



**PEACE, Inc.**  
**Community Needs Assessment**

**October 11, 2016**

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## I. Introduction

***Helping people in the community realize  
their potential for becoming self-sufficient.***

*- PEACE, Inc. Mission Statement*

Incorporated in 1968, PEACE, Inc. (People's Equal Action and Community Effort, Inc.) is a non-profit community-based organization that helps individuals and families in Onondaga County, New York become self-sufficient through a variety of programs and services. "PEACE, Inc. believes in the strength of the human spirit and is dedicated to changing lives by teaching people how to help themselves and support those around them," according to the PEACE, Inc. website. "To this end, PEACE, Inc. provides a continuum of services for the entire family from infants to the elderly. The majority of individuals we serve have incomes placing them at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines."<sup>1</sup>

"PEACE, Inc. offers programming and training to provide our families with the necessary tools and skills to move from poverty to self-sufficiency."<sup>2</sup> To this end, PEACE, Inc. serves more than 10,000 people every year. In 2015, 12,875 received services from PEACE, Inc. Twelve percent of those recipients were under age 6, 8% were 6-11 years old, 44% were 18-54, and 35% were over 55. Seven percent of people served identified as Hispanic/Latino. Racially, customers identified themselves as 57% White, 32% Black or African American, 2% Asian, 1% American Indian and Alaska Native, 3% multiracial, and 5% Other. More than 14% of program participants were disabled. Twenty-three percent owned their own homes, 3% were homeless, 72% were renters, and 3% described their housing situation as Other. 98% of PEACE, Inc.'s customers had incomes below 150% of the poverty level, and 60% had incomes below 100% of the poverty level.<sup>3</sup>

The programs offered by PEACE, Inc. include:

- Assisted Home Performance with Energy Star
- Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS)
- Early Head Start
- EISEP (Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program)
- EITC You've Earned It! (Earned Income Tax Credit/free tax preparation program)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.peace-caa.org/about-us/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.peace-caa.org/about-us/>

<sup>3</sup> Adapted from PEACE, Inc. internal records.

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- EmPower NY
- Energy and Housing Services
- F.I.S.H.
- (Six) Family Resource Centers (FRC)
- Food Pantries
- Foster Grandparents
- Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center
- Head Start
- Multifamily Building Performance
- Neighborhood Advisor Program
- Senior Nutrition Program
- Transportation Services
- Weatherization Assistance Program

As a recipient of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding, PEACE, Inc. is required to complete a community needs assessment every three years. Similarly, for Head Start /Early Head Start (HS/EHS), PEACE, Inc. is required to complete a full community needs assessment every three years, with updates in each of two intervening years. Both assessments must be used to ensure that agency programs and practices meet the needs of the community served.

Apter & O'Connor was engaged in June 2016 by PEACE, Inc. to conduct its current community needs assessment, which provides a comprehensive look at life in Onondaga County and will be used to realign PEACE, Inc.'s programs and services with its community's needs to ensure that it is fulfilling its mission. This assessment will inform strategic decisions on programming strategies and priorities.<sup>4</sup>

### Methodology

The research and data collection for this needs assessment was guided by the framework required by both HS/EHS and CSBG. In addition to the efforts from Apter & O'Connor, members of the PEACE, Inc. staff who contributed to this document and collected many of the data elements included Carolyn Brown, Rebecca Heberle, Melissa Hidek, Mary Beth Welch, Rachael Purtell, and Molly Reff.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.peace-caa.org/about-us/financials/>

Numerous sources were consulted including national, state and local databases, state and county government reports, and other community agency data. Opinions and perceptions were also collected from stakeholder groups including community partners, PEACE Inc. staff, participants and volunteers at the Family Resource Centers, and the HS/EHS Policy Council. In addition, PEACE, Inc. staff compiled a list of community resources and services, which can be found in Appendix D.

On the Head Start side, Head Start Performance Standard 1305.3 requires each Head Start program to conduct a community needs assessment of its service area every three years.<sup>5</sup> In line with that standard this assessment includes the collection and analysis of data to address:

1. The demographic make-up of Head Start-eligible pregnant women, children and families, including the estimated number, geographic location, and racial and ethnic composition.
2. Other child development and child care programs that serve Head Start-eligible children, including publicly-funded state and local preschool programs, and the approximate number of Head Start-eligible children served by each program.
3. The estimated number of children with disabilities four years old or younger, including types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies.
4. Data regarding the education, health, nutrition and social service needs of Head Start eligible pregnant women, children and their families.
5. The education, health, nutrition and social service needs of Head Start eligible pregnant women, children and their families as defined by families of Head Start eligible children and by institutions in the community that serve young children.
6. Resources in the community that could be used to address the needs of Head Start-eligible pregnant women, children and families, including assessments of the resources' availability and accessibility.

The CSBG requires each agency to conduct regular comprehensive community assessments that take into account the breadth of community needs as well as the partners and resources available in a community to meet these needs. Regular assessment of needs and resources at the community level is the foundation of Community Action and a vital management and leadership tool used across the organization and by the community to set the course for both CSBG and all agency resources. The following standards govern the community needs assessment:

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<sup>5</sup> This section is reprinted from the original proposal request issued by PEACE, Inc.

Standard 3.1 - The organization conducted a community needs assessment and issued a report within the past 3 years.

Standard 3.2 - As part of the community assessment, the organization collects and includes current data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age, and race/ethnicity for their service area(s).

Standard 3.3 - The organization collects and analyzes both qualitative and quantitative data on its geographic service area(s) in the community assessment.

Standard 3.4 - The community assessment includes key findings on the causes and conditions of poverty and the needs of the communities assessed.

Standard 3.5 - The governing board formally accepts the completed community assessment.

As noted, data sources consulted for this report included numerous federal, state and local databases and statistical reporting systems. Applicable local measures were compared with regional, state or national benchmarks to provide context for interpretation of findings. In addition, comparisons were made to the previous community needs assessment report conducted by Apter & O'Connor in June 2011. Sources consulted included:

- 211cny.com, maintained by Contact Community Services, Inc.
- Affordable Housing Online: <http://affordablehousingonline.com/>
- Association of Health Care Journalists
- Center for Community Alternatives
- Child Care Center US
- Child Care Solutions
- CNY Fair Housing, Inc.
- CNY Works, Inc.
- Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan 2014-2017
- Food Bank of Central New York
- HealthGrove
- Housing and Homeless Coalition of Syracuse and Onondaga County
- Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse (KWIC), developed by the New York State Council on Children and Families
- Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County
- New York State Department of Health
- New York State Education Department
- New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
- New York State Office of Children and Family Services

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance
- Onondaga Citizens League
- Onondaga County Health Department
- Onondaga County ongov.net
- PEACE, Inc.
- Syracuse Post Standard
- The Century Foundation
- United Way of Central New York
- US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
- US Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Vera House

Stakeholder input was collected through focus groups and surveys with key informants. These included:

- A survey of all staff distributed in July 2016 administered by the staff of PEACE, Inc. for perception of strengths, challenges, and needed services (100 respondents)
- A survey of community partners in July 2016 administered by the staff of PEACE, Inc. for perception of strengths, challenges, and needed services (156 respondents)
- Focused group discussion with participants in the Senior Nutrition program at the Eastside Family Resource Center (13 participants)
- Focused group discussion with mothers who are also members of the Head Start Policy Council, conducted at the Sumner Head Start location (6 participants)
- Focused group discussion with volunteers at the Emma L. Johnston Family Resource Center (6 participants)

### Organization of this Report

The report begins a community profile published by the county administration, followed by a list of Key Findings from the research. Next is an overview of the demographic make-up of Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse with an emphasis on key elements related to families who meet the Federal Poverty Guidelines. This is followed by details of each data element, as itemized in the original request for proposal, on poverty, household income, employment and economic opportunity, transportation, education, disabilities, children and youth, substance abuse and mental health, violence and crime, seniors, and public health. Each section, where applicable, includes summaries of themes that emerged from informed stakeholders. Key community assets and unique resources designed to meet the needs of adults, families and children that might be eligible for PEACE, Inc. programs and services were researched and compiled by the staff of PEACE, Inc. and are included in Appendix D.

## Community Profile

The Onondaga County administration published the following description of the county:

“Located in the center of New York State, Onondaga County is home to the City of Syracuse. [The county is] within 350 miles of all major cities in the Northeast, conveniently situated at the intersection of Interstate Highways 81 and 90 (NYS Thruway). Local Amtrak and Greyhound terminals are located in [the] new Regional Transportation Center. Arriving by air brings you in to the newly remodeled Hancock International Airport, while the New York State Barge Canal System provides local connection by boat to the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. The County of Onondaga is located in the central New York region, has a land area of 793.5 square miles and is approximately 35 miles in length and 30 miles in width. The County is governed under a home rule charter, which provides for the separation of the executive and legislative functions. This charter was approved by voter referendum in 1961...The City of Syracuse is situated in the approximate center of the County and serves as the focus for commercial and business activities.”<sup>6</sup>

“Onondaga County was established in 1794 and is comprised of separate municipalities, which include one city, 19 towns and 15 villages. The Onondaga [Nation] is also located in the County, near the towns of Onondaga and LaFayette... Onondaga County is located on the eastern side of the Finger Lake Region. The County is bordered by Cayuga County to the west, Oswego County to the north, Madison County to the east and Cortland County to the south... Land use in Onondaga County is influenced by natural resources, topographic constraints, water lines, sewers, and roads. The County has a relatively compact development pattern and is made up of rural, suburban and urban areas. Land development has followed a pattern of decentralization that has existed for the past several decades, leading to expansion in the suburban areas and mixed pattern of stability, decline, and redevelopment in Syracuse... Manufacturing has declined while institutional and government uses have increased. Retail uses have seen many changes in the relative strength of various malls and commercial areas. Office uses along with other service activities have increased, primarily in suburban locations. Agriculture remains a large land use; however, the number of farms and the number employees is decreasing.”<sup>7</sup>

Many of the programs provided by PEACE, Inc. are offered within the City of Syracuse due to the relative concentration of poverty in the city, as noted by Paul Jargowsky’s in his research entitled “Concentration of Poverty in the New Millennium: Changes in the Prevalence, Composition, and

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.ongov.net/about/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.ongov.net/planning/haz/documents/Section4-CountyProfile.pdf>

Location of High-Poverty Neighborhoods”. As Jargowsky presented, “a more concentrated residential pattern of the poor will result in more poor adults living in dangerous neighborhoods with less access to information about jobs. More poor children will grow up with fewer employed role models and attend schools that, on average, function at far lower levels than those of the middle class. Physical and mental health of the poor will also suffer”<sup>8</sup>

Another report by Paul Jargowsky called "The Architecture of Segregation" determined that “Syracuse now has the highest level of poverty concentration among Blacks and Hispanics of the nation's 100 largest metropolitan areas”.<sup>9</sup> According to Jargowsky’s research, based on the 2009 census data, 65.2% of Blacks and 62.2% Hispanic were living in high-poverty neighborhoods. With these figures, Syracuse faces enormous challenges in moving more people to self-sufficiency, to desegregate neighborhoods and to ensure equitable access to opportunity. Syracuse’s rates even outpace those of our larger Upstate cities: Rochester (51.5% for Blacks and 45.7% for Hispanics) and Buffalo (46.4% for Blacks and 41.6% for Hispanics). In Syracuse, 35% percent of all people and one of every two children live below the federal poverty income level, which was \$23,850 for a family of four in 2014.

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<sup>8</sup> [https://tcf.org/assets/downloads/Concentration\\_of\\_Poverty\\_in\\_the\\_New\\_Millennium.pdf](https://tcf.org/assets/downloads/Concentration_of_Poverty_in_the_New_Millennium.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> <http://jargowsky.camden.rutgers.edu/2015/08/14/architecture-of-segregation/>

## II. Key Findings

The following list of findings from this research were identified by PEACE, Inc. management staff as particularly important and relevant for program planning:

- 34.1 % of elementary school students in Onondaga County are overweight or obese as are 36% of middle school students. See page 96.
- The need for greater cooperation with law enforcement to address violence and safety concerns was identified by focus group participants. See Appendix A.
- The need for programs to prepare people for the jobs available in our community through mentoring, education and training was identified by focus group participants. See Appendix A.
- The need for strong male role models for children was identified by focus group participants. See Appendix A.
- The number of grandparents with primary responsibility for their own grandchildren increased in both Onondaga County (9%) and the City of Syracuse (4.1%). See page 38.
- In the City of Syracuse 14.6% of the residents speak English less than “very well” and 11.9% of the 21,000 students in the Syracuse City School District are English Language Learners. See page 45.
- In Onondaga County, 17.4% of women smoked while pregnant, and 5% reported using illegal drugs while pregnant. In Syracuse, 24.3% of women smoked while pregnant, and 8.8% reported using illegal drugs while pregnant. In Onondaga County, 2.48% of newborns were hospitalized for drug-related issues, which is the second highest rate in New York State. See page 95.

### III. Executive Summary and Data Overview

*In this section, key points from the data are highlighted in Gold colored boxes.*

#### Age Structure

*There are relatively more seniors in the county than in Syracuse. There are relatively more young children in Syracuse than the rest of the county.*

*Since 2009, the number of school-age children has decreased in both the county and in Syracuse.*

Onondaga County has a somewhat older age structure than New York State and the nation, while Syracuse has a somewhat younger structure. The county has about 15% of its population over the age of 65 years, while Syracuse only has about 10% over 65. Furthermore, the county as a whole has fewer children under age 5, with less than 6% of the population in this age group. Syracuse has a higher

percentage, with over 7% under age 5. Syracuse also has a higher percentage of children under 3 years old (over 4%) than the county, state, or nation.

There are slightly more females than males in both Onondaga County and Syracuse, and the ratios are slightly higher than New York State and the United States in general.

Since 2009, both the county and city populations have increased by a little over 3% each. During this time, though, the county has seen a greater increase in people over 65 and a decrease in the number of children under 5 years old. Conversely, in Syracuse the growth rates have been in the opposite directions – Syracuse has seen a decrease in the percent of seniors and an increase in the percent of young children. For school-age children between 6 and 17 years old, the numbers have decreased by about 3% in the county and 5% in Syracuse.

The sex ratio has also been decreasing. While there are still more females than males in the county, the difference is much smaller now than it was five years ago.

#### Racial and Ethnic Composition

*There are relatively more Blacks and Hispanics in Syracuse than the rest of the county. The White populations are decreasing in both the county and Syracuse.*

About 80% of the residents in Onondaga County are Caucasians, which is well above the percent in New York State and the US. Blacks make up a little over 10% of the county population and Hispanics comprise just under

5%. Both of these percentages are below the state and national rates.

However, in the City of Syracuse, while Whites are still the majority, the percentages of Blacks and Hispanics are much larger. Almost one-third of the city's population are Blacks, and just under 10% of those in the city are Hispanic. The percent of Blacks in the city is substantially above the rates for the state and nation.

Since 2009, the number of Whites in the county decreased by about 3% percentage points, and decreased in the city by almost 6 percentage points. Concurrently, the number of Blacks, Asians, and Hispanics increased significantly in both the county and city.

## Family Structure

### *Households*

*There are relatively more female-only headed households in Syracuse, especially with children under 5 years old, and the number is increasing. The number of married couples and male-only headed households are decreasing.*

*The number of households with children decreased in the county and in Syracuse.*

*The number of households with seniors increased significantly in the county.*

Of all the households in the City of Syracuse, about half are comprised of families. This figure is much less than the percent of family households in Onondaga County, as well as the state and nation. Married couples make up about half of the households in the county, while less than one-third of the households in the city are married couples. Furthermore, in Syracuse less than one in ten households are married couples with their own children.

Very few households with children are headed by males only, with considerably more headed by females only. Additionally, more of the female-only headed households are in the city than in the county as a whole.

Since the 2011 Community Needs Assessment, there has been a slight increase in the number of households in the county and a slight decrease in Syracuse. Given that the total populations for both the county and the city have increased, it implies more people are living together within the city – more people are forming fewer households. The past 5 years have also seen a significant decrease in the number of married-couple families and households with children headed by males alone, both in the county and in Syracuse.

The number of households with children under 18 also decreased in the county and in Syracuse. Conversely, the number of households with seniors over 65 increased significantly in the county.

### *Marital Status*

*Fewer adults are married in Syracuse than in the rest of the county.*

In Syracuse, less than one-third of the males are married, and about one in ten are divorced. In the county, just under half the males are married. For female residents of Onondaga County, the number married is just under that for males, while the number divorced is just above the number of divorced males. In the City of Syracuse, even fewer women are married.

At least part of the difference in County versus Syracuse marriage rates may be attributed to the large population of unmarried college and university students concentrated in the City of Syracuse.

Since 2009, for females, the percent who are married stayed roughly the same in the county, but decreased slightly in Syracuse. However, the percent of men who are divorced or separated increased dramatically in both the county and city. In the City of Syracuse, the percent separated increased significantly, but the percent divorced actually decreased by a small amount.

### *Birth Rates*

*Births to unmarried women are higher in the county and city than the state and nation. Syracuse has more births to teen mothers.*

Almost half of the births in Onondaga County are to unmarried women, while more than two-thirds of births in Syracuse are to unmarried women. These percentages are dramatically higher than the corresponding ones for New York State and the US, and have been increasing in both the county and the city over the past five years.

A little more than 2% of the births in the county are to teenage mothers, which is a slightly higher rate than the whole state. However, the rate in Syracuse is much higher – ranging from less than 1% to over 10%, depending on the location within the city.

### *Grandparenting*

*Grandparents in Onondaga County have primary responsibility for their grandchildren at considerably greater rates than New York State and the US, especially in Syracuse.*

More than 7,000 grandparents in Onondaga County live with their own grandchildren, and about half of them are within the City of Syracuse. Of those, slightly less than half have primary responsibility for these children. These rates are considerably greater than comparable rates for New York State and the United States, and have been increasing this 2009.

## Families and Children under Age 5

*Many young children live in single-parent households, headed by a single female – more in Syracuse than in the county.*

As stated above, there are more children under five years of age in Syracuse than in the county as a whole. In the county, about one-third of the county children live in single parent homes, and about one-quarter live in female-headed households with no husband present. In Syracuse, almost two-thirds of the children live in single parent households and more than half are in female-only headed homes.

Over one-third of all Onondaga County residents under age five live in the City of Syracuse. The second largest concentration of infants and young children occurs in the town of Clay, where a little more than 10% reside.

*Young children in Syracuse are predominantly Black, and the percentage is increasing.*

About two-thirds all the county's young children are White, just under 20% are Black, and just under 10% are Hispanic. In Syracuse, however, slightly less than one-third of young children are White, while almost half are Black, and a little more than 10% are Hispanic.

Since 2009, the number of children under five years old living with married couples or male headed households has decreased significantly in Onondaga County. In Syracuse, the number of children under 3 years old living with married couples or male headed households has also decreased, but the corresponding number of children between 3 and 4 years old has increased. In all cases, the number of children living with a female head of household has increased – for both age groups and for the county and city. Within the City of Syracuse, a distinct increase in the percentage of children from minorities is apparent.

## Foreign Born Residents

*There are relatively more foreign born residents in Syracuse than the rest of the county, but less than the state.*

Compared to NYS and to the US, Onondaga County residents are less likely to be linguistically isolated, with only about 10% of households speaking a language other than English and less than 5% speaking English less than “very well.” As with other foreign born statistics, Syracuse residents are more likely to be linguistically challenged than County residents, with almost one in five households speaking a language other than English.

