



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES
PROVIDING SUPPORT
RESTORING HOPE



2018 Annual Report



"I am so happy that a place like this exists.

I was scared, upset, and worried that my son would not get the help he needed, but now I am relieved he had a comfortable place to talk about what happened to him.”



“I appreciate how warm and welcoming the staff was at the Center. Everyone was helpful and so informative.”



Dear NYSCA Friends,

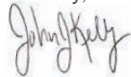
On behalf of the NYSCA Board of Directors we are excited to share with you NYSCA's Annual Report. The report highlights all the great work our team of professionals have been working on, including accomplishments, trainings and technical assistance to ALL our CAC members across New York State. I believe you will see in the following pages of this report how NYSCA is growing and thriving both programmatically and financially. We very much look forward to the future and the exciting opportunities that have yet to be explored.

As we look back at 2018, I can say without hesitation it was a year that sets the pace and tone for moving NYSCA forward. I beam with pride, no different than a parent would be when watching their children grow up. NYSCA too has been growing, and I would go as far to say we had a growth spurt in 2018 by offering more trainings and technical assistance than ever before. We have also heard loud and clear from our funders and regulators at both the state and national levels that NYSCA is doing a wonderful job as our staffing levels have never been so strong. This is a huge accomplishment and highlights the hard work of our staff and board members. Today, we are fortunate to have a staff of five who strive to make NYSCA the leader in NYS when it comes to responding to child abuse and best practices for our MDT's. Children and families deserve the same high level of care no matter which of our 41 Accredited and Affiliate CACs they happen to engage with. That high level of care is set forth in the standards put in place by the National Children's Alliance as well as the New York State Office of Children & Family Services, both of whom have a wonderful working relationship with our NYSCA team.

We feel it is important to support each other in this difficult work we do each and every day. We hope the increased trainings and networking opportunities being offered will afford you and MDT members the opportunity to learn about new trends as well as sharing of information between CAC's. It is our hope that when YOU or your team need assistance and are not sure where to get the answer that you pick up the phone and contact NYSCA staff for help with anything!

As you and your team get ready for the next forensic interview and you welcome the family and MDT members to your warm and friendly center, please don't forget, NYSCA stands in the doorway with all of our members to ensure this and every child who walks through those doors will get the best we have. We appreciate your commitment and helping shine a light into the darkest corners.

Sincerely,



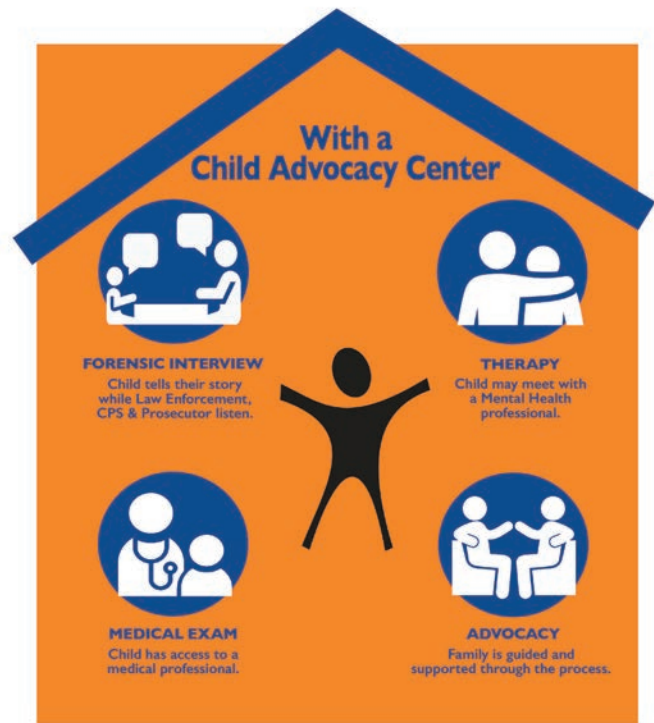
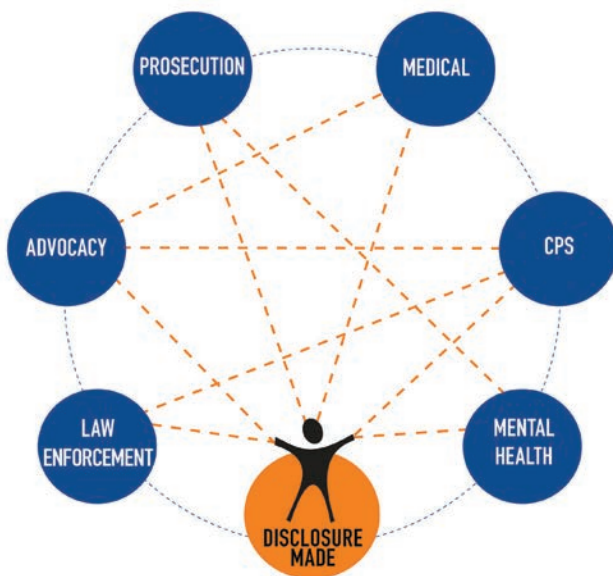
John J. Kelly
NYSCA Board Chair

