

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Kara Rochelle

ANSONIA, DERBY | 104TH HOUSE DISTRICT

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

TEAM, INC. - Energy Assistance, Early Childhood & Head Start, Basic Needs & Case Management Services, Elderly Services & Meals on Wheels, Employment & Training Supports, Housing Supports, and more.: 203-736-5420

United Way Infoline (General Assistance) Dial 2-1-1 or visit www.211ct.org

Office of the Healthcare Advocate: 866-466-4446

Care 4 Kids: 888-214-5437

Office of Early Childhood: 860-500-4412

Department of Social Services: 855-626-6632

Department of Rehabilitation Services: 800-537-2549

Office of Aging and Disability Services: 860-424-5055

The WorkPlace: 203-610-8500

Workforce Alliance/American Job Center: 203-867-4030

BHcare - Mental Health Services: 203-736-2601

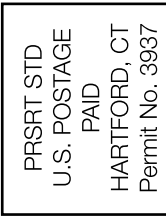
The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence
203-736-9944, 203-789-8104 or 1-888-774-2900 or send a confidential email at UCDVS@bhcare.org

SIGN UP FOR MY E-BLASTS @

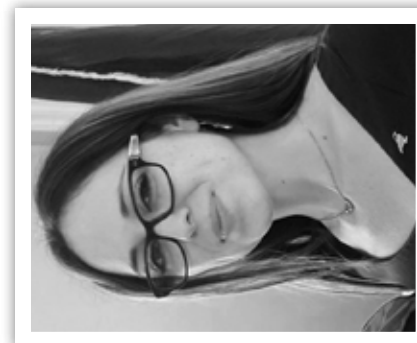
www.housedems.ct.gov/Rochelle



www.facebook.com/StateRepKaraRochelle



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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PROUDLY SERVING ANSONIA AND DERBY



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Kara Rochelle

ANSONIA, DERBY | 104TH HOUSE DISTRICT

**WORKING FOR
WORKING FAMILIES**

Friends and Neighbors,

I hope this message finds you and yours well. We have been working hard to create policies and programs to help working families. I want to share with you some of the legislation passed this year to make our state a better place to live and grow for working families. If you have questions or if you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 860-240-8769 or email me at Kara.Rochelle@cga.ct.gov.

I look forward to hearing from you.

All my best,

Kara Rochelle



LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591
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WWW.HOUSEDEMS.CT.GOV/ROCHELLE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE KARA ROCHELLE

WORKING FOR WORKING FAMILIES

HEALTH CARE

I've heard from many of you about the cost of health care. To better control health care costs and expand access to quality care, we passed legislation that:

- Expands healthcare coverage to all children 8 and under who otherwise are not able to get coverage. (PA 21-176)
- Requires health, vision, and dental plans to cover dependents up to age 26 on their parents' insurance plans to ensure all families get covered. (PA 21-149)
- Develops the "Covered Connecticut" plan to provide affordable, quality insurance to over 40,000 residents who do not currently qualify for assistance. (June SS PA 21-2)
- Establishes a youth suicide prevention training program, strengthens mental health resources for kids, and requires teachers to have training in social-emotional learning. (PA 21-46)
- Controls prescription drug costs by ensuring that all prescription drug discounts are passed on to consumers (PA 21-14)

EDUCATION

An investment in education is an investment in our children's and community's future. The state budget we delivered this year better meets our students' needs by:

- Adjusting the Education Cost Share formula to better serve Ansonia, Derby, and communities like ours with increased funding.
- Providing \$12.8 million for the "Right to Read" Act to help school districts - like Ansonia & Derby - with reading curriculum, literacy interventions and coaching.
- Fully funding community college for academics and technical job training - meaning students can work on their associate degrees without incurring student loan debt. (June SS PA 21-2)

MORE STATE FUNDING FOR ANSONIA & DERBY

I am proud to deliver additional state funding for our community and will continue to work hard for more funding in the future.

	FISCAL YEAR 2021	FISCAL YEAR 2022
Ansonia		
Town Funding	\$762,416	\$918,593
Education Funding	\$18,049,937	\$18,564,217
Derby		
Town Funding	\$1,517,331	\$2,202,531
Education Funding	\$8,967,883	\$9,270,526

NEW MONEY FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

Special funds for Ansonia students to attend Derby's manufacturing program	\$50,000
Valley Save Our Youth, Ansonia, for Youth Programing	\$150,000
Team, Inc., Derby, for Youth Programing	\$100,000

BIG INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- \$2 million for economic redevelopment of Ansonia Copper & Brass
- \$1 million for environmental clean-up/demo of the Farrell/SHW building
- \$1.2 million annually for increased frequency of service on the Waterbury Rail Line
- \$1.5 million for improvements for senior housing in Ansonia

HELPING WORKING FAMILIES

One of our top priorities this session was making our child care system more accessible and addressing the needs of working parents. To work towards those goals, we passed legislation that:

- Increases the state's earned income tax credit from 23% to 30.5%, benefitting 195,000 working families. (June SS PA 21-2)
- Requires a space be given to breastfeeding mothers to pump at work, and creates tax exemptions on breastfeeding supplies. (PA 21-27)
- Expands the Care for Kids Program so parents who are pursuing their education can access affordable childcare. (PA 21-171)

HOLDING ELECTRIC COMPANIES ACCOUNTABLE

The Connecticut General Assembly passed significant legislation to better control energy prices, hold electric utilities accountable, and push them to improve services and how they respond to future storms. The bill, known as "Take Back Our Grid Act," enacts the following reforms:

- Establishes Performance Based Ratemaking - where PURA sets standards the utilities must meet, develops metrics for determining progress, and allows the issuance of penalties if the utilities fail to meet the standard;
- Requires the utilities to provide \$25 daily bill credits and \$250 total claim for food and medicine, as well as reduced charges to residential customers without power lasting more than 96 hours;
- Ties the portion of executive salaries that come from ratepayers to the company's performance;
- Prevents utilities from passing the cost of financial penalties to consumers, helping to stabilize the cost of energy;
- Develops minimum staffing levels for lineman, communications personnel and others to make sure the utilities respond to storms quickly and convey timely information to their customers. (September SS PA 20-5)