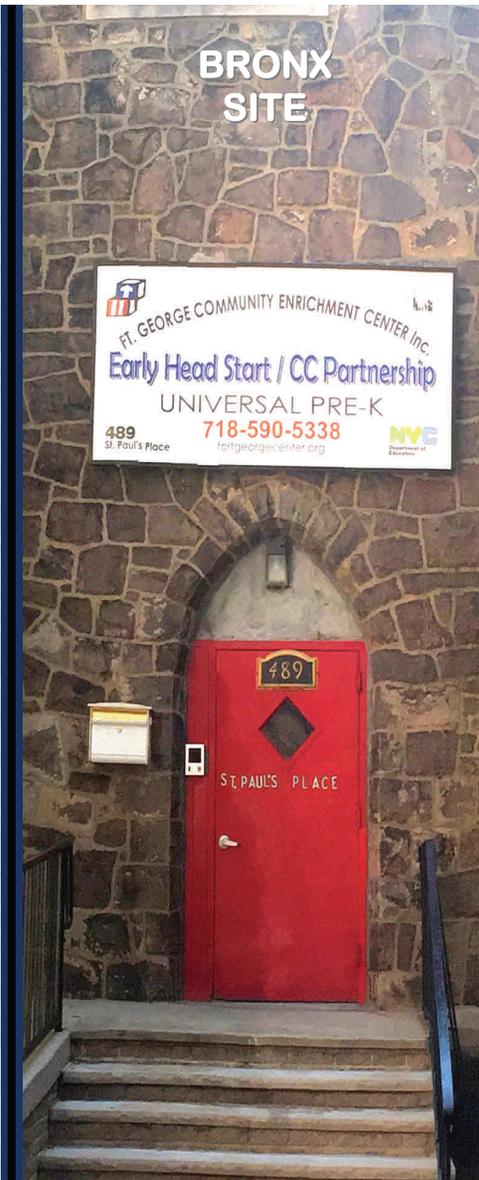


# FORT GEORGE COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT CENTER, INC.

BRONX  
SITE



MANHATTAN  
SITE TWO



MANHATTAN  
SITE ONE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

## The Fort George Mission

**T**o provide a quality, comprehensive, family focused child development program to eligible children and their families in Washington Heights and Morrisania section of the Bronx.

To maintain high standards of developmentally appropriate early childhood education and to empower families to enhance their sense of self esteem and effectiveness by providing opportunities for shared decision making.

## Message from the Executive Director



(photo by Emily Rodriguez, at age 4,  
Class of 2008)

*"You have to learn  
the rules of the game  
and then you have to  
play better than  
anyone else"*

*- Albert Einstein*

**F**ounded in 1981 the Fort George Community Enrichment Center, Inc. (FGCEC) is one of the oldest non-profit providers of Educational and Community Services in Washington Heights and one of the newest providers in the Morrisania Section of the Bronx. Today we serve approximately 500 people daily through 6 programs and 3 locations City Wide, administering Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Head Start Children Partnership, Universal Pre-K, Win for Health Asthma and DISRIP, a Medicaid Program.

The Fort George Community Enrichment Center Inc. mission is to provide a quality generally comprehensive family focused program to eligible children and their families in Washington Heights, New York and the Morrisania Section of the Bronx, New York. The year of resilience has turned into the miracle. Fort George was awarded an Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant from the Department of Health and Human Services Administrator for children and families office of Head Start on February 1, 2015 to serve 72 children in the Morrisania section of the Bronx. The agency was one of fourteen community based organizations that received the award in New York State. In its initial phase, out of the fourteen programs that received the grant in New York State, six were awarded to New York City Programs.

Our Board's strategic Vision for Fort Community Enrichment Center is to provide a model program that will enhance the self determination of our children and families. This supports our core values of integrity, professionalism and dedication that will pave the way for our future success.

The year ended on a high note. Governor Cuomo's office presented our children with a Joyous Holiday by providing Agency gifts for every child in our program. Our State Senator Adriano Espaillat along with Assemblyman Linares handed out the gifts to each child present along with a delegation from the Governor's Office.

A special thank you to our Board of Directors, Staff, Parents Children and Friends, who supported the agency during this year as we improved the lives of the children and families we served.

Regards,

Carolyn L. Wiggins  
Executive Director/CEO



State Assemblyman Guillermo Linares at the DAPC Installation Ceremony.