What is a CAC?

Child Advocacy Centers are creating a better response across New York State

When there is a concern a child has been abused, they are brought to a Child Advocacy Center. It is the ONE place that provides a safe, child-focused environment where family advocates, law enforcement, child protective services, prosecution, medical and mental health professionals, under one roof, share information and develop a coordinated strategy that seeks justice while also meeting the unique needs of each child and non-offending family member. The child will only have to tell their story one time to a trained interviewer who knows the questions to ask to not retraumatize the child.

Without a Child Advocacy Center



Who We Are

The New York State Children's Alliance, Inc. (NYSCA) is a 41-member organization

We are committed to improving the community response to children and families impacted by abuse.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the New York State Children's Alliance, Inc. (NYSCA) is to promote the development, growth and continuation of Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) and Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) throughout New York State in order to provide healing and justice to abused and neglected children and their families.

OUR VALUES

We will work tirelessly to realize our vision by drawing on our values.

- **Children** deserve to be safe from abuse
- **Communities** are where our work will, and should, have the greatest impact
- **Respect** for all is paramount in everything that we do
- **Leadership** builds change that lasts, and lasts through change

NYSCA serves as a unified voice advocating in the best interest of our membership at the local, state and national levels on matters related to child abuse and childhood trauma.



Our Services

Impact of Our Work: 23,578 Children Served in 2018 by 41 Child Advocacy Centers Covering 53 Counties & 3 Tribal Nations

With each new case of abuse referred to a Child Advocacy Center, a comprehensive investigation is initiated. With the safety and protection of the child as its highest priority, a highly skilled team including forensic interviewers, law enforcement, child protective services, prosecutors, advocates, medical and mental health professionals assess each case with sensitivity and care.

14,729



Forensic Interviews

Specially trained Forensic Interviewers work with the MDT to ensure victims are not interviewed unnecessarily and allow them to do so in a safe, legally sound and neutral setting.

6,204



Mental Health Care

Each child and their family are offered specialized evidence-based, trauma-focused, mental health services, proven to be effective in coping with the trauma of sexual and physical abuse.

3,308



Medical Exams

A medical exam, similar to a pediatrician's check-up, may be offered to a child to determine the nature and extent of the abuse. These exams provide the team with valuable information to prosecute the offender and help the child heal.

19,818



Victim Advocacy

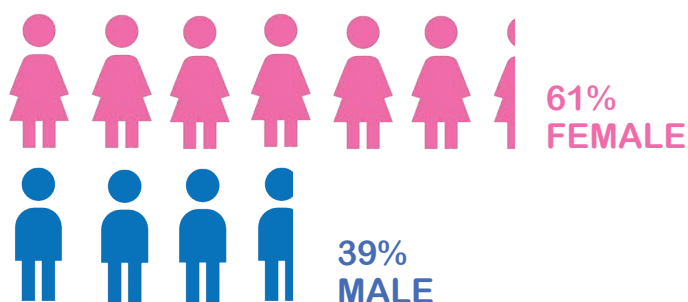
CACs stand in the gap for the healing of child abuse victims, focusing on reduced trauma for the child. Victim Advocates provide resources, support and training with a compassionate, listening ear, so that each child gets the care they deserve.

