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# Fort George Community Enrichment Center, Inc.

*Helping Children and their families in Washington Heights for over 30 years.*



## The Fort George Mission

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

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)

### *From the Executive Director's Desk*

The 2012 school year at Fort George Community Enrichment Center provided us, once again, with an opportunity to enhance the lives of families and support their quest for self-sufficiency. It was a year of uncertainty about federal funding; we tightened our belts and sought strategies to keep and effectively maintain the highest quality program and service with fewer resources. It was the year we became Early Learn NYC where our agency added child care to our Head Start and Universal Pre-Kindergarten programs.

It was also the year that we had to assume the responsibility of providing health care for our staff. Then the City of New York dropped our general liability insurance and we had to provide that coverage as well.

With the onset of Early Learn we lost 122 children because we were mandated to provide full day service. Space is an ongoing concern within the community. All the while the Agency upheld its promise to deliver excellent programs and services to the low income children and families in our service area.

Finally we could not have provided the quality service that we have without the support of our Board of Directors, the Delegate Agency Policy Committee, Staff and our Community Partners. Their unending dedication has certainly contributed to our success in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn L. Wiggins

## Delegate Agency Policy Committee



Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez and Executive Director Carolyn Wiggins with installed members of the DAPC

## DELEGATE AGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE

### Officers 2012

Chairperson	<b>Jessica Luperon</b>
Co-Chairperson	<b>Dinorah Medina</b>
Secretary	<b>Shaila Polanco</b>
Treasurer	<b>Tania Contreras</b>

Personnel Practice Chairperson	<b>Germania Reyes</b>
By-Laws Committee Chairperson	<b>Luis Taveras</b>
Grievance Committee Chairperson	<b>Noelia Castillo</b>

Member	<b>Elaine Ventura</b>
Alternate	<b>Emmanuel Guzman</b>
Alternate	<b>Altagracia Calderon</b>

Community Representatives/ Representantes de la Comunidad	<b>Fermin Medina</b> <b>Sterlin Hidalgo</b> <b>Juana Soriano</b>
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## 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 area is an evolving community of growth. The area is 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 this neighborhood.

Initially the agency started the operation of our Head Start program with 94 children. As of this year (2012), the program has two sites in the Washington Heights area. Ft. George Community Enrichment Center, Inc. provides quality comprehensive early childhood services to 308 children ages 3-5, 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.

We continue to support the values that we established for ourselves over 30 years ago as they have clearly contributed to our ongoing success. On behalf of the Board, I thank the staff and the parents for making 2012 a great year.

Sincerely,

### **The Officers**

Ruth Rudder *Chair*  
Winifred Richman *Treasurer*  
Lesley Halliday *Secretary*

### **The Members**

James Amodeo  
Jeanie Owens  
Faith Lamb Parker  
Elizabeth Baboolal  
Lenore Peay  
Diana Douglas  
John Phelan, Esq., Pro Bono



## Ft. George Community Enrichment Center, Inc.

<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	117	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%

The Head Start and Universal Pre-Kindergarten Programs Provides:

### **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.

## General Highlights 2012

### Accomplishments 2012

- We were 100% enrolled.
- 10% of our children received serves from CPSE This is the federal mandate.
- We developed a partnership with PBS/ Boston a Kids Study Research on Math called Ready to Learn Math Initiative. PBS provided one smart board and 4 lap tops for the children.
- City Harvest NYC provided healthy fruits and vegetables. They also provide nutritional workshops for parents.
- New York Presbyterian Ambulatory Care Network partnership provides the program with first year medical residents the opportunity to promote the benefits of Early Literacy in preschool children.
- WINBACK Columbia University Medical Center Partnership provides asthma care and education to families with children that come into the emergency room.



Parent Recognition Ceremony

- We continue our partnership with New York Presbyterian Hospital WIN for HEALTH Childhood Asthma Network and Diabetes for Adults. As a result of this partnership we continue to have two community health workers.
- Our partnership with the Mott Hall School Community Service Program continues. We provide our sites for their middle school students to complete their community service.

### Our Partnerships

- PBS/Boston
- City Harvest
- New York Presbyterian Ambulatory Care Network
- WINBACK Columbia University Medical Center & New York Presbyterian Ambulatory Care Network
- Bilingual Care
- Premium Therapy Speech Services
- Growing Minds Speech and Occupational Therapy Services.
- Reach out and Read



Dr. Jaime Torres, Regional Director of U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services in Region II presents at the Health Advisory Meeting.





