



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**New York Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Announces Public Briefing on Examining the New York Child Welfare System and its Impact on Black Children and Families**

The New York Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) seeks to examine the extent to which racial disproportionalities and disparities exist in the New York child welfare system and its impact specifically on Black children and families. After receiving testimony through a series of briefings, the Committee intends to provide the Commission with their findings and recommendations on this topic.

**BRIEFING #1: Friday, November 18, 2022 1:00 – 3: 00 P.M. ET**

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/y7csh24>

TELEPHONE (Audio Only): Dial 1-833-568-8864 USA Toll Free; Meeting ID: 160 234 3571

The Committee is in the process of organizing its briefings and is seeking testimony from community members (impacted individuals) and advocates, researchers and academics, and policy and governance individuals in order to understand the child welfare system from different perspectives and develop impactful policy recommendations. The Committee will discuss Committee Business from 1:00 – 1:30 P.M. Invited panelist remarks and Committee Q&A will occur from 1:30 – 2:30 P.M. Members of the public are encouraged to share their experiences and perspectives regarding the child welfare system in New York and will be invited to speak during an open comment period from 2:30 – 3:00 P.M. All remarks by panelists and members of the public are recorded and transcribed for potential inclusion in the Committee’s report to the Commission.

As the time available for each briefing is limited, any individuals who do not receive the opportunity to share remarks during a briefing are encouraged to submit remarks by email to [mtrachtenberg@usccr.gov](mailto:mtrachtenberg@usccr.gov) within 30 days of the briefing for inclusion in the public record. All remarks received will be shared with the Committee. Meeting materials will be publicly available in the [New York Advisory Committee Public Folder](#).

Committee Chair Bryanne Hamill said, “As we undertake this bipartisan fact-finding study, it will be critical to our findings and recommendations to the Commission that we hear from children and families impacted by the New York State child welfare system as well as diverse perspectives that include advocates, academics, government officials, and community leaders, among others, to help us identify critical causes of racial disparities and harm to our Black communities as well as promising strategies for successful reform.”

Individuals requiring accommodations should contact [mtrachtenberg@usccr.gov](mailto:mtrachtenberg@usccr.gov) at least 10 business days prior to the briefing. The Committee is advisory in nature only and does not have enforcement authority and cannot address individual complaints. Additional briefings in this series will be announced in the [Federal Register](#) and at [www.usccr.gov](http://www.usccr.gov).

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).