## Educational Attainment

*Relatively fewer Syracuse students graduate from high school than across the county. Graduation rates are even lower for Blacks and Hispanics.*

Of all high school students in the Onondaga County, 80% graduate. Across the county, 62% of the Black high school students graduate, while 57% of the Hispanic students graduate. In Syracuse, 55% of all the high school students graduate, with 54% of the Black students and 44% of the Hispanic students graduating.

Less than one in ten Onondaga County adults did not receive a high school diploma or equivalency. In contrast, almost one in five Syracuse city residents did not graduate from high school. About one-third of the Onondaga County population and about one-quarter of the Syracuse population have at least a bachelor's degree.

However, about one in four Blacks and Hispanics did not graduate from high school in both the county and in Syracuse (for Hispanics in the city, the percentage is actually closer to one in three). These rates for Blacks are lower than the figures for New York State and the nation.

## Poverty

### *Prevalence of Poverty*

*Relatively more Syracuse residents live in poverty than in the county, especially with children living in female-headed households. Poverty rate has also been increasing in the county and in Syracuse.*

According to a recent article in the Syracuse Post Standard, Syracuse “ranks as the 29<sup>th</sup> poorest [city] in American.”<sup>10</sup> As described by Paul Jargowsky, poverty continues to be a concern within Syracuse due to the “concentration of poverty”<sup>11</sup> and its sustained effect on successive generations of residents.

About one in six people living in Onondaga County families have incomes below the poverty level established by the federal government. For the City of Syracuse, about one third of the families and individuals are living below the federal poverty level. The county rate is slightly below the state and national rates. However, the rates for Syracuse are significantly higher than the rates for the state and nation.

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<sup>10</sup> Syracuse Post Standard:

[http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2016/09/syracuses\\_poverty\\_rate\\_remains\\_among\\_worst\\_in\\_nation\\_census\\_finds.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2016/09/syracuses_poverty_rate_remains_among_worst_in_nation_census_finds.html)

<sup>11</sup> [https://tcf.org/assets/downloads/Concentration\\_of\\_Poverty\\_in\\_the\\_New\\_Millennium.pdf](https://tcf.org/assets/downloads/Concentration_of_Poverty_in_the_New_Millennium.pdf)

In Onondaga County, a little more than one in six children under 18 are living in poverty, which is comparable to the state and nation. However, in Syracuse almost half the total number of children in the city are in households whose income falls below the poverty level.

Of those children in poverty living in Syracuse, more than one third are in households with a female head and no husband present. While this household configuration represents the greatest percentage of children in poverty for all geographies, the rates in the county, state, and nation are less than that of Syracuse.

Another indicator of poverty is the percent of students receiving free or reduced price lunch at school. This varies by school district, with a far greater percentage of students in the Syracuse City School District receiving free or reduced price lunch compared to the surrounding suburban school districts.

Since 2009, Onondaga County, New York State, and the United States have all seen an increase in the percentage of families and people who are living below the federal poverty level. For the county, the percent of families increased by slightly less than the state and nation. However, the City of Syracuse has seen a substantially greater increase in the percent of families and people living in poverty, when compared to the county, state, and nation.

### *Unemployment*

*Unemployment rate is much higher for Blacks and Hispanics than for Whites, in both the county and in Syracuse. Unemployment rates for everyone have been increasing.*

The unemployment rate in Onondaga County is slightly less than the state and nation, but the rate in Syracuse is higher. The most notable difference in unemployment rates between the county and the city is among those who are 16 to 19 years old, with the second most difference being among those who are 45 to 54 years old.

In the county and city, the unemployment rate for Whites is less than half the rates for Blacks and Hispanics.

As reported in the 2011 Community Needs Assessment, unemployment rates have been increasing since 2008, and have continued to increase across all relevant geographies.

*Income*

*Income in Syracuse is much less than for the county, especially for Blacks and Hispanics, although it is increasing for these minority groups.*

The median income for families in Syracuse is much lower than for the rest of the county, and both are lower than the medians for the state and nation. Per capita income in the city is only about two-thirds of the county amount, and only about one-third of the city families have incomes between \$50,000 and \$150,000.

The economic situation for some racial and ethnic minorities in Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse is less favorable than the population in general, with the disparity significantly greater in the city. Per capita income for African American residents of Onondaga County is just over half of the overall average. In Syracuse, per capita income for African Americans is lower still, but given the high percentage of Blacks in the city, it is just under three-quarters of the overall average. Furthermore, per capita income for Onondaga and Syracuse city African American residents is well below both the New York State and US rates. The per capita income for Hispanic residents of Onondaga County is just over half of the overall rate, and per capita income for Hispanic Syracuse city residents is even lower. For Hispanics, both of these rates are considerably less than the comparable rates for New York State the US.

For Blacks and Hispanics, however, per capita income rose between 2009 and 2014 by more than the county and city populations in general.

*Public Assistance*

*Relatively more Syracuse residents receive public assistance than the county, state, or nation.*

About one in twenty households in the county and about one in ten households in the city receive Supplemental Security Income each year. A little less than one in six households in the county receive SNAP benefits, while almost one third of the city households receive these benefits. Over 10,000 participants were served by the WIC program in Onondaga County. The county figures are comparable to the state and nation, while the percent of the population in Syracuse that receive public assistance is significantly higher.

### Homelessness

*Most homeless people in the area are female and/or Black. The number of homeless children is decreasing.*

Of the homeless households in the county with at least one adult and one child, almost two-thirds were female headed, and almost two-thirds were Black. Since 2011, the number of homeless individuals increased, however the composition of the homeless households has shifted dramatically to those without children. The number of homeless children decreased substantially, while the number of families more than tripled.

### Senior Citizens

*There are more female seniors living alone than males. Relatively more seniors in Syracuse received public assistance than in the county.*

About one-third of the seniors over 65 in the county live alone, with about two-thirds of those being females. In Syracuse, the percent of seniors living alone is slightly higher, with again about two-thirds being females. These figures are higher than the state and national averages.

In Onondaga County, less than one in 10 seniors live in poverty, while about one in six live in poverty in Syracuse. The county level is below that of the state and the nation, while the Syracuse level is higher than the others. About twice as many seniors in the city receive some form of public assistance, compared to the county.

### School Enrollment

*Since 2009, enrollment across the county in all grades decreased considerably.*

*Since 2009, enrollment in the Syracuse City School District remained relatively stable.*

For non-college students, the past five years saw decreases in enrollment levels for all grades and at most school districts. For the county as a whole, school enrollment decreased by over 5% due to the decrease in population of school-age children. The largest decrease was in Grade 4, which had more than a 12% decrease. Pre-K enrollment decreased by over 5%. The districts with the greatest decreases were Fabius-Pompey (about 20%), Tully (about 18%), and Skaneateles (15%). Enrollment in the Syracuse City School District remained relatively stable.

*Many students in prekindergarten are economically disadvantaged and/or have disabilities.*

Almost half of the children in public school Pre-K programs are White, while Blacks make up just under one-third of the total. Furthermore, almost half of all children in public school Pre-K programs are economically disadvantaged, and almost one-quarter are students with disabilities.

### Child Well-Being and Poverty

*Almost half of all children in Syracuse live in poverty.*

*Many children receive SNAP benefits, and even more receive free or reduced lunch.*

*The county has relatively more children in foster care than in the state.*

The percent of children in Onondaga County living below the poverty threshold is slightly more than the state rate. However, almost half of all children in Syracuse live in poverty. In addition, about one-quarter of all county children receive SNAP benefits and just under half receive free or reduced-price lunches. All these figures increased somewhat in the county within the past several years.

In 2015, there were 264 children admitted to foster care in the county, which was slightly less than the figure for 2014 but significantly more than in 2010.

### Children with Disabilities

*There are more children with disabilities in Syracuse than the rest of the county. Liverpool, Baldwinsville, and North Syracuse also have significant numbers of preschool children with disabilities.*

In 2014, almost 700 children in Onondaga County participated in Early Intervention services designed for children with disabilities from birth to age 3. During the summer months (July and August), over 1400 children ages 3 to 5 attended Preschool Special Education Program, and almost 2000 received these services

during the school year. These figures are comparable to the preceding two years. Syracuse City School District had 410 preschool students with disabilities. Outside the City of Syracuse, the districts with the next largest numbers of preschool children with disabilities were North Syracuse (206), Liverpool (100), and Baldwinsville (95). Skaneateles, Tully, Onondaga, and Fabius-Pompey school districts all reported fewer than 10 preschool children with disabilities.

*Syracuse, Liverpool, and North Syracuse school districts have significant numbers of school-age children with disabilities.*

*LaFayette, Lyncourt, Syracuse, and Liverpool have the highest percentage of students with disabilities.*

For all school-age children, Syracuse had almost 4,000 students with disabilities in the 2014-2015 school year, while Liverpool and North Syracuse each had over 1,000. The school districts with the greatest percentage of children with disabilities were LaFayette, Lyncourt, Syracuse, and Liverpool, each with between 15 and 20 percent of their student body reported to have disabilities.

*Learning Disability, followed by Speech or Language Impairment and Autism are the most prevalent category of disability among children under 5. For older children between ages 5 and 17, the numbers are significantly higher.*

During the 2014-2015 school year, the largest reported type of disability for children under 5 was Learning Disability, followed by Speech or Language Impairment and Autism. Visual and hearing impairment, as well as brain injury, are not prevalent within Onondaga County. For older children

between the ages of 5 and 17, the numbers are significantly higher, in part due to the broadening of the census disability types to include cognitive, ambulatory, and self-care difficulty. About half of the county children with disabilities live in Syracuse. The percentages of children with disabilities for the county and city are both higher than those for New York and the nation.

### Child Care Costs

*Child care costs are higher in Onondaga County than the rest of Central NY or the state.*

Families in Onondaga County pay among the highest rates in the state for child care – about \$1000 more per year than the NY average. The average cost of care for an infant in the county is almost \$13,000 a year, while

the annual cost for children 6 to 12 years old averages a little over \$10,000. These costs are considerably higher than the costs in other counties within Central New York.

## Health

### *During Pregnancies*

*Many women smoke while pregnant. Relatively more women in Syracuse than in the county use illegal drugs during pregnancy. Relatively more newborns are hospitalized in the county for drug-related issues than for the rest of the state.*

Less than 1% of Onondaga County women report using alcohol during their pregnancies, while slightly more of Syracuse women report using alcohol while pregnant. Almost one in five women in the county smoked while pregnant, and almost one-quarter of the women in Syracuse smoked while pregnant. In Onondaga County, 5% of the women report using illegal drugs while pregnant, and just under 10% of the women in Syracuse report the

same. About one in 50 newborns were hospitalized for drug-related issues in Onondaga County, which is more than three times as high as the New York State rate.

In 2014, 86.7% of pregnant women in Onondaga County received prenatal care. The infant mortality rate, as reported in the Onondaga County Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan 2014-2017, was 6.4 per 1,000 live births in the county.

### *Smoking*

*Smoking is slightly more prevalent in Onondaga County than the rest of the state, and slightly less than the US.*

Almost 20% of the adults in the county smoke. This rate is slightly greater than the state as a whole, but slightly less than the nation. 13% of teenagers in grades 7, 9, and 11 reported having ever smoked.

### *Childhood Health*

*Many children in Onondaga County are overweight or obese.*

As of July 2015, almost one-third of all school-age children in Onondaga County are overweight or obese. 25 out of each 10,000 children under age 5 were hospitalized for

asthma between 2008-2010.

### *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*

*AIDS is not as prevalent in the county as in the state, but Gonorrhea and Chlamydia are more prevalent in the county than the state.*

AIDS mortality rate is lower for Onondaga County than for New York State. Gonorrhea and Chlamydia case rates are higher for Onondaga County than for the state in most reported age categories and for both genders. Early syphilis case rate is less for the county than the rate for New York State.

### *Drugs*

*Deaths related to heroin and prescription opioids are increasing in Onondaga County.*

44 deaths were related to heroin in 2015, and 28 have already been reported in the first half of 2016. In addition, 52 deaths in 2015 were related to prescription opioids, and 30 such deaths were already reported through June of 2016. About 1.5% of the population of Syracuse were admitted to drug rehabilitation facilities in 2012. This represents a significant increase over the past five years. About one-third of those were for alcohol treatment and about 20% were for heroin addiction.

### *Violence and Crimes*

#### *Child Abuse and Maltreatment*

*Relatively more cases of child abuse are reported in Onondaga County than the rest of the state. This rate has also been increasing.*

Almost 2000 cases of abuse or maltreatment of children ages birth through 17 were reported in Onondaga County in 2014, which represents a higher rate than for New York State. It is also about an 8% increase since 2010.

#### *Domestic Violence*

*Relatively more cases of Domestic Violence are reported in Syracuse than the rest of the county.*

Law enforcement officials answered more than 16,000 domestic calls in 2014, over half of which were in the City of Syracuse. There were over 2,000 arrests of domestic violence perpetrators, nearly two-thirds of which were made by the Syracuse Police. According to Vera House, nearly 700 adults and children obtain shelter due to domestic violence annually, and about 25% of homicide victims are women killed by a former or current male partner.

### *Violent and Property Crimes*

*While the number of crimes decreased since 2010, Onondaga County had one of the highest crime rates in New York State (excluding New York City) in 2015:*

- *12<sup>th</sup> for all crimes*
- *8<sup>th</sup> for violent crimes*

In 2015, law enforcement officials reported over 11,000 crimes in Onondaga County, more than half of which were in Syracuse. There were a total of 1,500 reported violent crimes throughout the county, including 24 murders. Of those murders, 22 were in Syracuse.

The number of all reported crimes for Onondaga County in 2015 represents a crime rate of almost 50 crimes per 1000 residents. For violent crimes in the county, the rate is 6.4 per 1000 residents. These figures are higher than those for all of New York State excluding New York City, whose rates are less than 40 for all crimes and less than 5 for violent crimes. The rate for all crimes in Onondaga County is the 12th highest of all counties in New York excluding New York City, and the rate for violent crimes in Onondaga is the 8th highest in the state.

Since 2010, the number of crimes in both Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse have decreased. For all crimes, both the county and city decreased by 11%. For violent crimes, the county total decreased by 6.7%, while Syracuse decreased by 11.5%.

### *Inmates in Onondaga County Facilities*

*Most of those incarcerated are men.*

*Incarcerated juveniles are more prevalent in Syracuse than in the county.*

In Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse, about 85% of those incarcerated are males. In Onondaga County, about 15% of those incarcerated are under 18 years old; while in Syracuse, just under one-third are juveniles.

## IV. Detailed Data Analysis and Demographic Characteristics

*In this section, key points from the data are highlighted in Gold colored boxes.*

*Key points emerging from focus groups and surveys are highlighted in Green colored boxes.*

### Age Structure

15.7% of Onondaga County residents are over age 65, while only 10.9% of the Syracuse residents are over age 65.

The estimated number of residents in Onondaga County, New York is 468,463 (Table 1) for 2015<sup>12</sup> and the average number of residents in the City of Syracuse for 2009-2014 was 144,648. Onondaga County has an older population than New York State and the nation, while Syracuse has a somewhat younger population. The median age of the population in Onondaga County is 38.9 years, slightly older than the median age for New York State (38.3 years) and the nation (37.8 years). Similarly, the percentage of the population over age 65 in Onondaga County (15.7%) is higher than in New York State (15.0%) and the nation (14.9%). Conversely, the median age in Syracuse is 29.7 and the percentage of the population over age 65 is 10.9%, considerably less than the county.

Onondaga County has 242,195 females and 226,268 males (Table 2), while Syracuse has 76,663 females and 67,985 males. The sex ratios for Onondaga County and Syracuse are 1.07 and 1.13, respectively, which are slightly higher than the state and national averages (1.06 and 1.03, respectively). This indicates that there are slightly more females for each male in Onondaga County and in Syracuse than in the state and nation.

The county has 366,598 adults age 18 or older, representing 78.3% of the population. Syracuse has 111,668 adults over age 18, representing 77.2% of the population. These figures are slightly less than the state (78.7%) and slightly more than the nation (77.1%). Almost one third of the Syracuse population is between ages 15 and 29 (31.3%), while the percentages for this age group are considerably less in Onondaga County (21.5%), New York State (21.1%), and the United States (20.7%).

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<sup>12</sup> Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, annual estimates of resident population, and aggregate averaged estimates for survey data collected in 2009 through 2014. These data represent the most recently published values at sub-county geographies for most of the Census-based indicators presented in this document.

7.1% of the Syracuse population is under age 5 – only 5.7% of the county population is under 5.

4.3% of the Syracuse population is under age 3.

The percentage of the Onondaga County population under age 5 (5.7% or 26,662) is lower than for the state and the nation (6.0% and 6.2%, respectively), while the percentage for this age group in Syracuse is considerably higher (7.1% or 10,270). About 16,559 (3.5% of the total population) county residents and 6,233 (4.3%) Syracuse residents are under age 3 (Table 3). The county figures

are comparable to the state’s (3.6%) and the nation’s (3.8%), but Syracuse has a considerably higher percentage of young children. For all four – Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York State and the United States – the ratios of infants and toddlers (under 3) to preschool children (ages 3 and 4) is almost 2:1. Approximately 61% of all those children under age 5 are also under age 3 in the county and city, compared with 58.9% in the state, and 58.3% in the nation.

In Onondaga County, there are 71,320 school-age children (ages 6 to 17), with 20,631 of these in Syracuse (28.9%). For the county, this represents 68.2% of the population, and for Syracuse it is 62.7% of the population. The county percentage is slightly higher than the state (66.8%) and nation (67%), while Syracuse’s percentage is lower.

