Helping youth in under-served communities **COMPETE AND SUCCEED**



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



» Dear Friends:

On the eve of our milestone 65th anniversary, The Child Center of NY is positioned to celebrate a number of remarkable achievements made possible by an abiding commitment to quality of programs, a dedicated, professional staff, and an appreciation for innovation and modernization. In all our years of service, the greatest successes shine in the thousands and thousands of children to whom we've brought brighter futures.

This year, Deep Ghosh, senior vice president of external affairs and community engagement, completed his Annie E. Casey Foundation Children and Family Fellowship, a results-oriented leadership program that expects fellows to make a major contribution to the broader population within 16 months. As we wrote in last year's annual report letter, we focused on August Martin High School in Queens School District 27, where the graduation rate was a shocking 24 percent. At The Child Center, we want all kids to have the chance to *compete* and *succeed*. Through this partnership and an unyielding focus on data-driven work, we can, as August Martin's 2017 class has just graduated, report a graduation increase from 24 percent to 64 percent.

We happily accepted the Redfern Cornerstone Community Center in Far Rockaway, when the last provider became unable to fill that role and left kids stranded, literally, on the doorstep. It was an honor to be selected to close this gap so that, in those critical afterschool hours when parents must be at work, their children have a safe and welcoming place to study and play.

Fiscal Year 2017's Annual Report is meant to demonstrate our shared approach to managing this incredible organization that serves nearly 30,000 children and families a year. As always, we hope you will find the report as inspiring as we do and that you will follow us on social media, sign up for our newsletter, or make a donation. Even better, how about all three! Please join us in the year ahead, Strengthening Families and Building Communities for the children of New York.

Warmly,

Traci Donnelly Chief Executive Officer

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Dick Jay President of the Board of Directors

The Child Center of NY serves youth from some of the toughest neighborhoods, from birth to adulthood, with evidence-based, innovative programs that help them overcome behavioral health challenges and engage them with school so they can learn at the level of their peers. We help them become secure, capable, and confident, through programs in these areas:

How Many Served by Program:

5,174

Children and Adults Served in 2017

Behavioral Health

Licensed mental health and substance abuse professionals provide therapy and other services to support children and adults through a wide range of emotional challenges, helping them achieve their full potential.

Early Childhood Education

We serve low-income children prenatal to age 5 with programs that ensure they are developmentally on track, so they can start school ready to learn and begin life ready to thrive. **1,667** Children Educated in 2017

Health Homes and Integrated Care

When we say we care for children holistically, we mean it. Our Health Homes and Integrated Care program staff collaborate with everyone in a child's world—for example, her parents, teachers, and health care providers—to ensure they are working together for the child's overall well-being.

Child Abuse Prevention and Family Support

Our Prevention programs help parents raise their children in a safe and nurturing environment. We work with families currently involved with the child protection system, as well as those who may be at risk of becoming involved—so that they don't.

Youth Development

Our youth development programs support youth ages 5–24 in developing cognitive, academic, social-emotional, and physical skills. Programs include afterschool and summer extended learning, college and work readiness, internships, community schools, and specialized groups. **379** Families Reached in 2017

12,519 Families Supported in 2017

9,988 Children and Young Adults

Served in 2017

>> Financial Highlights

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the years ending June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2016

	Totals	
REVENUE AND SUPPORT:	2017	2016
Contracts and grants revenue	\$32,776,454	\$31,210,561
Patient services revenue, net	11,557,459	10,896,861
Contributions	1,069,962	174,953
Fundraising, net of direct expenses of \$237,774 and \$124,206	531,123	617,285
In-kind contributions	951,061	667,172
Other income	51,801	277,650
Total revenue and support	46,937,860	43,844,482
EXPENSES:		
Program services	40,772,257	39,368,207
Supporting services, management and general	5,740,236	4,801,963
Supporting services, fundraising	326,197	579,013
Total expenses	46,838,690	44,749,183
Excess (deficiency) of revenue and support over expenses	99,170	(904,701)
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITY:		
Gain on extinguishment of debt	_	1,708,046
Change in net assets	99,170	803,345
NET ASSETS:		
Beginning of year	2,704,128	1,900,783
End of year	\$ 2,803,298	\$ 2,704,128

