

# Liftoff WNY Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Noon – 1pm

[www.liftoffwny.org](http://www.liftoffwny.org)



## Liftoff WNY Lunch and Learn Tuesday, May 25th, 12-1PM

In 2018, Governor Cuomo assembled a Task Force of experts to develop innovative solutions to improve access to quality, affordable child care in NY. This month the Task Force's recommendations were released: *Supporting Families, Employers & New York's Future Report: An Action Plan for a Strong and Equitable Child Care System*.



**Sheri L. Scavone**  
Executive Director,  
WNY Women's  
Foundation



**Beth Starks**  
Executive Director,  
Chautauqua Lake  
Child Care Center



**Larry Marx**  
CEO, The Children's  
Agenda

Please join Liftoff WNY for an hour of learning and conversation with Child Care Availability Task Force members. Our guest presenters will spotlight the recommendations to create a child care system that is more affordable, accessible, high-quality, and coordinated.

### Our Mission:

Liftoff promotes and enhances high-quality early childhood development for all children by integrating practice, policy, research and resources.

Website:  
[Liftoffwny.org](http://Liftoffwny.org)

Contact with any questions:  
[Amy@liftoffwny.org](mailto:Amy@liftoffwny.org)



# Today's Presenters:



- Sheri Scavone: Executive Director, WNY Women's Foundation
- Larry Marx: CEO, The Children's Agenda
- Beth Starks: Director of the Career Advantage program and Director of the North County Extension Center at Jamestown Community College

# NYS Child Care Availability Task Force

History | Purpose | Principles

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- **Background:** The State Legislature created the Task Force in April 2018. In December 2018, Governor Cuomo announced its launch.
- **Purpose:** “For the purpose of evaluating the need for and availability of child care throughout the state. The taskforce shall examine the following:
  1. Affordability;
  2. Subsidy access;
  3. Non-traditional hours availability;
  4. Workforce participation, worker shortage, economic development impact;
  5. Quality;
  6. Regional availability;
  7. Regulatory/statutory changes promoting access, health and safety;
  8. Business incentives;
  9. Solutions.”



# Transformational Solutions: Quebec

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## Key Results:

- Labor force participation went up by over 16% (from 64 to over 80% for women with kids under 6)
- Tax revenues from higher earnings and economic activity have more than paid for the program
- Success: Work/life balance with nearly universal access
- Not successful: Universal quality for first-rate child development



In 1997, the Canadian province of Quebec launched the “politique familiale” (family policy)



# Child Care Affordability

- 1.1 Set a statewide standard for affordability and enact a path to get there.
- 1.2 Adopt subsidy market rates that reflect the real cost of high-quality child care.
- 1.3 Make phase-in decisions based on racial equity and other equity priorities.
- 1.4 Maximize available funding across all sources.





# Equitable Access to Child Care

- 2.1 End disparities caused by inequitable county-by-county fragmentation.
- 2.2 Increase provider capacity in order to eliminate “child care deserts.”
- 2.3 Improve fiscal stability for child care providers to give families confidence and stability.
- 2.4 Eliminate policies that force children out of early childhood care.
- 2.5 Engage employers as a key partner in establishing an affordable and accessible high-quality child care system.





# High-Quality Child Care

- 3.1 Support program quality and provide transparency to families.
- 3.2 Pay the early childhood workforce fairly.
- 3.3 Provide pathways for early childhood educators to advance in their careers and professional learning.



# Coordinated Systems

- 4.1 Publicly communicate the status and impact of the child care system and New York State's progress toward achieving the vision and steps proposed by the Task Force.
- 4.2 Develop a data system to support quality, efficiency, and transparency.
- 4.3 Streamline and coordinate across agencies to better serve families and child care providers.
- 4.4 Increase pre-kindergarten collaboration with community-based organizations.







# Aligned Action & Advocacy

2021-2022 NYS Child Care  
Legislative Package



Empire State Campaign for Child Care and Winning Beginning NY urge New York lawmakers to pass the following bills this session to set NY on track to offer high-quality child care to all New York families:

- **Child Care Provider Direct Deposit Act** [A.5840 (Clark)/S.5162 (Brisport)]
- **Decoupling child care subsidies from parents' hours of work** [A.7661 (Hevesi)/S.6655 (Brisport)]
- **Allowing Social Services Districts to Expand Child Care Subsidy Eligibility** [A.7582 (Hevesi)/S.6706-A. (Brisport)]

# Closing Remarks

*Thank you!*

Please submit your questions through the Q&A feature

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