**Table 1: Age Structure of Population, 2014-2015**

	Onondaga County		City of Syracuse		New York	United States
	2015		2014		2015	2015
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total Population	468,463		144,648			
Under 5 years	26,662	5.7%	10,270	7.1%	6.0%	6.2%
5 to 9 years	27,627	5.9%	9,113	6.3%	5.7%	6.4%
10 to 14 years	28,901	6.2%	8,534	5.9%	5.9%	6.4%
15 to 19 years	34,335	7.3%	15,622	10.8%	6.3%	6.6%
20 to 24 years	34,247	7.3%	17,068	11.8%	7.2%	7.1%
25 to 29 years	32,320	6.9%	12,584	8.7%	7.6%	7.0%
30 to 34 years	29,329	6.3%	9,981	6.9%	7.0%	6.7%
35 to 39 years	26,163	5.6%	7,377	5.1%	6.4%	6.3%
40 to 44 years	26,002	5.6%	7,088	4.9%	6.2%	6.3%
45 to 49 years	30,712	6.6%	7,956	5.5%	6.7%	6.5%
50 to 54 years	34,919	7.5%	8,534	5.9%	7.2%	6.9%
55 to 59 years	34,341	7.3%	8,100	5.6%	6.9%	6.8%
60 to 64 years	29,498	6.3%	6,654	4.6%	5.9%	5.9%
65 to 69 years	23,498	5.0%	4,629	3.2%	4.9%	5.0%
70 to 74 years	16,582	3.5%	3,182	2.2%	3.5%	3.6%

75 to 79 years	11,856	2.5%	2,604	1.8%	2.5%	2.5%
80 to 84 years	9,621	2.1%	2,314	1.6%	1.9%	1.8%
85 years and over	11,850	2.5%	3,182	2.2%	2.2%	2.0%
Under 18 years	101,865	21.7%	32,980	22.8%	21.3%	22.9%
65 years and over	73,407	15.7%	15,767	10.9%	15.0%	14.9%
Median age (years)	38.9		29.7		38.3	37.8

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau: Annual estimates for Onondaga County, New York State, and United States; 5-year average reported in 2014 for City of Syracuse

**Table 2: Sex by Age Group of Population, 2014-2015**

Percent of Total for each Age

Sex by Age	Male				Female			
	Onondaga County	Syracuse	New York	United States	Onondaga County	Syracuse	New York	United States
	2015	2014	2015	2015	2015	2014	2015	2015
Total	48.3%	47.0%	48.6%	49.2%	51.7%	53.0%	51.4%	50.8%
Under 5 years	50.6%	7.6%	51.1%	51.1%	49.4%	6.6%	48.9%	48.9%
5 to 9 years	51.3%	6.5%	51.1%	51.1%	48.7%	6.1%	48.9%	48.9%
10 to 14 years	50.8%	6.4%	51.1%	51.0%	49.2%	5.4%	48.9%	49.0%
15 to 19 years	49.8%	10.8%	50.9%	51.2%	50.2%	10.8%	49.1%	48.8%
20 to 24 years	48.8%	11.5%	50.2%	51.3%	51.2%	12.1%	49.8%	48.7%
25 to 29 years	50.1%	8.8%	50.1%	50.8%	49.9%	8.6%	49.9%	49.2%
30 to 34 years	49.3%	7.2%	49.6%	50.2%	50.7%	6.6%	50.4%	49.8%
35 to 39 years	48.3%	5.2%	49.2%	49.9%	51.7%	5.0%	50.8%	50.1%
40 to 44 years	48.4%	5.1%	49.0%	49.6%	51.6%	4.8%	51.0%	50.4%
45 to 49 years	48.8%	5.5%	48.9%	49.6%	51.2%	5.5%	51.1%	50.4%

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50 to 54 years	48.1%	5.6%	48.5%	49.1%	51.9%	6.2%	51.5%	50.9%
55 to 59 years	48.6%	5.7%	48.2%	48.6%	51.4%	5.5%	51.8%	51.4%
60 to 64 years	48.2%	4.8%	47.4%	47.8%	51.8%	4.5%	52.6%	52.2%
65 to 69 years	46.9%	3.0%	46.3%	47.3%	53.1%	3.4%	53.7%	52.7%
70 to 74 years	45.0%	2.1%	44.5%	46.1%	55.0%	2.3%	55.5%	53.9%
75 to 79 years	43.4%	1.5%	42.6%	44.4%	56.6%	2.0%	57.4%	55.6%
80 to 84 years	40.8%	1.2%	40.1%	41.6%	59.2%	1.9%	59.9%	58.4%
85 years and over	33.9%	1.4%	33.3%	34.6%	66.1%	2.8%	66.7%	65.4%
Under 18 years	51.0%	49.9%	51.1%	51.1%	49.0%	50.0%	48.9%	48.9%
65 years and over	43.0%	9.2%	42.6%	44.2%	57.0%	12.5%	57.4%	55.8%
Median age (years)	37.4	28.9	36.8	36.5	40.4	30.4	39.9	39.1

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Table 3: Age of Population under 18 Years, 2014-2015**

Percent of Total under 18 Years

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total:	104,545		32,967			
In households:	104,152	99.6%	32,656	99.1%	99.4%	99.7%
Under 3 years	16,559	15.8%	6,233	18.9%	16.1%	15.8%
3 and 4 years	10,574	10.1%	3,988	12.1%	11.2%	11.3%
5 years	5,699	5.5%	1,804	5.5%	5.4%	5.6%
6 to 8 years	17,032	16.3%	5,457	16.6%	16.3%	16.6%
9 to 11 years	17,848	17.1%	5,107	15.5%	16.3%	16.7%
12 to 14 years	17,592	16.8%	5,133	15.6%	16.7%	16.8%
15 to 17 years	18,848	18.0%	4,934	15.0%	17.5%	16.9%
In group quarters	393	0.4%	311	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

*Comparison Over Time of Age Structure*<sup>13</sup>

Since 2009, there has been a 3.2% decrease in Onondaga County of school-age children (ages 6 – 17).

Since 2009, there has been a 5.0% decrease in Syracuse of school-age children (ages 6 – 17).

Since the 2011 estimates, the county’s total population has increased by 3.1% (Table 4), while the city’s population increased by 3.6%. The percentage of the population over age 65 has increased substantially in the county, as it has in the state and nation. However, within Syracuse, the population over age 65 has decreased slightly.

The percentage of the population under 5 years old has done the opposite. The number of county residents under age 5 has decreased by 1.6%, along with comparable decreases in the state and nation, and the number within Syracuse has increased by a significant 6.5%. However, the number of children in the county under age 3 has increased by 2.4%.

The number of school-age children (ages 6-17) has decreased in both Onondaga County and in Syracuse. There are 2,325 fewer children in this age group in the county, representing a 3.2% decrease. In Syracuse, the decrease is more pronounced with a 5.0% decline.

The sex ratio between females and males has been decreasing since 2009. Although the county still has more females than males, the difference is much smaller. This trend also was noted in the Community Needs Assessment report, which was published in 2011.

**Table 4: Comparisons Over Time for Key Age Variables, 2009 to 2014**

		2009-2014	2005-2009		Change	Percent Change
Total Population	Onondaga County	468,463	453,846		14,617	3.1%
	Syracuse	144,648	139,386		5,262	3.6%
Median Age	Onondaga County	38.9	38.4		1	1.3%
	Syracuse	29.7	30.2		-1	-1.7%
	NYS	38.3	37.7		1	1.6%
	United States	37.8	36.5		1	3.4%
Over 65	Onondaga County	15.7%	13.9%		1.8%	11.5%
	Syracuse	10.9%	11.1%		-0.2%	-1.8%
	NYS	15.0%	13.2%		1.8%	12.0%
	United States	14.9%	12.6%		2.3%	15.4%

<sup>13</sup> All comparisons in this report, unless otherwise indicated, are with respect to those from the 2011 PEACE, Inc. Community Needs Assessment. The 2011 report was based on 2005-2009 census estimates, and was prepared by Apter & O’Connor in June 2011.

Sex Ratio	Onondaga County	1.07	1.5	0	-40.2%
Over 18	Onondaga County	366,598	347,037	19,561	5.3%
	Onondaga County	78.3%	76.5%	1.8%	2.3%
	NYS	78.7%	76.8%	1.9%	2.4%
	United States	77.1%	75.4%	1.7%	2.2%
Under 5	Onondaga County	26,662	27,086	-424	-1.6%
	Syracuse	10,270	9,606	664	6.5%
	Onondaga County	5.7%	6.0%	-0.3%	-5.3%
	Syracuse	7.1%	6.9%	0.2%	2.8%
	NYS	6.0%	6.3%	-0.3%	-5.0%
	United States	6.2%	6.9%	-0.7%	-11.3%
Under 3	Onondaga County	16,559	16,165	394	2.4%
School Age (Ages 6 – 17)	Onondaga County	71,320	73,645	-2,325	-3.2%
	Syracuse	20,631	21,714	-1,083	-5.0%

### Racial and Ethnic Composition

Almost 40% of Syracuse residents are from racial minorities – almost 30% are Black.

Roughly 97% of the Onondaga County population is of a single race, and a large majority (80.7%) is single-race Caucasian (Table 5)<sup>14</sup>. In contrast, about 65% of the New York State population is single-race Caucasian, and the percentage for the United States is 73.8%. About one-in-ten (11%) Onondaga County residents are Black or African American. Both New York State and the US populations have higher percentages of Black or African Americans, at 15.6% and 12.6%, respectively. Aside from Hispanics, who are estimated separately by the census bureau, Asians comprise the third largest racial group in Onondaga County, at 3.5% of the population, which is lower than the percentages for New York State (6.4%) and the nation (5%). Onondaga County encompasses the Onondaga Nation, and about 0.7% of the population is American Indian. Other races, including Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders comprise the balance of the single-race populations.

<sup>14</sup> Racial designations are based on US Census Bureau categories.

Community partners and PEACE staff survey respondents both considered “diversity” to be one of the area’s greatest strengths, while recognizing that segregation remains one of the area’s greatest challenges.

The 2009-2014 American Community Survey estimates that 13,923 Hispanics live in Onondaga County, and represent about 4.3% of the population. This percentage is much lower than in New York State (8%) and the nation (16.9%) for the same period

Although racial minorities (single race) make up about 16.3% of the total County population, they comprise 39.5% of the Syracuse city population. About 42,656 (29.5%) of Syracuse

city residents are Black or African American, 9,296 (6.4%) are Asian and 1,331 (0.9%) are American Indian. Hispanics (of any race) comprise 8% (11,636) of the Syracuse population.

The above figures and noted racial compositions complement a recent analysis conducted by CNY Fair Housing, Inc. which states:

“Like many Northeastern industrial metropolitan areas, Syracuse and Onondaga County have experienced decades of suburbanization and ‘white flight’ from the central city. Today, Syracuse is the ninth most racially segregated metropolitan area in the country. The level of hyper-segregation is particularly evident in the enrollment patterns at Onondaga County school districts. The City of Syracuse is home to large concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities including a large concentration of foreign-born residents largely due to the settlement of refugees in the city. In addition, the city houses a larger percentage of individuals with disabilities and female headed households. In the County outside of the city, small concentrations of racial and ethnic minorities and individuals with disabilities exist, largely in areas with more affordable housing opportunities.”

Table 5 summarizes the racial composition of the population.

**Table 5: Racial Composition, 2014**

Percent of Total Population

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total population	467,846		144,648			
One race	453,923	97.00%	137,179	94.80%	97.20%	97.10%
Two or more races	13,923	3.00%	7,469	5.20%	2.80%	2.90%
One race	453,923	97.00%	137,179	94.80%	97.20%	97.10%
White	377,487	80.70%	79,927	55.30%	65.00%	73.80%

Black or African American	51,623	11.00%	42,656	29.50%	15.60%	12.60%
American Indian and Alaska Native	3,253	0.70%	1,331	0.90%	0.40%	0.80%
Asian	16,185	3.50%	9,296	6.40%	7.80%	5.00%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	72	0.00%	21	0.00%	0.00%	0.20%
Some other race	5,303	1.10%	3,948	2.70%	8.40%	4.70%
Two or more races	13,923	3.00%	7,469	5.20%	2.80%	2.90%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	20,281	4.30%	11,636	8.00%	18.20%	16.90%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

### Comparison over Time of Racial Composition

Since 2009, the percent of Whites decreased by 3.1 percentage points in Onondaga County and by 3.8 percentage points in Syracuse.

As the populations in Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse increased since 2009 (by 3.1% and 3.8%, respectively), the racial composition continues to change. The number of single-race Whites in the county decreased by 2,653 residents (3.1 percentage points), and in the city it decreased by 5,416 (5.9 percentage points). Concurrently, the number of Blacks, Asians and Hispanics increased significantly in both the county and city.

See Table 6 for changes in the racial composition of Onondaga County and Syracuse between 2009 and 2014.

**Table 6: Comparison Over Time of Racial Composition, 2009 to 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse	
	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change
Total population	14,000	3.1%	5,262	3.8%
One race	9,695	2.2%	3,591	2.7%
Two or more races	4,305	44.8%	1,671	28.8%
One race	9,695	2.2%	3,591	2.7%
White	-2,653	-0.7%	-5,416	-6.3%
Black or African American	6,483	14.4%	3,859	9.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	-19	-0.6%	-293	-18.0%

Asian	4,376	37.1%	3,625	63.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	-293	-80.3%	-35	-62.5%
Some other race	1,801	51.4%	1,851	88.3%
Two or more races	4,305	44.8%	1,671	28.8%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	6,836	50.8%	3,041	35.4%

## Family Structure

### *Household Characteristics and Family Size*

Households with their own children headed by females only account for 8% of the county households and 13.1% of the Syracuse households.

There are 185,089 households in Onondaga County, and 61.3% (113,521) are family households (Table 7). Syracuse has 55,279 households, of which 49.8% (27,524) are families. The county figures are comparable to New York State (63.9%) and the nation (66.2%), but Syracuse’s percentage is considerably lower.

Focus group participants identified a need for more support for fathers, who can benefit children by being strong male role models.

Married-couple families comprise 43.6% (80,631) of all households in Onondaga County, but only 23.9% in Syracuse. State and national figures (44.1% and 48.4%, respectively) are similar to the county.

In Onondaga County, about 17.2% of households (31,829) are married-couples living with their own children under age 18, which is slightly less than New York State and national averages (18.5% and 19.6%). In Syracuse, only 9% of households (4,993) are married-couples with their own children.

In the county, nearly 8% (or 14,647) of households with their own children under age 18 are headed by females alone and about 2% are headed by males alone. These rates are similar to the state and national rates. In Syracuse, 13.1% of households with their own children under age 18 years are headed by females alone. The rate for single, male-headed households is 1.9%.

In Onondaga County, about 29.8% (55,216) of all households include one or more persons under age 18 years and 26.4% (48,795) include at least one person aged 65 years or older. In Syracuse,

28.4% have one or more people under 18 but only 20.6% have one or more over 65. New York has a higher percentage for both categories, and the nation as a whole has a higher percentage for households with children under 18 (Table 7).

For all children under 18 years old, 65.4% live in married-couple families in Onondaga County, compared to 39.0% in Syracuse. The percentages for the county are close to those of the state (68.3%) and nation (69.0%), while Syracuse’s rate is much lower. Of the 94,444 children under 18 in Onondaga County, 26,834 (or 28.4%) live in household headed by a female with no husband present. In Syracuse, of the 27,624 children under 18 years old, more than half (15,018 or 54.4%) live in female-only headed households.

Household size averages 2.43 people in Onondaga County and 2.36 in Syracuse, both smaller than the New York State and national averages (2.62 and 2.63, respectively). Average family size is 3.08 for the county and 3.25 for the city. Compared to the New York State and U.S. averages (3.31 and 3.19, respectively), the county average is slightly lower while the city average is comparable.

**Table 7: Households by Type, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total households	185,089	185,089	55,279	55,279	7,255,528	116,211,092
Family households (families)	113,521	61.3%	27,524	49.8%	63.9%	66.2%
With own children under 18 years	50,149	27.1%	13,301	24.1%	28.0%	29.2%
Married-couple family	80,631	43.6%	13,196	23.9%	44.1%	48.4%
With own children under 18 years	31,829	17.2%	4,993	9.0%	18.5%	19.6%
Male householder, no wife present, family	7,692	4.2%	2,502	4.5%	4.9%	4.8%
With own children under 18 years	3,673	2.0%	1,059	1.9%	2.0%	2.3%
Female householder, no husband present, family	25,198	13.6%	11,826	21.4%	14.8%	13.0%
With own children under 18 years	14,647	7.9%	7,249	13.1%	7.6%	7.3%
Nonfamily households	71,568	38.7%	27,755	50.2%	36.1%	33.8%

PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

Householder living alone	58,532	31.6%	21,988	39.8%	29.6%	27.6%
65 years and over	21,699	11.7%	6,023	10.9%	10.9%	10.0%
Households with one or more people under 18 years	55,216	29.8%	15,691	28.4%	31.2%	32.6%
Households with one or more people 65 years and over	48,795	26.4%	11,375	20.6%	27.2%	26.1%
Average household size	2.43		2.36		2.62	2.63
Average family size	3.08		3.25		3.29	3.23

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Table 8: Children Under Age 18 Years by Household Type, 2014<sup>15</sup>**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total:	94,444		27,624		3,765,469	65,030,602
Under 3 years	14,424	15.3%	4,990	18.1%	15.3%	15.0%
3 and 4 years	9,525	10.1%	3,476	12.6%	10.9%	11.0%
5 years	5,052	5.3%	1,497	5.4%	5.3%	5.5%
6 to 11 years	31,935	33.8%	9,052	32.8%	33.3%	33.9%
12 to 17 years	33,508	35.5%	8,609	31.2%	35.2%	34.5%
In married-couple families:	61,797	65.4%	10,770	39.0%	68.3%	69.0%
Under 3 years	9,356	15.1%	2,072	19.2%	15.9%	15.3%
3 and 4 years	6,278	10.2%	1,276	11.8%	11.1%	11.1%
5 years	3,528	5.7%	669	6.2%	5.4%	5.6%
6 to 11 years	21,202	34.3%	3,519	32.7%	33.7%	34.1%
12 to 17 years	21,433	34.7%	3,234	30.0%	33.9%	33.9%
In other families:	32,647	34.6%	16,854	61.0%	31.7%	31.0%
Male householder, no wife present:	5,813	17.8%	1,836	10.9%	19.3%	22.1%
Under 3 years	1,034	17.8%	450	24.5%	17.8%	17.4%
3 and 4 years	653	11.2%	347	18.9%	11.2%	11.2%
5 years	233	4.0%	52	2.8%	5.2%	5.5%

<sup>15</sup> Estimates vary slightly from Table 1 due to timing of the census reports.

6 to 11 years	1,776	30.6%	538	29.3%	31.0%	32.0%
12 to 17 years	2,117	36.4%	449	24.5%	34.8%	33.8%
Female householder, no husband present:	26,834	82.2%	15,018	89.1%	80.7%	77.9%
Under 3 years	4,034	15.0%	2,468	16.4%	13.0%	13.5%
3 and 4 years	2,594	9.7%	1,853	12.3%	10.4%	10.8%
5 years	1,291	4.8%	776	5.2%	5.1%	5.5%
6 to 11 years	8,957	33.4%	4,995	33.3%	32.8%	33.8%
12 to 17 years	9,958	37.1%	4,926	32.8%	38.7%	36.5%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

As noted above, nearly half of county households and about one quarter of Syracuse households have either a married couple or a male head of household. Focus group participants identified a need for more support for fathers, who can benefit children by being strong male role models. Services in Onondaga County that support the inclusion of fathers in their children’s lives include parenting assistance, child development education and legal services. Specific information on service providers can be found in Appendix D, which presents a list of resources from the 211cny website maintained by Contact Community Services, Inc.

#### *Comparisons Over Time of Household Type*

Since 2009, the number of households with children headed by females alone increased by 4.4% in Syracuse.

Since the 2011 Community Needs Assessment, the number of households has increased by 0.9% in the county (1608 households) and decreased by 1.2% in Syracuse (Table 9). As noted above, the total populations for both the county and the city have increased, which implies more people are living together

within the city – more people are forming fewer households.

During the past five years, the number of married-couple families and households with children headed by males alone has decreased significantly in the county and in Syracuse. At the same time, the number of households with children headed by females alone increased by 1.7% in Onondaga County and 4.4% in Syracuse.

Overall, the number of households with children under 18 decreased by 4.5% in the county and 3.4% in Syracuse. Conversely, the number of households with seniors over 65 increased significantly in the county (7.8%) and slightly in the city (0.3%). The average household size and average family size in both the county and city increased slightly during this time.

