



**Office of Children  
and Family Services**

# **2019 Trust Fund Annual Report**

**Andrew M. Cuomo, *Governor***  
**Sheila J. Poole, *OCFS Commissioner***

William B. Hoyt  
Memorial  
Children and  
Family Trust Fund



**Strengthening  
New York's  
Families**

# 2019 Trust Fund Annual Report

## Investing in Prevention

In 1984, New York State established the William B. Hoyt Memorial Children and Family Trust Fund (Trust Fund) as a dedicated source of funding for the prevention and treatment of family violence in accordance with Article 10-A of the Social Services Law (SSL § 481-a through 481-f). Article 10-A of the Social Services Law provides the legal framework for the Trust Fund by defining its focus, funding allocation, and the spending structure for funds credited to the Trust Fund (SSL § 481-e). It also establishes the Trust Fund advisory board (SSL § 481-d) and requires annual submission of this report to the governor and Legislature (SSL § 481-e [8]) to reflect the implementation, evaluation, and effectiveness of current prevention and treatment services supported by the Trust Fund.

For 35 years, the Trust Fund has financed programs that strengthen families and help prevent all forms of family violence. The Trust Fund recognizes that the various forms of family violence – child abuse and maltreatment, intimate partner violence, and intergenerational family violence – are often interrelated and supports programs providing prevention, education, intervention, treatment, and various other services.

Prevention efforts begin with a commitment to proactively strengthen families and communities by building protective factors. Protective factors include parental resilience, social connections, concrete supports, nurturing and attachment, and knowledge of parenting and child development.

Prevention programs and services are of major importance to New York State. Building and promoting protective factors for families helps to counter risk factors and reduce incidents of family violence. Recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the United States' total lifetime economic burden resulting from one year of new child abuse and neglect cases is approximately \$124 billion. Investing in prevention is critical to promoting strong, healthy families and communities; additionally, the costly burden of providing interventions across multiple service systems is reduced and long-term costs to society are significantly curtailed.

## Program Priorities

Funded programs focus on improving the safety and well-being of children and adults at risk of or experiencing child abuse, intergenerational abuse, and/or domestic violence. Programs prioritize services based on research or evidence, target the high-need communities, and emphasize partnerships with local departments of social services and other community partners.

Program staff partner with the families they serve to create brighter futures. Often, the underlying factors prompting families' needs for services are the same factors that cause barriers to participation. Such common barriers include poverty, homelessness, intimate partner violence, substance abuse, mental health concerns, limited supports, limited knowledge of effective parenting techniques, and/or child development, and family members affected by adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

The Trust Fund supports both primary and secondary prevention programs. Primary prevention programs strengthen families to prevent family violence before it occurs. Secondary prevention programs address early signs or risk factors of family violence by treating the presenting problems to prevent system intervention and/or further harm. The Trust Fund also supports other programs such as emergency services, which are helpful to assist and/or treat victims of family violence.

Trust Fund programs employ a universal approach of building on individual strengths in the context of the community and culture. The evidence-based Protective Factors Framework is used in most Trust Fund programs to promote resilience. This measurable strategy addresses risk and protective factors together. Another tool is Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support. These standards provide guidance and structure for the approach, methodology, and self-evaluation of funded programs. These are used in addition to OCFS's standardized evaluation tools.

The Trust Fund's priorities are aligned with other OCFS initiatives such as the OCFS Child Welfare Practice Model and Families First. Funded programs support positive outcomes for families through services that include Family Resource Centers, home visiting and parenting programs, and trauma-informed services. Programs working with parents incorporate leadership opportunities, creating a supportive environment to augment each participant's ability to contribute to positive outcomes for their family.

### **Highlights from 2019**

A significant activity during 2019 was the issuance of a Request for Proposals and the awarding of 23 Trust Fund contracts using state and federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention funds. These contracts will be reported in the 2020 Trust Fund Annual Report.

Twenty-two of the contracts listed in this report were originally awarded funding from a competitive bid process that was issued in 2013. After completing a five-year funding shell in August 2018, an 11-month extension was granted. Trust Fund dollars, using a combination of state and federal funds, were used to support the programs. Information in this report is collected from that 11-month time period.