To see our complete audited financial statement, please visit **www.childcenterny.org.**



Who We Serve by Program



Behavioral Health	17%
Early Childhood Education	6%
Health Homes and Integrated Care	1%
Prevention and Family Support	42%
Youth Development	34%

Who We Serve by Ethnicity



Hispanic or Latino	40%
Black/African-American	32%
Asian	16%
Mixed and Other	6%
Caucasian	3%
Did Not Disclose	3%

How We Spend Our Money



Programs and Services87%Administration and Fundraising13%

A little goes a long way

\$30 buys a week of snacks for 12 kids in afterschool

\$55

buys 2 meals and a snack for 5 kids in Head Start

\$150

pays two weeks' stipend for a teen in our work skills program

\$500 ensures a troubled teenager receives a month of counseling

» Staff Success Stories

LAKIA ECHOLS

Director, Redfern Cornerstone Community Center

When the Redfern Cornerstone in Far Rockaway abruptly closed, The Child Center stepped in to become the new provider. Most of Redfern's children live below the poverty line, test below standard in reading and math, and feel the effects of gang violence. Echols is addressing these issues and making Redfern a place where children can grow. "We're building an enriching environment through education, recreation, and the arts and working with our youth to build character and set lifelong goals," Echols explains.





ANDERSON SUNGMIN YOON, DSW, LCSW-R, CASAC, RPT-S, ACT

Vice President, Integrated and Value-Based Care

Accolades abound for Dr. Yoon, named our VP, Integrated and Value-Based Care last summer. In 2017, Mayor de Blasio appointed Dr. Yoon to NYC's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Substance Abuse Subcommittee and the Municipal Drug Strategy Advisory Council. Dr. Yoon's latest project is a screening tool to connect clients with all available services. "By providing wraparound services, we are able to truly support our vision to strengthen children and families," says Dr. Yoon. "This is my personal mission."

DEEPMALYA GHOSH, LCSW

Senior Vice President, External Affairs and Community Engagement

Through an Annie E. Casey Foundation Fellowship, Ghosh aligned organizational commitment toward increasing graduation rates in schools where less than 50% of black students graduated on time especially in those, like August Martin High School, comprised of at least 90% kids of color. With evidence-based strategies, AMHS's graduation rate went from 24% in 2015 to 64% in 2017. "Now we're working on Re-Engagement Centers in our Far Rockaway NYCHA Cornerstones, providing students help getting to the finish line and doing so close to home," says Ghosh.



»A Commitment to Results



Children in our early childhood education programs made significant gains during the 2016–17 school year. In our Woodside Head Start classes for 3-year-olds:

100%

met or exceeded expectations for mathematics, up from 30% in the fall.

94%

met or exceeded expectations for cognitive development, up from 50%.

93%

met or exceeded expectations for literacy development, up from 53%.



» Behavioral Health

SPOTLIGHT: 0-5 EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

It used to be a common belief that babies and toddlers could not remember trauma. Now it seems that was wishful thinking, as research shows **even babies can manifest the effects of trauma**, becoming depressed and despondent and exhibiting changes in brain development. **To provide needed mental health services for families with children ages 0–5, Mayor de Blasio created the Early Childhood Mental Health Network. The Child Center is the sole Queens provider in the network.** We work with Early Head Start, Head Start, EarlyLearn, and preschool programs and provide ECMH services in our five outpatient mental health clinics. Bilingual, bicultural therapists utilize evidence-based models of treatment proven to make a difference for this age group.

Madison

When Madison was an infant, her mother struggled with addiction and mental illness and sometimes left Madison alone in her crib for hours. By age 4, Madison was living with her grandmother, Rosalie, in a more stable environment, but problems persisted in the form of attachment disorder, boundary issues, separation anxiety, and an insatiable need for affection. Rosalie and Madison began therapy with Michele Neuhaus, ECMH Director. With Madison, therapy focused on working, through play, on trust; and with Rosalie, therapy focused on both the practical and less tangible aspects of parenting, such as Rosalie's feeling that she'd failed with Madison's mother, which manifested in being overprotective (fueling Madison's separation anxiety).

