

YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

I want to take the time to thank you for the countless hours you put into advocating for those who cannot advocate for themselves. Your hard work is truly inspiring to me as I am a 20 yr old young woman who is constantly upset by the disparities that are present in our society. With that being said, it is people like you who empower me to get involved. My roommate is currently an education major here at SUNY Cortland, and is doing a field placement at a startup daycare in town. The stories that she tells me from only being there for a few weeks are heartbreaking. Children come in with dirty diapers, messy hair and un bathed. The women who work there are doing gods work. However, it makes me wonder how many children are not staying in homes who are willing to be dropped off. I am so inspired to get involved. Your hard work is NOT going unnoticed ♡

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

Sincerely,
Ella Higgins

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I work for the Cortland County Youth Bureau and have seen many kids come to the day camp or pool to escape their home lives. I hope this number does not increase in the future. I hope there are more opportunities ~~for~~ or places for children to be able to seek support systems

Thank you
SUNY Cortland College Student

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland Community & across the state.

As a college student, I am concerned how childcare will impact my future. As a future educator, I am lucky to have a job that provides paid leave, but it is not nearly long enough & I will send my kids to childcare. I will not plan to have kids 3 years in advance to get my name on a waitlist. I currently work in childcare & know how long people get "stuck" waiting. I also know that the pay as a childcare worker is not a liveable wage. I should not have to quit my job, nor can I afford to provide for a family if I do not work. I am concerned for my future & how childcare will impact my life.

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SUNY Cortland
College student

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. As a child free college student I have the luxury to not be affected by the current childcare crisis, however I can't help but think of the people who are being affected and even a future where I'll be affected. It makes me question if I want to subject myself to these problems. I hope to see further progress!

-SUNY Cortland Student

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community as well as the entire state. Childcare is especially tricky because parents need to work to provide for their families, but when a parent is working, their salary goes to support childcare. I see this exact issue with my cousin who has 2 boys. She is going through a divorce but still needs to work in her nursing job. She is unable to afford childcare at the moment so I stepped in to watch them when she can't. This issue is affecting parents all over America. Issues regarding childcare make me question my choice to have children.

— Erin Hartly

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community as well as across the state. After learning about the childcare crisis I realize how important it is as a community to help and advocate for those it has affected and could affect in the future. Childcare is not something that individuals should have to fight for or sacrifice their jobs in order to provide ^{for} their children ~~with~~ in order to have their needs met. It is important that more people become aware of this and ~~we~~ get involved to put an end to the crisis that has formed.

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- SUNY Cortland
College Student

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I was unaware of this problem until today. I had no idea so many families were struggling to afford or even find childcare. Knowing this, I guess I can call my family one of the lucky ones. My brother and I went to an amazing daycare for a couple years so our parents could continue their careers. Now, when I think about my future family, I'm worried. I don't want to have to put my life on hold just because childcare is not affordable or available. Keep doing what you're doing because there will be no change without the effort from you and ~~other~~ organizations such as the YWCA.

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-Brooke D'Agostino

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kroll,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland Community and across the state.

As a college student as well as a latina individual coming from the Bronx NY I have seen the issues faced with childcare services. There are kids struggling to get the support they need due to their cross status, sex and race. My aunt owns a daycare in the Bronx, I have seen numerous kids receiving the short end of the stick because of how the systems work. Families are struggling to find help, they feel their voice is not heard. Specifically, as I have witnessed families who have kids with disabilities struggle to find safe and affordable places to take their kids. Please continue forward with trying to make a change for the people.

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Bent
Lucy Cortland Student

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kélles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. With myself being from Syracuse, I have seen these same problems occur. I have a concern about how this could potentially impact the future of my children? IF I'm put in this situation, what can I do if my child is put on the "weight list." Do I have any different choices?

Sincerely,
Brad Cunningham

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

I appreciate your passion for fighting the childcare crisis in our state. Growing up in Queens, my mother ran a daycare center out of our house. I was very fortunate, but I understand not all children are afforded that same luxury. Many children need care that their parents can not afford, and many mothers may be out of a job to stay home and raise their children. This is an added financial burden in a world that is already hard enough, and I would not wish to endure this struggle in the future with my own children. Keep fighting for the children of now and the future.

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SUNY Cortland
Student

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

I am a student at SUNY Cortland and in class today we sat through a great presentation about the state of childcare, specifically in our area of Upstate NY. We want to thank you for your continued support in combating this childcare crisis in the Cortland community.

It is sad to hear about the lack of funding there is for programs like the YWCA, the high cost of childcare for struggling parents, and the small amount of volunteers/workers that can offer help. It would be great to see a positive change in the future and clearly you are one of the few people to help make that possible.

