

From: "Citizens' Committee for Children of New York" <ADVOCATE@cccnewyork.org>
Subject: October E-News: Fall Celebrations

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Securing Every Child's Birthright(R) to be Healthy, Housed, Educated and Safe

October 07

SPOTLIGHT

**2007 Celebration Breakfast:
Honoring Advocates for NYC Children
and Families**



Tiki Barber and Samuel P. Peabody



Breakfast Co-Chairs: Nancy Solomon, Heather McRay
and Joan Steinberg



David Brooks, Adrian Nicole LeBlanc and Samuel
P. Peabody

CCC thanks the 650 plus supporters who joined us for our Celebration Breakfast on October 23 in the Waldorf=Astoria to recognize advocates' contributions to the welfare of New York City children and families. CCC presented the Samuel P.

Peabody Awards to: **Tiki Barber**, NBC Broadcaster and former NY Giants running back, and **Adrian Nicole LeBlanc**, author of *Random Family: Love Drugs, Trouble and Growing Up in the Bronx*. The Eleanor Roosevelt Award was presented to longtime CCC Board Member and current Vice President, **Samuel P. Peabody**. New York Times Columnist David Brooks delivered the keynote, emphasizing the importance of human capital development - the need to invest in our children by supporting familial, social and other emotional networks; and the continuing gaps in opportunity, access and assets faced by our poorest children.

CCC extends a special thank you to our co-chairs: Heather McRay, Nancy Solomon and Joan Steinberg; and our generous supporters and corporate underwriters, including DLA Piper, Kaplan, Inc., the Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, Limited Brands and Karr Graphics. The Breakfast proceeds support our continuing work to Secure Every Child's Birthright to be healthy, housed, educated and safe.

[It's not too late! If you would like to support the Celebration Breakfast with a contribution, please click here.](#)

Fall Beginnings with YouthAction NYC



YCLC students in discussion

The fall 2007 YouthAction Community Leadership Course commenced with 26 students from 21 public and private

schools and community based organizations. Thanks to a dedicated corps of staff and volunteers, the YCLC curriculum has been revised in order to provide greater consistency and focus throughout the semester. Over the course of 9 weeks, the YCLC will research issues of adolescent health and juvenile justice. Participants will continue to explore these issues in the Mott Haven neighborhood of the Bronx and then create policy recommendations to be presented to the New York City Council at City Hall in December 2007.

Additionally, returning students that participate in YouthAction NYC Member activities have begun the school year focused on the dual task of personal leadership development and method-based advocacy specific to YouthAction NYC's *Youth Weigh In* report. 20 active YouthAction NYC Members have chosen to become experts in one of four "majors," or an advocacy method related to high school education reform. Over the course of this fall and winter, YouthAction NYC Members will be developing the resources and expertise necessary to implement school presentations and improvement projects, to communicate with the media, and to meet with elected and appointed officials.

VIEWPOINT

Update: Universal Pre-Kindergarten in NYC



This is an historic time for early care and education in New York City. The City has estimated that reaching universal

enrollment would mean serving approximately 75,000 four-year olds. In 2007-2008, approximately 60,000 four-year olds will be more prepared to start school because they will have been enrolled in Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK). To that end, the City is taking steps to use \$61.5 million in new resources allocated by the state to ensure that all four-year-olds have access to UPK.

Through an intra-city agreement approved by the State, the City's Department of Education, which oversees UPK, and the Administration for Children's Services (ACS), which oversees child care centers and Head Start programs, are working collaboratively to target UPK expansion to existing ACS Child Care and Head Start programs by facilitating a streamlined and expedited UPK application process. Applications were due by October 22, 2007. By the end of October, ACS centers serving thousands of children will be identified to begin providing UPK to these children. In addition, in an effort to ensure the programs' ability to meet UPK requirements, ACS programs that demonstrate the need for an augmented rate will receive a city supplement of up to \$800 per child above the State Rate of \$3332 per child.

CCC will continue to advocate for state and city funds to ensure that there is enough capacity in the system to achieve universal access to high quality UPK. At the same time, CCC will continue to advocate for flexibility in the use of the state funds so that the resources can be used to support both half day and full day UPK. CCC will also advocate for additional funding for costs associated with certified teachers, transportation and other technical assistance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2007-2008 Policy Briefings

Citizens' Committee for Children of New York invites you to attend our 2007-2008 Policy Briefing series. If you have not already, RSVP for our upcoming Policy

Briefings below:

**Improving Food Retail Options in
Underserved Communities**

Ben Thomases, The New York City Food
Policy Coordinator

James Johnson-Piatt, Program
Coordinator, The Food Trust

Rebecca Flourney, Associate Director,
PolicyLink

Tuesday, November 6, 2007 at 10 AM

[RSVP](#)

Financing Juvenile Justice Reform

Paula Wolff, Ph.D., Senior Executive,
Chicago Metropolis 2020

Dawn V. Saffayeh, Assistant
Commissioner, Strategic Resource
Management and Reporting, NYC
Administration for Children's Services
(ACS)

Friday, November 9 2007, at 1 PM

[RSVP](#)

**Getting the Right Start - Child Care
for Infants and Toddlers**

Sara Vecchiotti, Director of Strategic
Planning, ACS Division of Child Care and
Head Start

Sherry Cleary, Executive Director, NYC
Early Childhood Professional Development
Institute

Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 2 PM

[RSVP](#)

**Implementing Achieving the
Promise/Child and Family Clinic Plus:
Challenges and Opportunities**

Scott Bloom, Director of School Mental
Health Services

Representative, NYS Office of Mental
Health

Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at 10 AM

[RSVP](#)

**Preparing NYC's Foster Youth for
Adulthood**

Ronni Fuchs, Director of Program
Integration and Resource Development,
ACS Office of Youth Development

Lynne Echenberg, Director, Next
Generation Center

Representative, Youth Justice Board
**Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at 10
AM**
[RSVP](#)

**Update: ACS's Plan to Improve
Outcomes for Children Receiving
Foster Care and Preventive Services**
Valerie Russo, Deputy Commissioner for
Quality Assurance, ACS
Julia Jean-Francois, Co-Director, Center
for Family Life
William Baccaglino, Jr., Executive Director,
The New York Foundling
Monday, February 11, 2008 at 2 PM
[RSVP](#)

[Click here to view the entire 2007-2008
Policy Briefing schedule.](#)

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