After five months of therapy, the pair is feeling more secure in their relationship and with themselves. This will likely benefit Madison into adulthood. **"Unaddressed boundary and attachment issues leave children vulnerable to abuse later on," Neuhaus explains. But Madison is poised to grow into a strong and secure young woman.**



» Early Childhood Education

SPOTLIGHT: PARENT-CHILD HOME PROGRAM

Our early childhood education programs serve low-income children prenatal to age 5 with programs that ensure they are developmentally on track—academically, socially, and emotionally. PCHP is an integral part of this. A national, evidence-based literacy and parenting model, **it provides parents with the knowledge and resources to build school readiness where it starts: the home.** Trained specialists visit the home with free toys and books, along with guidance on using them. Extensive research has found that **this model significantly improves parent-child interactions, increases school readiness and later school success, and reduces risks of child abuse and neglect** so much so that it was recognized by the White House as an official Bright Spot in Hispanic Education.

LS

LS had just escaped a domestic violence situation with her three children when she realized her eighteen-month-old daughter, Lulu, was tantrumming an extreme amount and wasn't verbalizing. She learned about the Parent-Child Home Program and enrolled with Program Coordinator Telva Rivera. "Telva spoke to Lulu in a very organized way," LS explains. "She would say, 'This book is *Yellow and Yummy*. Do you want to read *Yellow and Yummy*?' And she would guide Lulu to say, 'Yes, I want to read *Yellow and Yummy*.' I mirrored what Telva was modeling and saw a vast improvement."

Telva also helped LS discipline in a way that led to less frustration for both her and Lulu, and she referred the whole family to The Child Center's Woodside Clinic for individual and family therapy. Upon graduating from PCHP, LS said, "I left feeling confident that I have tools in my arsenal to deal with all sorts of challenges."



» Health Homes and Integrated Care



SPOTLIGHT: HEALTH HOME PROGRAM

The Child Center became a Health Home provider in December 2016. A Health Home is not a physical location, but rather an innovative model for coordinating critical health care and other services to support a child's physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Through this program, **we serve Medicaid-eligible children who have multiple chronic conditions**—from depression to epilepsy to asthma—and manage coordination and communication among providers, so that services are not duplicated and needs are not neglected. **Children and families receive regular care, which means fewer trips to the emergency room, less time in a hospital, and a healthier, happier child leading a normal life**.

Yin

Immigrating to the U.S. from Burma was difficult for 10-year-old Yin, and by the time she was a teenager, she had been hospitalized twice for suicidal ideation. She came to The Child Center with a history of depression and anxiety with family conflict. Yin's Health Home Resource Coordinator, Johnson, connected her with in-home therapy services and referred her to the YMCA to engage in activities for social support and comfort outside the home. Through therapy, Yin made tremendous progress in communicating with family members and managing her anger and other negative feelings; and her outside activities gave her something to feel positive about. After high school, she enrolled in the Hunter College Nursing Program, where Johnson liaises with school officials and keeps in regular contact with Yin to ensure she has the assistance she needs, such as tutoring and continued emotional support. Her hard work paid off, and she earned an A in all her classes last semester. "Yin has a new, positive outlook about her future and her own capabilities," says Johnson.



» Prevention and Family Support



SPOTLIGHT: FTR-FAMILY TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Our Prevention and Family Support programs help parents and other caregivers develop tools to raise their children in a safe and nurturing environment. We provide support for many different kinds of families and offer two models of treatment: general prevention for moderate cases, and FTR for those that involve additional challenges, such as domestic violence or mental health issues. FTR families are seen by master's-level social workers and receive treatment in three phases that address root causes; support the family in making behavioral changes; and ensure the family is stabilized and able to handle future challenges on their own.