I want to wish you luck on your path to this goal.

Sincerely,

Thomas Gleave SUNY Cortland Senior

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anina KELLER,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state.

As a college student, I never really seen this crisis affecting me but as I think about it does a lot. In the future, I do want to have kids and with the increase in tuition for these daycares can prevent me from having a family. I am so grateful to have your voice being heard to continue to fight the childcare crisis across the state so the future can have beautiful families.

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- SUNY Cortland
college student.

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Dear Assessment Worker Dr. Ann Kelles,

I thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state.

I used to work at an elementary school near Albany where I worked as a part of the Ymca providing after-school childcare for young kids at my old elementary school. I too, have seen what it is like, as I've seen parents be forced to take their kids out of childcare due to financial reasons.

The crisis concerns me as I plan on having a family of my own and I'm worried about being able to find childcare for my children, as well as giving women the ability to work instead of having to stay home.

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- Sunny Cortland Student

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kellas,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare care crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I was going to daycare from early elementary school till middle school because my parents worked everyday all day. I know exactly how it feels to be rushed to get to daycare for my parents, if I wasn't at daycare for school I was at a camp during the summer from 7 am to 5 pm everyday. It is so terrible to see how many parents can't afford daycare which equals to they can't go to work to earn money for their family. I hope this all changes soon.

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Sincerely,
SUNY Cortland Student

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Dear Representative Dr. Linda Keller,
Thank you for your continued support in
combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland
community & across the state. As someone who
works for a service providing free childcare,
I know firsthand how important it is for
the kids and how important and life
changing free accessible child care can be
for many families across the state. This
fight can really help many women & children

- Veronica
Gigliotti

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Dear Assembly Dr. Anna Kellas

Thank you for your continued support in combating the child care crisis in the Cortland community and around the state. I know many people including family that struggle with child care and the toll it puts on the parents and especially the women in the household. I hope this isn't a problem in my future but I understand it very well could be. This is detrimental to the lives of future women and mothers. Have a good day!

— SUNY Cortland student

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Dear Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for all your hard work in everything you advocate for.

Childcare is such a huge topic of discussion now and it needs to be improved. I watched my aunt struggle for many years to care + provide for her child as a single mother making minimum wage. It sucks watching someone you love not be able to find the proper services she needed and could afford. Moving forward I also hope to see positive changes that I may rely on when I have children of my own one day and feel secure in providing for that child. Thank you again.

- Shoelyn from

SUNY

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combatting the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. As a college student I have never worried about childcare because it is not an issue I have had to face yet. After learning how expensive childcare is it has become a concern for me. Being in college I plan to use my degree for a good job and I do not plan on having to leave that job because of the lack of childcare.

~~PLEASE PRINT NAME~~

- SUNY Cortland student

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I am very concerned on how this crisis is impacting the lives of women. I know so many people who are struggling to try and provide their children with daycare and commutes or women who have to stay at home and ~~not~~ take care of their children instead of working. I think this puts them at a disadvantage and it puts the children at a disadvantage as well. I feel it is unfair, but I understand you are doing the best you can.

From,
Sony Cortland
Student.

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your work and advocacy regarding the childcare crisis. I have no personal experience regarding childcare but it is a very important issue impacting many people. It is necessary to make improvements in this area to improve lives of all people.

— SUNY Cortland Student

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Velles,

Thank you so much for your continued support in facing the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I'd like to share a story about one of my friends in high school who was in the foster care system, she was in it for 8 years until she found a safe and stable home. She was seperated from her sister in foster care and was not treated with respect in any of the homes she lived in, she was a victim of abuse and SA. I worry that the foster-care system isn't doing a good job in providing safe homes.

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Sincerely, Cortland college student

YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelly

Thank you for your support in fighting the child care crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. As a college student going to be a future educator if I ever decide to have kids the amount of money to send a child to child care would be unaffordable being at possibly upwards of \$15,000 a year that's similar numbers to some college educations.

Have a great day,

SUNY Cortland Student

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. A concern I have for how this crisis is impacting the lives of women, is the push to have children that there is in our society. With abortion being illegal in many states, it seems as though all society wants from women is to pump out more children, with no regard to the crisis and not a care for the life of the mother. I worry about the lives of future children growing up in broken homes and how that will affect them and eventually affect others, specifically women. 🌍

~~Thank you,
Matisyn Schaut,
SUNY Cortland Student~~

Thank you,
Matisyn Schaut,
SUNY Cortland Student

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Dear Assemblywomen Dr. Anna Kelles,

Across the state there is a large amount of children in the foster system. These foster parents taking these children have jobs. It is hard for them to find childcare immediately after a child is placed with them. So they can go to work. I hope there is a solution to this issue.

