



Early Childhood Programs  
Annual Report  
2017- 2018



60 Catherine Street    77 Market Street    129 Fulton Street    253 South Street  
New York, NY  
(212) 962-3408

[www.hamiltonmadisonhouse.org](http://www.hamiltonmadisonhouse.org)    [ask4headstart@hmhonline.org](mailto:ask4headstart@hmhonline.org)

## **MISSION**

Hamilton-Madison House empowers individuals and families in New York City to achieve success at all stages of their lives. Through culturally sensitive and linguistically accessible services, Hamilton-Madison House addresses the education, health and social needs of all New York City residents, immigrant and ethnic minority communities, including but not limited to the Lower East Side, Chinatown and Two Bridges neighborhoods of Manhattan.

### **Early Childhood Philosophy**

Our mission at Hamilton-Madison House Early Childhood Program is to provide exemplary early childhood education, for the children of this community by offering a model program tailored to ensure the quality of a child's daily experiences while building a foundation for future learning.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

At Hamilton-Madison House Early Childhood Program, the primary goal is for children to feel safe and secure in a learning environment which fosters respect for cultural diversity, utilizes an eclectic approach to education to allow for optimal growth and development of young children. Young children's developmental tasks are to build trust, learn social skills, begin mastery of academic skills and develop positive self-esteem. In order to best support these tasks, our program strives to provide developmentally age appropriate experiences, well-trained and consistent staff, a safe and healthy learning environment, and continuity of care. Also, throughout the whole learning process we believe parents are their child's first teacher; thus, we work to support parents in their efforts to guide their child's development as well.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **CHAIRPERSON**

Chi K. Chu

### **PRESIDENT**

Anthony Giorgio

### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

Nicolas R. Caiazzo

Paul A. Kurzman

Jan Lee

Victor J. Papa

Geoffrey Wiener, Jr.

### **TREASURER**

Kenneth Eisner

### **SECRETARY**

Wynne Leung Kim

### **MEMBERS**

Felicia V. Black, PhD.

James Halpin

Thomas L. Hill

Yoshio Kano

Paul McNulty

Cao K. O

Debra A. Thompson

Sue Tse

Arnold Yu

Stanley Tran

### **EMERITUS**

Joe Ritorto

### **COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE**

May Liang

## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

### Administrative Office

### Registration Site

60 Catherine Street, Ground Floor

New York, NY 10038

Tel. (212) 962-3408

Fax (212) 571-6167

Email: [ask4headstart@hmhonline.org](mailto:ask4headstart@hmhonline.org)

## FAMILY CHILD CARE /CHILD CARE/ HEAD START

### AED for Early Childhood

Karenne Berry

#### ADMISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Amanda Li

#### PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Jinny Zhong

#### SITE DIRECTOR

Benjamin Thomas

(60 Catherine St.)

#### SITE DIRECTOR

Jeanne Toomey-Kriaris

(129 Fulton St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.)

#### FCCN CORDINATOR

Gladimir Pimentel

#### FAMILY WORKERS

Maribel O' Connell

Crystal Cho

#### SITE DIRECTOR

Cynthia Robinson-Williams

(253 South St.)

#### ENROLLMENT SPECIALIST

Hoi Ngan (Helen) Fung

#### FCC ENROLLMENT SPECIALIST

Shu-Ji Chau

## Hamilton-Madison House Services

Hamilton-Madison House is a multiservice agency providing numerous supports to our community at large.

Our **Early Care and Education** programs consist of Head Start, Child Care and Family Child Care Homes. We operate in 4 locations on the Lower Eastside of Manhattan in 4 center-based locations and 40 Family Child Care homes. 60 Catherine Street houses our administrative offices and 3 child care rooms operating from 8am – 6 pm Monday through Friday. Our Head Start programs operate from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday at 77 Market Street, 129 Fulton Street and 253 South Street.

We adhere to best practices in early childhood education by delivering developmentally appropriate learning strategies based on the Creative Curriculum.