Gavin's Family

The NYC Administration for Children's Services began investigating Gavin's family after the 6-year-old gave vitamins to the neighbors' daughter and dog. **The agency discovered a family in crisis: 15-year-old Kiara was engaging in self-mutilation, and 10-year-old Aidan was exhibiting aggressive behaviors and suicidal ideation,** for which he was hospitalized. That's when The Child Center stepped in. We assigned the family a case planner, Stephanie, who looked at the root causes behind the family's distress: significant upheavals that included the children's move back to the United States after living in China without their parents, and their father's recent relocation to California. Additionally, Aidan was transgender and wished to transition to a girl.

The family enrolled in our FTR Program, with Adria (formerly Aidan) and Gavin receiving additional mental health services. **Treatment focused on the development of coping skills for the children and creating support systems for their mother.** Adria has become dramatically less prone to violent outbursts and Kiara's self-harm has ceased. "The Child Center has helped me learn how to better manage my children's mental health needs," their mom says. **"We are learning to talk through our problems and find solutions instead of reacting aggressively."**



>> Youth Development

SPOTLIGHT: BEACON PROGRAMS

The Child Center's afterschool services offer more than supervision—and extend beyond after-school hours, especially at our Beacon centers. An initiative of the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, Beacon programs are open after school, on Saturdays, and over the summer, and they offer programming for children, teens, and adults. **Our goal is to provide a safe and fun place for community members to come together, where children can build skills, confidence, and character.** Our staff work with youth to imagine—and work toward—a brighter tomorrow.



Latoya with Assemblywoman Cook

Latoya

Latoya's mother was 16 when she had her, and neither of Latoya's parents went to college. If you looked at statistics, it seemed that Latoya—a native of Jamaica, Queens, and slated to attend a "failing" school—wouldn't, either. But at age 7, Latoya enrolled in The Child Center's Beacon program at J.H.S. 226, where she became part of the dance Step Team and met Program Supervisor Saher Mahmood, who became a lifelong mentor. "Saher made me do my homework," Latoya recalls, "and gave me little jobs, like helping with the kindergarten group. It made me realize I could be good at things and handle responsibility." In keeping with The Child Center's emphasis on giving back, Latoya volunteered at Child Center programs when she was older and is now employed as a youth advocate. She's also attending college, with the help of The Child Center's inaugural Assembly Member Vivian E. Cook Scholarship. "Without The Child Center, I would probably have stopped at high school. I wouldn't know how much I enjoy working with kids, that I could go to college and excel there." For more on that "failing" school—August Martin High School—see the staff spotlight on Deepmalya Ghosh.

» Compete and Succeed



STEM EDUCATOR GRANT

In 2015, our afterschool program at the Waterside School for Leadership was selected to participate in the STEM Educators Academy at Institute of Play, a two-year initiative to train educators in using games for STEM learning. In FY17, training focused on teaching the scientific method in a fun way that framed failure as an opportunity to go back, modify, and succeed. "Our students began to feel challenged instead of discouraged," says Program Coordinator Mya Haley.

>> STUDIO IN A SCHOOL EXHIBIT

Our Head Start programs participated in the Studio in a School curriculum, in which students are taught by a professional artist. Each artist chooses one piece to be considered for an exhibit in Studio in a School's gallery in midtown Manhattan. Approximately 15 percent of submissions are selected; one of them was by four-yearold Mamun of our Woodside Head Start. "Everyone looked at my art and said, 'Beautiful,'" Mamun told his dad. "My art must be good, right, Dad?"

Photo: Mamun, left, with his mother and brother





YOUNG CITIZENS CONFERENCE

The NYC Department of Youth and Community Development hosted a Young Citizens Conference, honoring youth activists and their leadership projects. The DREAM Factory Peer Leaders, from our Aspirations Diploma Plus High School program, were selected to present their project. The group wrote two songs on their theme of sexual health—one from the boys' perspective and one from the girls'—and recorded videos, which they presented at the conference. They also facilitated a workshop.