- suny cortland
student

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continual support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state.

As a French person, I'm very surprised to learn about the childcare crisis. I can't believe the amount of money parents have to pay for those programs - knowing that they also have to pay the housing, the food... it is a lot at the end of the day. I am very concern about that as I have relatives here and I don't want them to have to choose between living a decent life and having children. Because with a situation like this, it seems like they hardly can have both - unless they win lots of money but unfortunately it is not the case for most of families here in New York State.

Best regards,

- Mathilde ANNE

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,
thank you for your continued support in combating the
childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across
the state. I currently work at a daycare center
at home and have to watch families struggle
to keep their child's spot. Financial stability is often
a hardship that causes families to withdraw their
child from the ~~the~~ centers. The stress at home
translates to the child and I can see how it
affects them. I love working with these children
and it breaks my heart to see them struggling.
Thank you for all that you do.

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My sister works at a daycare and she says she has kids with really bad disabilities. She says she just tries to put a smile on their face. My mom stayed home from work to raise us because we were lucky enough that my Dad made enough money that my Mom didn't need to work. I can't imagine a parent not having someone to take care of their kid and needing to stay home while also having no money because they can't work.

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywoman Dianna Kelleys

Thank you,
~~Dianna~~
Alexandra
Dietrich
✱

Thank you for your continued support in
combating the childcare crisis in the
Cortland community & across the state.
As a college student, ~~the~~ a concern that I have
about this crisis, its impact on my future is
ensuring that every child's needs are met and
all children have a voice to stand up for themselves.
#Plan to become a Art therapist so I would be
eliminating racism
and empowering women
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All ages, including children, how can I ensure this issue doesn't affect
my future?

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,
Thank you for your continued support in combating the
childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across
the state. As a college student the crisis can
affect my future. This is because in the future I
might have kids, and I want to have a good
environment and future for kids. This crisis is also
impacting women because if they can't afford childcare
then they would have to stay home with their children
instead of going to work.

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I am currently a full-time college student however I plan to have a family and multiple kids after I graduate. I also plan to have a successful career and I do not want to be stuck with the problem of choosing between the two. Because of the childcare crisis many women are being forced to switch jobs or even stay at home as a whole which is awful. No one should have to choose between a paying job and proper childcare. I am a little nervous for my future as a mother because of this and I hope action will be continuously taken to help solve it.

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywomen Dr. Anna Kelles,

The childcare crisis is very concerning as a college student because many of my peers are starting families whether its intentional or not, however most of us college students are not financially stable for a family on our own so I'm glad there are programs in the YWCA for my peers, ~~it~~ however today was the first day I learned about it so I am concerned that many others are not aware of this resource.

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,
Thank you for your continued support in combatting the
childcare crisis in the Cortland community & across the state.
As a college student, I worry for my future as I would love
to be a mother one day. However, I am fearful as I've seen
this crisis first hand. My cousin was left with 2 daughters
under the age of 3⁴ after her husband passed away. She
cannot afford childcare, but ~~a~~ cant even work to fix
that as shes taking care of the kids. Shes had to move
out of her apartment & move in w/a friend. It is the
unfortunate reality of these current times. Thank you
for reading & for being an advocate for this issue!

- Alyssa Cusimano

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywomen Dr. Anna Kelles,

The childcare crisis is very concerning as a college student because many of my peers are starting families whether its intentional or not, however most of us college students are not financially stable for a family on our own so ~~I~~ im glad there are programs in the YWCA for my peers, ~~it~~ however today was the first day I learned about it so I am concerned that many others are not aware of this resource.

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kellus,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community & across the state. I remember even when I was younger (10+ years ago) my mom was always struggling to find and pay for care for me. I can't imagine what families are experiencing post-pandemic and through severe economic hardship. I know how important finding affordable childcare was for my mom and how impactful access to these services would be for so many women.

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Thank you,

Olivia Joann

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Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assembly Woman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the children crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. As a college student, my concern is graduating and wanting to start a family. Knowing how bad the child crisis makes me nervous to think about starting a family because I will need to use the childcare system as I will be working a full time job. Thank you again for all you do in Cortland and across the state.

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in ~~the~~ combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. Growing up my mother had to work part time ~~to~~ to watch my brother and I. Because even off of both her and my father's full time jobs they could not afford child care. ~~The~~ This put my family at a large economic setback for years to come and I am afraid I will have the same fate waiting for me and my future family.

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. I am writing you today to tell you how this crisis may affect my future and future family. Yes I know I am only 19 but the wait list for these day cares are only getting longer and harder to find. I plan on being able to work and support my family while also not having to worry where my kids will have to go each day. I want the best stable environment for them as you do as well. I hope to see growth in the childcare area as I know you are working hard to help in any way.