In addition to the early childhood programs Hamilton Madison House offers an array of support services that we encourage our early child care families to participate in.

### ***Behavioral Health***

Our Behavioral Health program offers psychological and psychiatric services at two locations on an outpatient basis. Services are provided in Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Vietnamese and Cambodian, in order to accommodate individuals, couples and families who need assistance with emotional and behavioral issues. Our treatment centers have become respected field placement and learning sites for graduate students in Art Therapy, Psychology, Social Work, and Mental Health Counseling. We are also an accredited training site for Pre-Doctoral Psychology students by the American Psychological Association.

### **Senior Services**

For over 60 years, our City Hall Senior Center has been providing seniors with more than a safe environment for healthy aging along with nutritious breakfast and lunch. We provide social activities such as Music, Mahjong and Ping-Pong. We offer enrichment classes like Art, English and Computer. We also offer case assistance for housing, crime victim services and immigration counseling. Also located in our center is the Caregiver Services Program which provides comprehensive and integrative services to caregivers and care receivers. The services at our center are provided by our bilingual and bicultural staff.

### **Youth & Teen Programs**

For young people we offer innovative educational and recreational programs that keep them off the street as well as encourage personal development and healthy relationships. Educational programs like math and literacy tutoring is available for ages 6-17, Social Work services and referrals for ages 13-24 and their families, recreational activities including brush painting for ages 6+, and the Music School. Students ages 4 and up can take advantage of lessons available in piano, steel drums, violin, viola, guitar, and voice at the Music School.

### **Chinatown Resource Center**

The Chinatown Resource Center (CRC) provides case management assistance, benefit and entitlement Counseling, translation and referral services to Chinese-speaking immigrants, as well as others. We also offer ESL classes and vocational workshops.

## Early Childhood Program Information:

### Enrollment & Attendance:

We are funded for 133 Head Start slots; we served a total of 130 children and their families cumulatively throughout the year. Of the 130 children served there were eighty-one 3-year-old and forty-nine 4-year-old children. Our average enrollment for the school year was 88% with a daily average attendance of 87%. At the close of the school year all typically developing children met or exceeded widely held expectations for development. 21% of our children were identified as having developmental disabilities and had IEP's (individual development plans). All Head Start children attending HMM early childhood programs received medical and dental care. To support families with ensuring proper dental care for their preschoolers Healthy Smiles dental van visited our centers to provide on-site care. New York University supported the program with vision and hearing screening.

### Family Engagement

This year we welcomed two Family Workers to our staff which have allowed us to increase family involvement in the many activities we host throughout the year. With this addition of much needed staff we were able to increase our parent participation rate. In addition to our very involved **DAPC**, the activities were focused on parenting information sessions, celebrating parenting at Mother's Day and Father's Day, as well as highlighting the importance of fatherhood with Dads Take your child to School Day. We also hosted cultural & seasonal events including Thanksgiving and Winter Holiday celebrations.

### Parent Training Sessions

- Kindergarten Transition
- Asthma Awareness
- Dual Language
- Dental Awareness
- Nutrition begins early
- Child Abuse
- Emotional Wellness
- Community Safety
- ESL classes offered at HMM's innovative educational center.

## Parent/Child Activities

We hosted a Family Literacy Fair to kick-off the Week of the Young Child in April 2018. Our site was open to the children and their families for a Saturday of fun filled literacy activities including bookmaking, puppet making, story reading and many other activities. Families took home many ideas to make their homes and home practices more literacy rich. Books were donated from local publishers for each child to take home to build home libraries.



Other family activities included our annual year end field trip to Governor's Island as well as a Cool Culture family visit to The Train Show.

All HMH families have Cool Culture cards which provide individual and family access to over 90 museums, zoos and other cultural institutions throughout New York City.

Library Time. We have an onsite library with books and learning materials for the children and parents to borrow to enhance home literacy practices.