YOUNG POET'S SOCIETY

Among the five winners of the city-wide NYC Department of Youth and Community Development Young Poet's Society competition was seventh-grader Jayden of our M.S. 72 afterschool Beacon program. Each young poet performed a reading of his or her poem at DYCD's Performance Festival at BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center. Jayden's poem was called "Innocence" and was on the contest's "family" theme.



»Ongoing Impact

Behavioral Health

Our outpatient substance abuse clinics achieved a **17%** no-show rate, compared to a national average of **29–42%**. No-show rates directly correlate to achievement of therapy goals.

Health Homes and Integrated Care

Out of 251 Health Homes clients, only 3.5% (9 total) were hospitalized, for a prevention rate of 96.5%.

Prevention and Family Support

At our Elmhurst Preventive Program at the Hank Auffarth Family Center, only one child out of **188** placed in foster care for a prevention rate of over **99%**.

Youth Development

At 14 sites, we assessed 1,000 middleschoolers enrolled in our Steps to Success evidence-based college/career goal-setting curriculum.

An average of **55%** of those considered "at risk" showed improvements in critical resiliency skills needed for graduation and beyond.

In **2** districts, superintendents expanded the assessment and social-emotional learning focus at their schools based on our work.



Thank You to **Our Supporters**

We are deeply grateful to the following corporations, foundations, and individuals whose generous gifts supported our life-changing programs in Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017).



Trudy and Robert Gottesman

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The Child Center is grateful for all of the contributions it receives. We make every effort to keep this list as accurate and complete as possible. If you see an error, please let us know so we can correct it. You can reach us at 718-651-7770 or fundraising@childcenterny.org.

In Summary... and Looking Ahead

As we reflect back on the accomplishments of FY17 and look forward to our 65th anniversary, one thing is eminently clear: The Child Center of NY serves its constituency best by asking, listening, and responding with effective measures so that our nearly 30,000 clients annually get the right help to face the often overwhelming challenges of extreme poverty, language barriers, and limited access to quality care in under-served communities.

The triumphant stories we chose to highlight here, whether those of staff, the agency as a whole, or the clients themselves, are not isolated incidents, but rather part of an established mechanism, a direct reflection of the investment we make every day to become a model agency and to expand our programs so that more and more children will get a fair shot to compete and succeed—and have the brighter futures they so greatly deserve.

>> SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

Platforms like Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook are important tools for sharing vital information and engaging with our communities. Take a look at some conversations from FY17.



Donovan Richards @DRichards13

@NYCferry Takes Little Leaguers to Big League Game 🛡 seeing our kids gain access 2 our waterways. Ty @ChildCenterNY



NYC Ferry Takes Little Leaguers to **Big League Game**

A group of little leaguers from Far Rockaway get a chance to see the Yankees in action. And it was all thanks to the New York City Ferry. nv1.com





#CocoChanel #CocoChanelsquote #child #children thenewrich_ 😄

mayfair_man This is nice
childcenterny Don't forget to share photos of your paper airplanes!
pltrish Very nice 🌹 have a lovely day 👸
align_ Terrific!

×

×

×

×

The Child Center of NY was live. ebruary 10, 201

The Child Center of NY is live at the official ribbon cutting ceremony for its new headquarters in Forest Hills. Joining executive director Traci Donnelly is Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, Representative Grace Meng and Councilman Donovan Richards.

#DreamsTakeFlight



Like 💭 Comment ⇔ Share CO 51 15 Shares (Write a comment... Elena Aminova Very proud of my mom, Eleonora Nektalova-who works at the Child Center of New York! Enjoy the new location, mom-you deserve it!

Diane Colomer-Cheadle Congrats-so happy for you all

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The Child Center of NY offers a holistic, family-centric approach to helping under-served youth.

Our mission is to strengthen children and families with skills, opportunities, and emotional support to build healthy, successful lives. We hold ourselves accountable for our results, using methods that are proven to make a difference.

Our programs are located in the communities we serve, with staff who speak nearly two dozen languages and understand the challenges our clients face.

We know that with the right skills, education, counseling, and development programs, children can reach their full potential.