The number of persons estimated to have been assisted in funded programs:

Child abuse prevention programs:

2,509 adults

1,974 children

Domestic violence prevention programs:

264 adults

182 children

Intergenerational family violence prevention services and trainings:

2,210 community members and professionals

Protective Factors Trainings through Prevent Child Abuse NY: 31

Participants trained: 1,500

Enough Abuse Campaign (EAC) through Prevent Child Abuse NY:

EAC trainings: 123

Participants trained: 1,928

Training of the trainer events: 5

Number of new trainers: 59

## Funding

Service Type	Trust Fund - State Allocation	Trust Fund - Federal Funds (CBCAP)	Local Public Funds - Other Public Entities	Private Funds - Donations, in-kind services, other grants	Value of Services delivered to children and adults
Child Abuse Prevention	\$179,668	\$745,149	\$627,375	\$1,446,545	\$2,998,737
Domestic Violence Prevention	\$73,334	\$37,070	\$0	\$66,851	\$177,255
Intergenerational Abuse Prevention	\$110,001	\$0	\$136,077	\$73,197	\$319,275
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$363,003</b>	<b>\$782,219</b>	<b>\$763,452</b>	<b>\$1,586,593</b>	<b>\$3,495,267</b>

The amount of funds used for the administration of services was \$78,488.

Trust Fund dollars support community-based resources that serve to strengthen both individual and community capacities to preserve the health and safety of children and vulnerable adults. Funding promotes strong and stable families and helps communities thrive.

### Funded Child Abuse Prevention Programs

#### Association to Benefit Children

New York County/East Harlem

\$44,916

This Family Resource Center (FRC) offers support to low-income families, single parents and families receiving preventive services through the New York City Administration for Children's Services. Services include **Child-Parent Psychotherapy**, case management, and **Parenting Journey** – an evidence-based parenting education curriculum.

#### Child Care Coordinating Council of the North Country

Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties/Plattsburgh, Tupper Lake, Elizabethtown, Malone

\$44,916

The Adirondack Family Resource Center Network is comprised of three FRCs with an emphasis on engaging families with low-income, low educational attainment, or a family member with a disability. Services include parenting support groups, **Incredible Years** and **Parenting Wisely** evidence-based parenting education curricula, developmental screenings, parent-child play and social groups, and connection to community resources.

#### Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tioga County

Tioga County/Owego, Waverly  
\$44,916

The Owego and Waverly FRCs provide targeted outreach to families referred by the local departments of social services as well as low-income, single, and teen parents. Services include a safe, comfortable well-equipped indoor play space for parents and their children, regular drop-in play hours, educational programming, recreational family activities, parenting education, and **Incredible Years** evidence-based parenting education delivered in the home.

### **Hillside Children's Center**

Monroe County/Rochester  
\$ 44,916

Peter Castle and Southwest FRCs, while welcoming all families, target outreach to engaging Latino parents, fathers with young children, teen parents, and kinship households. Services include **Parents As Teachers** (PAT) home visiting and **Incredible Years** – both evidence-based parenting education curricula, kinship support, and early childhood education classrooms.

### **Rising Ground Inc. (formerly Leake and Watts)**

Bronx County/Bronx  
\$ 44,916

The Soundview FRC targets outreach to teen parents, kinship caregivers, caregivers with mental health needs, families with children with disabilities, and low-income residents of Community District Nine. Services and program activities include: **Parenting Journey**, an evidence-informed, promising practice model for parenting education and peer support; infant and toddler play groups; parenting skills classes; recreational family activities; computer lab and resume writing/job search workshops; access to medical and mental health services; linkages to community supports and opportunities for community involvement and parent leadership.

### **Niagara Falls City School District**

Niagara County/Niagara Falls  
\$44,916

Focus on Families FRC Network comprises four centers located in three elementary schools and the school district's Community Education Center. With targeted outreach to teen parents, low income families, and parents with children with disabilities, the centers provide parenting education using the evidence-based **Incredible Years**, structured playgroups, story hour, and family recreational activities. Van transportation is provided to programs, and family support workers provide assistance with accessing needed services and resources during home visits.

### **Pro Action of Steuben and Yates**

Steuben County/Addison, Bath, Hornell  
\$44,916

The Steuben Family Enrichment Collaborative includes four FRCs with services to support teen parents, fathers, and families with mental health needs and disabilities. Services include evidence-informed parenting education models **Parenting with Heart**, **Flexible Families** and **FLIP IT**. Home visits are provided for more isolated families.