### **The Fort George Head Start, Early Head Start Childcare partnerships, and Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program Provide:**

#### **Education**

- Emergent literacy, numeracy, and language skills
- Positive attitudes toward learning
- Developmentally appropriate educational environments
- Link families to educational agencies to obtain needed services

#### **Health & Nutrition**

- Assures that our children receive needed medical, dental and mental health services
- Meals and snacks to our children that meets their daily nutritional needs
- Link families to health care services to obtain needed services

#### **Parent Involvement**

- Provides parents the opportunity to improve their parenting skills
- Parents are involved actively in the decision about program operations

#### **Disabilities/Mental Health**

- Provide individualized services for children with disabilities
- Strengthen children's social behavior and emotional well-being and self concept

#### **Human Resources**

- Employ qualified staff
- Provide staff development and training
- Comply with Head Start regulations.

## Historical Statement from the Board of Directors

The Ft. George Community Enrichment Center, Inc. was founded and incorporated in 1981 for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, and operating programs in education, employment and training, economic development, housing, health and social welfare. These programs are designed to strengthen the growth and development of individuals and families in the Washington Heights Area.

The organization was formed by community residents who were concerned with the provision of comprehensive services to lower-income families with preschool children, and following them through the early years of elementary school.

The ethnic make-up of the Ft. George Community Enrichment Center's population consists of Hispanic, Black, Asian and Caucasian families. The composition of the Ft. George Community Enrichment Center's Board of Directors reflects this multicultural community with the majority of its members residing within this area.

In line with this, the Washington Heights and Morrisania areas are evolving communities of growth. The areas are transitional in the sense that there is a relatively high in-and-out migration. Many young families in need of various types of social and health services comprise these neighborhoods.

Initially, the agency started the operation of our Head Start program with 94 children. As of this year (2015), the program has two sites in the Washington Heights, and one site in the Bronx. Fort George Community Enrichment Center, Inc. provides quality comprehensive early childhood services to approximately 300 children, ages 0-5, and their families.

The first site is located at 1525 St. Nicholas Avenue, and has a licensed capacity for 135 children. This site houses the Administration offices of the agency. The second site is located at 601 West 186th Street and has a licensed capacity of 51 children. The third site is located at 489 St. Paul's Place, and has a licensed capacity for 36.

We continue to support the values that we established for ourselves over 30 years ago as they have clearly contributed to our ongoing success. We thank the staff and the parents for making 2015 a great year.

Sincerely,

### **The Officers**

Ruth Rudder, *Chair*  
Winifred Richman, *Treasurer*  
James Amodeo, *Secretary*

### **The Members**

Gary King  
Elizabeth Baboolal  
Diana Douglas  
John Phelan, Esq., *Pro Bono*  
Walter Frye, MBA, CPA, *Pro Bono*



<b>Total Number of Children and Families Served and Average Monthly Enrollment</b>		
	<b>Total No. of Children</b>	<b>Avg. Monthly Enrollment</b>
Head Start	186	100%
UPK	137	100%
<b>Percentage of Children enrolled receiving Medical and Dental Exams</b>		
	<b>Medical</b>	<b>Dental</b>
Head Start	100%	100%
UPK	100%	100%

<b>Teaching Strategies GOLD Growth Report WASHINGTON HEIGHTS</b>		
<b>Area of Development</b>	<b>% of Children Below Growth Range</b>	<b>% of Children Meeting or Above Growth Range</b>
Social Emotional	12%	88%
Physical	13%	87%
Language	13%	87%
Cognitive	16%	84%
Literacy	16%	84%
Mathematics	23%	77%

<b>Teaching Strategies GOLD Growth Report BRONX</b>		
<b>Area of Development</b>	<b>% of Children Below Growth Range</b>	<b>% of Children Meeting or Above Growth Range</b>
Social Emotional	0%	100%
Physical	0%	100%
Language	0%	100%
Cognitive	0%	100%
Literacy	0%	100%
Mathematics	0%	100%