Who We Serve

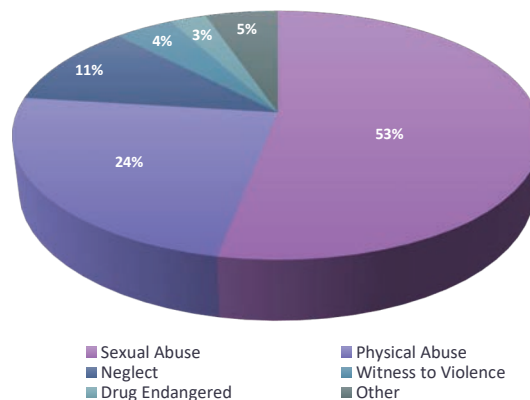
Victims of Child Abuse in New York State

One in every 10 children in New York state will be a victim of sexual abuse by their 18th birthday. The New York State Children's Alliance exists to change the numbers listed below and lead the fight against the cycle of child abuse through a stronger, more approachable model.

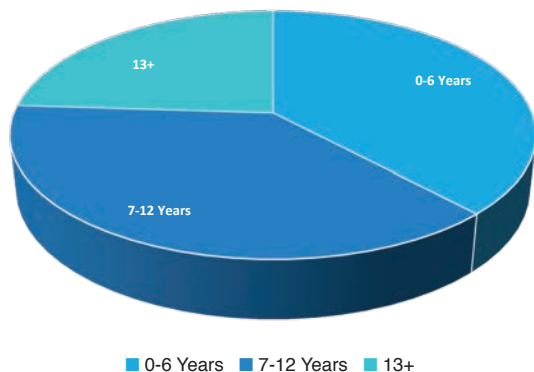
23,578 VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE



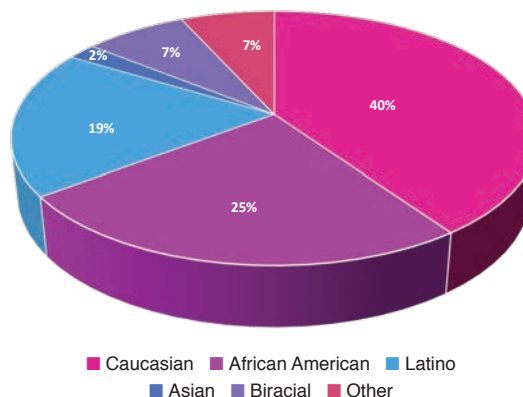
TYPES OF ABUSE REPORTED



AGE

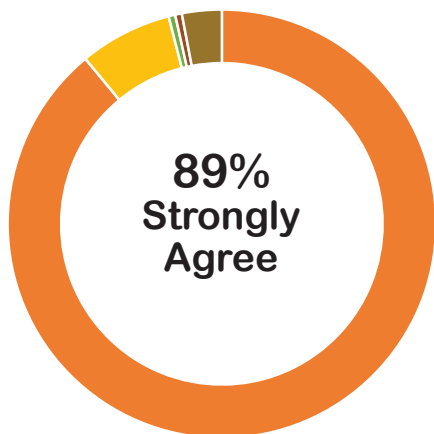


ETHNICITY



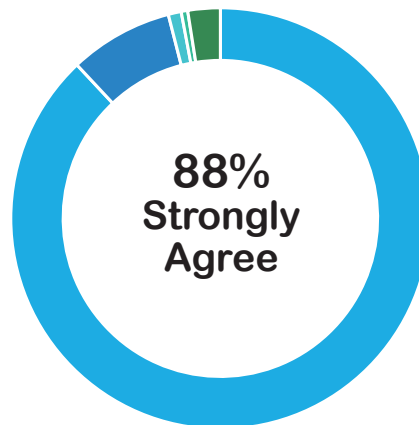
Our Impact

I believe my child felt safe at the CAC.