### **Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany**

Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady counties/Albany, Troy, Schenectady  
\$44,917

Community Maternity Services provides intervention and support services to relative caregivers and their children including peer support groups and parenting education, utilizing the **Families Organized to Cope**,

***Understand and Succeed*** (FOCUS) curriculum to identify and strengthen protective factors in kinship caregiver families.

**Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County**

Tompkins County/Groton, Ithaca, Dryden, Newfield

\$44,917

Groton's Families, in partnership with the Tompkins County Department of Social Services Family Assessment Response (FAR) initiative, offers ***Cornell Parenting Series*** workshops, mutual support groups, family fun events, and Community Café conversations to complement local activities for families with young children.

**Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families**

New York County/Central and East Harlem

\$44,917

The Children's Therapy Program addresses trauma symptoms for children who have witnessed domestic violence through ***Child-Parent Psychotherapy*** (CPP) for children ages 5 and younger, ***Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*** (TF-CBT) for children 5 and older, and case management and support services for parents.

**The Children's Village (formerly Inwood House)**

New York City/All five boroughs

\$44,917

The ***Parenting Support through Video Programming*** (PSV) enhances parent and child bonding and builds positive parenting skills of young parents. The program uses video to capture parent-child interaction and assists parents in identifying their strengths to increase their skills. The program is offered through 13 weeks of home visits.

**Jewish Family Service of Buffalo and Erie County**

Erie County/Buffalo

\$44,916

Parenting education and support services provided to resettled refugees using the evidence-based program ***Incredible Years***, modified for the languages and cultures of the target population. Services are offered in partnership and coordination with other agencies providing services to refugees.

**Sunset Park Health Council dba Lutheran Family Health Centers**

Kings County/Brooklyn

\$49,000

This expansion of the evidence-based ***Parent Child Home Program*** provides twice weekly home visits for 2 years to new immigrants to support family literacy, build on parenting skills including age-appropriate expectations and limit setting, and offer new approaches to parenting.

**The Family Center**

Kings County/Brooklyn

\$44,916

Early Support for Lifelong Success (ESLS)-Brooklyn provides parenting education, support and family activities to promote healthy parent/child relationships and parent responsiveness to children's needs. ESLS is offering the evidence-based ***Triple P: Positive Parenting Program*** as well as ***Parenting Journey*** for parenting education and peer support.

**Westchester Jewish Community Services, Inc.**

Westchester County/Yonkers

\$41,905

This program is designed to support parents and children (ages 6 and younger) who have experienced domestic violence by providing 10 weeks of the evidence-informed **Moms' Empowerment Group** with a parallel **Preschool Kids' Club Program**. Home visits and case management services are also provided.

**Domestic Violence Prevention Programs**

Domestic violence programs work with families experiencing, or at risk of, family violence. These programs were funded using Trust Fund state and federal dollars. Services include parenting education and support, abusive partner intervention, therapeutic visitation services, and joint planning and consultation for domestic violence victims.

**The Children's Aid Society**

New York County/Manhattan

\$36,667

Innovative program providing victim support services, abusive partner education and intervention, child therapy, and therapeutic visitation services. Recipients are referred from the New York City Administration for Children's Services or the courts.

**Orange County Safe Homes, Inc.**

Orange County/Newburgh

\$36,667

Co-location of a domestic violence (DV) advocate at the Orange County Child Protective Services (CPS) office provides protocol development, case consultation, home visits, cross-training, and joint safety planning for DV victims and their children.

**My Sister's Place, Inc.**

Westchester County/ Mt. Vernon

\$37,070

Co-location of a DV advocate at the Mount Vernon Child Protective Services office. The DV advocate provides protocol development, case consultation, home visits, cross-training, and joint safety planning for DV victims and their children.

**Elder Abuse Prevention**

The prevention of elder abuse, another aspect of family violence, is also addressed through the Trust Fund. Services include case management, counseling, advocacy, and community education. Three elder abuse prevention programs were awarded funding in 2019.

**Family Services of Westchester, Inc.**

Westchester County/Mount Vernon

\$36,667

Program serves the elderly at risk of or experiencing abuse in Westchester County, to increase safety, provide case management and support services. Community education and training are also provided. Participation in an enhanced multidisciplinary team (EMDT) provides coordinated community response.

**Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc.**

Monroe County/Rochester

\$36,667

Lifespan partners with Ibero, Inc. to serve elder Latinos and elders in health care settings who are not eligible for Adult Protective Services. Information and referrals, investigations, case management, and respite services are provided to improve safety. Training is provided to healthcare providers in elder abuse identification and appropriate response.