**Table 9: Comparisons Over Time of Households by Type, 2009 to 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse City	
	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change
<b>HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE</b>				
Total households	1608	0.9%	-666	-1.2%
Family households (families)	553	0.5%	-289	-1.0%
With own children under 18 years				
Married-couple family	-1530	-1.9%	-1042	-7.3%
With own children under 18 years	-2680	-7.8%	-632	-11.2%
Male householder, no wife present, family				
With own children under 18 years	-594	-13.9%	-658	-38.3%
Female householder, no husband present, family				
With own children under 18 years	245	1.7%	305	4.4%
Households with one or more people under 18 years	-2605	-4.5%	-545	-3.4%
Households with one or more people 65 years and over	3531	7.8%	39	0.3%
Average household size	0.03	1.3%	0.07	3.1%
Average family size	0.04	1.3%	0.1	3.2%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

*Marital Status*

In Onondaga County, 47.3% of male adults and 42.7% of female adults are married.

In Syracuse, 29.1% of male adults and 24.4% of female adults are married

Just under half (47.3% or 86,165) of Onondaga County male residents aged 15 years or older are married, 2.2% (4,082) are separated and 9% (16,377) are divorced (Table 10). The married rate is similar to New York State and slightly lower than the national level, while the percentage who are divorced is lower in New York State and higher in the nation. In Syracuse, only 29.1% (15,721)

of males are married, 3.1% are separated and 10% are divorced. These figures indicate fewer males are married in Syracuse and more are divorced and separated, as compared to the county, state, and nation.

For Onondaga County female residents ages 15 and older, the percentage who are married (42.8% or 85,833) is lower than for males, while the percentage who are divorced (11.3% or 22,564) is higher. About 2.5% (5,071) of Onondaga County females ages 15 and older are separated. In the City of Syracuse, significantly fewer women are married (24.4% or 15,322) and more are separated (4%), while fewer are divorced (10.9%).

At least part of the difference in county versus Syracuse marriage rates may be attributed to the large population of unmarried college and university students in Syracuse.

**Table 10: Marital Status, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Males 15 years and over	182,041	182,041	54,037	54,037	7,699,246	123,281,364
Never married	70,424	38.70%	29,888	55.30%	40.70%	35.80%
Now married, except separated	86,165	47.30%	15,721	29.10%	47.30%	50.20%
Separated	4,082	2.20%	1,684	3.10%	2.10%	1.80%
Widowed	4,993	2.70%	1,339	2.50%	2.60%	2.60%
Divorced	16,377	9.00%	5,405	10.00%	7.20%	9.60%
Females 15 years and over	200,407	200,407	62,807	62,807	8,380,183	129,692,771
Never married	68,142	34.00%	32,982	52.50%	35.20%	29.50%
Now married, except separated	85,833	42.80%	15,322	24.40%	42.30%	46.70%
Separated	5,071	2.50%	2,485	4.00%	3.10%	2.50%
Widowed	18,797	9.40%	5,191	8.30%	9.40%	9.20%
Divorced	22,564	11.30%	6,827	10.90%	9.90%	12.20%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

#### *Comparison Over Time of Marital Status*

Since 2009, the number of males who are married has decreased by 1.4% in Onondaga County and by 1.5% in Syracuse (Table 11). For females, the number who are married stayed roughly the same in the county, but decreased by 3.7% in Syracuse.

The percentage of men who are divorced or separated increased substantially in both the county and city. For the county as a whole, the divorce rate increased by 10.1% and the number

separated increased by 6.3%. In Syracuse, the number divorced increased by 7% and the number separated increased by 6.7%.

For women in the county, these rates increased, but were much less extreme than for men: the number of divorced women increased by 2.8% and the number separated increased by 2.4%. In the City of Syracuse, the number separated increased significantly by 13.6%, but the number divorced actually decreased by a small amount, 0.6%.

**Table 11: Comparison Over Time of Marital Status, 2009 to 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse	
	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change
Males 15 years and over	7,742	4.4%	1,530	2.9%
Never married	7,245	11.5%	1,531	5.4%
Now married, except separated	-1,215	-1.4%	-235	-1.5%
Separated	242	6.3%	106	6.7%
Widowed	-38	-0.8%	-225	-14.4%
Divorced	1,508	10.1%	353	7.0%
Females 15 years and over	7,484	3.9%	3,821	6.5%
Never married	8,935	15.1%	5,523	20.1%
Now married, except separated	-291	-0.3%	-591	-3.7%
Separated	120	2.4%	298	13.6%
Widowed	-1,889	-9.1%	-1,370	-20.9%
Divorced	609	2.8%	-39	-0.6%

*Births to Single Mothers and Female Headed Households*

45.8% of births in the county are to unmarried women.

Almost 10% of births in Syracuse’s 13202 zip code (Downtown) are to teenage mothers.

An estimated 45.8% (or 2,814) of births in Onondaga County are to unmarried women (Table 12), compared to 68% (or 1,780) in Syracuse. These percentages are dramatically higher than those for New York State (34.1%) and the nation (35.6%).

For teenage mothers age 15 to 19, as of June 2015 there were 21.1 births per 1,000 females in the county, compared to 17.3 for New York State (Table

13).<sup>16</sup> Within Syracuse, rates range from 2.6 (Onondaga Hill) to 98.9 (Downtown), depending on the location within the city.

**Table 12: Fertility, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate/ Percent	Estimate/ Percent
Number of women 15 to 50 years old who had a birth in the past 12 months	6,150		2,618		241,814	4,087,727
Unmarried women (widowed, divorced, and never married)	2,814	45.80%	1,780	68.00%	34.10%	35.60%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Table 13: Teen Pregnancy and Birth Rates, 2012-2014**

Zip Code	Total Births	Teen Rates per 1,000	
		Teen Birth Rate	Teen Pregnancy Rate
13027	930	10.2	14.8
13029	229	17.5	18.9
13031	417	5.4	10.7
13039	462	6.4	9.1
13041	385	10.7	16.9
13057	401	17.3	27.1
13060	88	22.4	22.4
13063	62	9.4	23.5
13066	284	5	8.4
13078	233	7.4	10.6
13080	77	16.1	24.2
13084	148	13.8	18.4
13088	665	14.4	25.6
13090	1,056	13.2	19.4
13104	356	4.5	8.9
13108	127	0	6.1
13110	47	15.7	15.7
13112	55	22.2	22.2

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/perinatal/county/2012-2014/>

13116	132	9.7	16.2
13120	118	64.7	99.5
13152	134	4.8	6
13159	113	6.9	13.9
13164	119	0	4.3
13202*	341	98.9	133.3
13203*	770	50.8	67
13204*	1,137	84.4	118.7
13205*	966	65.4	108.9
13206*	665	38.9	56.8
13207*	623	48.1	87.6
13208*	1,271	54	80.1
13209*	433	15.7	25.2
13210*	588	5	11.5
13211*	263	41	59.8
13212*	660	20.5	27.4
13214*	242	2.9	7.8
13215*	306	2.6	7.8
13219*	507	11.5	17.6
13224*	294	34.6	49.8
Total	15,704	21.1	32.8
* ZIP codes within Syracuse			

Source: New York State Department of Health. This table does not display the results for ZIP Code areas with fewer than 10 births during the 3-year period. However, the total does reflect all births in the county. ZIP codes with a population of less than 30 teenage women are suppressed for reasons of confidentiality.

### Parenting Grandparents

In Onondaga County, 41.2% of grandparents living with their own grandchildren have primary responsibility for those children.

In Syracuse, almost half of the grandparents living with their own grandchildren have primary responsibility for those children.

About 7,503 grandparents live with their grandchildren under 18 years of age in Onondaga County (Table 14). Of these, 3,089 (41.2%) grandparents have primary responsibility for raising their grandchildren. In Syracuse, 3,038 grandparents live with their grandchildren and almost half (49.7% or 1,511) have primary responsibility. Of those with primary responsibility, more than half in both the county and Syracuse (53.3% and 58.3% respectively) have been responsible for at least 3 years. These rates are considerably greater than the rates for New York State (30.1% have primary responsibility and

56.8% for at least 3 years) and the nation (38% have primary responsibility and 55.8% for at least 3 years).

**Table 14: Parenting Grandparents, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Number of grandparents living with own grandchildren under 18 years	7,503	7,503	3,038	3,038	431,627	7,138,514
Responsible for grandchildren	3,089	41.2%	1,511	49.70%	30.1%	38.0%
Years responsible for grandchildren						
Less than 1 year	764	10.2%	311	10.20%	5.7%	8.0%
1 or 2 years	680	9.1%	319	10.50%	7.2%	8.8%
3 or 4 years	568	7.6%	303	10.00%	5.1%	6.3%
5 or more years	1,077	14.4%	578	19.00%	12.0%	14.9%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

*Comparison Over Time of Fertility and Parenting Grandparents*

Since 2009, the number of births to unmarried women increased in both Onondaga County (by 25.7% or 575 births) and Syracuse (by 23.4% or 337 births).

The number of grandparents with primary responsibility for their own grandchildren also increased in both the county (by 9%) and in Syracuse (by 4.1%).

Table 15 summarizes changes in births to unmarried women and parenting grandparents.

**Table 15: Comparison Over Time of Fertility and Parenting Grandparents, 2009 to 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse City	
	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change
<b>FERTILITY</b>				
Number of women 15 to 50 years old who had a birth in the past 12 months	-8	-0.1%	160	6.5%
Unmarried women (widowed, divorced, and never married)	575	25.7%	337	23.4%

GRANDPARENTS				
Number of grandparents living with own grandchildren under 18 years	1,483	24.6%	521	20.7%
Responsible for grandchildren	255	9.0%	60	4.1%

### Families and Children under Age 5

In Onondaga County, 27.7% of children under age 5 live in female-only headed household.

In Syracuse, 51.0% of children under age 5 live in female-only headed households.

An estimated 26,662 children under age 5 reside in Onondaga County, representing 5.7% of the total population (Table 1 above). In Syracuse, the number of children under age 5 is 10,270 or 7.1% of the population. Of those children under 5 years old, the county has 14,424 (3.1% of total population) under 3 while the city has 4,990 (3.4%).

As noted in Table 16 (reproduced from Table 8 above), the county has 15,634 children under age 5 who live with their married parents, compared to 3,348 in Syracuse. About 8,315 county residents under age 5 live in single-parent households; 6,628 live in female-headed households with no husband present, representing 27.7% of all children under 5; and 1,687 live in male-headed households with no wife present. A majority (61.5% or 5,118) of children under age 5 who live in single-parent households are Syracuse city residents, and most of them (4,321 or 84.4%) live in female-headed households with no husband present. Alternatively, these 4,321 children who live with female-only headed households represent 51.0% of all Syracuse children under age 5.

Over one third (37.7%) of Onondaga County residents under age 5 live in Syracuse. The second largest concentration of infants and young children occurs in the town of Clay, where 13.1% of all county residents under age 5 reside (Table 17).<sup>17</sup> Other towns with a notable share of the county's population of infants and young children, as depicted in Figure 1, include Cicero (7.1%), Salina (6.5%), and Manlius (5.9%).

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<sup>17</sup> Estimates vary from the counts presented in previous tables due to timing of the census reports.

**Table 16: Population of Own Children Under 5 and Household Type, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total Under 18	94,444		27,624		3,765,469	65,030,602
Under 3 years	14,424	15.3%	4,990	18.1%	15.3%	15.0%
3 and 4 years	9,525	10.1%	3,476	12.6%	10.9%	11.0%
<b>In married-couple families:</b>						
	61,797	65.4%	10,770	39.0%	68.3%	69.0%
Under 3 years	9,356	15.1%	2,072	19.2%	15.9%	15.3%
3 and 4 years	6,278	10.2%	1,276	11.8%	11.1%	11.1%
<b>In other families:</b>						
Male householder, no wife present:	32,647	34.6%	16,854	61.0%	31.7%	31.0%
Under 3 years	5,813	17.8%	1,836	10.9%	19.3%	22.1%
3 and 4 years	1,034	17.8%	450	24.5%	17.8%	17.4%
3 and 4 years	653	11.2%	347	18.9%	11.2%	11.2%
Female householder, no husband present:	26,834	82.2%	15,018	89.1%	80.7%	77.9%
Under 3 years	4,034	15.0%	2,468	16.4%	13.0%	13.5%
3 and 4 years	2,594	9.7%	1,853	12.3%	10.4%	10.8%

**Table 17: Population of Children Under 5 by Town, 2014**

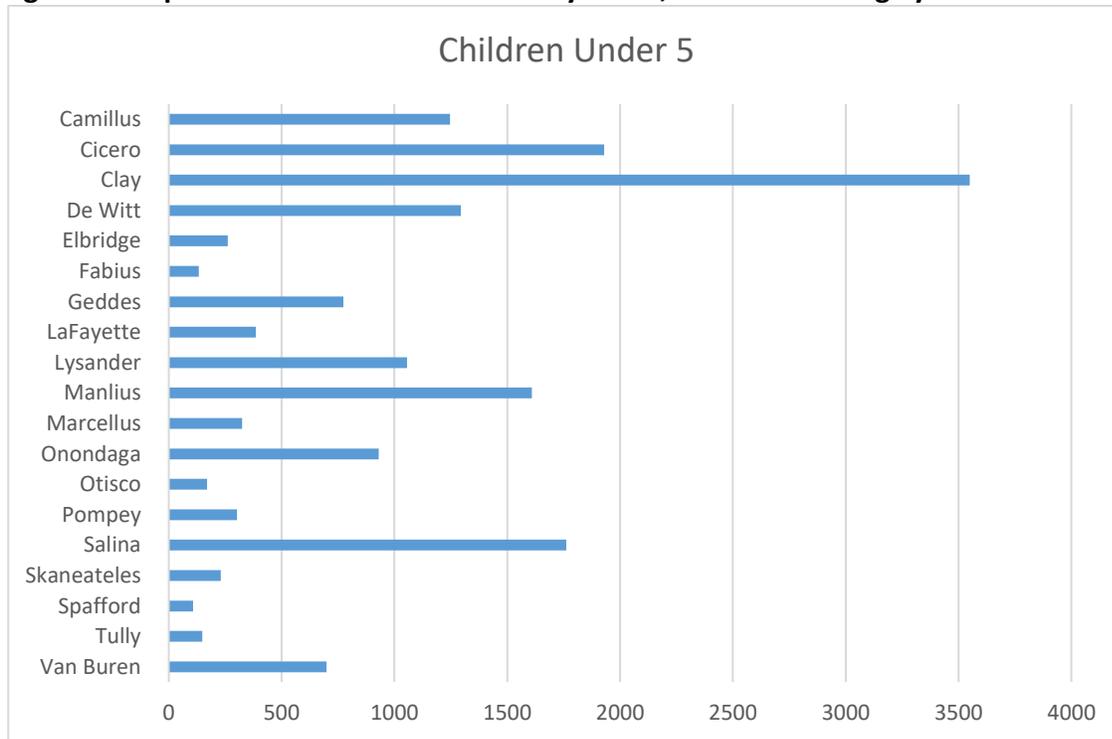
Town	Under 3 years		3 and 4 years		Total Town population
	Estimate	% of Town Population	Estimate	% of Town population	
Camillus	756	3.1%	491	2.0%	24,259
Cicero	1,215	3.8%	714	2.3%	31,672
Clay	2,130	3.6%	1,420	2.4%	58,945
De Witt	711	2.8%	583	2.3%	25,786
Elbridge	128	2.2%	133	2.3%	5,881
Fabius	98	4.4%	35	1.6%	2,206
Geddes	546	3.2%	227	1.3%	17,003
LaFayette	295	6.0%	90	1.8%	4,943
Lysander	633	2.9%	423	1.9%	22,175
Manlius	950	2.9%	659	2.0%	32,391

PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

Marcellus	171	2.8%	154	2.5%	6,210
Onondaga	452	2.0%	478	2.1%	23,111
Otisco	122	4.8%	48	1.9%	2,556
Pompey	230	3.2%	72	1.0%	7,223
Salina	1,157	3.4%	605	1.8%	33,673
Skaneateles	110	1.5%	121	1.7%	7,216
Spafford	83	4.8%	25	1.5%	1,719
Syracuse city	6,233	4.3%	3,988	2.8%	144,648
Tully	87	3.2%	61	2.2%	2,743
Van Buren	452	3.4%	247	1.9%	13,302
Onondaga County Total	16,559	3.5%	10,574	2.3%	467,846

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau. Estimates for Children Under 5 within the Onondaga Nation were not reported in this census table.

**Figure 1: Population of Children Under 5 by Town, 2014 - Excluding Syracuse**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

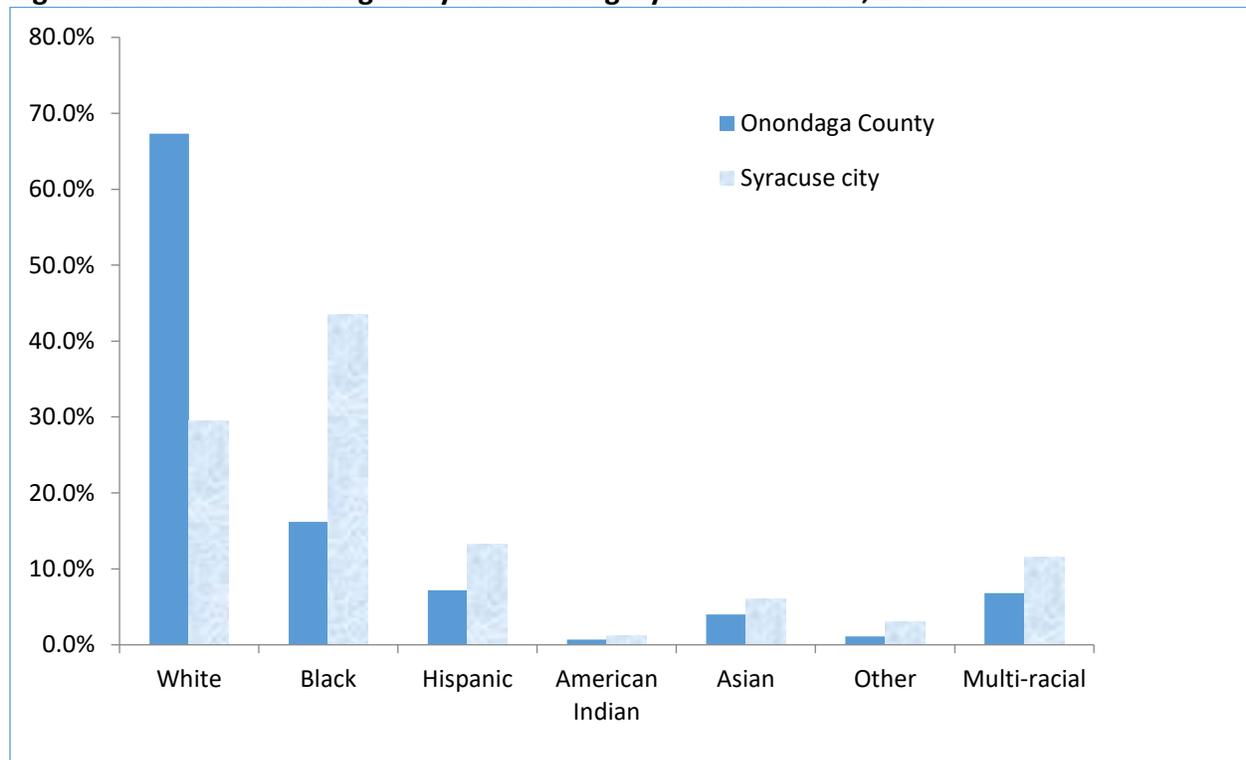
The majority (67.3%) of Onondaga County residents under age 5 are of Caucasian race (Figure 2). About 16.2% are African American and the balance are multi-racial (6.8%), Asian (4%), American

Indian (0.7%), or other minority races (1.1%). Those of Hispanic decent make up 7.2% of all children under 5 years old.