# General Highlights 2015

## Accomplishments and Partnerships

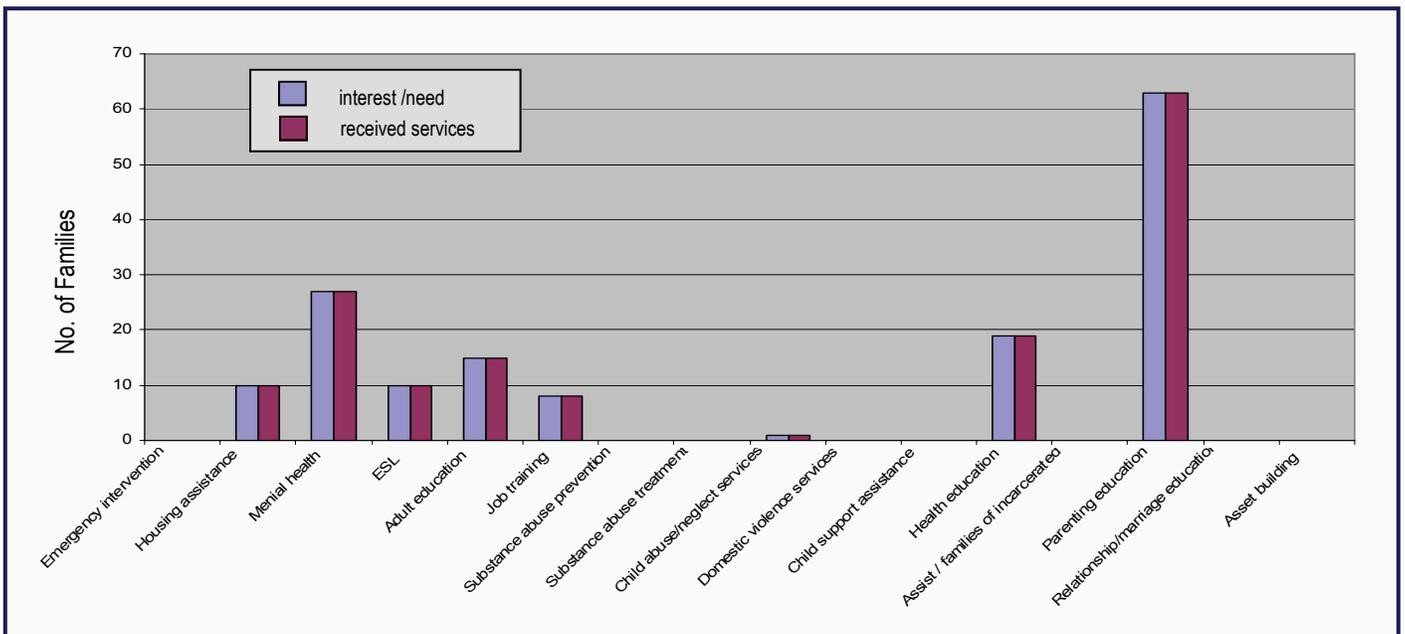


- We received an Early Head Start/ Child Care Partnership Grant
- Received holiday gifts for our Washington Height Program from Governor Cuomo's office
- We continued our partnership with New York Presbyterian Hospital WIN for HEALTH Childhood Asthma Network. As a result of this partnership we have three community health workers.
- City Harvest provides fresh fruits and vegetables to our program.
- WINBACK Columbia University Medical Center Partnership provides asthma care and education to families with children that come to the emergency room.
- New York Presbyterian Ambulatory Care Network partnership provides the program with first year medical residents the opportunity to participant in our Early Literacy Program by reading to our students.
- Partnership with South Bronx Rising
- Collaboration with the New York City Children's Cabinet



# Washington Heights Family Services

Types of Family Services	Number of Families with an expressed <u>interest</u> or identified <u>need</u> during the program year	Number of Families that <u>received</u> the following services during the program year
Emergency crisis intervention such as meeting immediate needs for food, clothing, or shelter	0	0
Housing assistance such as subsidies, utilities, repairs, etc.	10	10
Menial health services	27	27
English as a Second Language (ESL) training	10	10
Adult education such as GED programs and college selection	15	15
Job training	8	8
Substance abuse prevention	0	0
Substance abuse treatment	0	0
Child abuse and neglect services	1	1
Domestic violence services	0	0
Child support assistance	0	0
Health education	19	19
Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	0	0
Parenting education	63	63
Relationship/marriage education	0	0
Asset building services (such as financial education, opening savings and checking accounts, debt counseling, etc.)	0	0
Of these, the number of families who were counted in at least one of the services listed above	<b>153</b>	<b>153</b>



# Fort George Head Start School-Readiness Summary List

## HEAD START

### Social Emotional

- (1) Children will interact with peers, cooperating and solving social problems.
- (2) Children will develop self-regulation

### Approaches to Learning & Play

- (3) Children will engage in play and other activities with purpose, persistence, attention and curiosity.
- (4) Children will engage in sophisticated socio-dramatic play.

### Language & Literacy

- (5) Children will understand and respond to oral questions and directions.
- (6) Children will use strong and varied vocabulary and will participate in conversations.
- (7) Children who speak a home language other than English will progress in their ability to understand and use English.
- (8) Children will demonstrate interest in books, comprehension of texts and ability to retell favorite stories.
- (9) Children will hear and manipulate the sounds in oral language, noticing similarities and differences.
- (10) Children will know many letter names and sounds.
- (11) Children will understand the function of print and some print concepts, and will use early writing to communicate.
- (12) For Dual Language Learners, children will exhibit appropriate English skills necessary to understanding language and to us language effectively in various settings and for various purpose.