### **Victim Information Bureau of Suffolk, Inc. (VIBS)**

Suffolk County

\$36,667

VIBS expanded existing elder abuse services to focus on at-risk seniors with mild cognitive impairment, and address language and cultural barriers within the Latino community. Services include court advocacy and accompaniment, counseling and support for elders experiencing abuse. Training is available for Adult Protective Services and other professionals working with the elder population as well as educational workshops for seniors.

### **Evaluation and Quality Assurance**

OCFS continues its commitment to use data to support ongoing program improvement efforts and positively influence outcomes for families. This includes expanding the capacity to collect and utilize data on program services and outcomes across the supported program models. Specifically, OCFS focused on the following:

- Providing technical assistance and support to program sites regarding entering data into the Community-Based Prevention Programs Data Management System (DMS)
- Soliciting feedback from system users as to functionality and reporting needs
- Updating and enhancing the DMS based on user feedback
- Developing and programming automated reports to support monitoring of program practices and outcomes
- Examining program activities to inform the development of performance indicators and targets, and to support continuous quality improvement efforts.

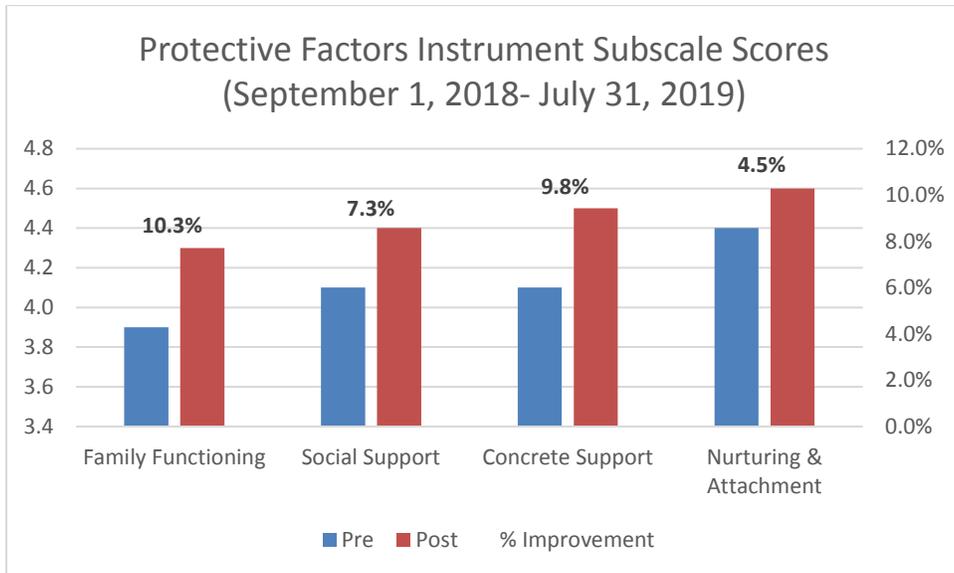
Staff from OCFS's Bureau of Program and Community Development partnered with the OCFS Bureau of Research, Evaluation, and Performance Analytics (BREPA) and the Center of Human Services Research (CHSR) to provide support for each of these activities. CHSR continues to provide one-on-one telephone and email support to address any data management system issues that arise.

Funded programs collect and enter individual-level demographic, services, and outcomes information into the DMS. OCFS uses this information to monitor a set of performance indicators for each program type. These indicators are specific to four areas – participant engagement, participant retention, service provision, and participant outcomes – and support continuous quality improvement and attainment of outcomes. Program performance on these indicators is monitored on a quarterly basis and overall target achievement is evaluated annually.

OCFS uses the Protective Factors Instrument (PFI) to evaluate whether programs are achieving positive outcomes for participants. The PFI is a participant completed survey measuring protective factors in five areas (family functioning/resiliency, social support, concrete support, knowledge of parenting and child development, and nurturing and attachment). The instrument is completed prior to the start of services (i.e., a pretest) and again after a specific period of service receipt, typically three months (i.e., a post-test). The PFI provides a snapshot of the families served, identifies general areas where workers can focus on increasing individual protective factors, and measures change in protective factors over time.