43.5% of children under 5 in Syracuse are Black.  
29.5% of children under 5 in Syracuse are White.  
13.2% of children under 5 in Syracuse are Hispanic.

In the City of Syracuse, the racial composition of young children is very different (Figure 2). Only 29.5% of residents under age five years are Caucasian, while 43.5% are African American, 13.2% are Hispanic, and 11.5% are multi-racial. The remaining children under 5 in Syracuse are 6% Asian, 1.2% American Indian, and 3.1% from another minority race.

**Figure 2: Children Under Age 5 by Racial Category and Residence, 2014**

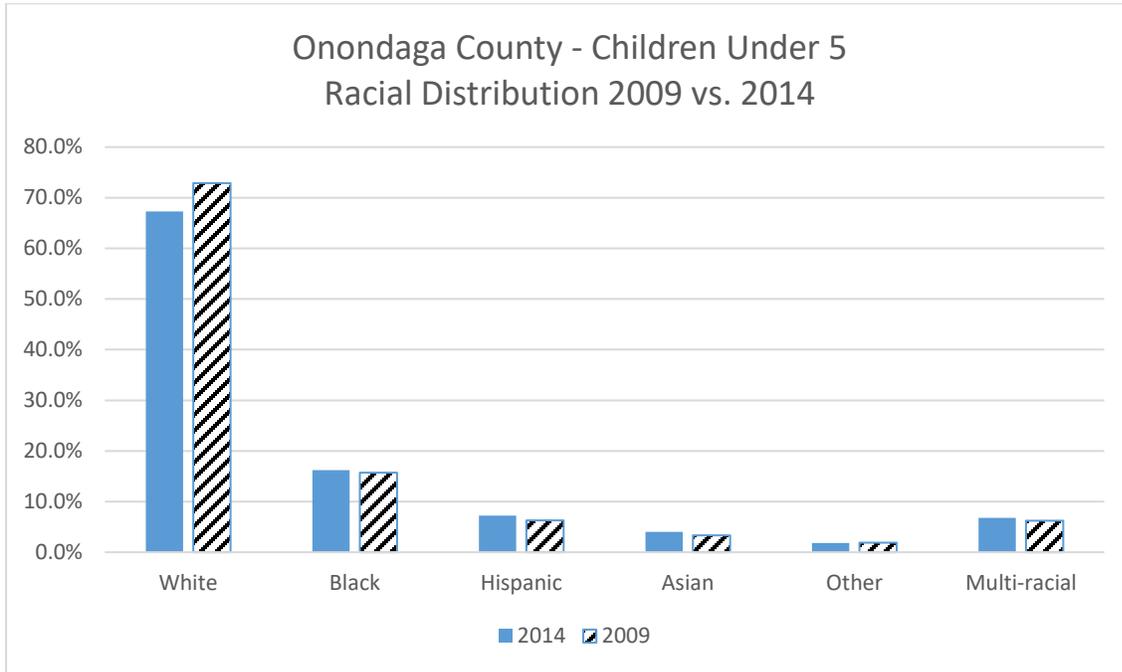


Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

#### Comparison Over Time of Children Under 5

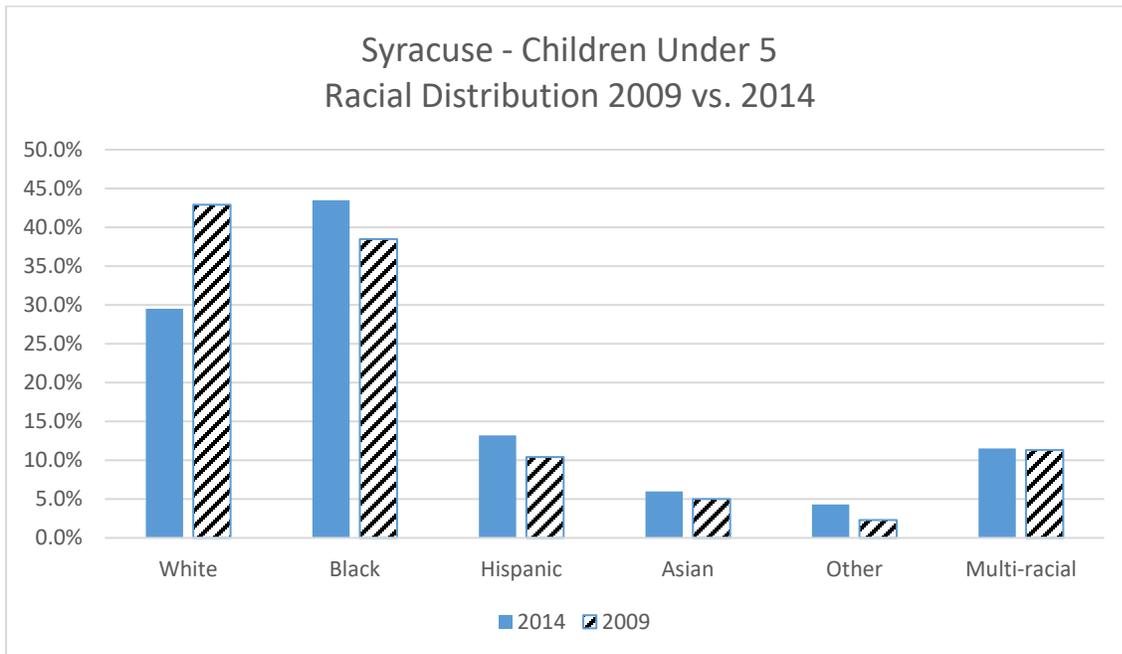
Since 2009, the racial distribution has shifted somewhat and although the rankings of each race are the same, the percentages are markedly different, particularly for Syracuse, where a distinct increase in the percentage of minorities is apparent. Figures 3 and 4 offer visual comparisons.

**FIGURE 3: Comparison Over Time of Racial Distribution in Onondaga County Children Under 5**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**FIGURE 4: Comparison Over Time of Racial Distribution in Syracuse Children Under 5**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

## Foreign Born Residents

### *Spoken languages and linguistic isolation*<sup>18</sup>

Spanish is the primary language for 6.2% of the Syracuse residents and 3% of the county residents.

14.6% of the Syracuse residents speak English less than “very well.”

English language proficiency can affect everything from an individual’s educational success to his/her ability to communicate with health care providers and to secure employment. In Onondaga County, English is the most commonly spoken language (Table 18 and Figure 5). The next is Spanish, which is the primary spoken language at home for 3% of Onondaga County residents and 6.2% of

Syracuse residents age 5 and older. Primary speakers of other “Indo-European languages” (French, Polish, Ukrainian, Russian, Bosnian, Turkish, etc.) account for 4.1% of county residents and 5.1% of Syracuse residents. Primary speakers of “Asian and Pacific Islander languages” (Chinese, Burmese, Nepalese, Karen dialects, etc.) account for 2.2% of county residents and 4.4% of Syracuse residents. Primary speakers of “other languages” (Arabic; American Indian languages including Onondaga; African languages including Swahili and other Bantu languages; Somali, etc.) account for 1.1% of county residents and 1.5% of Syracuse residents.

A household is considered linguistically isolated if all adults (age 14 and older) speak a language other than English and none speaks English “very well.” People who speak a language other than English at home and do not speak English “very well” also are considered linguistically isolated. Compared to New York State and the nation, Onondaga County residents are less likely to be linguistically isolated, with only about 10.3% of households speaking a language other than English and only 3.9% speaking English less than “very well.” As with other comparable indicators, Syracuse residents are more likely to be linguistically challenged than county residents, with 18.2% of households speaking a language other than English and 6.2% speaking English less than “very well.”

With respect to English language proficiency among children, 11.9% of the over 21,000 students in the Syracuse City School District are English Language Learners (ELLs). These students represent 80 countries, with 74 different languages spoken. Approximately half of ELLs are refugees. Most other ELLs are secondary refugees or migrants, immigrants, or individuals who were born in the United States, but grew up in a home where a language other than English is spoken.

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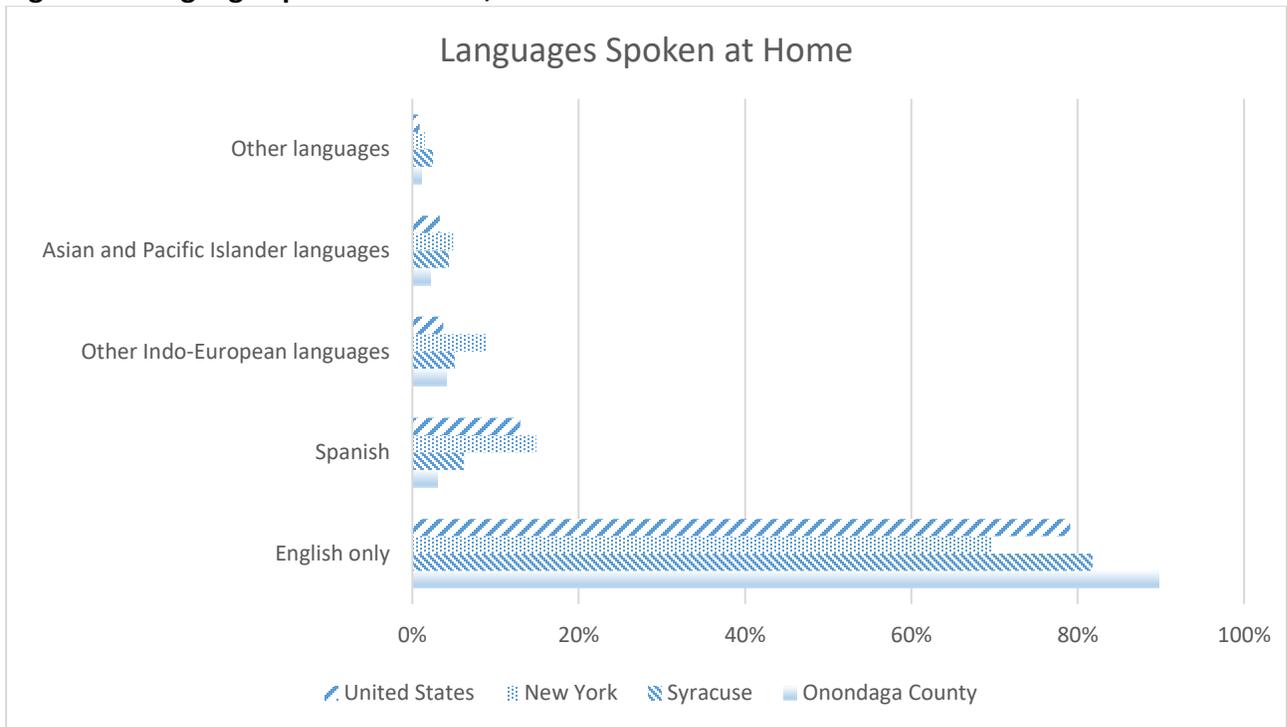
<sup>18</sup> From Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan, 2014-2017, Onondaga County Health Department, with figures adjusted from recent census data.

**Table 18: Language Spoken at Home, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Population 5 years and over	440,688	440,688	134,407	134,407	18,424,072	294,133,373
English only	395,147	89.70%	109,922	81.80%	69.80%	79.10%
Language other than English	45,541	10.30%	24,485	18.20%	30.20%	20.90%
Speak English less than "very well"	17,029	3.90%	10,331	7.70%	13.50%	8.60%
Spanish	13,199	3.00%	8,282	6.20%	14.90%	13.00%
Speak English less than "very well"	3,960	0.90%	2,638	2.00%	6.70%	5.60%
Other Indo-European languages	18,040	4.10%	6,881	5.10%	8.90%	3.70%
Speak English less than "very well"	6,268	1.40%	2,753	2.00%	3.40%	1.20%
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	9,669	2.20%	5,979	4.40%	4.90%	3.30%
Speak English less than "very well"	4,937	1.10%	3,555	2.60%	2.80%	1.60%
Other languages	4,633	1.10%	3,343	2.50%	1.50%	0.90%
Speak English less than "very well"	1,864	0.40%	1,385	1.00%	0.50%	0.30%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

**Figure 5: Language Spoken at Home, 2014**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

To assist English Language Learners, several agencies within Onondaga County provide literacy education. These agencies include<sup>19</sup>:

- English Language Institute of University College
- JOBSplus!
- LiteracyCNY
- MANOS Early Childhood Education Program
- Newland Learning Center
- North Side Learning Center
- Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES
- Onondaga County Public Library at The Galleries of Syracuse
- Partners in Learning, Inc. JOB Link (West Side Learning Center)
- ProLiteracy
- Refugee Assistance Program
- Syracuse Educational Opportunity Center
- West Side Learning Center

<sup>19</sup> From the Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County: <http://cnylearns.org/>

Although there are no International Cultural Exchange centers in Onondaga County, several organizations offer cultural awareness and competencies training. These include Professional Development Workshops conducted by: Whole Me, Westside Learning Center, and Partners in Learning, Inc.

### Educational Attainment

Community partners and PEACE staff who responded to surveys in July 2016 felt strongly that education, particularly the quality of public schools, was a concern within Onondaga County and Syracuse.

In Syracuse, 55% of high school students graduate.

In Onondaga County, 80% of all high school students graduate:

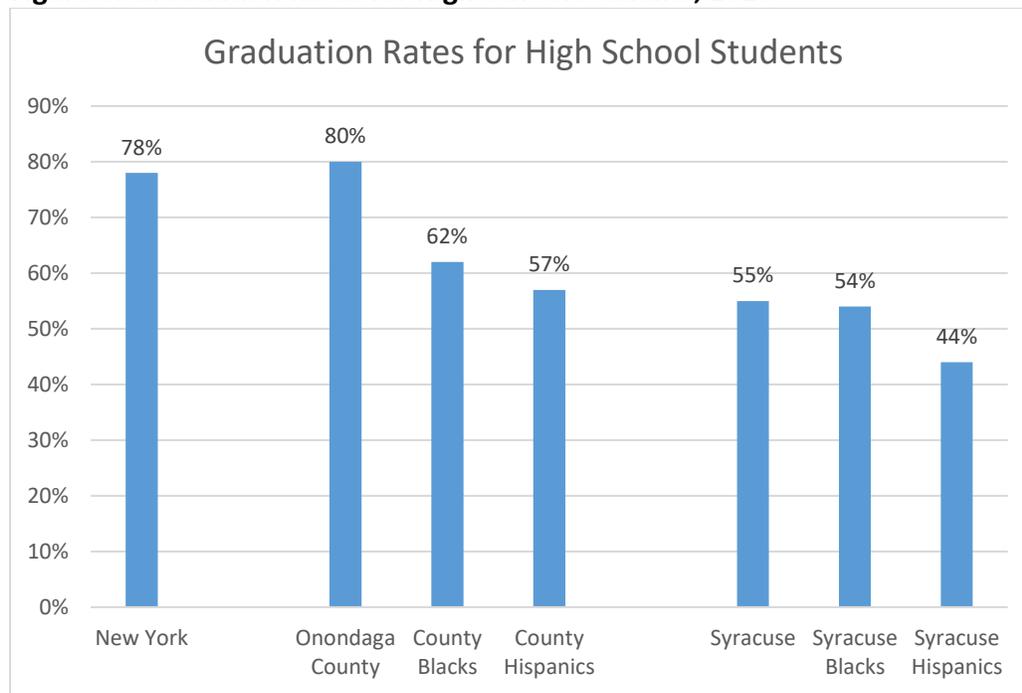
- 62% of Blacks graduate.
- 57% of Hispanics graduate.

Based on data provided by the New York State Education Department<sup>20</sup>, the high school graduation rate for students enrolled in Onondaga County high schools in 2015 was 80% (Figure 6). This is slightly higher than the 78% average for all of New York. However, across the county, the graduation rate for high school Blacks is 62% and the rate for Hispanics is 57%. In Syracuse, the overall graduation rate for all high school students is 55%, while the rates for Blacks and Hispanics are 56% and 54%, respectively.

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<sup>20</sup> <http://data.nysed.gov/gradrate.php?year=2015&county=42>

**Figure 6: Graduation Rates for High School Students, 2015**



19.9% of Syracuse adult residents did not graduate from high school.

23.2% of county Blacks did not graduate from high school; 27.1% of Syracuse Blacks did not graduate from high school.

26.4% of county Hispanics did not graduate from high school; 32.8% of Syracuse Hispanics did not graduate from high school.

The US Census Bureau reports on educational attainment for all adults age 25 and older. Accordingly, less than one in ten (9.9% or 30,876) of all Onondaga County residents age 25 and older did not receive a high school diploma or equivalency. This contrasts with 19.9% (16,750) of Syracuse residents. The rates for New York State and the nation are 14.6% and 13.7%, respectively. An estimated 33.5% of the county population and 26% of Syracuse residents aged 25 and older have a bachelor's or higher degree, compared with 29.3% of the U.S. population (Table 19).

Participants in Focus Group discussions identified a need for educational, mentoring and training programs for community members.

By comparison, the percentage of Blacks and Hispanics who attain degrees is much lower than the broader population in both Onondaga County and Syracuse (Tables 20 and 21, and Figure 7). The percentage of Black residents who did not receive a high school diploma or equivalency is 23.2% in the county and 27.1% in Syracuse. The comparable percentages for Hispanic residents is 26.4 in Onondaga County and 32.8 in

Syracuse. The rates for Blacks also are lower than for New York State and the nation. The percentage of Blacks who do not have high school diplomas is 17.2% statewide and 15.6% nationwide. Alternatively, the percentage of Hispanics who do not have high school diplomas is slightly less than figures for the state and nation. The percentage of Hispanics who do not have high school diplomas is 33% statewide and 34.6% nationwide.

