \$130 million in dedicated Battery Park City revenue to expand affordable housing opportunities. To provide equitable tax relief to New York families who rent and do not own their apartments, CCC advocated and the City Council advanced a New York State Renters Tax Credit in Albany. This *Securing Every Child's Birthright* legislative proposal would increase tax equity for New York City residents and help families meet soaring rents.

CCC's Homeless Youth Task Force included YouthAction NYC members who worked with adult volunteers to survey home-

less youth and service providers in order to address the challenges faced by youth not living with a parent or guardian.

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**Preliminary research and analysis point to a critical need for cross-program coordination among the six different city agencies that serve homeless youth, for family engagement strategies to prevent youth from leaving home and for additional permanent housing programs.**

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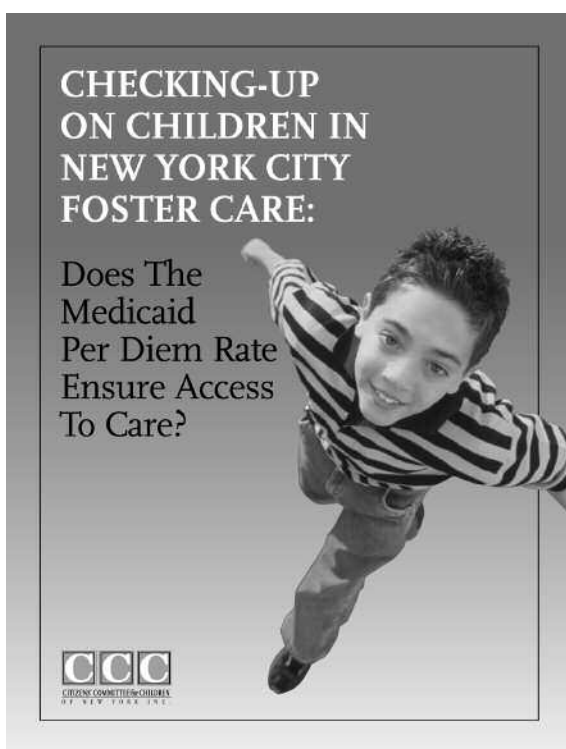
CCC volunteer advocates presented findings and recommendations to city policymakers that were incorporated into the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development's *Runaway and Homeless Youth Concept Paper* outlining the city's plans to improve the continuum of care for runaway and homeless youth.

## ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL CHILDREN

*Checking Up on Children in New York City Foster Care: Does the Medicaid Per Diem Rate Ensure Access to Care?* was published in February. The report documents the inequities in the availability of health insurance for children in foster care who remain underinsured and denied the benefits available through New York State's public health insurance programs. Recommendations advanced in meetings with state policymakers call for fiscal, regulatory, and policy changes that ensure a medical home, continuity of care, care coordination and access to the full range of health and mental health services for all children who enter, remain in and leave foster care. Our advocacy continued this spring with a review of the statutory and regulatory framework that supports the delivery of medical and mental health services for children.

CCC joined partners from the NYS Office of Mental Health and NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to create the Learning Collaborative to Improve Engagement of Children and Families in Outpatient Treatment. The project enables Article 31 Out-Patient Mental Health Clinics with an opportunity to examine engagement

practices, to introduce interventions, to improve attendance rates for intake and treatment and to track their effectiveness. The findings and recommendations of the Learning Collaborative will identify strategies that enhance outreach activities and ensure that more children and families are engaged in treatment.





## CCC ON THE RECORD

CCC's recommendations and perspectives are frequently covered by community and major media outlets, broadening our reach and increasing our ability to influence children's policy, programs and budgets. CCC was featured 147 times in newspapers, TV, and radio broadcasts. Additionally, CCC staff and board members conveyed our goals and aspirations for children at over 50 speaking engagements, public hearings, community forums, press events and panel discussions.

Gail B. Nayowith, Executive Director, at the *Keeping Track of New York City's Children* press conference.

## THE SERVICE NEEDS OF YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

In its second year, CCC's Task Force on Understanding the Service Needs of Young Men in State Detention Facilities completed a series of interviews and case file reviews with youth and caseworkers. The Task Force examined the experiences and outcomes of young men as they move from detention to aftercare. Our Task Force on Young Women and the Juvenile Justice System – a joint effort with CCC's adult volunteer advocates and YouthAction NYC members – interviewed stakeholders and conducted three focus groups with court-involved young women. A briefing report highlighting the challenges faced by the young women will be published in Fall 2005.