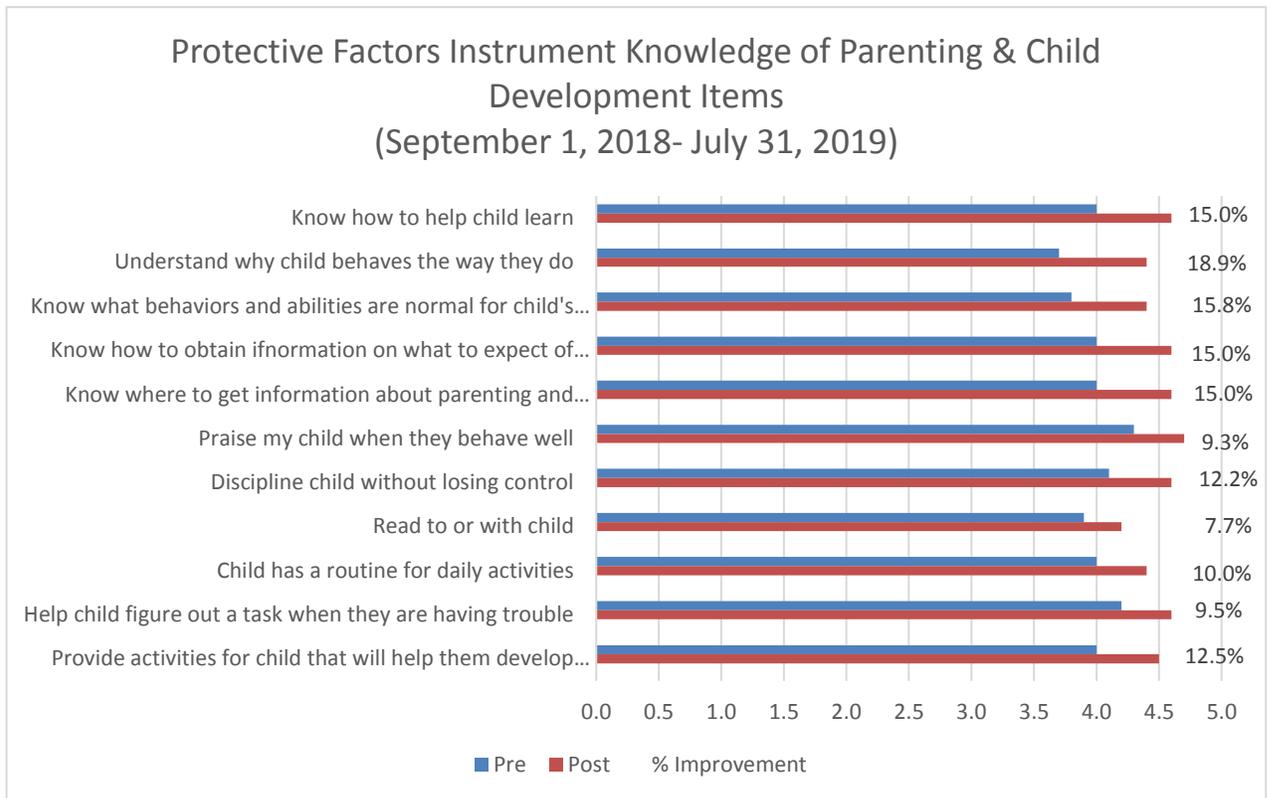
Program results and outcomes are evaluated at the end of each quarter and annually. As shown in the figure below, there were substantial increases in each of the PFI areas, indicating that program services were effective in increasing protective factors for families.





Given the diversity of activities PFIs assess, Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development is not measured in the same manner as the other categories. However, examination of this area suggests that program services are also very effective in developing families' capacity to support their children in a positive way. Some of the greatest improvements in scores from pretest to posttest were for items such as "I understand why my child behaves the way he/she does" (18.9 percent) and "I know what behaviors and abilities are normal for my child's current developmental stage" (15.8 percent).

See the figure below for additional items.



Each funded program is required to solicit feedback on satisfaction with services from participants using a participant satisfaction survey, and programs include feedback from these surveys in their quarterly program reports. The PFI posttest survey also includes questions on participant satisfaction with the program.

In 2016, OCFS joined the National Family Support Network (NFSN) to support the use of the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support. The Trust Fund requires child abuse prevention programs to complete the Standards of Quality program self-assessment tool on an annual basis. The assessments are reviewed by OCFS program managers to ensure programs integrate the standards into their services, and to collaborate in a continuous quality improvement approach.