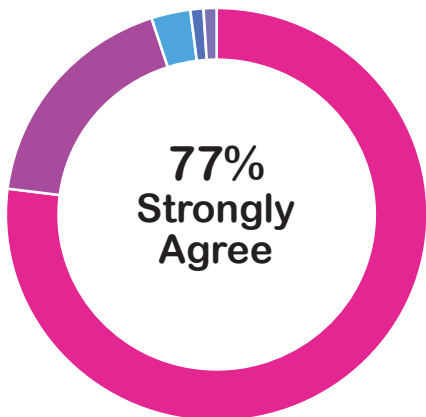
Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree
Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The CAC staff provided me with resources to support my child.



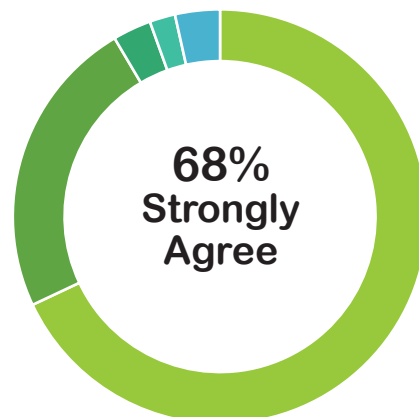
Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree
Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

MDT members feel clients benefit from the collaborative approach.



Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree
Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The CAC provides resources that build better cases.



Strongly Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree
Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

Our Benefits

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES • PROVIDING SUPPORT • RESTORING HOPE

Networking Opportunities

- Regional meetings offering opportunities to network, consult, and problem solve
- Annual meeting for CAC employees on a state-wide level (forensic interviewers, advocates, medical personnel, and coordinators) offering opportunities for networking and consultation on team issues, individual case issues, development issues, and crisis issues
- Mentoring coordination

Technical Support and Assistance

- Organizational Development and Structure
- Protocol Development
- Strategic and/or Succession Planning
- Assistance with NCA Accreditation and OCFS Standards
- Data collection and analysis
- Annual Report: with a unified message to support CACs
- Team issues
- Access to Peer and Case Review

Training

- Annual NYSCA Leadership Conference
- Identification and coordination of statewide training activities to improve the professional response to child abuse cases
- Topic-specific training opportunities (such as Team Academy, Victim Advocacy Training, Mandated Reporter Training)

State Chapter Office Connection to National Children's Alliance and NRCAC

- Connection and coordination of information to/from the NCA
- Connection and coordination of information to/from the NRCAC
- Access to NCA and NRCAC grant opportunities

Advocacy with other State Agencies

- Representation of CACs on a state-wide level
- Active advocacy on behalf of funding for centers

Website/Social Media

- Members Only Resource Page at nyschildrensalliance.org
- Job postings for member center organizations
- Listing of all member centers with contact information
- Listing of helpful links to other organizations
- Access to upcoming CAC trainings
- Active Facebook page, Twitter feed, and Instagram with statewide postings

Public Policy

- Educate legislators and elected state officials about child advocacy centers and their impact for New York's children
- Unified voice for CACs
- Legislative advocacy on local, state, and national levels



Financial Update

REVENUE:

Government Grants.....	\$1,019,873.03
Membership Dues.....	\$9,682.81
Donations and Fundraising.....	\$12,975.85

TOTAL REVENUE.....	\$1,042,531.69
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EXPENSES:

Administrative.....	\$54,627.27
Program Services.....	\$1,037,918.17

TOTAL EXPENSE.....	\$1,092,545.44
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**NYSCA also received pass-through grants of \$78,342.28 in revenue and incurred \$137,947.67 in expenses for the 2017 calendar year, totaling a deficit of \$59,608.39. This deficit was recorded in the calendar year 2018 financials.

Our Team

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Kelly, Board Chair

Harriet M. West Child Advocacy Center

Kristen Beard, Board Vice Chair

Cortland County Child Advocacy Center

Stephen P. Forrester, Esq., Secretary

*NY Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Children*

Karrie Damm, Treasurer

CAC Foundation, Inc.

Nancy Arnow

Safe Horizon

Kathy Colgan

*Forensic Interviewer
Colgan Consulting, Inc.*

Joshua Hanson

The Safe Center, LI, Inc.