State budget advocacy resulted in new funds to expand prevention programs for Persons In Need of Supervision (PINS) and evidenced-based alternatives to detention and incarceration in communities. Our city budget advocacy led to an expansion of discharge planning services by the NYC Department of Juvenile Justice to connect youth with community-based resources prior to their release from city detention facilities.



YCLC students (left to right) Phenia, Jean-Pierre, Tsering Dolma and Dolma Choezom.

## PREPARING AN AGENDA FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

CCC was a member of the New York City Council's Commission on the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE) to develop a plan to achieve the goals of the CFE decision and utilize anticipated CFE funds effectively. Public hearings, town hall meetings and on-line discussion groups on class and school size, accountability, school buildings, pre-kindergarten, teacher quality and research informed the first of two Commission reports released in April 2005 entitled *Fulfilling the Promise: Getting High Quality Teachers Into Every Classroom and Keeping Them There*. CCC will continue to work with CFE and the City Council to secure funding to create educational equity for New York City children.



City Hall Press Conference: Council Member Robert Jackson greeting children from the Chung Pak Day Care Center.

## ADVOCATING AT CITY HALL AND THE STATE CAPITOL

Throughout the year, CCC staff, adult volunteer advocates and YouthAction NYC members advocated on behalf of children at the State Capitol and City Hall in meetings and through testimony at public hearings. In March, 38 staff and volunteers met with 26 state legislators and staff in the Governor's office. A Court of Appeals decision redefining and limiting legislative authority in the budget-making process, combined with state revenue shortfalls and a growing deficit, complicated the state's budget-making process, making CCC's detailed budget analysis, expert information and monitoring of the process even more vital.

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**CCC's local legislative and budget advocacy got underway with our annual press conference at City Hall in May. *New York City: A Great Place to Live, Learn, and Grow* provided more than 200 New Yorkers and colleagues an opportunity to join with City Council Members.**

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Meetings with 19 City Council Members and participation in the budget vigil on the steps of City Hall, throughout the month of June, resulted in over \$135 million in restorations and adds to the city's budget for child

health clinics, infant mortality programs, after school programs, shelters for homeless youth, summer youth employment, interpreter services at city hospitals, reimbursement for teachers' classroom spending, HIV testing for adolescents and child care programs.

As New York City's candidates for elected office launched their campaigns for the Fall 2005 elections, CCC's Candidate Task Force set to work meeting with 16 candidates for the highest public offices.

Armed with the seventh edition of *Keeping Track of New York City's Children*, CCC volunteers and staff educated candidates on the needs of New York City's children.

The Task Force also sent a questionnaire to each of New York City's over 180 candidates for the offices of Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, Borough President and City Council and asked for their vision to ensure economic, housing and developmental security for children. On-line at [www.cccnewyork.org](http://www.cccnewyork.org) before the Primary and updated with the election results, *Securing Every Child's Birthright: Voter Guide for 2005 New York City Elections* informed voters about the candidates' views on issues that are important to families who live, work and raise their children in New York City.

## KEEPING CCC STRONG

At the *60th Anniversary Celebration Breakfast* held in October 2004 at the Waldorf=Astoria, Bob Kerrey, President of the New School University and a member of the 9/11 Commission, gave the keynote speech before 700 CCC friends and supporters. At the event, CCC honored Richard E. Green, Founder and Chief Executive of the Crown Heights Youth Collective with the Samuel P. Peabody Award for Community Activism; Kaplan, Inc. with the Samuel P. Peabody Award for Pro-Social Corporate Action; and Gail B. Nayowith, CCC's Executive Director, with the Eleanor Roosevelt Award.

In March, CCC's fourth annual *Works on Paper* benefit drew 1,200 people who came to support CCC at the Park Avenue Armory. The event featured many dealers and a silent auction of works by Richard Avedon, Max Ernst and Tim Lovejoy. *Works on Paper* was the most successful fundraiser in CCC's history, raising over half a million dollars to support our programs.



## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

CCC offers many opportunities for adult and young New Yorkers to learn about issues that affect the lives of children and families, and then develop skills to act on their behalf. Working side-by-side, CCC staff and volunteers advocate to *Secure Every Child's Birthright* to be healthy, housed, educated and safe.

