

# FORT GEORGE COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT CENTER, INC.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2017

## The Fort George Mission

To 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.



## Letter from the Executive Director/ CEO

Dear Friends,



(Photo by Emily Rodriguez, age 4, Fort George Children with Cameras Project.)

### *Opportunity:*

*"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."*

-Winston Churchill

As we complete 37 years of service in the Washington Heights Community and 4 years of service in the Morrisania Community of the Bronx; we continue to be resolved to provide an excellent early childhood experience for children from birth to Pre-Kindergarten. We are in year three of our Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Grant in the Bronx and have seen strong improvements in child outcomes and family engagement. This is also evident in our Head Start Program in Washington Heights. The data tells us that when we provide children with an environment for learning and families with a road map to success for family engagement the process of closing the achievement gap begins.

Our data shows that a majority of our children are meeting or exceeding widely held expectations in all our programs both in Morrisania and Washington Heights according to our scientifically based assessment tool Teaching Strategies Gold.

We have exceeded our expectation beyond our imagination in the delivery of services we provide on the continuum from Birth to Five.

Special thank you to our Board of Directors, Policy Council, Policy Committee, Staff, Parents and Partners you, make HEAD START GREAT!

Sincerely,

*Carolyn L. Wiggins*

Carolyn L. Wiggins



State Senator Marisol Alacantra at the Policy Committee 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 Engagement**

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



Policy Council meeting at the Bronx Site.

#### **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 2017, the program has two sites in Washington Heights, and sixteen sites 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. Fifteen family day care licensed sites with a capacity for 64 children are located in Bronx zip code 10456, and a sixteenth site is located at 489 St. Paul's Place, Bronx, and has a licensed capacity for 36 children, 18 UPK and 8 Early Head Start 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. We thank the staff and the parents for making this a great school year.

### **The Officers**

Ruth Rudder, *Chair*  
Winifred Richman, *Treasurer*  
John Phelan Esq., *Secretary*

### **The Members**

Diana Douglas, MS.ed  
Gary King, MS.ed  
Megan Silander, Ph.d  
Kira Mineroff, Esq. , Pro Bono  
Walter Frye, MBA, CPA,  
Fiscal Consultant



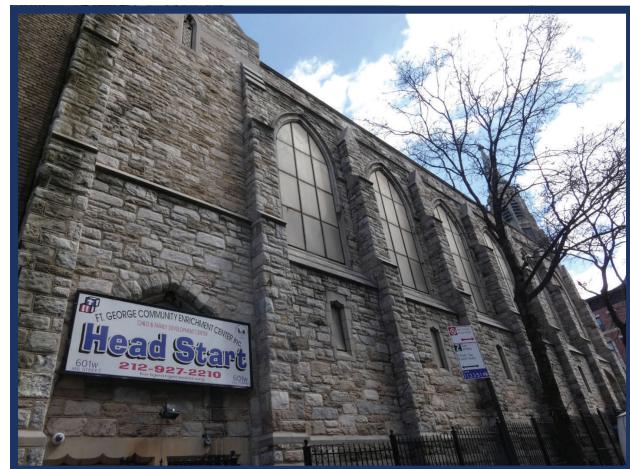
Policy Council and Board of Directors at a joint meeting.

# General Highlights 2017

## Accomplishments and Partnerships



- 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.
- An Early Childhood pilot program in collaboration with New York Presbyterian's Choosing Healthy & Active Lifestyles for Kids™ (CHALK).
- 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.



## **Our Federal Review**

The Administration for Children and Family Services (ACF) conducted an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) performance review on April 25-26, 2017 to determine how Fort George Community Enrichment Center, Inc., its partners, and its community are working together to plan and provide high-quality services.

Based on the review the Office of Head Start determined that there were no areas of Noncompliance or Deficiencies.

We wish to thank the Governing Body, Policy Council, Partners, Parents and Staff for their cooperation and assistance during the review.

The report was issued to Mrs. Ruth Rudder, Board Chairperson.



# Profile of Children

## Head Start

Out of 178 possible children, 178 children have enough GOLD data in Spring 2016/2017 to be included in this table.

