NEW YORK'S CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ARE BROKEN.

These systems should protect kids and families — but right now they're causing serious harm, especially to BIPOC families. Together, we can begin to fix that.

CPS investigations do not impact families equally.



Roughly ninety percent of the families ACS (NY's largest CPS agency) investigates are BIPOC.

More than half of Black children in the US will experience a CPS investigation by the time they turn 18.



Of the more than 10,000 anonymous reports of child abuse or neglect New York State receives every year, only 3.5 percent are determined to be credible.

The majority of parents investigated by CPS (Child Protective Services) agencies will be found innocent of any wrongdoing — but not before their families are subjected to the invasive process of an investigation.

 repeated, unexpected interruptions from caseworkers day and night

A CPS investigation may look like:



.children being pulled out of school





.strip searches of children

Too many loving families are dragged through this harmful process. With two bills, we can help lessen how often that happens and help families when it does.

FAMILY MIRANDA RIGHTS ACT

Families in NY have legal rights designed to protect them and their children during a CPS investigation - but when people don't know their rights, they can't fully use them.

That's why the Family Miranda Rights Bill will require CPS caseworkers to tell families about their rights.



This bill doesn't give us NEW rights, it simply enables us to better use and protect the rights we already have — the way the system was intended to work.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING ACT

CPS investigations are traumatic — and unfortunately there are people who intentionally make false reports of child mistreatment as a way of harassing others in their lives.



The Confidential Reporting Act would combat this by switching from:

anonymous reporting

Where the state does not have to collect any identifying information from the individual reporting mistreatment.



confidential reporting

Where the state collects identifying information from the individual reporting mistreatment, and keeps the information private.

Having a confidential record enables the state to investigate harassment without unnecessarily exposing those who file reports.

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