### Math & Science

- (13) Children will use counting and numerical representation in their activities, especially to solve problems.
- (14) Children will demonstrate knowledge of shapes and their properties.
- (15) Children will demonstrate understanding of patterns.
- (16) Children will classify, sort and compare objects based on different attributes.
- (17) Children will measure and compare objects based on length, weight, etc.
- (18) Children will engage in scientific inquiry.

### Social Studies

- (19) Children will demonstrate an understanding of one's relationship to the family and the community, roles in the family and community and will demonstrate respect for diversity.

### The Arts

- (20) Children will explore music, movement, dance, drama and the visual arts.

### Physical

- (21) Children will maintain physical health, age-appropriate physical development and fine/gross motor skills.

City-Wide learning Goals are Bolded

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## EARLY HEAD START

### Social-Emotional Development & Approaches to learning

- 1. Children will develop and maintain positive *relationships* with peers and familiar adults
- 2. Children will demonstrate *self-regulation*, including an understanding of rules and independence in executing most daily classroom and self-care routines.
- 3. Children will demonstrate a positive *self concept* through identification with their family, culture, peers and familiar adults.
- 4. Children will initiate and engage in play, discovery and the arts with increasing *purpose, persistence attention and curiosity*.

### Cognitive & General Knowledge

- 5. Children will use all *senses* to investigate, problem solve, compare attributes and form individual understandings of the *natural and physical world*.
- 6. Children will demonstrate an increasing ability to *connect new and known* experiences and concepts.
- 7. Children will demonstrate an age-appropriate interest in *numbers and counting* during daily experiences and routines.

### Language & Literacy (in home language and English)

- 8. Children will *understand and respond* to simple oral questions and directions.
- 9. Children will *communicate* using expanding *language skills and vocabulary* to express their needs, ideas and desires and to participate in conversations
- 10. Children will demonstrate *interest in books* and a general comprehension of text/illustrations.
- 11. Children will demonstrate interest in *early writing and reading*, including an age-appropriate understanding of the function of print and graphic/symbolic representations.
- 12. Children who speak a home language other than English will progress in their ability *to understand and use both languages*.

### Physical Development & Health

- 13. Children will maintain *physical health* and develop *healthy habits* related to eating and personal care.
- 14. Children will demonstrate age-appropriate *gross motor* skills and progress in their ability to *control their bodies* for movement /rhythm, navigation and balance.
- 15. Children will demonstrate age-appropriate *fine motor* skills.

# Fort George Community Enrichment Center, Inc. (FGCEC)

## Financial Statements / Fiscal Year 2015

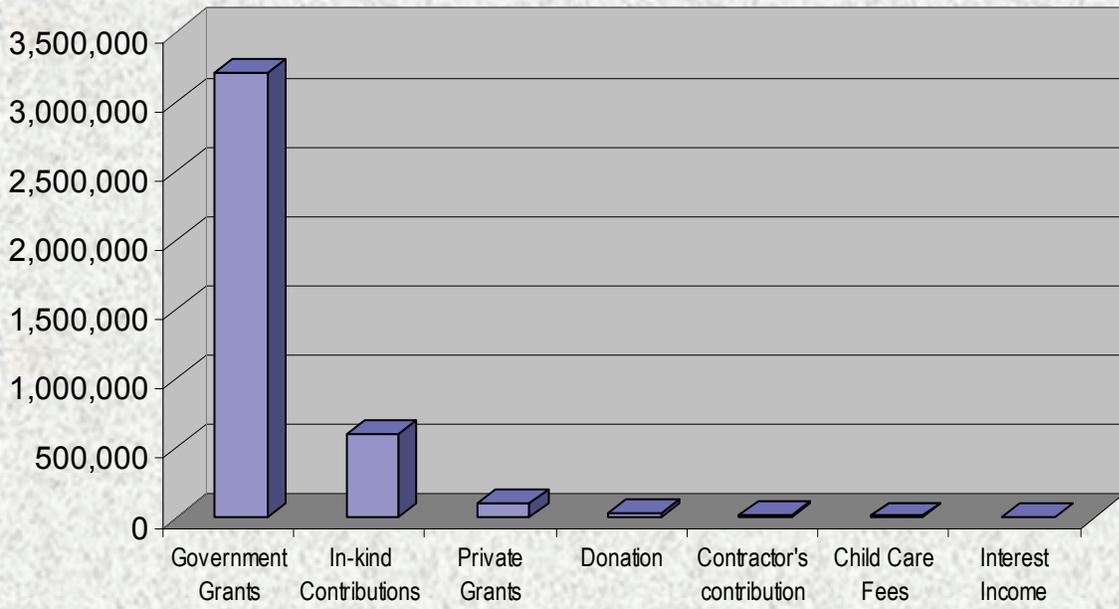
### Statements of Revenue, Expenses, and Fund Balance