Area of Development	Below		Meeting		Exceeding	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Social Emotional	1	1%	85	48%	92	52%
Physical (gross motor)	—	—	151	85%	27	15%
Physical (fine motor)	1	1%	106	60%	71	40%
Language	7	4%	110	62%	61	34%
Spanish Language	—	—	22	100%	—	—
Cognitive	2	1%	97	54%	79	44%
Literacy	2	1%	102	57%	74	42%
Spanish Literacy	—	—	5	23%	17	77%
Mathematics	4	2%	103	58%	71	40%

2017 Enrollment and Attendance		
Site	Enrollment	Attendance
Washington Heights Head Start	98%	76%
Morrisania Early Head Start Child Care Partnership	100%	91%

*A majority of, our children are meeting or exceeding widely held expectations in all our programs both in Morrisania and Washington Heights.*

2017 Children Diagnosed with a Disability and Receiving Services		
Site	Individual Education Plan (IEP)	Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP)
Washington Heights	22	—
Morrisania	—	3

The 178 children included in this table are in 10 classes in 2 sites and have the following demographics.

<b>Gender</b>	Male Female	44% 56%
<b>Race</b>	Black or African American Some Other Race White and Black or African American All other combinations	6% 90% 1% 3%
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino Mexican Puerto Rican Cuban Dominican Honduran Panamanian Columbian Ecuadorian	2% 18% 2% 1% 74% 1% 1% 1% 2%
<b>IFSP/IEP Status</b>	Children Without IFSP Children With IFSP Children Without IEP Children With IEP	100% 0% 88% 12%
<b>Funding Source(s)</b>	ACS Center-Based Child Care ACS Dual Eligibility ACS Early Head Start Only ACS Family Child Care ACS Head Start Only Non-ACS N/A NYCDOE Pre-K for all	1 121 2 1 53 1 32
<b>Age or Class/Grade</b>	Preschool 3 class/grade (Green) Pre-K 4 class/grade (Blue)	37% 63%
<b>Primary Language</b>	English Spanish	8% 92%

Note: At the beginning of the year, it is appropriate for a student's skills and abilities to fall below widely held expectations for his age or class/grade because he may not have received instruction for that level.

# Profile of Children

## Early Head Start / Childcare Partnerships

Out of 58 possible children, 58 children have enough GOLD data in Spring 2016/2017 to be included in this table.

Area of Development	Below		Meeting		Exceeding	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Social Emotional	13	22%	26	45%	19	33%
Physical (gross motor)	3	5%	30	52%	25	43%
Physical (fine motor)	2	3%	41	71%	15	26%
Language	13	22%	35	60%	10	17%
Spanish Language	(no children)	—	—	—	—	—
Cognitive	8	14%	32	55%	18	31%
Literacy	10	17%	26	45%	22	38%
Spanish Literacy	(no children)	—	—	—	—	—
Mathematics	20	35%	28	49%	9	16%
English Language Acquisition	(no children)	—	—	—	—	—

The 58 children included are in 15 Family Day Care sites and 1 Center based site, and have the following demographics.

<b>Gender</b>	Male Female	<b>57%</b> <b>43%</b>
<b>Race</b>	White Black or African American American Indian or Alaska Native Some Other Race Unknown	<b>3%</b> <b>66%</b> <b>2%</b> <b>2%</b> <b>28%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino Puerto Rican Dominican Honduran Unknown Hispanic Unknown	<b>59%</b> <b>7%</b> <b>28%</b> <b>3%</b> <b>2%</b> <b>2%</b>
<b>IFSP/IEP Status</b>	Children Without IFSP Children With IFSP Children Without IEP Children With IEP	<b>97%</b> <b>3%</b> <b>100%</b> <b>0%</b>
<b>Funding Source(s)</b>	Child Care EHSCCP	<b>39</b> <b>58</b>
<b>Age or Class/Grade</b>	Birth to 1 year (Red) 1 to 2 years (Orange) 2 to 3 years (Yellow)	<b>12%</b> <b>47%</b> <b>41%</b>
<b>Primary Language</b>	English Spanish African	<b>31%</b> <b>28%</b> <b>41%</b>

Note: At the beginning of the year, it is appropriate for a student's skills and abilities to fall below widely held expectations for his age or class/grade because he may not have received instruction for that level.