Richard Neal

*Merrill Lynch-The Neal Group
Senior Vice President*

Deb Rosen

Bivona Child Advocacy Center

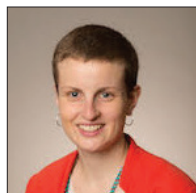
Ann Marie Tucker

Child Advocacy Center of Niagara

NYSCA STAFF



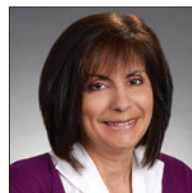
Linda Cleary
Executive Director



Clare Robinson-Henrie
*Director of Statewide
Programming*



William Starliper
Director of Finance



Patricia Maio Mullin
*Communications
and Marketing
Coordinator*



Jami Bolton
*Education
and Training
Coordinator*



Centers Across the State

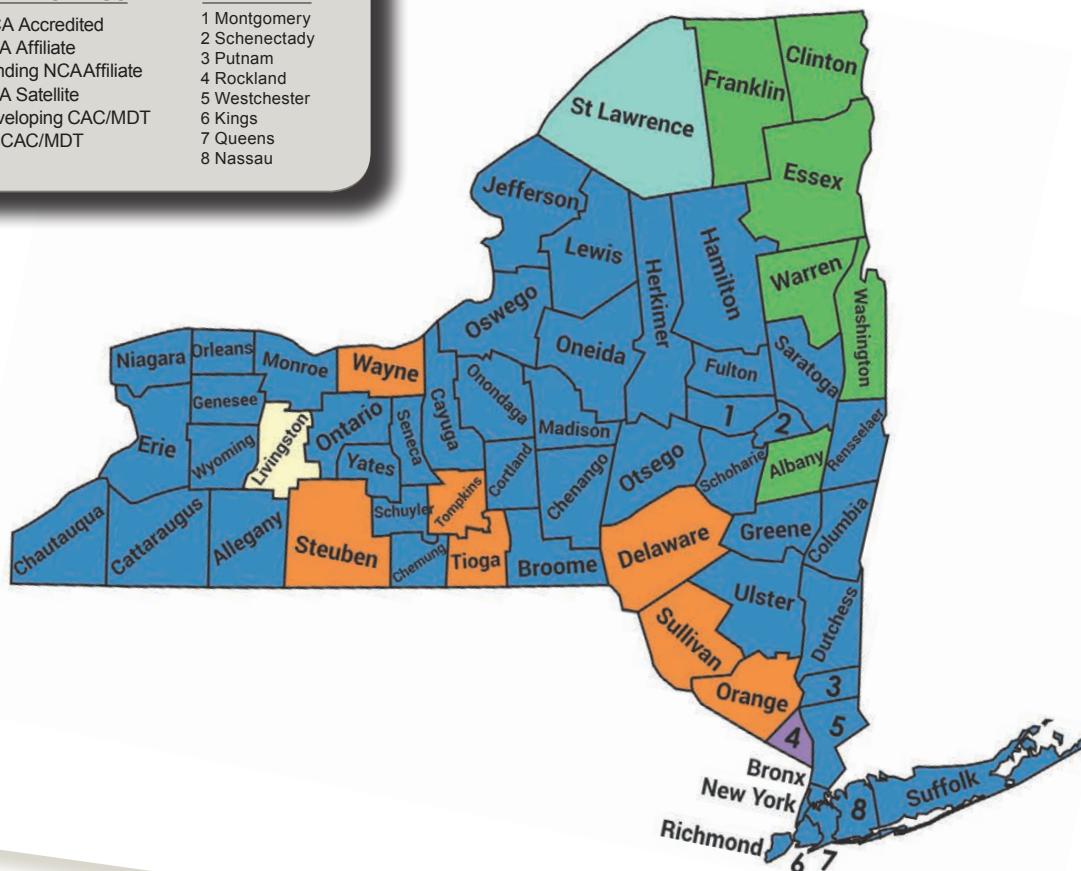
2018 CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS

CAC/MDT STATUS

- NCA Accredited
- NCA Affiliate
- Pending NCA Affiliate
- NCA Satellite
- Developing CAC/MDT
- No CAC/MDT

COUNTIES

- 1 Montgomery
- 2 Schenectady
- 3 Putnam
- 4 Rockland
- 5 Westchester
- 6 Kings
- 7 Queens
- 8 Nassau