-Emma Dempsey.

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Childcare crisis does impact the lives of men and women. They ^{can} struggle to find housing and even to feed their children. That is why we have to do ~~do~~ everything possible to help (donate money, clothes, food...).

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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis. This issue resonates with me because one family I babysat for ~~has~~ expressed concern of childcare when I go back to school. The kids go to daycare during the year, but as it is very expensive their mom has talked about having to quit her job as a nurse in order to save money and watch the kids herself. I know this is affecting a lot of families, and I hope it is able to get better in the future.

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Dear Assemblywomen Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland Community and

across the state. One of my family members had 2 kids and struggled to take care of them after her boyfriend left. The childcare crisis might impact my future because the lack of adequate childcare means that the workers are surviving on low wages, increased cost for supplies, etc.

This can affect my future because as a parent

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what if I'm in a

situation that I can't afford childcare?

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. As a college student, I know that there are many parents struggling to find childcare for their children to be able to work. I am concerned that this issue may affect me in my future when I have children. This is impacting the lives of women who are unable to work and help provide for themselves or their families.

Thank you,

— Student from SUNY Cortland

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Although I am not thinking about starting a family anytime soon, the childcare crisis, if not somewhat solved in a period of time will affect my life in the future. I have a goal of graduating college and having a job that I love and I also have a goal of having a family. However, if the childcare crisis continues, I may have to choose between the two. This issue has caused me to think about what I would do for childcare if I work and my partner works and the answer is unclear. The lack of affordable childcare is an issue that isn't directly affecting me right now but it could in the future. Also if I have to go on a waitlist before I even have a kid, like two years before, that is something that I might not be able to do with the knowledge I have on my life right now.

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Change needs to happen for future families and those current families who are struggling.

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14 Clayton Ave.
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Dear Dr Anna Kettes,

Thank you so much for all the things you have done to improve childcare. You are one in a million and we need more people like you in this world. Having children is a uncomfortable thing and something you don't know and not use to. With being in college I don't worry about children or having children. It is still very important to know the risks of bringing a child into this world. I think we need more YWCA's in every state so women can share stories and find the help they need.

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Dear Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the child care crisis in both the Cortland community and across the state.

As a college student who has worked in child care for years, I realize how important it is for everyone to have access. I also know that someday I may need care when I have children, so it is important that reliable care becomes more accessible.

Sincerely,

SUNY Cortland
Student

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14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland Community and across the state.

As a college student I've now been old enough to really understand what my dad went through as a kid with abusive parents. He still hasn't spoken to them in years, and I don't even really know my grandparents. This crisis affects so many young kids all around the world.

Sincerely,

Sony Cortland
Student

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Keles

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state

As a college student I have known many people, family and friends, that have been struggling to pay for childcare, so much so that they have had to quit jobs, if possible, in order to be home to take care of their children. I have seen that this mostly affects women rather than men, and has continued to take important opportunities away from them.

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywomen Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the State. I used to work at a YMCA in the childcare units while I was too young to understand it then, I now see the mountains being moved everyday to simply care for children. I understand the demand, with the privilege of an outside perspective, why should caring for the future be so hard?

-Elias James

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assembly woman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state.

My name is Cindy Santos, and I am currently a college student at SUNY Cortland. After hearing the mission of the YWCA and the urgency of the childcare crisis in the state of Cortland, I have come to realize the importance of this issue. Having a mother who once struggled to find affordable childcare for my sister and I helps me resonate with the mission of the childcare crisis. Growing up with a single mother doing everything on her own was a struggle for both my mom and siblings. I could understand firsthand how this crisis is affecting the lives of women, and hope

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to one day ^{be} working towards

contributing to the crisis myself.

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YWCA Cortland
14 Clayton Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Assemblywoman Dr. Anna Kelles,

Thank you for your continued support in combating the childcare crisis in the Cortland community and across the state. In my life and as a college student over the past couple of years I have seen the issues of childcare affect people in my life. A past friend of mine's mother is a single mom with two children one now at college and the other as a young fourth grader. The mother barely gets help from her ex and pays for everything for her children. Because of how bad the childcare crisis has become she has had to stay at home longer with her daughter since her son is at school therefore getting out later and ~~with~~ with a long hour commute to ~~work~~ from work many places ~~are~~ close, so she cannot get the services needed for her daughter. This issue may impact my future because as a hopefully working mother I might not have family members to help me, so the use of childcare centers is something I will need for my children. How this issue impacts women's lives on a large scale can cause women to leave their jobs to support their families and having to rely on extra means for a living to support themselves either family or alone. Thank you again, for reading my note and the work you've done.

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Sincerely, Anna

YWCA IS ON A MISSION