**Table 19: Educational Attainment, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Count	%	Count	%	Percent	Percent
Population 25 years and over	311,888		84,171		13,329,734	209,056,129
Less than 9th grade	9,207	3.00%	5,581	6.60%	6.80%	5.80%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	21,713	7.00%	11,141	13.20%	7.90%	7.80%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	83,162	26.70%	22,844	27.10%	26.90%	28.00%
Some college, no degree	55,846	17.90%	15,086	17.90%	16.30%	21.20%
Associate's degree	37,513	12.00%	7,630	9.10%	8.50%	7.90%
Bachelor's degree	58,156	18.60%	11,645	13.80%	19.10%	18.30%
Graduate or professional degree	46,291	14.80%	10,244	12.20%	14.60%	11.00%
<hr/>						
Percent high school graduate or higher		90.10%		80.10%	85.40%	86.30%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher		33.50%		26.00%	33.70%	29.30%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

**Table 20: Educational Attainment for Blacks, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total Blacks:	29,153		23,504		2,011,027	25,133,184
Male:	13,366	45.8%	9,974	42.4%	44.2%	45.9%
Less than 9th grade	627	4.7%	532	5.3%	6.1%	4.5%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,389	17.9%	2,159	21.6%	11.2%	12.4%
Regular high school diploma	3,133	23.4%	2,665	26.7%	26.3%	29.1%
GED or alternative credential	1,111	8.3%	874	8.8%	7.3%	5.9%
Some college, no degree	2,602	19.5%	1,993	20.0%	21.9%	24.0%
Associate's degree	1,447	10.8%	992	9.9%	7.0%	6.7%
Bachelor's degree	1,163	8.7%	360	3.6%	13.7%	11.3%
Graduate or professional degree	894	6.7%	399	4.0%	6.6%	5.9%
Total Male HS diploma or above	10,350	77.4%	7,283	73.0%	82.7%	83.0%
Female:	15,787	54.2%	13,530	57.6%	55.8%	54.1%
Less than 9th grade	1,119	7.1%	1,119	8.3%	6.1%	4.3%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,615	16.6%	2,570	19.0%	11.0%	10.2%
Regular high school diploma	2,912	18.4%	2,562	18.9%	23.2%	25.1%
GED or alternative credential	504	3.2%	450	3.3%	5.3%	3.5%
Some college, no degree	4,035	25.6%	3,555	26.3%	20.0%	26.0%
Associate's degree	1,488	9.4%	1,277	9.4%	9.5%	9.1%
Bachelor's degree	1,612	10.2%	1,181	8.7%	15.7%	13.3%
Graduate or professional degree	1,502	9.5%	816	6.0%	9.2%	8.5%
Total Female HS diploma or above	12,053	76.3%	9,841	72.7%	82.9%	85.5%

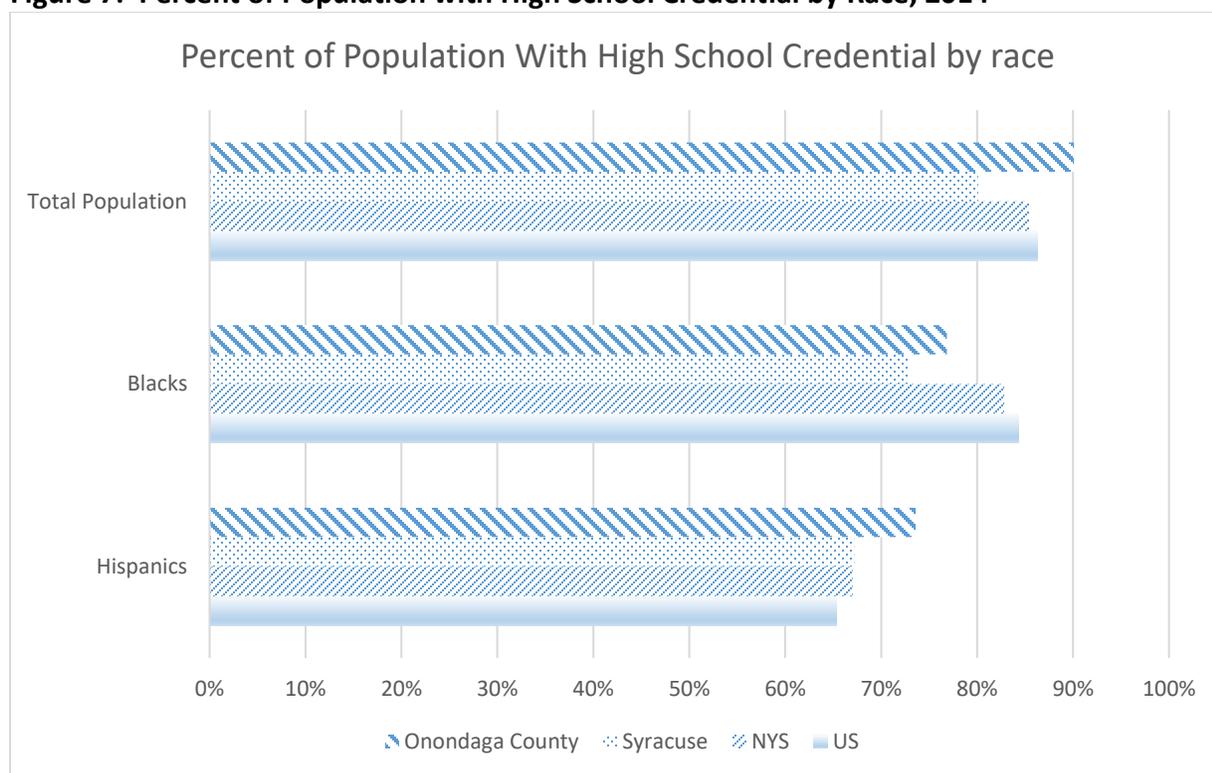
Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Table 21: Educational Attainment for Hispanics, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total Hispanic:	10,174		5,561		2,225,471	30,696,216
<b>Male:</b>						
Less than 9th grade	538	10.9%	371	15.4%	19.1%	21.2%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	778	15.7%	309	12.9%	14.8%	14.9%
Regular high school diploma	341	6.9%	135	5.6%	23.4%	24.1%
GED or alternative credential	615	12.4%	281	11.7%	5.4%	4.4%
Some college, no degree	984	19.9%	405	16.8%	16.1%	17.0%
Associate's degree	166	3.4%	88	3.7%	5.8%	5.3%
Bachelor's degree	1,040	21.0%	479	19.9%	10.5%	8.9%
Graduate or professional degree	483	9.8%	336	14.0%	4.8%	4.2%
Total Male HS diploma or above	3,629	73.4%	1,724	71.7%	66.1%	63.9%
<b>Female:</b>						
Less than 9th grade	294	5.6%	294	9.3%	18.7%	20.1%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	1,077	20.6%	850	26.9%	13.4%	13.1%
Regular high school diploma	610	11.7%	484	15.3%	21.6%	22.3%
GED or alternative credential	161	3.1%	32	1.0%	3.8%	3.6%
Some college, no degree	1,246	23.8%	556	17.6%	15.4%	18.5%
Associate's degree	535	10.2%	226	7.2%	7.7%	6.8%
Bachelor's degree	926	17.7%	521	16.5%	12.7%	10.8%
Graduate or professional degree	380	7.3%	194	6.1%	6.6%	4.8%
Total Female HS diploma or above	3,858	73.8%	2,013	63.8%	67.9%	66.8%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 7: Percent of Population with High School Credential by Race, 2014**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Several programs in Onondaga County serve adults who want to increase their knowledge without enrolling in formal degree-seeking programs. In 2015, approximately 2,180 county residents registered for and attended an adult education and/or literacy program.<sup>21</sup> In addition, 440 people are employed by CNY Works in job training programs.<sup>22</sup>

*Comparison Over Time of Educational Attainment*

During the past five years, high school graduation rates decreased in both Onondaga County and in Syracuse. The county decrease was comparable to decreases in New York State and the United States, while Syracuse’s decrease was much less pronounced. Specifically, the decreases were: 1.3 percentage points in Onondaga County, 0.4 percentage points in Syracuse, 1.2 percentage points in New York State and 1.7 percentage points in the United States. Conversely, the percentage of students who graduated with bachelor’s degrees or higher increased, and again, Onondaga County’s increase (2 percentage points) was comparable to the state and nation, while Syracuse’s increase was less pronounced (0.8 percentage points).

<sup>21</sup> From Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County: <http://cnylearns.org/>

<sup>22</sup> From CNY Works: <http://www.cnyworks.com/index.php>

**Table 22: Comparison Over Time - Educational Attainment, 2009 to 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse City		New York State	United States
	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change	Percent	Percent
Percent high school graduate or higher	1.30%		0.40%		1.20%	1.70%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	2.00%		0.80%		1.90%	1.80%

## Poverty

### *Prevalence of Poverty*

In Syracuse, 28.2% of families and 35.1% of all residents live in poverty.

According to a recent article in the Syracuse Post Standard, “One in two children in Syracuse lives in poverty in a city that now ranks as the 29th poorest in America...Syracuse and its neighbors Rochester (15th poorest) and Buffalo (16th poorest) continue to make Upstate New York stand out as one of the most impoverished regions in the nation.”<sup>23</sup>

Research conducted by Paul Jargowsky revealed a concern about the concentration of poverty within metropolitan areas, and the detrimental effect this concentration can have on successive generations of residents. According to Jargowsky, “The problems of poverty include concerns that have a neighborhood basis, such as the quality of housing, the effectiveness of schools, and the prevalence of crime, drugs, and violence. Neighborhood characteristics affect the day-to-day quality of life, and may also hinder poor families as they seek to cope with and work their way out of poverty. Given the susceptibility of children to peer influences, the spatial organization of poverty is particularly detrimental for poor families with school-age children.”<sup>24</sup>

An estimated 10.5% of Onondaga County families and 15.2% of all county residents have incomes below the poverty level established by the federal government (Table 23). These rates translate into 11,920 families and 71,206 residents living in poverty in Onondaga County. In Syracuse, 28.2% of families and 35.1% of residents live below the federal poverty level – 7,762 families and 50,771 residents.

<sup>23</sup> [http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2016/09/syracuses\\_poverty\\_rate\\_remains\\_among\\_worst\\_in\\_nation\\_census\\_finds.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2016/09/syracuses_poverty_rate_remains_among_worst_in_nation_census_finds.html)

<sup>24</sup> [https://tcf.org/assets/downloads/Concentration\\_of\\_Poverty\\_in\\_the\\_New\\_Millennium.pdf](https://tcf.org/assets/downloads/Concentration_of_Poverty_in_the_New_Millennium.pdf)

Poverty is one of the greatest challenges facing the region, according to stakeholder input from surveys administered in 2016 to community partners and PEACE, Inc. staff.

The county rate is slightly below the state rates (12% of families and 15.6% of all residents) and the national rates (11.5% of families and 15.6% of all residents). However, the rates for Syracuse are significantly higher than for the state and nation.

Table 23 presents percentages of residents in poverty by various family types and relationships with children. A fuller description of children in poverty can be found below.

**Table 23: Poverty by Family Type and Relationships with Children, 2014**

	<b>Onondaga County</b>	<b>Syracuse city</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>United States</b>
All families	10.5%	28.2%	12.0%	11.5%
With related children under 18 years	17.9%	42.9%	18.5%	18.1%
With related children under 5 years only	19.1%	39.7%	17.1%	18.6%
Married couple families	3.5%	11.2%	6.1%	5.7%
With related children under 18 years	5.4%	20.2%	8.9%	8.4%
With related children under 5 years only	4.5%	15.6%	7.4%	7.0%
Families with female householder, no husband present	30.9%	45.7%	28.3%	30.9%
With related children under 18 years	41.2%	56.1%	38.4%	40.5%
With related children under 5 years only	49.1%	53.5%	40.7%	47.0%
<b>All people</b>				
Under 18 years	15.2%	35.1%	15.6%	15.6%
Related children under 18 years	22.0%	50.0%	22.1%	21.9%
Related children under 5 years	21.7%	49.8%	21.8%	21.6%
Related children 5 to 17 years	25.5%	49.7%	24.2%	24.9%
18 years and over	20.4%	49.8%	20.9%	20.3%
18 to 64 years	13.2%	30.2%	13.8%	13.6%
65 years and over	14.5%	32.5%	14.3%	14.6%
People in families	7.8%	16.7%	11.4%	9.4%
Unrelated individuals 15 years and over	12.0%	32.2%	13.2%	13.0%
Unrelated individuals 15 years and over	26.5%	41.3%	25.3%	26.9%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

*Comparison Over Time of Poverty*

Since 2009, the percentage of Syracuse families in poverty increased by 3.1 percentage points. The percent of people in poverty increased by 4.8 percentage points.

Since 2009, Onondaga County, New York State and the United States have all seen an increase in the percentage of families and people living below the federal poverty level (Table 24). For the county, this increased by only 1.1% compared to a state increase of 1.5% and national increase of 1.6%.

However, the City of Syracuse has seen a substantially greater increase in the percentage of families and people living in poverty, when compared to the county, state and nation. The increase in the percentage of Syracuse families in poverty was 3.1% and for people was 4.8%.

**Table 24: Comparison Over Time of Poverty, 2009 to 2014**

Change in Percentages	Onondaga County	Syracuse city	New York	United States
All families	1.10%	3.10%	1.50%	1.60%
All people	2.00%	4.80%	1.80%	2.10%

*Unemployment*

Unemployment rate for Blacks is 16.6% in Onondaga County and 18.8% in Syracuse.

Unemployment rate for Hispanics is 17.1% in Onondaga County and 26.5% in Syracuse.

A major contributing factor to poverty is unemployment. In 2014, 63.5% of Onondaga County residents age 16 years and older are in the labor force, which is nearly identical to New York State and United States figures (Table 25). In Syracuse, 56.5% of residents are in the labor force. The number of unemployed people averaged 7.8% of the labor force in Onondaga County for the period 2009-2014, and 12.5% in Syracuse. This compares to 8.9% in the state and

9.2% in the nation.

Community partners and PEACE, Inc. staff who responded to a survey felt the availability of employment opportunities is the greatest single challenge facing the area.

As noted in Table 25, age is a factor in the difference between the county and Syracuse unemployment rates. The most notable disparity is among those who are 16 to 19 years old, with the second most difference being among those who are 45 to 54 years old (Figure 8).

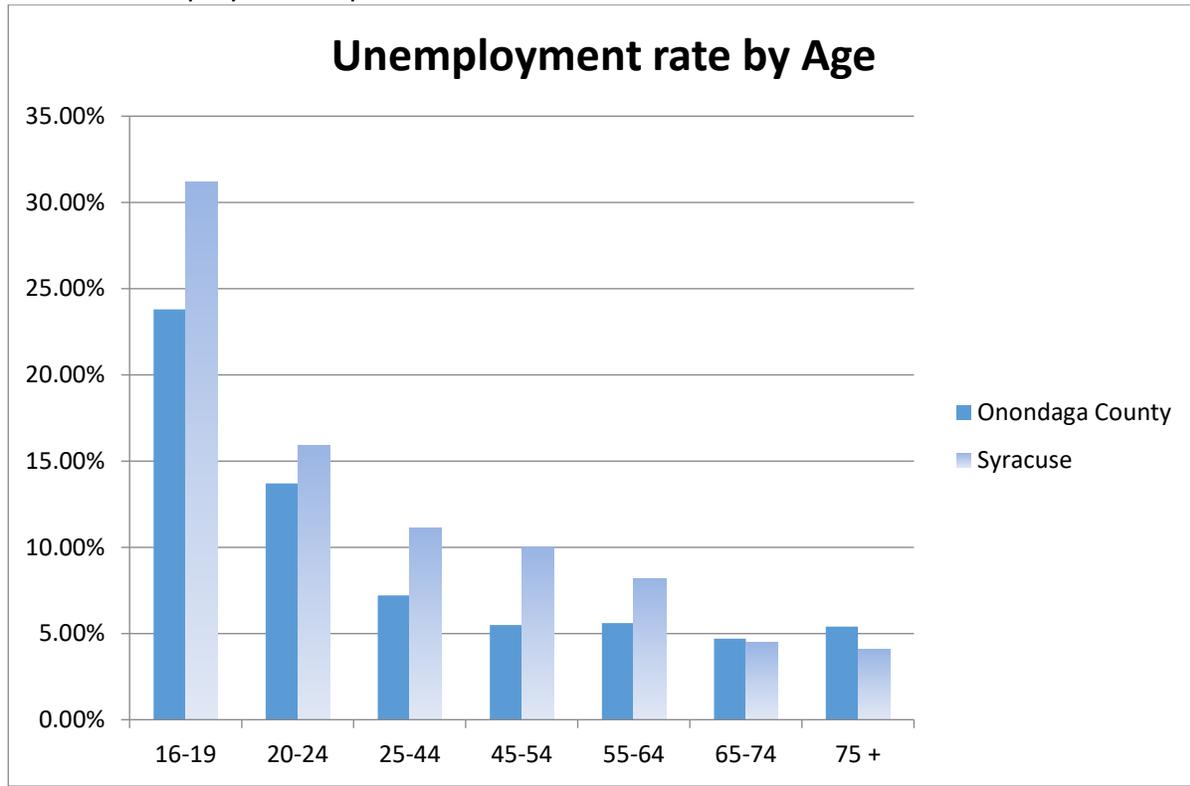
Unemployment Rates also differ by race (Table 25 and Figure 9). In Onondaga County, the unemployment rate is 6.6% for Whites, 16.6% for Blacks and 17.1% for Hispanics. In Syracuse, the unemployment rate is 9% for Whites, 18.8% for Blacks and 26.5% for Hispanics.

**Table 25: Unemployment Rates by Age and Race, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York		United States	
	In labor force	Unemploy. rate	In labor force	Unemploy. rate	In labor force	Unemploy. rate	In labor force	Unemploy. rate
Total Pop 16 years and over	63.50%	7.80%	56.50%	12.50%	63.50%	8.90%	63.90%	9.20%
<b>AGE</b>								
16 to 19 years	38.10%	23.80%	34.00%	31.20%	31.20%	27.40%	37.40%	27.10%
20 to 24 years	69.60%	13.70%	59.50%	15.90%	67.50%	16.00%	73.60%	15.30%
25 to 44 years	83.50%	7.20%	75.00%	11.10%	82.60%	8.20%	82.30%	8.40%
45 to 54 years	82.10%	5.50%	70.40%	10.00%	80.90%	6.70%	80.40%	7.00%
55 to 64 years	66.90%	5.60%	56.00%	8.20%	65.70%	6.60%	64.30%	6.60%
65 to 74 years	26.10%	4.70%	25.20%	4.50%	26.60%	6.70%	25.30%	6.20%
75 years and over	5.60%	5.40%	5.90%	4.10%	6.40%	6.40%	6.00%	5.70%
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN</b>								
One race	63.60%	7.70%	56.50%	12.30%	63.50%	8.80%	63.90%	9.10%
White	64.70%	6.60%	57.90%	9.00%	63.80%	7.30%	63.80%	7.90%
Black or African American	58.70%	16.80%	56.60%	18.80%	61.40%	14.40%	62.20%	16.10%
American Indian and Alaska Native	62.10%	9.80%	47.40%	23.80%	60.10%	13.90%	58.90%	15.90%
Asian	52.90%	10.00%	45.50%	12.30%	63.30%	7.60%	65.40%	7.10%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	48.70%	0.00%	38.10%	0.00%	69.30%	8.10%	67.40%	13.30%
Some other race	56.00%	17.60%	54.70%	22.60%	65.60%	12.00%	69.50%	11.60%
Two or more races	59.60%	12.70%	55.20%	17.80%	64.00%	12.40%	65.20%	13.40%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	61.10%	17.10%	55.80%	26.50%	64.40%	11.30%	67.50%	11.00%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	64.80%	6.40%	58.10%	8.30%	63.80%	7.00%	63.30%	7.50%