### Public Education and Community Initiatives

Funding from the Trust Fund supports statewide training, public education, a parent helpline and initiatives supporting families and communities. Funding was provided to support the following:

#### Prevent Child Abuse New York (PCANY)

\$250,000

Prevent Child Abuse New York, a long-standing partner of the Trust Fund, shares the mission to support the safety and well-being of all children and families. The agency addresses individual, community, and societal responsibility for child abuse prevention. Work supported through the Trust Fund includes the Parent Helpline and prevention education, including the New York State Enough Abuse Campaign and Protective Factors training for community members, professionals, and other stakeholders.

The Parent Helpline assisted 1,113 individuals in 2019 through calls, emails, in-person requests, and website searches for information and/or materials about: child abuse and neglect prevention, involvement

in prevention efforts, effective parenting, and requests for help. The Enough Abuse Campaign included distribution of materials in communities across the state, training over 1,900 individuals in 123 trainings, and establishing 59 new trainers who can carry the campaign into their communities and organizations. More than 1,500 individuals were trained in the Protective Factors framework in 31 trainings.

### **New York State Parenting Education Partnership**

\$75,000

The New York State Parenting Education Partnership (NYSPEP) works to increase the availability of high-quality parenting education programs. NYSPEP is jointly led by Prevent Child Abuse New York, the New York State Council on Children and Families, OCFS (Trust Fund), the New York State Office of Mental Health, and the New York State Department of Education. Activities include a Parenting Educator credential, mini grants to community coalitions improving access to evidence-based parenting education programs, and a searchable database of parenting education programs. For more information, visit the NYSPEP website at: [www.nyspep.org](http://www.nyspep.org).

In 2019, the Trust Fund funding to NYSPEP supported new community collaborations in Tioga, Clinton and Niagara counties as well as continuation of support to Tompkins, Orange and Steuben counties. Funding also supported Community Cafés and a professional development day in June 2019. Sessions focused on building supportive relationships while working respectfully with families, and addressed implicit bias working with fathers and Community Cafés.

### **2019 Crib Initiative**

In its continued commitment to support safe sleep practices, the Trust Fund provided 3,987 portable cribs with a fitted sheet to families across the state. The cribs were distributed through local departments of social services including Native American tribal entities; Child Fatality Review Teams; kinship and permanency programs; Healthy Families New York programs, community-based organizations; and, substance abuse service programs funded by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services.

### **Publications**

The Trust Fund issues publications related to children and families. These publications can be requested at <http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/prevention/resources.asp>. Many of these publications are can be downloaded directly from the website. Topics include safe sleep, preventing abusive head trauma, and other child health and safety issues. The Trust Fund distributed 24,505 publications during the funding year.

### **National Family Support Network**

The Trust Fund maintains a membership in the National Family Support Network. Membership provides opportunities to strengthen the use of Standards of Quality in Trust Fund programs, learn about other models of family strengthening and support programs, best practices in the field, and participation in trainings and webinars.

### **National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds**

The National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds (National Alliance) is the member organization for trust funds including all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. As a member of the National Alliance, the Trust Fund is part of the national voice for strengthening families and reducing child abuse and neglect across the country. For more information on the National Alliance, go to [www.ctfalliance.org](http://www.ctfalliance.org).

### **Additional Information**

Further information about the Trust Fund is available by contacting the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

### **OCFS Contact Information**

New York State Office of Children and Family Services  
Capital View Office Park  
52 Washington Street  
Rensselaer, New York 12144-2834  
(518) 473-7793  
[info@ocfs.ny.gov](mailto:info@ocfs.ny.gov)

### **Trust Fund Contact Information**

New York State Office of Children and Family Services  
Division of Child Welfare and Community Services  
Bureau of Program and Community Development  
52 Washington Street, Room 335 North Building  
Rensselaer, NY 12144-2834

- Bernadette Johnson, Bureau Director
- Karen Kissinger, Assistant Bureau Director
- Kathleen McGarry, Trust Fund Coordinator
- Kathryn Christman, Program Manager
- Roseanna Counterman, Program Manager
- Jeanne Cramer, Program Manager

### **Trust Fund Advisory Board**

The Trust Fund Advisory Board supports the work of the Trust Fund. Current members are:

Holly Adams  
Maryanne Banks  
Alicia Borns  
Carolyn Hoyt-Stevens  
Linda James  
Lauren Perrotto  
Marion White