EVERY CHILD DESERVES ACCESS TO QUALITY PRE-K
Strengthen Partnerships and Support for Community Programs to Provide Pre-K

The State has wisely chosen to deliver pre-K services through a mixed delivery system that includes child care and Head Start programs in the community. Today, more than half of all pre-K services are offered in early childhood programs outside the public schools.

This is an essential strategy that leverages existing resources and better serves the State’s working families who often need extended hours and year-round care.

Some of these programs also offer the expertise and capacity to create integrated settings, so children with disabilities and typically developing children can learn together and from each other.

Other community-based programs have experience and expertise supporting children and families whose primary language is a language other than English.

However, the funding levels often do not reflect the value of these settings and the disparities in funding levels between schools and community based programs destabilizes a critical part of the delivery system.

Our 2020 agenda for new investment in pre-K includes several key recommendations, to address these disparities:

- Establish per-child rates for 3- and 4-year-old pre-K to support quality standards. Meeting this goal offers a strategy and pathway to enhance resources for many community partners and a starting point for equity across settings.
- Establish regional technical assistance centers as a venue to strengthen collaboration between public schools and their community partners, supporting joint learning and leadership in pre-K implementation.

The Ready for Kindergarten Campaign, led by AQE, CANY, CCI and SCAA aligns our agenda with Winning Beginning NY, Empire State Child Care and the Campaign for Children in NYC. For more information, contact bholcomb@ccinyc.org.