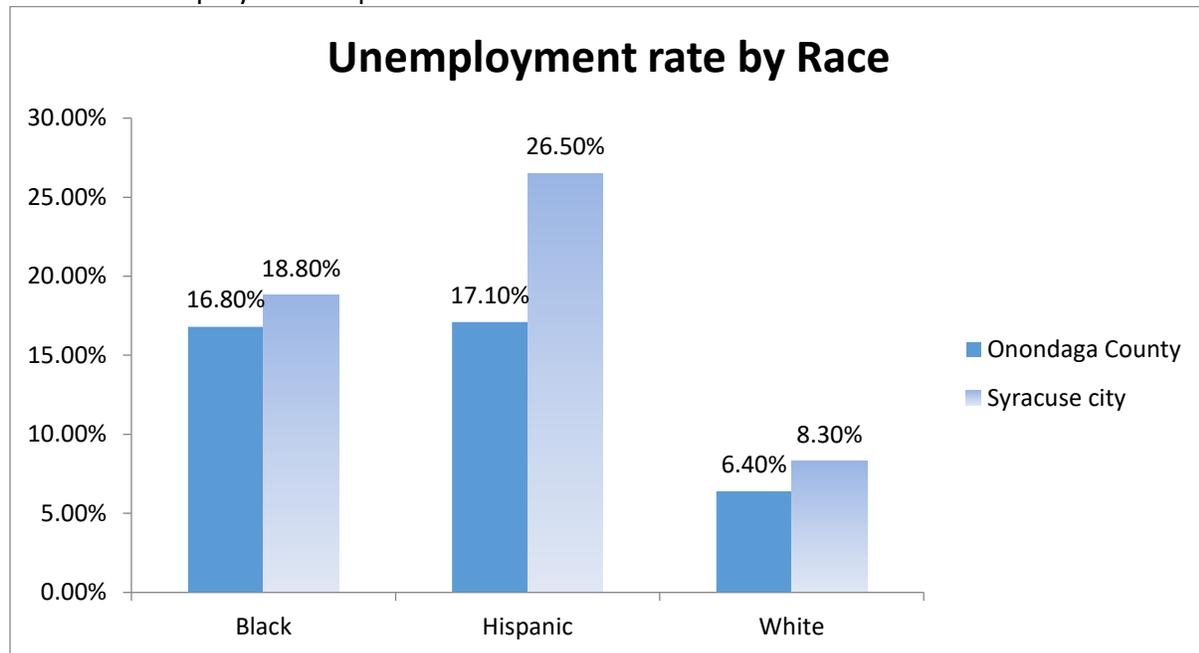
Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 8: Unemployment Rate by Age Group, 2014**  
Percent Unemployed of Population in Labor Force



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 9: Unemployment Rate by Race, 2014**  
Percent Unemployed of Population in Labor Force



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

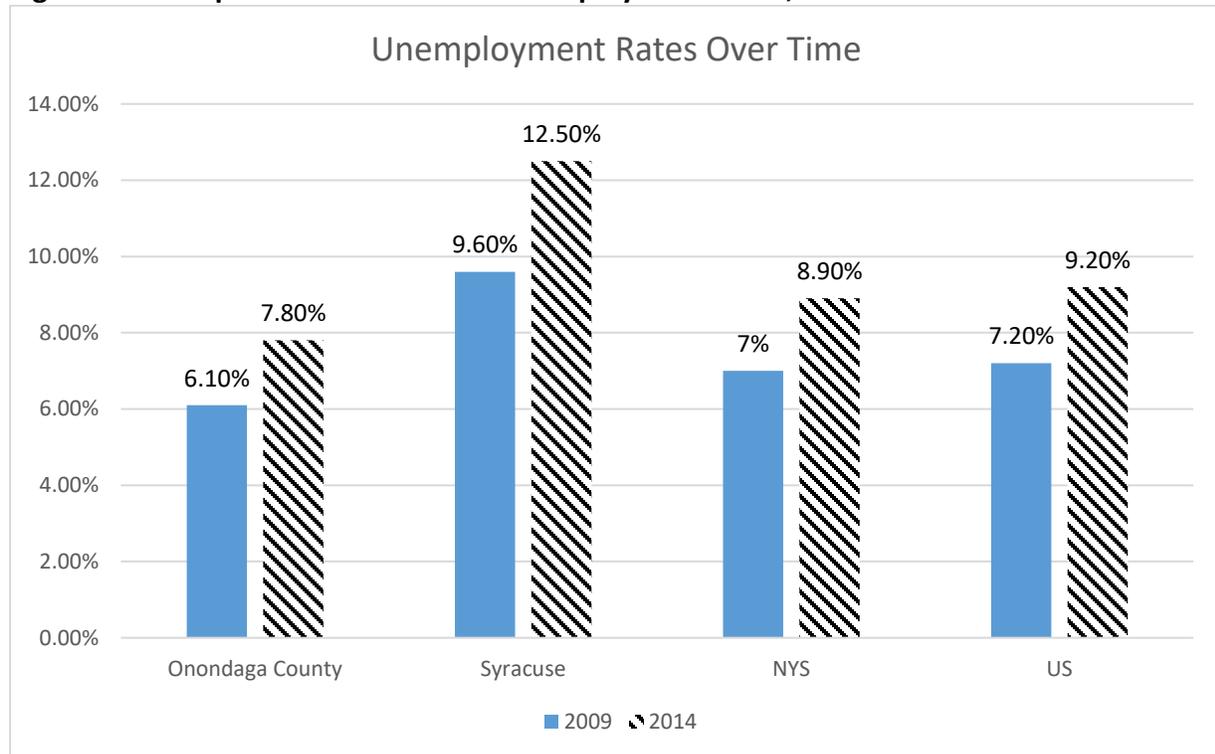
### Comparison Over Time of Unemployment Rates

Since 2009, the unemployment rate in Syracuse increased by 2.9 percentage points.

Unemployment rates have been steadily increasing for several years. As reported in the 2011 Community Needs Assessment, unemployment rates have been increasing since 2008, when the average was about 4.5% countywide.

Since 2009, the rates have continued to increase across all relevant geographies (Figure 10).

**Figure 10: Comparison Over Time of Unemployment Rates, 2009 to 2014**



### Household Income

Of the 113,521 families in Onondaga County, the median income is \$71,122 (Table 26). For the 27,524 families in Syracuse, the median income is \$39,190, much lower than the county's. Both the county and Syracuse median income are lower than New York State's (\$71,419), while the county median is higher than the nation's (\$65,443). Per capita income for Onondaga County averages \$29,156 annually, which is above the nation's (\$28,555) but lower than New York State's (\$32,829). In contrast, per capita income for Syracuse is \$19,283 annually, about 34% lower than the countywide average. More than half of Onondaga County families earn an annual income between \$50,000 and \$150,000, while only 36.8% of Syracuse families earn incomes within that range (Figure 11).

Per capita annual income for Onondaga County residents is \$29,156. Per capita income for Syracuse residents is \$19,283.

For Blacks, per capita income in the county is \$15,353 and in Syracuse is \$13,556.

For Hispanics, per capita income in the county is \$15,122 and in Syracuse is \$10,384.

The economic situation for some racial and ethnic minorities in Onondaga County and Syracuse is less favorable than the population in general (Table 27 and Figure 12), with the disparity significantly greater in the city. Per capita income for African American residents of Onondaga County is \$15,353 annually, or 52.7% of the countywide average. In Syracuse city, per capita income for African Americans is even lower, at \$13,556, although it is 70.3% of the overall city's average, due in part to the higher percentage of African Americans in the city. Furthermore, per capita income for both Onondaga County and Syracuse African American residents is well below both the New York State (\$21,716) and national

(\$19,113) rates. The per capita income for Hispanic residents of Onondaga County (\$15,122) is 51.9% of the countywide rate, and per capita income for Hispanic Syracuse residents is even lower, at \$10,384 (53.9% of the city average). Per capita rates for Onondaga County and Syracuse Hispanics are considerably less than the rates for New York State (\$18,709) and the nation (\$16,367).

**Table 26: Income of Families, 2014**

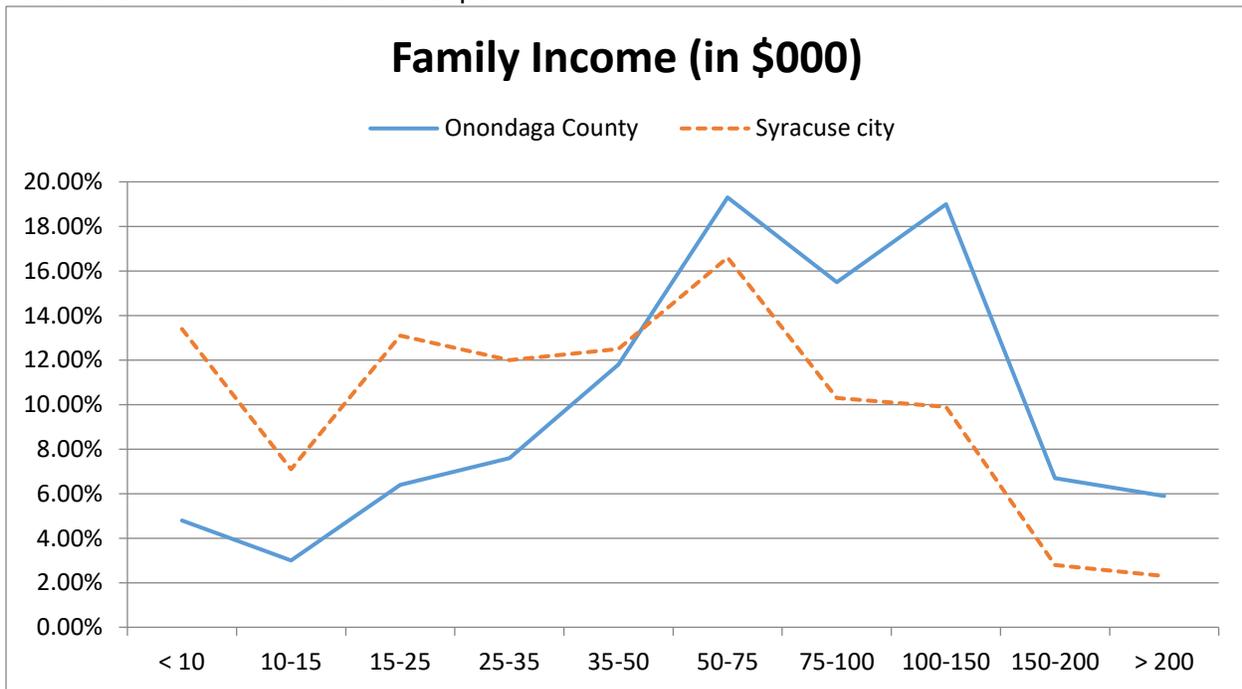
	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent of Families	Estimate	Percent of Families	Percent of Families	Percent of Families
Number of Families	113,521	113,521	27,524	27,524	4,636,017	76,958,064
Less than \$10,000	5,466	4.80%	3,692	13.40%	5.00%	4.70%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	3,412	3.00%	1,962	7.10%	3.40%	3.20%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	7,220	6.40%	3,602	13.10%	7.70%	8.00%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	8,653	7.60%	3,297	12.00%	8.00%	8.90%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	13,393	11.80%	3,432	12.50%	11.30%	12.90%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	21,892	19.30%	4,579	16.60%	16.90%	18.90%

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\$75,000 to \$99,999	17,591	15.50%	2,829	10.30%	13.30%	14.20%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	21,521	19.00%	2,730	9.90%	17.30%	16.20%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	7,649	6.70%	771	2.80%	8.00%	6.50%
\$200,000 or more	6,724	5.90%	630	2.30%	9.20%	6.60%
Median family income (dollars)	71,122		39,190		71,419	65,443
Mean family income (dollars)	87,944		56,559		99,640	86,963

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 11: Family Income, 2014**  
Percent of Families in Income Groups



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

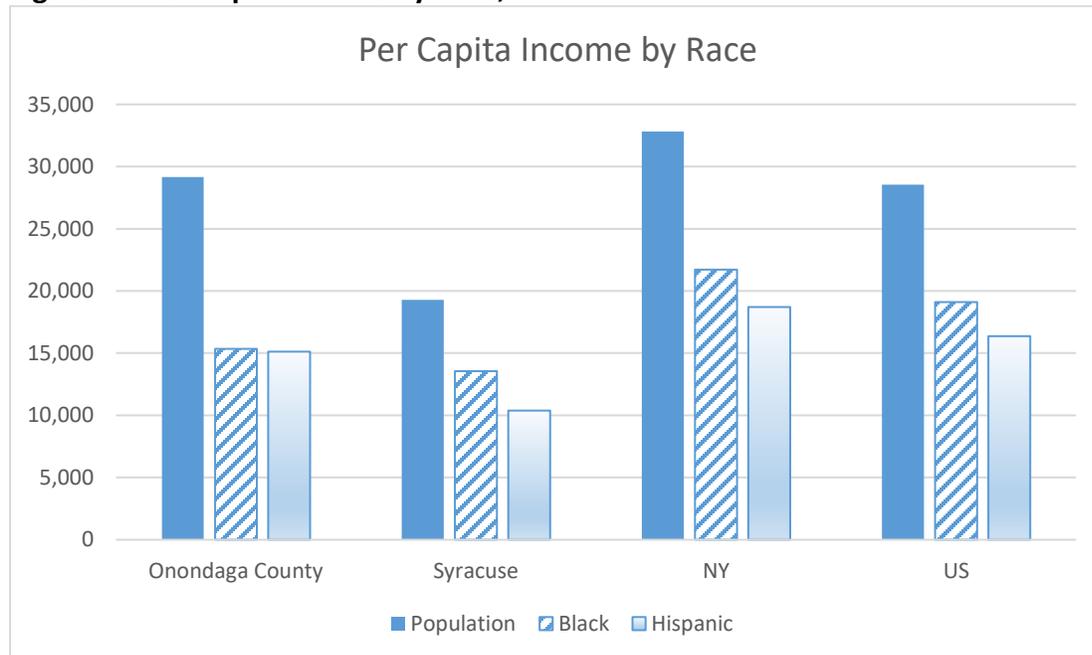
**Table 27: Per Capita Income by Race, 2014**

Per capita income in the past 12 months (in 2014 inflation-adjusted dollars)

	Onondaga County	Syracuse	New York	United States
General Population	29,156	19,283	32,829	28,555
White	32,776	25,564	40,797	33,902
Black	15,353	13,556	21,716	19,113
Hispanic	15,122	10,384	18,709	16,367
American Indian	21,761	10,900	19,150	17,134
Asian	20,136	11,317	30,789	32,404
Other	13,209	10,789	16,019	15,152
Multi-racial	12,396	9,717	18,506	15,876

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 12: Per Capita Income by Race, 2014**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

*Comparison Over Time of Family Income*

Since 2009, the median family income has increased by 8.7% in Onondaga County and by 4.5% in Syracuse (Table 28). This compares to an increase of 6.5% in New York State and an increase of 4.9% nationwide. Per capita income in the county rose by 7.8%, while it rose by 9.2% in Syracuse. During this period, New York State’s per capita income rose substantially, by 21.4%, while the nation’s decreased by 6.8%.

Since 2009, per capita income for Blacks rose by 11.8% in Onondaga County and by 15.5% in Syracuse.

Per capita income for Hispanics rose by 18.5% in Onondaga County, but decreased by 3.2% in Syracuse.

For Blacks and Hispanics across the county, per capita income rose between 2009 and 2014 by more than the county population in general: 11.8% for Blacks and 18.5% for Hispanics. In Syracuse, per capita income also increased for Blacks (by 15.5%), but decreased for Hispanics (by 3.2%). Both groups saw a substantial per capita increase in New York State (21.4% for Blacks and 20.7% for Hispanics), while nationally there were decreases (4.3% for Blacks and 3.8% for Hispanics).

**Table 28: Comparison Over Time of Family Income, 2009 to 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York		United States	
	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change
Median family income (dollars)	5,664	8.7%	1,705	4.5%	4,379	6.5%	3,080	4.9%
Per capita income (dollars)								
Population	2,118	7.8%	1,631	9.2%	5,788	21.4%	-2,079	-6.8%
Black	1,622	11.8%	1,823	15.5%	3,829	21.4%	-855	-4.3%
Hispanic	2,362	18.5%	-339	-3.2%	3,204	20.7%	-648	-3.8%

*Public Assistance*

30.2% of Syracuse households receive food stamps or SNAP benefits. 13.9% of Onondaga County households receive food stamps or SNAP benefits.

The poverty burden in an area can be gauged by its residents' use of public benefits (Table 29). In Onondaga County, 10,729 (5.8%) households receive an average of \$9,667 in Supplemental Security Income each year. Of these, 6,109 are in Syracuse, representing 11.1% of city households. In addition, 7,184 county households receive cash public assistance income, 4,870 of which are in Syracuse. About 25,784 (13.9%) households receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Onondaga County, of which 16,705 (30.2%) are in Syracuse. The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) in Onondaga County served an average of 10,077 participants

per month in 2012.<sup>25</sup> Furthermore, in 2015 there were 7,712 recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Onondaga County, of which 5,672 were children.<sup>26</sup>

A comparison of public assistance usage in Onondaga County and Syracuse, as well as New York State and the United States, is depicted visually in Figure 13. As the figure shows, the county numbers are comparable to the state and nation, while the percentage of the population in Syracuse who receive public assistance is significantly higher.

**Table 29: Usage of Public Assistance, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse city		New York		United States	
	Estimate	% of Households	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
Total households	185,089	185,089	55,279	55,279	7,255,528	7,255,528	116,211,092	116,211,092
With earnings	140,002	75.60%	38,809	70.20%	5,624,422	77.50%	90,513,367	77.90%
Mean earnings	\$75,081		\$50,881		\$90,041		\$76,303	
With Social Security	56,994	30.80%	14,891	26.90%	2,114,868	29.10%	34,082,501	29.30%
Mean Social Security income	\$18,323		\$14,762		\$17,900		\$17,636	
With retirement income	37,532	20.30%	8,399	15.20%	1,273,859	17.60%	20,738,512	17.80%
Mean retirement income	\$22,932		\$20,056		\$25,809		\$24,095	
With Supplemental Security Income	10,729	5.80%	6,109	11.10%	455,602	6.30%	6,160,788	5.30%
Mean Supplemental Security Income	\$9,667		\$9,321		\$9,372		\$9,400	
With cash public assistance income	7,184	3.90%	4,870	8.80%	247,320	3.40%	3,274,407	2.80%

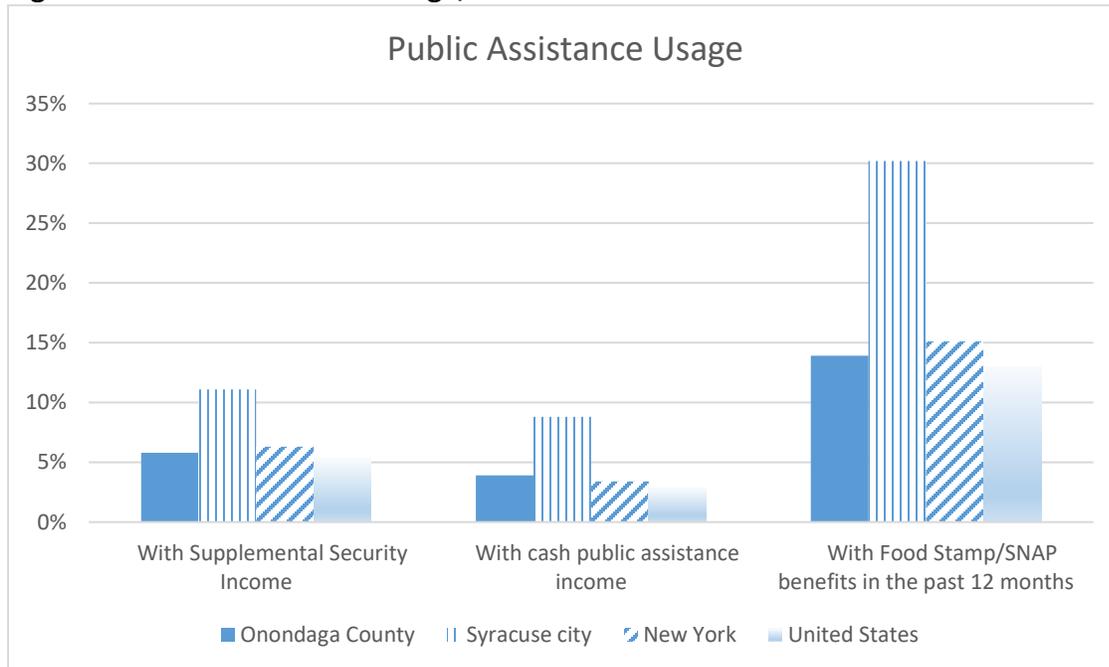
<sup>25</sup> Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan, 2014-2017, Onondaga County Health Department

<sup>26</sup> From New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance:  
<https://otda.ny.gov/resources/caseload/2015/2015-12-stats.pdf>

Mean cash public assistance income	\$3,540		\$3,663		\$4,110		\$3,720	
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in the past 12 months	25,784	13.90%	16,705	30.20%	1,099,161	15.10%	15,089,358	13.00%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Figure 13: Public Assistance Usage, 2014**



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Access to healthy foods was identified by PEACE, Inc. staff responding to a survey as an ongoing need within the community.