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

## Financial Statements

Fiscal Year 2012

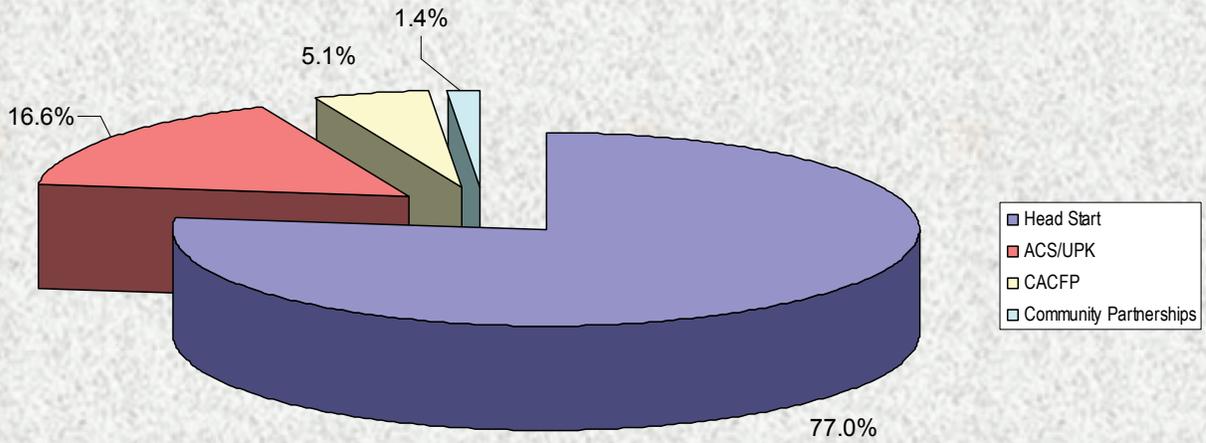
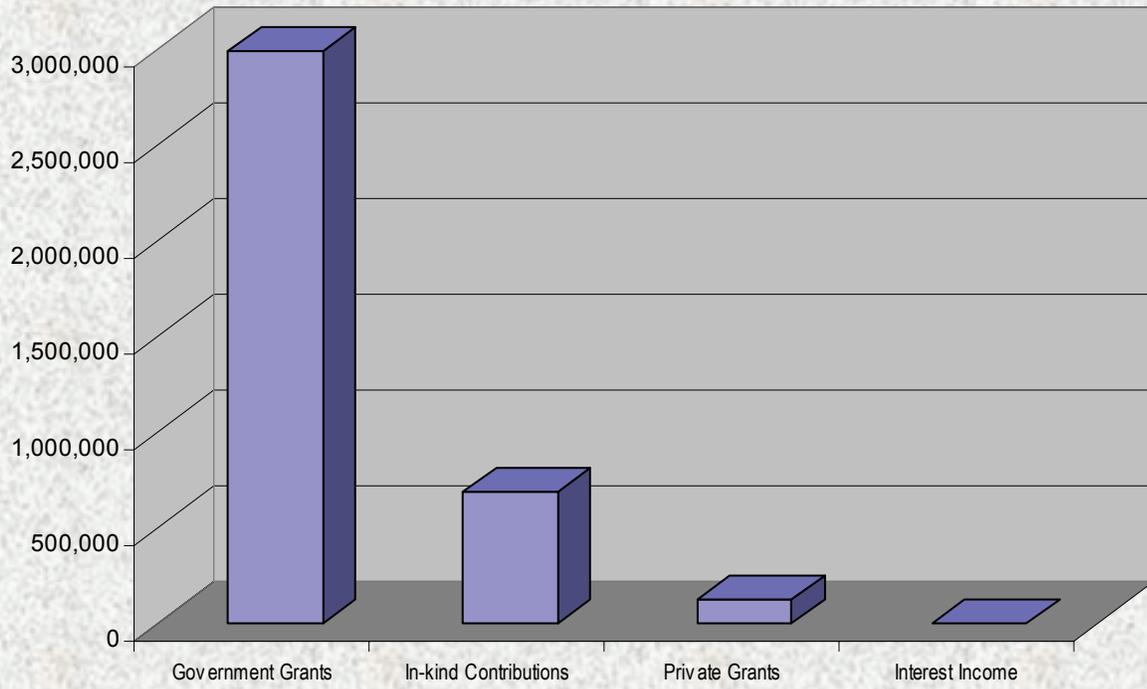
### Statements of Revenue, Expenses, and Fund Balance

Revenues	Fiscal Year 2012
Government Grants	2,986,961
Private Grants	125,861
In-kind contributions	689,969
Interest income	599
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>3,803,390</b>

Expenses	Fiscal Year 2012
Early childhood education programs:	
Title V Head Start Program (Head Start)	2,887,505
ACS/Universal Pre-Kindergarten (ACS/UPK)	598,376
Food program: Child and Adult Care food program (CACFP)	191,408
Community Partnerships	112,787
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,790,076</b>
Changes in Net Assets	13,314
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	69,970
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>83,284</b>

Note: The Financial Statement presented for the Fiscal Year 2012 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*

**Leslie Watson**  
*Director of Education*

**Doreen D'Amico**  
*Educational Director*

**Elizabeth Balaguer**  
**Esmeralda Guzman**  
**Maria E. Toribio**  
*Family Service Coordinators*