Our Year in Review

training

NYSCA provided training to 373 CAC staff and MDT members across the state and provided semi-annual regional meetings.

resources

Created *What We Do* and *Member Benefits* handouts. Legislative documents and the Mandated Reporter Reference Guides were updated.

networking

NYSCA staff participated in statewide and regional taskforces and coalitions, as well as provided networking opportunities at the NYSCA Leadership Conference.

awareness

Created a new website for the Chapter to increase awareness of CACs in the state and increased social media efforts using Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

policy

6 CAC staff and leaders met with our U.S. Senators and Representatives in Washington, D.C. to educate them on the state of child abuse in NY.

2018 TRAININGS

27
.....

MDT members from 4 CAC teams participated in a Team Academy in Ithaca, NY.

77
.....

Medical professionals came together for a medical summit with a keynote presentation by Dr. Martin Finkle.

21
.....

CACs participated in Forensic Interview and Medical Peer Review meetings.

138
.....

MDT members attended the NYSCA Leadership Conference.

30
.....

Victim Advocates attended a Victim Advocacy Training.

78
.....

CAC/MDT members participated in Regional Meetings throughout the state.

231
.....

CAC staff received training utilizing Chapter support funds.

46
.....

MDT members participated in Forums sharing ideas, suggestions and concerns.



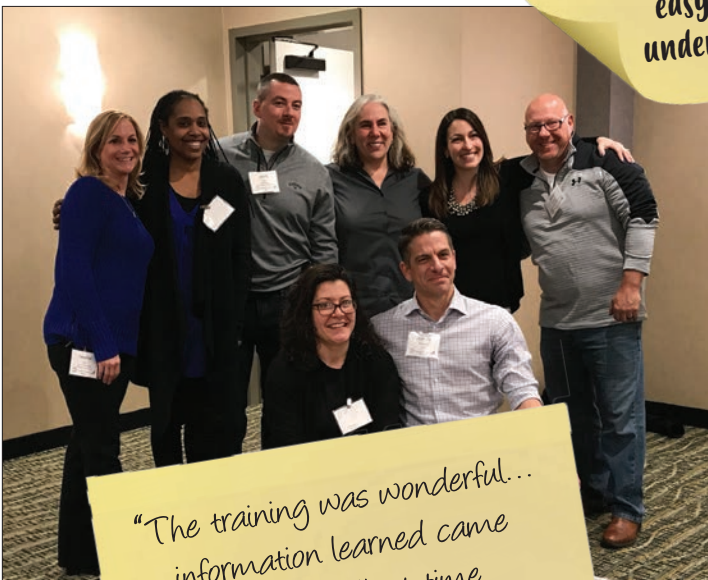
Around the State

"Everyone was calm and helpful, friendly."

The environment was great for kids."



"Great Training!
The trainer was very engaging ...
the material was easy to understand."



"The training was wonderful...
information learned came
at an excellent time
with changes in our facility
&
an increase in
children being seen."





How You Can Help

DONATE:

Contribute to making a difference in a child's life at nyschildrensalliance.org and click on the **DONATE** button.

ADVOCATE:

Tell your legislators why you think Child Advocacy Centers are an important part of the community response to child abuse. NYSCA receives state and federal funds to support CACs in New York.

Your voice matters! Find your legislators at: www.elections.ny.gov/district-map/district-map.html

REPORT:

Learn about the signs of child abuse and report it immediately. This could mean the difference between life and death for the most vulnerable in our community. If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, or is at risk for abuse or neglect, call the **New York State Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-342-3720**.

SHOP FOR A CAUSE:

Now you can support NYSCA every time you shop at Amazon.com. Just follow these easy steps and you will be on your way to financially supporting NYSCA with every Amazon purchase you make!

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Log in with your Amazon account.
3. Search for NYSCA in the charity search near the top of the page.
4. Shop!

CONSIDER A LEGACY GIFT:

Contact NYSCA at 585-402-8086 if you would like more information on how to support NYSCA with a legacy gift.

***“This is an incredible organization and
I don't know how I could ever repay
you all for your dedication.”***

“Thank you.”



New York State Children's Alliance, Inc.