

TheChildren'sAgenda

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May e-update 2017



Dear Advocate,

Here's the latest news and items of interest from *The Children's Agenda*. We also invite you to visit our [website](#) and let us know how we're doing. We'd love to hear from you!

PLTI 5th Annual Graduation Ceremony



Earlier this month, the [Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute—PLTI](#) held its 5th Annual Graduation Ceremony at City Hall. PLTI is an initiative that serves to improve the lifelong health, safety and learning of children by helping to develop parents' leadership skills in order to make real change in schools, communities, and state and local governments. PLTI offers unique adult learning experiences in which parents explore their passions, strengths, and beliefs, thereby developing interpersonal and public communications, as well as their understanding of government, media and civic relations. On May 15th, PLTI celebrated the accomplishments of 21 parent-leaders who've done just that. Guest speakers included Mayor Lovely Warren, who acknowledged the power of parents in our community by reassuring the new grads that the messages they send are definitely heard. "The issues you fight for rise to the top," she said.



Upcoming Events

[Summer Meals Fest](#)

Saturday, June 10

[Rochester Juneteenth Celebration](#)

Saturday, June 17



In the News

[State Needs Action Plan on Child Care](#)
Democrat & Chronicle

[What Culturally Informed Practices Can Do to Support Educational Outcomes for Black Children](#)
Minority Reporter

[Child Care for Low-Income Families Has Universal Appeal](#)
Spectrum News



[Addressing Gaps the Quality of Care Related to Children's Mental and Emotional Health](#)
WXXI News

[Boosting a Baby's Brain Power by Supporting Parents and Caregivers](#)
RWJF

[Racial and Ethnic Disparities Persist in Sudden Infant Deaths](#)
NPR

PLTI graduate and class spokesperson Ricardo Adams talked about his project, Breaking Barriers, which focuses on corporal punishment. Ricardo spoke at length about generational trauma, sending a strong message that spanking children as a means for discipline is both harmful and ineffective. He also commended his fellow classmates on their work on being "change agents" in the community and encouraged them to remain active with PLTI's Alumni Group following graduation.



Carolyn Lee-Davis, Policy Director at The Children's Agenda and PLTI Coordinator, also personally congratulated the new graduates, encouraging parent-leaders to continue their work in the community following graduation. She sent a heartfelt message that, in the 5 years she's led the initiative, it has been an honor to work with parent-leaders who have shown the level of passion and commitment demonstrated by the Class of 2017.

Children's Leadership Training Institute also held its 5th Annual Graduation Ceremony in May. To check out more photos from the events and to keep up with PLTI happenings, including recruitment for its 6th cohort, [join PLTI on Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).

Congratulations & Best Wishes Carolyn Lee-Davis



Carolyn Lee-Davis has accepted a position with the [National Parent Leadership Training Institute—PLTI](#). Carolyn has served as Policy Director at The Children's Agenda for 10 years, 5 of which she's served jointly as Coordinator for the [Greater Rochester Parent Leadership Training Institute—PLTI](#). In her role as Policy Director, Carolyn led The Children's Agenda's early education work, analyzing, advocating, and collaborating with community partners, to increase opportunities for affordable high-quality early care and education. Carolyn also staffed the Children's Policy Council and co-led Rochester's National League of Cities Educational Alignment for Young Children. She has served as Co-Chair for Winning Beginning NY Child Care Committee and as a member of the Steering Committee for Winning Beginning NY. Carolyn served as a Cabinet Member of Rochester's Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI) and has sat on the Healthi Kids Policy Team.

In her new role as Operations Manager for the National PLTI, Carolyn will be working to accelerate the organization's national growth, including already existing sites in New Orleans, Miami, and Virginia. Although we will greatly miss Carolyn's great work ethic—always going above and beyond what is expected, effecting positive energy with her talent,

wittiness, and charm—we wish her well as she enters a new phase in both her professional and personal development. We, here at The Children's Agenda, are confident that she will exceed in this new role, impressing upon those nationally as she has locally the importance of doing what works best and is needed most for children.



Did you know?

June 1st is International Children's Day

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THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

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