Parent engagement is also an integral part of our programming during the school days. Families are encouraged to join in classroom activities and special projects



## Preparing Children for Kindergarten School Readiness

The agency's Education team has developed School Readiness Goals with the support of our DOE UPK consultants. The school readiness goals guide the curriculum to ensure all students are prepared to enter school ready to learn. We realize that that an integral part of this preparation is getting families ready for the transition we therefore invite staff from the NYC Department of Education to meet with our families to discuss transition, registration and preparation for beginning kindergarten. Our staff also meet with families individually to assist with this process.



## Community Partnerships

Hamilton-Madison early childhood programs have many community partnerships to support the needs of our children and families. Interviews with parents and caregivers often lead us to encourage them to take advantage of other Hamilton-Madison Services. We service a diverse population of family make up and many of our parents are not English language proficient. The Community Partners presented below work with our staff children and families to cope with literacy challenges and stressors related to trauma induced environments.

- Columbia University School of Social Work placed four multilingual interns at our site to work with the Family Workers. Under the supervision of our Family Engagement Team, the Masters level students worked intensely with the families to make them aware of the many local resources available to support their journeys to success. Our Team succeeded in setting SMART goals with each family in hopes of impacting the trajectory of their future.
- Hunter College provides our sites hearing and vision screening. We also host graduate students from Hunter's Speech & Hearing Department who with our children who are English Language Learners on language development.



- New York Presbyterian's Early Childhood Direction Center worked with Hamilton Madison throughout the year to provide training and coaching for teachers and staff on working with children and families who live in traumatic environments. The sessions included strategies for classroom management and presented various methods of repositioning staff thought process when approaching stressful situations with children and adults.
- Northside Center for Child Development's Early Childhood Treatment Center provides us with onsite services for our children 2 full days per week. Funded through the ThriveNYC initiative, this program offers play therapy in our classrooms and child-parent psychotherapy services per request for our children and their caregivers/siblings under 5 years old. This service meets a critical need for Chinese speaking early childhood therapists. Northside is also a conduit for information on free cultural activities for children and families living in poverty.
- Pace University's Jumpstart program does literacy activities with our children at several locations several times a week. The college students prepare literacy lessons and bring in materials to share with our four-year-old classrooms.
- Borough of Manhattan Community College is a longtime partner of Hamilton-Madison House. For over 30 years BMCC has provided ESOL classes to community residents. Our early childhood families are encouraged to enroll in classes which are held in Hamilton-Madison's Community Center located at 50 Madison Street. Many of our families have strengthening their English language skills to support their child's learning experiences as part of their Family Partnership Agreements.
- Community Financial Resources works with families to promote good financial habits for low to moderate income households. Their curriculum they provide for our families help us to build the capacity for better financial capabilities. (see Economic Security on pg. 10)

## Family Child Care Network Highlight

This year we restructured our Family Child Care Network. The program now has a Coordinator, an Enrollment Specialist, and two Home Visitors; one to focus on regulatory compliance and one to support Providers with child development components.

One of our Providers was recognized for excellence at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Provider Appreciation Ceremony. The award was presented on May 11 a city-wide reception hosted by United Federation for Teachers. Juanita Chandler has been a provider with our network since February 2014.



## ***Research***

As research is imperative to ensure we are using best practices, our program has teamed with a research team at New York University Steinhart School to participate in a new study on how preschoolers' early learning and self-regulation skills support school readiness. The researchers had the children play fun touch-screen games which helped them learn about children's early attention, problem solving, and learning. The parents filled out a family questionnaire to collect additional data and each family received a gift card for their participation.

## ***Employment Pathways for Families***

This year we had two of our parents join the Hamilton-Madison House Early Childhood staff. Both are parents are English Language Learners who took advantage of the Child Care Credential course offered by ACS.

