

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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Statement on Incoming NYC Administration for Children's Services Commissioner Announcement

(NEW YORK, NY) – Dawne Mitchell, Attorney-In-Charge of the Juvenile Rights Practice at The Legal Aid Society, issued the following statement in response to Mayor-elect Eric Adams appointing Jess Dannhauser as the next Commissioner of New York City's Administration for Children's Services (ACS):

“The Legal Aid Society looks forward to working with Jess Dannhauser as Commissioner of New York City's Administration for Children's Services, a critical agency charged with promoting the safety and well-being of the children and families we serve.

Much work lies ahead, and we hope to collaborate with the incoming Commissioner to decrease racial disproportionality in both the foster care system and the juvenile legal system; reduce the time children removed from their parents are held in congregate pre-placement shelters; improve systems to certify kin as foster parents; and improve access to services for ACS-involved families.

This work is a tall order but of paramount importance, and we pledge to remain steadfast on these issues regardless of who occupies City Hall.”

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. www.legalaidnyc.org