



**STATEMENT REGARDING THE PASSING OF NEW YORKERS FOR CHILDREN'S FOUNDER,
NICHOLAS SCOPPETTA**

NEW YORK (March 24, 2016) New Yorkers For Children (NYFC) is deeply saddened by the loss of our beloved founder, Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta. "No one in the last 50 years has elevated the importance of New York City's child welfare or enhanced an understanding of the system, built to address it, more than Nicholas Scoppetta," said New Yorkers For Children's Board President, Eric Brettschneider.

In 1996, Nicholas Scoppetta was named the founding Commissioner of the Administration for Children's Services (ACS). Having grown up in New York City's foster care system, Commissioner Scoppetta was a passionate advocate for our city's children and fought tirelessly to improve their outcomes and opportunities. Scoppetta strongly believed "every child in foster care has tremendous potential" and with the right support, he or she can, and will succeed. He founded New Yorkers For Children because he believed that the new agency and its constituents would benefit from strong support from the private sector.

Guided by his passion and vision, NYFC developed a deep partnership with ACS. For the past twenty years, NYFC has been instrumental in improving the opportunities and resources afforded to New York City's youth in care. Motivated by Commissioner Scoppetta's belief that "education can put every child on the path to success", NYFC has helped thousands of youth in care access educational opportunities.

Commissioner Scoppetta was a true pioneer in the child welfare community and the heart and soul of New Yorkers For Children. New York City has lost a remarkable and devoted public servant. NYFC's Board of Directors, Friends Committee, Youth Ambassadors, and staff are honored to carry on his exemplary legacy. NYFC extends our heartfelt condolences to Commissioner Scoppetta's family and friends. He will be sincerely missed.