


**Citizens' Committee for Children Policy Briefing:
Putting Community in NYC Schools**
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Julie Stein Brockway, Co-Director, Center for Family Life/SCO Family of Services
Kathy Gordon, Assistant Executive Director, Good Shepherd Services
Katherine Eckstein, Director of Public Policy, The Children's Aid Society



Community Schools: A Strategy Not a Program

A strategy for organizing the
resources of the community
around student success...

**Pat Harvey, Former Superintendent
St. Paul (MN) Public Schools**

What is a Community School?

A community school is both a **place** and a **set of partnerships** between the school and other community resources. Its **integrated focus** on academics, services, supports and opportunities leads to **improved student learning, stronger families** and **healthier communities**.

Coalition for Community Schools

Children's Aid Society Developmental Triangle





Key Ingredients

- Education First
- Lead Agency as Partner, Not Tenant
- Full-Time Presence of Lead Agency
- Joint Planning (Particularly between Principal and CS Director)
- Integration of CBO Staff into Governance and Decision-Making Bodies (e.g., School Leadership Team)
- Outcomes Framework and Shared Accountability




Key Program Components

- After-School and Summer Enrichment
- Parent Engagement
- Adult Education
- Medical, Dental, Mental Health and Social Services (including Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention)
- Early Childhood
- Community and Economic Development
- Key Issues: Early Chronic Absenteeism, Overage/Undercredited Young People



Partnerships

- 80 Beacon Programs: ~80,000 children served
- 491 OST Programs (351 in schools): ~58,500 children served
- 123 SBHC in NYC (252 schools): ~98,000 enrolled
- 118 21st Community Learning Center Programs
- 40 NYCDOE OMPG Transfer Schools
- 60 UWNYP GPS programs (Graduate, Prepare, Succeed)

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The Policy Climate

- **Federal**
 - Place-based strategies (PN, FSCS, White House Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative)
 - Title I
 - Districts adopting CS strategy (Oakland, Cincinnati, Chicago)
 - ESEA reauthorization
- **State**
 - Governor-elect's Urban Agenda
 - FSCS in NYS RTTT
- **City**
 - Promise of Mayoral Control (OST, Mayor's Interagency Task Force on Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism)
 - Opportunity with turnaround work