## ***Health and Well-Being***

Partnering with the Family Resource Center of Lower Manhattan two cycles of parents completed an 8-week series to support their emotional health and well-being as caregivers. The purpose of the group was to share and learn ways to better understand and respond to their child's emotional needs, help their child manage his or her feelings and behaviors, Help build a stronger relationship with their children and support their child's growth and development so they live up to their potential. The session met the goal of providing families with strategies to better support their children but also created a strong peer group that continues to thrive by providing peer support to one another.

## ***Social Capital***

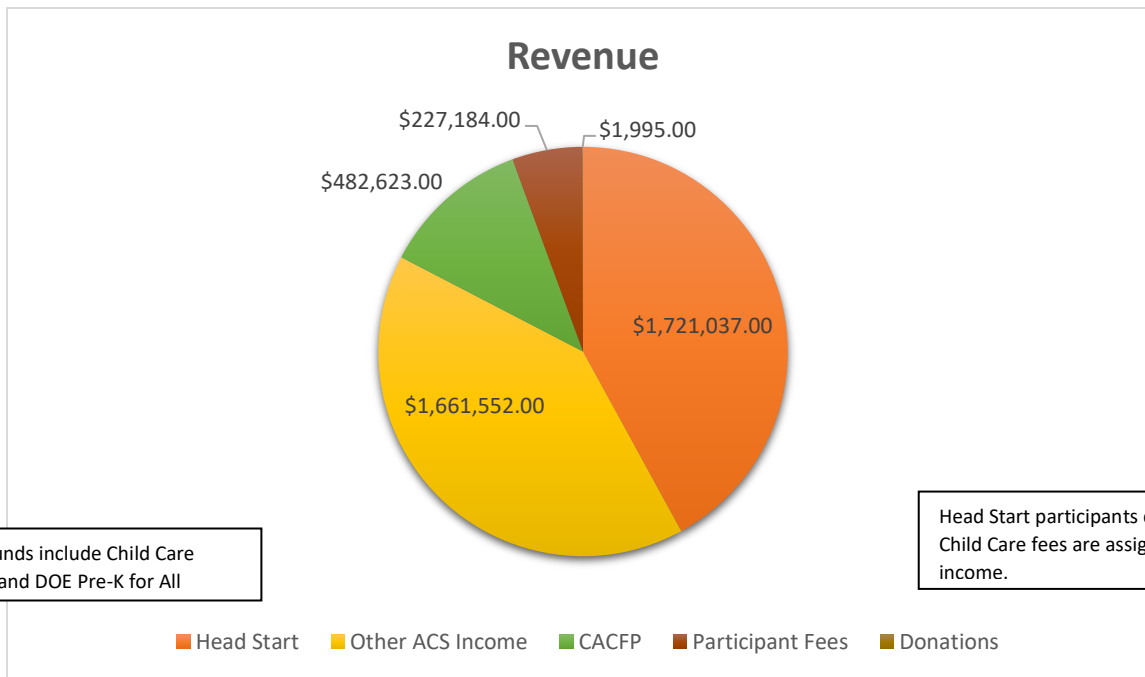
Many of our families have limited English language proficiency which limits their capacity to move outside of their communities with confidence. Through the aforementioned and other family activities our parents are increasingly taking advantage of resources in the community to enhance upward mobility. We have had groups of families enroll in ESOL, and computers classes to acquire basic skills to employed in jobs that pay more for livable wages.

## ***Economic Security***

In effort to begin Two Generation practices in our early childhood programs we began a Child Savings Program. With a scripted curriculum designed by CFR we adapted the learning to meet the needs and interests of the families we serve. Families enjoyed learning new strategies for child savings including children earning through mastering everyday chores. Children were given piggy banks and books about savings to assist with home learning.



## 2017-18 Financials



Hamilton-Madison House is a multi-funded early care and education program. In addition to the public funds ( Block Grant and Head Start) allocated through Agency for Children Services we receive a small percentage of private donations and many in-kind services. For more information on Hamilton-Madison House financials visit: <http://www.hamiltonmadisonhouse.org/financials-1.html>