Photo taken by Jacob, age 5, as part of the 2017 STEM / Photography project.

## 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	
	Washington Heights	Bronx	Washington Heights	Bronx
Emergency crisis intervention such as meeting immediate needs for food, clothing, or shelter	0	2	0	2
Housing assistance such as subsidies, utilities, repairs, etc.	10	16	10	12
Menial health services	27	1	27	1
English as a Second Language (ESL) training	10	2	10	2
Adult education such as GED programs and college selection	15	26	15	19
Job training	8	19	8	14
Substance abuse prevention	0	0	0	0
Substance abuse treatment	0	0	0	0
Child abuse and neglect services	1	1	1	1
Domestic violence services	0	0	0	0
Child support assistance	0	7	0	5
Health education	19	31	19	31
Assistance to families of incarcerated individuals	0	0	0	0
Parenting education	63	39	63	39
Relationship/marriage education	0	1	0	1
Asset building services (such as financial education, opening savings and checking accounts, debt counseling, etc.)	0	0	0	0
Of these, the number of families who were counted in at least one of the services listed above	153	70	153	65

# 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 use 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

## 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 2017

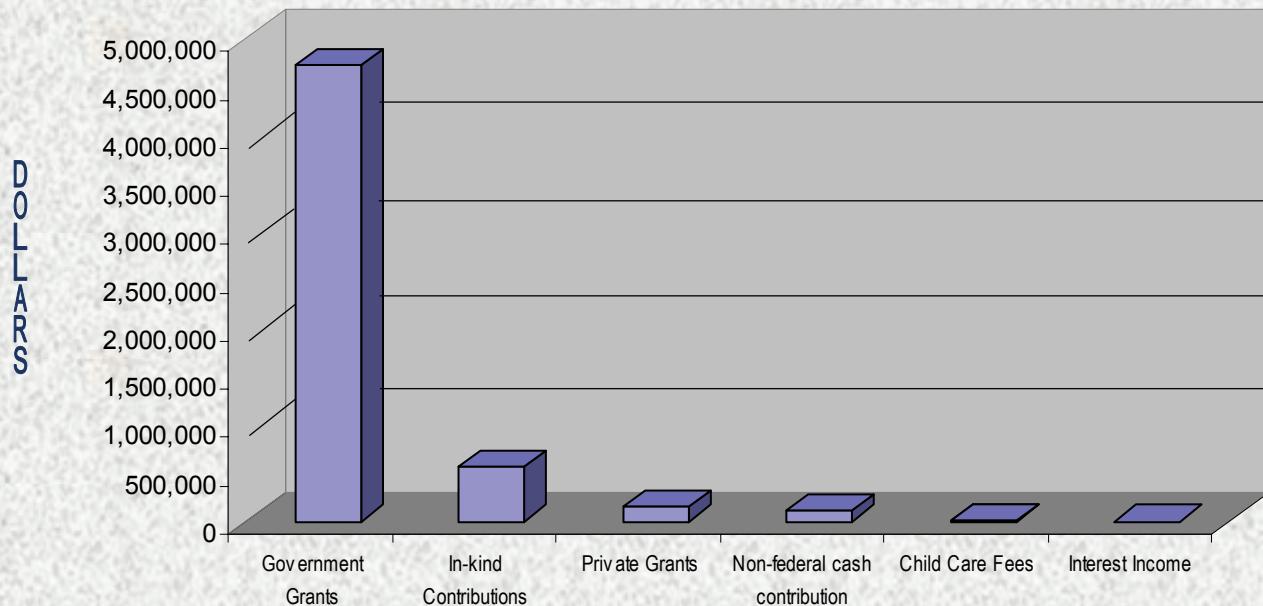
### Statements of Revenue, Expenses, and Fund Balance

Revenues	Fiscal Year 2017
Government Grants	4,724,016
Private Grants	148,502
Child care fees	4,873
In-kind contributions	558,785
Non-federal cash contribution (EHS-CCP)	107,000
Interest income	214
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>5,543,390</b>