Revenues	Fiscal Year 2015
Government Grants	3,213,284
Private Grants	99,864
Child care fees	<b>12,371</b>
Donation	<b>30,200</b>
In-kind contributions	608,729
Contractor's contribution	22,021
Interest income	136
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>3,986,605</b>

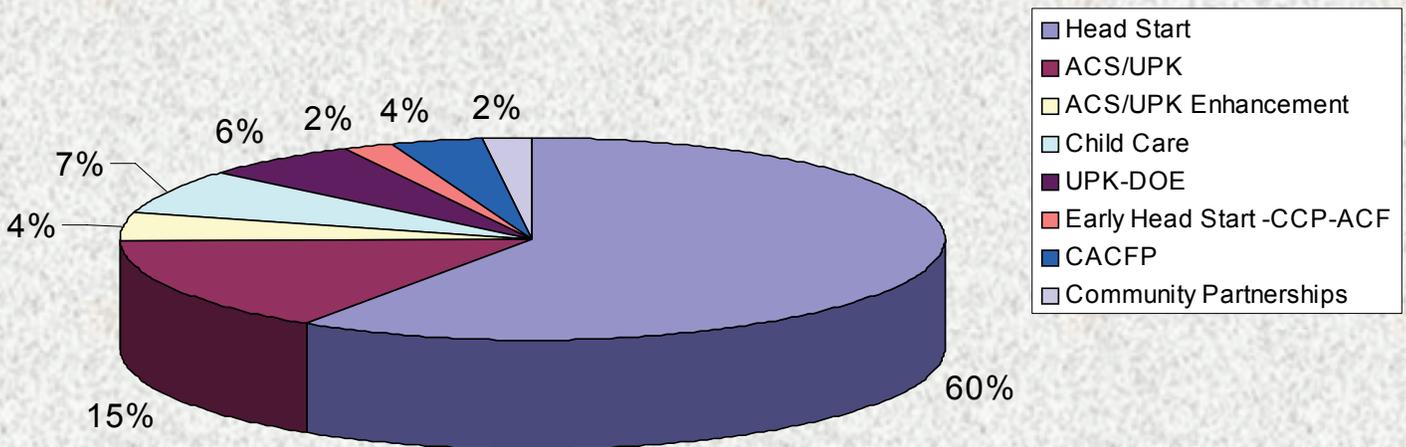
Expenses	Fiscal Year 2015
Early childhood education programs:	
Head Start Program	2,322,235
ACS/Universal Pre-Kindergarten (ACS-UPK)	599,068
ACS/Universal Pre-Kindergarten Enhancement (ACS-UPK Enhancement)	175,510
Child Care	288,960
Universal Pre-kindergarten -Department of Education (UPK-DOE)	239,785
Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership - Administration for Children and Families	74,577
Food program: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	139,225
Community Partnerships	77,441
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,916,801</b>
Changes in Net Assets	69,804
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	144,449
Period prior adjustment	9,121
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>223,374</b>

Note: The Financial Statement presented for the Fiscal Year 2015 is unaudited. Final adjustments will be made during the course of the audit conducted by Watson Rice, LLP.

### Funding Sources for FGCEC



### Functional Breakdown of FGCEC Operations





**Carolyn L. Wiggins**  
*Executive Director*

**Anita Grossbard**  
*Deputy Director*

**Elizabeth Balaguer**  
*Family Service Coordinator*

## **DELEGATE AGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **Officers 2015**

Chairperson	<b>Ms. Lynnette Monge</b>
Co-Chairperson	<b>Ms. Loreliane Suazo</b>
Secretary	<b>Ms. Belendy Coby</b>
Treasurer	<b>Ms. Leandra Fernandez</b>

Personnel Practice Chairperson	<b>Ms. Yenny Mendez Matos</b>
By-Laws Committee Chairperson	<b>Ms. Maribel Hernandez</b>
Grievance Committee Chairperson	<b>Ms. Rosmery Hernandez</b>
Area Representative Candidate	<b>Ms. Loreliane Suazo</b>
Education/Health Community Issues Committee	<b>Ms. Jenny Paltan</b>
Community Representatives/ Representantes de la Comunidad	<b>Ms. Germania Reyes</b> <b>Mr. Heman Delgado</b> <b>Mr. Domingo Garcia</b>