FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

To: Interested Parties
From: HarrisX
Date: 3/2/22
Re: Findings from Survey on Child Care Among New York Voters

This memo highlights results from a survey of 2,132 registered voters in New York State, conducted by HarrisX on behalf of the Robin Hood Foundation (see end of memo for full methodology statement). This survey included questions around views on child care and specific policy proposals around child care.

Big Picture

In short, the survey results reveal very strong support among voters, across the state and party lines, for:

- Making more New Yorkers eligible for child care subsidies, even if it shifts money away from other state budget needs (62% in favor),
- Strong support for specific child care proposals like:
  - a $45,000 yearly minimum wage for child care workers (62% favor),
  - full subsidies for families making 4 times the poverty limit (59% favor),
  - capping costs at 7% of the family’s income for families making $250,000 or less (59% favor)

Key Findings

Strong support for expanding eligibility for child care subsidies, with over a 2-to-1 ratio in support.

- A strong majority of New York voters (62%) favor making more people eligible for childcare subsidies – even when told it will shift money away from other state budget needs.
  - This includes 1 out of 4 (24%) of voters who say they strongly favor increasing eligibility, compared with 26% who oppose it.
- Support is consistent across region and party, with
  - a majority support by region: Long Island (61%) and Metro North corridor (60%), as well as NYC (65%), Rochester (64%), and Buffalo (65%);
  - support is high among Democrats (72%) but also independents (52%) and Republicans (51%).
- Additionally, we’re seeing double digit support across party and region, (see image below).
Support for specific proposals around child care enjoy similar support, with about 3-in-5 in favor.

- From fully subsidizing for those making 4 times the poverty limit or less, to capping payment for families making $250,000 or less at 7% of income, to a minimum wage for child care workers—New York voters support these policies by wide margins.

- Support for these specific proposals cuts across regions in New York. There are more who favor than oppose in every region, and in most cases “favor” has a double-digit lead.
When learning about the proposed budget for childcare and other issues, a majority of New Yorkers favor expanding the subsidies and grants for child care – by over a 3-to-1 ratio.

- After presenting New Yorkers with quick facts about the state budget (see table for full wording), 54% of New Yorkers state spending on child care should be expanded and only 21% want it kept the same. Only 13% would like to see that number shrink.

### Text of Explanation for NY State Budget

We have some questions about spending priorities for the New York State government. But first we want to share some facts around this. New York State is currently debating a 5 year budget of $216 billion dollars per year. To give some perspective, here are some examples of what’s in that budget for spending over the next 5 years.

- 15% of that is for highway and transit projects (about $33 billion)
- 14% is for schools and teachers (about $31 billion)
- 12% is for building 100,000 low income housing units (about $25 billion)
- 1% is for property tax rebates (about $2.2 billion)
- 0.4% is for child care funds to assist families afford child care (about $900 million)

The child care funds would give subsidies/grants to families who make twice the poverty limit or less. For example, a family of 4 would need to make less than $54,000 a year to qualify for a subsidy/grant.

Many New Yorkers see groups struggling to afford quality child care.

- When asked whether it was easy or hard for the following to find affordable health care, New Yorkers identified low-income workers (65%), single parents (65%), immigrant workers (58%), and the working class (59%) as the groups most challenged to find affordable and quality child care.
About the Survey

The survey was commissioned by Robin Hood and was conducted by HarrisX within New York State from February 11th – 16th, 2022, among 2,132 registered voters in the state. The survey was administered online and the sampling margin of error of this poll is plus or minus 2.1 percentage points. The results reflect a representative sample of New York registered voters. Results were weighted for by age, gender, region, race/ethnicity, income, and party when necessary to align with their actual proportions in the population. Each oversampled audience was weighted back to their proportion in the state (using known variables from the Census, party registration, and BLS data), making the effective weighted sample size 1,066. Analysis of business decision makers to come.

- Regional Sample Size (MOE between plus or minus 4.5 and 5.6%)
- NYC: 484
- Long Island: 361
- Metro North corridor: 333
- Buffalo: 322
- Rochester: 327
- Rest of NY: 305

For more information on the survey results, including full question wording and toplines, please contact Eni Jucja (eni@harrisx.com)

About HarrisX

HarrisX is a leading opinion research company that specializes in online polling, mixed-mode polling, and data analytics. The company has a thirteen-year history assessing public opinion and behavior in the public affairs, media, consumer technology, and telecom industries through syndicated and custom research services. In 2020 HarrisX ran the most accurate poll of the U.S. Presidential elections. HarrisX runs the Mobile Insights and Total Communication Surveys, the largest syndicated consumer insights trackers in the United States for the TMT space, which include over 60,000 monthly respondents; the Telephia (beta) metering application, which captures behavioral data; and HarrisX Overnight Poll, which delivers results of general population and voter surveys within 24 hours, looking at Americans' opinions on society, politics, technology and the economy. For more information visit: www.harrisx.com.