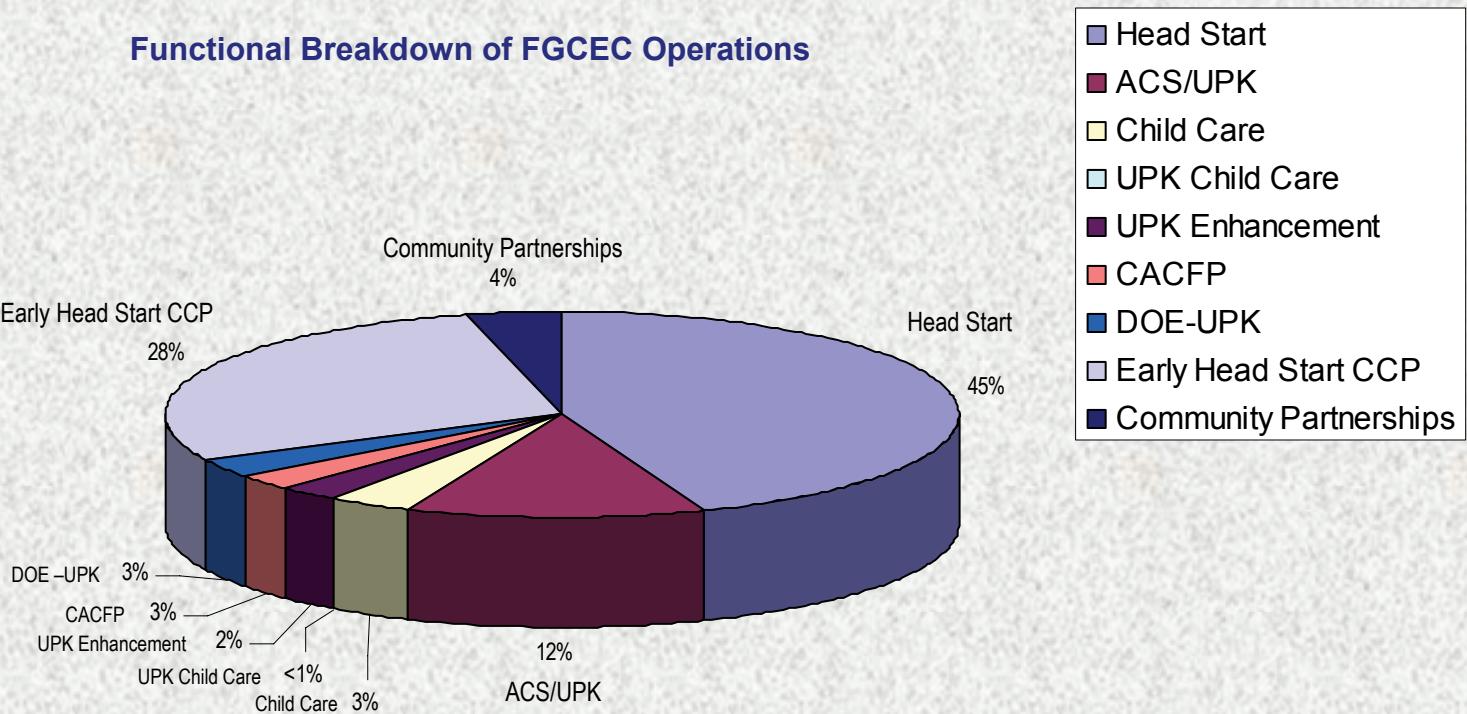
Expenses	Fiscal Year 2017
Early childhood education programs:	
Head Start Program	2,452,437
ACS/Universal Pre-Kindergarten (ACS-UPK)	679,471
Child Care	187,160
UPK Child Care	1,660
UPK Enhancement	136,878
Food program: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	139,325
Department of Education - UPK	169,841
Early Head Start CCP	1,583,939
Community Partnerships	211,746
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,562,457</b>
Changes in Net Assets	(19,067)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	429,746
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>410,679</b>

Note: The Financial Statement presented for the Fiscal Year 2017 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/CEO*

**Anita Grossbard**  
*Deputy Director/COO*

**Rose de la Cruz**  
*Fiscal Officer/CFO*