

TheChildren'sAgenda

Smart Choices. Bold Voices.

November 30, 2017

Reverend Amy Williams Fowler
Presbytery of Genesee Valley
1190 Winton Road
Rochester, NY 14618

Dear Reverend Williams Fowler,

We can't THANK YOU enough for your \$1,075 gift, continuing your annual support for our work! As an organization that strictly advocates for "what children need most" and "what works best," we rely exclusively on non-government funding from foundations, businesses, faith groups and individuals like you. Thanks to your support for policy and systems change, we're achieving some remarkable improvements in the lives of thousands of local children. Four achievements stand out:

- 1) **\$4.75 million in expanded early childhood supports:** home visiting, child care subsidies, and pre-K summer learning. TCA played a lead role together with United Way, Children's Institute, ROC the Future, Greater Rochester Summer Learning Assoc. and the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council in helping the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative secure economic development for up to 1,100 low-income families in our community for two years.
- 2) **Raise the Age:** TCA played a lead role in the state campaign led by Children's Defense Fund and Citizens Committee of New York City to change the law wrongly subjecting up to 22,000 16 and 17 year-olds to the adult criminal justice system each year.
- 3) **Strengthening CPS:** In the wake of staggering increases in child abuse and neglect reports in Monroe County (more than 10,000 expected this year, or an average of 27 per day), TCA played a lead role over the past two years with our partners in the faith, medical and social work communities advocating for additional CPS caseworkers and strengthening retention to right-size the ratio of cases to workers to the 12:1 standard (it has averaged closer to 29:1). In October, the County Executive announced 30 additional positions and increased salaries for CPS caseworkers.
- 4) **Preventive funding:** For the first time in five years, Monroe County is making a meaningful increase of \$1.7 million in funding for programs that help prevent child abuse and neglect. Prevention through evidence-based programs has always been the signature focus of our advocacy efforts for children, consistently (and persistently) over many years now. Monroe County has also adopted a new "Children and Families" section of its proposed 2018 budget, similar to the "children's impact statement" for which The Children's Agenda has long advocated.

None of these accomplishments happen solely because of The Children's Agenda; it has taken many partners working together. But it's also true that none of them would have happened without us -- and without you, too. Thanks again for your continuing support!

Sincerely,



Larry Marx
CEO

Thank you so much, Rev. Fowler, for your personal and the Presbytery's institutional support. We are making a difference, and your support makes a difference to our work, too.

Please pass along our thanks to the Grants Working Group! It's an honor and pleasure to partner with P6V -

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