Working to make New York City a better place for children to achieve and succeed, you can:

- Join CCC's e-list at [www.cccnewyork.org](http://www.cccnewyork.org) and take action to *Secure Every Child's Birthright*
- Enroll in CCC's Fall 2006 *Community Leadership Course*
- Enroll a high school-age youth in *YouthAction NYC*
- Attend CCC's benefits: *Celebration Breakfast in October* and *Works on Paper* in March 1, 2006
- Attend CCC's Fall *Policy Briefings* and Spring *Issues Updates*
- Attend the *Justine Wise Polier Memorial Lecture*
- Sign-up for the trip to Albany on March 7, 2006 and join us at City Hall in May 2006 to promote budgets that *Secure Every Child's Birthright*
- Join a CCC Task Force
- Make a tax-deductible contribution

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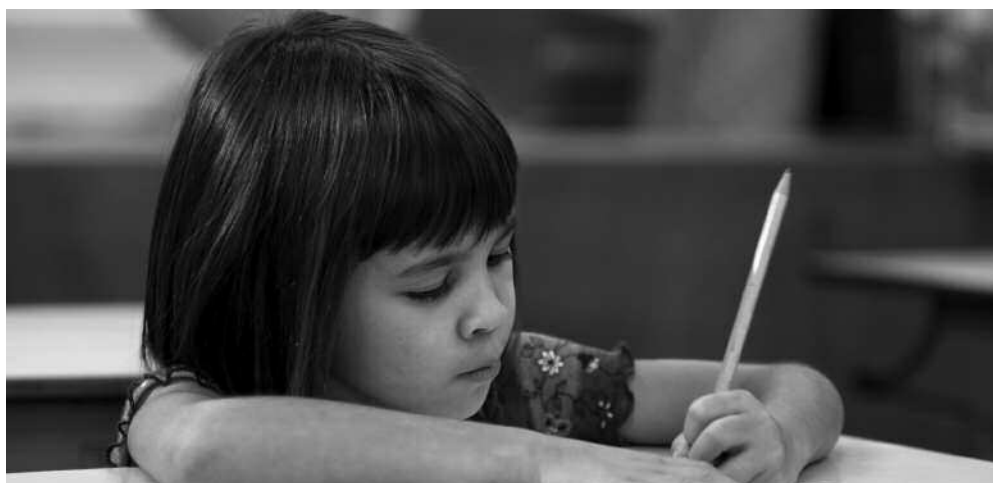
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# Statements of Activities

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN OF NEW YORK, INC. YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:	2005	2004
Support:		
Foundations and Trusts	\$867,886	\$1,068,364
Spring Benefit	497,470	410,229
Fall Benefit	358,770	364,919
Individuals	161,938	228,269
Bequests	24,000	132,401
Organizations and corporations	6,700	12,880
Investment loss	(129)	--
Other	31,782	43,006
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT</b>	<b>1,948,417</b>	<b>2,260,068</b>
Net assets released from restrictions:		
Restrictions satisfied by payments	422,486	380,241
Endowment interest	--	17,000
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT AND RECLASSIFICATIONS</b>	<b>2,370,903</b>	<b>2,657,309</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Program services:		
ACS	898	75,954
Child Welfare	260,846	37,575
Children's Health/Mental Health	155,680	135,217
Early Intervention/Child Care/Education	106,148	153,777
Homeless	100,702	92,796
Juvenile Justice/Youth Development	124,265	164,234
Keeping Track	249,768	158,679
Kids First New York	155,193	258,470
NYC Child Welfare Advisory Panel	237,836	203,398
Public Information	75,406	66,418
Special Master Panel	206,822	167,111
Youth Action	101,528	136,579
Supporting Services		
Management and general	289,689	239,967
Fund-raising	309,659	298,952
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,374,440</b>	<b>2,189,127</b>
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(3,537)	468,182
<b>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Support for Early Intervention/Child Care/Education	100,780	121,450
Support for Child Welfare	13,629	68,275
Support for future fiscal years	39,125	--
Support for Youth Action	4,124	61,000
Support for Special Master Panel	--	107,889
Support for Keeping Track	--	31,421
Support NYC Child Welfare Advisory Panel	--	10,940
Support for Juvenile Justice/Youth Development	--	2,341
Net Assets released from restrictions: Restrictions satisfied by payments	(422,486)	(380,241)
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(264,828)	23,075
<b>PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:</b>		
Endowment fund contributions	199,992	59,385
Investment return	55,428	190,695
Endowment interest	--	(17,000)
INCREASE IN PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	255,420	233,080
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	(12,945)	724,337
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,825,513	1,101,176
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$1,812,568	\$1,825,513

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