In addition to SNAP benefits, low-income families within Onondaga County can use services provided by the Food Bank of Central New York, particularly to receive fresh produce. According to Sarah Miller-Locke, Director of Strategic Initiatives at Food Bank of Central New York, “Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, 713,162 individuals... and 3,314,288 meals were served in Onondaga County from food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters.” Furthermore, the Food Bank “strives to engage partner agencies and community members in educational opportunities and projects encouraging community food security. The 2016 Garden Grant offers those who do not have an edible garden, or those who would like to expand their

existing garden, a chance to receive \$250 of reimbursement for supplies to install or enhance a garden including raised beds, cedar barrels, plants, soil and seeds.”<sup>27</sup>

Affordable housing was identified by community partners and PEACE, Inc. staff as a critical need within the community.

Securing affordable housing is a challenge to many, particularly for minorities and those living in poverty. In 2014, CNY Fair Housing, Inc. conducted an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing for Syracuse and Onondaga County, which reported, “The Syracuse metropolitan area is one of the worst scoring cities in the country when looking at equality of opportunity based on race and ethnicity. Access to community assets is unevenly distributed geographically and across racial and ethnic groups... Very low-income households also struggle to find quality housing.”<sup>28</sup>

To help mitigate the impact of poverty on housing, several federal programs offer assistance. Table 30 provides a list of the programs which finance federally-assisted affordable rental housing in Onondaga County, with the number of properties and units funded through each program. The average number of units per property for affordable rentals in the county is 69.6. The county’s largest federally-assisted affordable rental community is Brighton Towers, with 600 units. Forty-seven apartment properties provide housing for seniors, representing 1,899 units. Of the 8,006 units in the county, 6,840 include some form of rental assistance to make rent more affordable for very low-income families.<sup>29</sup>

**Table 30: Programs Financing Federally Assisted Rental Housing, 2015**

Program	Properties	Units
Section 8	39	3,018
LIHTC	53	2,796
RD 515	16	483
Section 202	28	1,243
Section 811	3	36
Public Housing	9	2,313
Total	115	8,006

*Source: Affordable Housing Online.* Note: The total does not necessarily equal the sum of each program as some properties may participate in multiple funding programs.

<sup>27</sup> From Food Bank of Central New York: <http://www.foodbankcny.org/get-help/community-services/garden-grant/>

<sup>28</sup> <http://cnyfairhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/CNY-Fair-Housing-sm2.pdf>

<sup>29</sup> From Affordable Housing Online: <http://affordablehousingonline.com/housing-search/New-York/Onondaga-County/>

Table 31 depicts the distribution of federally-assisted affordable rental properties and units by city within Onondaga County. After Syracuse, Baldwinsville has the greatest number of properties and units, followed by Liverpool and North Syracuse.

**Table 31: Cities with Federally Assisted Projects in Onondaga County, 2015**

<b>City</b>	<b>Properties</b>	<b>Units</b>
Syracuse	62	5,226
Baldwinsville	7	630
Liverpool	2	303
North Syracuse	3	331
Cicero	5	194
Jordan	5	120
Manlius Town	1	120
East Syracuse	1	108
Brewerton	4	104
Camillus	3	95
Lysander	1	80
Marcellus	3	76
Kirkville	1	69
Skaneateles	2	64
Jamesville	1	55
Solvay	1	50
Fayetteville	1	50
Tully	2	47
Van Buren	1	39
E Syracuse	2	39
De Witt Town	1	39
La Fayette	1	36
Clay	1	34
Mattydale	2	33

Minoa	1	32
Manlius	1	32

*Source: Affordable Housing Online*

### Homelessness

In January 2014, there were 302 homeless females in Onondaga County.

In January 2014, there were 734 homeless Blacks in Onondaga County.

According to a Syracuse Post Standard report<sup>30</sup> “The number of homeless people in emergency shelters in Onondaga County in 2015 was 539. There were the same number of homeless living outside in 2015 and 2016... Of the eight unsheltered people... only one person (was) sleeping in the street. The rest were in cars or abandoned houses. One spent the night in Wegmans (grocery store).”

Tables 32 through 34 present the results of a “Point-in-Time (PIT) Count” conducted in January 2014 by the Housing and Homeless Coalition of Syracuse and Onondaga County,<sup>31</sup> which is a Continuum of Care (CoC) provider. According to the US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), “the (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. HUD requires that CoCs conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night. CoCs also must conduct a count of unsheltered homeless persons every other year (odd numbered years). Each count is planned, coordinated and carried out locally.”<sup>32</sup>

As seen in Tables 32 - 34, a total of 742 households were reported as homeless, with a total of 857 people. Of those, 121 were children under age 18. None of the households with children were unsheltered during the PIT count. Seven households without children were unsheltered. Of the individuals comprising the 68 households with at least one adult and one child (representing 172 people), almost two thirds (65.8%) were female, and almost two thirds (64.5%) were Black. Of the 18 children under age 18 living without an adult, there were as many females as males and more than half (55.6%) were Black.

<sup>30</sup> Report from Syracuse Post Standard:

[http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2016/02/number\\_of\\_homeless\\_drops\\_in\\_onondaga\\_county\\_during\\_anual\\_count.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2016/02/number_of_homeless_drops_in_onondaga_county_during_anual_count.html)

<sup>31</sup> From Housing and Homeless Coalition of Syracuse and Onondaga County: <http://www.hhccny.org/reports/>

<sup>32</sup> From U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/guides/pit-hic/>

As reported in the 2011 PEACE, Inc. Community Needs Assessment, there were 247 homeless families in Onondaga County, representing 747 individuals, including 471 children. The number of homeless individuals increased between 2011 and 2014 by 14.7%, however the composition of the homeless households has shifted dramatically to those without children. The number of homeless children decreased by 74.3%, while the number of families more than tripled (increase of 200.4%).

**Table 32: Homeless, January 2014 - Households with at least one Adult and one Child**

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	32	36	0	68
Total Number of Persons (Adults and Children)	92	80	0	172
Number of Persons (Under Age 18)	60	43	0	103
Number of Persons (Age 18-24)	16	22	0	38
Number of Persons (Over Age 24)	16	15	0	31
Number of Persons with Missing DOB	0	0	0	0
<b>Gender (adults and children)</b>				
Female	60	53	0	113
Male	32	27	0	59
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity (adults and children)</b>				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	73	74	0	147
Hispanic/Latino	19	6	0	25
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0
<b>Race (adults and children)</b>				
White	15	14	0	29
Black or African-American	58	53	0	111
Asian	0	2	0	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	6	1	0	7
Multiple Races	13	10	0	23
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0

Source: Housing and Homeless Coalition of Syracuse and Onondaga County

**Table 33: Homeless, January 2014 - Households without Children**

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	392	261	7	660
Total Number of Persons (Adults)	394	266	7	667
Number of Persons (Age 18-24)	32	25	1	58
Number of Persons (Over Age 24)	362	241	6	609
Number of Persons with Missing DOB	0	0	0	0
<b>Gender</b>				
Female	113	75	1	189
Male	280	190	6	476
Transgender	1	1	0	2
Other	0	0	0	0
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	366	249	7	622
Hispanic/Latino	28	17	0	45
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0
<b>Race</b>				
White	188	126	7	321
Black or African-American	190	131	0	321
Asian	2	0	0	2
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	3	0	5
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	1	0	3
Multiple Races	10	5	0	15
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0

*Source: Housing and Homeless Coalition of Syracuse and Onondaga County*

**Table 34: Homeless, January 2014 - Households Only Children (under age 18)**

	Sheltered		Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional		
Total Number of Households	4	10	0	14
Total Number of One-Child Households	4	6	0	10
Total number of Multi-Child Households	0	4	0	4
Number of Children in Multi-Child Households	0	8	0	8
<b>Gender</b>				

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Female	1	8	0	9
Male	3	6	0	9
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	3	12	0	15
Hispanic/Latino	1	2	0	3
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0
<b>Race</b>				
White	1	1	0	2
Black or African-American	3	7	0	10
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	2	0	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	0	4	0	4
Don't Know / Refused	0	0	0	0
Missing / Non-HUD	0	0	0	0

*Source: Housing and Homeless Coalition of Syracuse and Onondaga County*

To assist county residents with economic issues, several agencies provide various services. Appendix D contains a comprehensive list of agencies and programs that offer assistance with financial concerns, including debt management and resource assistance. Within the appendix is also a list of agencies that offer assistance with employment services, including career and job exploration and development, as well as adult education and retraining opportunities. Furthermore, there is a list of agencies that offer legal assistance to families and youths, particularly those with limited income.

In addition, county administrators host a comprehensive website to assist residents with government services, including a list of social services assisting with economic security. People can access any of the services through the contact information provided by the site. Moreover, each town and village within the county employs a clerk who is available for a variety of services.

Senior Citizens

22.1% of all seniors in Onondaga County are females living alone.

24.9% of all seniors in Syracuse are females living alone.

In Onondaga County, 98,376 people are ages 50 to 65 (20.6% of the total population) and 68,417 (14.6%) are over age 65. In Syracuse, 23,288 (16.1%) are ages 50 to 65 and 15,805 (11%) are over age 65. Of those over 65 in the county, 9.6% of the males live alone and 22.1% of the females live alone. In Syracuse, 13.2% of the males

over 65 live alone and 24.9% of the females live alone. These figures are higher than the state and national averages, as Table 35 indicates.

**Table 35: Seniors Over 65 Living Alone, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	% of Seniors	Estimate	% of Seniors	% of Seniors	% of Seniors
Total Over 65	68,417		15,805		2,755,172	43,177,961
Male Living alone	6,598	9.6%	2,094	13.2%	8.3%	8.0%
Female Living alone	15,101	22.1%	3,929	24.9%	20.5%	18.8%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

In addition to children and families as noted above, seniors living in poverty warrant special attention. In Onondaga County, 7.8% of residents age 65 and older live in poverty, as do 16.7% of seniors in Syracuse (Table 36). The county level is below that of the state (11.4%) and the nation (9.4%), while the Syracuse level is higher than the others.

21.7% of seniors in Syracuse receive SNAP benefits.

As sources of income, 91.9% of the senior county residents receive Social Security Income, which is comparable to Syracuse (89.1%), New York State (89.2%) and the United States (90.8%). The mean amount of Social Security received by seniors in the county is \$20,053, while the mean in Syracuse is \$16,998.

In addition, 5.2% of county seniors receive Supplemental Security Income, as do 9.6% of the seniors in Syracuse. In Onondaga County, 1.8% of the seniors receive cash public assistance, while 4.2% of the seniors in Syracuse receive cash public assistance. Furthermore, 10.1% of county seniors receive SNAP benefits, compared to 21.7% in Syracuse.

**Table 36: Income and Poverty Status of Households of Seniors Over 65, 2014**

	<b>Onondaga County</b>	<b>Syracuse</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS</b>				
Population for whom poverty status is determined	65,323	14,123	2,655,913	41,871,247
Below 100 percent of the poverty level	7.80%	16.70%	11.40%	9.40%
100 to 149 percent of the poverty level	10.10%	14.30%	10.60%	10.90%
At or above 150 percent of the poverty level	82.20%	69.00%	78.00%	79.70%
<b>INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2014 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)</b>				
Households	43,755	10,047	1,686,935	26,534,971
With earnings	33.80%	32.50%	36.40%	35.30%
Mean earnings	\$46,529	\$44,622	\$63,174	\$50,291
With Social Security income	91.90%	89.10%	89.20%	90.80%
Mean Social Security income	\$20,053	\$16,998	\$19,378	\$19,195
With Supplemental Security Income	5.20%	9.60%	8.70%	6.40%
Mean Supplemental Security Income	\$9,492	\$8,108	\$8,811	\$9,019
With cash public assistance income	1.80%	4.20%	2.10%	1.80%
Mean cash public assistance income	\$3,146	\$3,494	\$3,757	\$3,451
With retirement income	52.70%	46.40%	48.00%	48.30%
Mean retirement income	\$22,189	\$20,058	\$25,115	\$24,069
With Food Stamp/SNAP benefits	10.10%	21.70%	14.70%	8.50%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

To support seniors, many programs exist within the county, particularly those operated by PEACE, Inc., which offers programs at Family Resource Centers throughout Onondaga County including emergency assistance, crisis intervention, advocacy, supportive services, employment support, youth activities, education and family development partnerships.<sup>33</sup> In addition, PEACE, Inc. offers the Neighborhood Advisor Program, the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.peace-caa.org/>

Program, the Senior Nutrition Program, and the Foster Grandparents Program. Furthermore, senior bus services are available in Cicero and Syracuse.

### School Enrollment

In Onondaga County, 75,168 students were enrolled in school during the 2014-2015 academic year (Table 37)<sup>34</sup>. Tables 38 through 40 give the enrollment figures for each grade by school district, including non-public schools. For all students, 28.4% were enrolled in the Syracuse City School District. Of the 53,834 students outside of Syracuse, the school districts with the largest enrollments were North Syracuse with 17.1%, Liverpool with 13.4% and Baldwinsville with 10.3%. The smallest districts, with less than 2% enrolled in each, were Lyncourt, Fabius-Pompey, Lafayette, Onondaga, Tully Central School, and Jordan-Elbridge Districts.

Table 41 gives the totals for school enrollment in the county for each grade. The grades with the highest number of students are 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades, with 6,341 and 6,045, respectively. Excluding pre-K, the grade with the fewest students is 4<sup>th</sup>. For pre-K, of the 2,873 total children enrolled, 689 were in Universal Pre-K programs operated by Community Based Organizations.

**Table 37: School Enrollment by District, 2014-2015**

District	Totals	% Excluding Syracuse
Baldwinsville CSD	5,561	10.3%
East Syracuse-Minoa CSD	3,493	6.5%
Fabius-Pompey CSD	676	1.3%
Fayetteville-Manlius CSD	4,157	7.7%
Jamesville-Dewitt CSD	2,928	5.4%
Jordan-Elbridge CSD	1,357	2.5%
Lafayette CSD	870	1.6%
Liverpool CSD	7,202	13.4%
Lyncourt Union Free SD	354	0.7%
Marcellus CSD	1,747	3.2%
North Syracuse CSD	9,180	17.1%
Onondaga CSD	872	1.6%
Skaneateles CSD	1,414	2.6%
Solvay Union Free SD	1,495	2.8%
Syracuse City SD	21,334	-
Tully CSD	912	1.7%

<sup>34</sup> From New York State Education Department

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West Genesee CSD	4,759	8.8%
Westhill CSD	1,792	3.3%
Non-Public Schools	5,065	9.4%
<b>County Total</b>	<b>75,168</b>	-

Source: New York State Education Department

**Table 38: School Enrollment in Pre-K and Kindergarten by School District, 2014-2015**

District	Pre-K	Universal Pre-K	Total Pre-K	Kindergarten	Total Pre-K & KG
Baldwinsville CSD	-	-	-	360	360
East Syracuse-Minoa CSD	252	-	252	231	483
Fabius-Pompey CSD	-	-	-	43	43
Fayetteville-Manlius CSD	-	-	-	238	238
Jamesville-Dewitt CSD	-	-	-	203	203
Jordan-Elbridge CSD	58	2	60	86	146
Lafayette CSD	41	-	41	75	116
Liverpool CSD	-	-	-	565	565
Lyncourt Union Free SD	36	-	36	33	69
Marcellus CSD	-	-	-	116	116
North Syracuse CSD	144	232	376	665	1,041
Onondaga CSD	33	-	33	58	91
Skaneateles CSD	-	-	-	75	75
Solvay Union Free SD	34	3	37	99	136
Syracuse City SD	798	452	1,250	1,668	2,918
Tully CSD	-	-	-	49	49
West Genesee CSD	-	-	-	332	332
Westhill CSD	-	-	-	127	127
Non-Public Schools	788		788	328	1,116
<b>County Total</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>2,873</b>	<b>5,351</b>	<b>8,224</b>

Source: New York State Education Department

**Table 39: School Enrollment in Grades 1-8 by School District, 2014-2015**

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	Ungraded Elem	7	8	Total 1-8
Baldwinsville	381	407	394	404	415	403	9	427	450	3,290
East Syracuse-Minoa	244	255	246	243	238	240	9	243	253	1,971
Fabius-Pompey	41	49	42	45	65	44	-	54	56	396
Fayetteville-Manlius	279	299	290	287	287	329	7	366	320	2,464
Jamesville-Dewitt	193	210	208	204	252	224	7	232	218	1,748
Jordan-Elbridge	98	84	83	89	100	96	-	110	123	783

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Lafayette	61	53	73	59	61	57	-	71	66	501
Liverpool	533	531	563	518	532	549	28	544	540	4,338
Lyncourt	46	32	39	35	38	27	-	29	39	285
Marcellus	97	125	113	134	139	125	11	141	135	1,020
North Syracuse	655	629	679	632	700	654	15	675	728	5,367
Onondaga	59	67	60	67	57	76	-	64	68	518
Skaneateles	85	90	92	105	97	124	6	102	119	820
Solvay	114	104	101	90	94	96	-	112	101	812
Syracuse	1,688	1,661	1,567	1,452	1,444	1,379	106	1,396	1,459	12,152
Tully	62	65	65	55	63	75	-	59	88	532
West Genesee	312	323	313	303	341	376	10	421	401	2,800
Westhill	122	118	131	134	139	130	12	152	139	1,077
Non-Public Schools	324	316	320	303	297	295	1	312	335	2,503
<b>County Total</b>	<b>5,394</b>	<b>5,418</b>	<b>5,379</b>	<b>5,159</b>	<b>5,359</b>	<b>5,299</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>5,510</b>	<b>5,638</b>	<b>43,377</b>

Source: New York State Education Department

**Table 40: School Enrollment in Grades 9-12 by School District, 2014-2015**

District	9	10	11	12	Ungraded Secondary	Total 9-12
Baldwinsville CSD	469	511	455	458	18	1,911
East Syracuse-Minoa CSD	259	241	265	253	21	1,039
Fabius-Pompey CSD	50	70	68	49	-	237
Fayetteville-Manlius CSD	372	362	362	339	20	1,455
Jamesville-Dewitt CSD	251	254	229	230	13	977
Jordan-Elbridge CSD	111	120	87	104	6	428
Lafayette CSD	69	69	64	51	-	253
Liverpool CSD	557	591	551	555	45	2,299
Lyncourt Union Free SD	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marcellus CSD	154	150	148	159	-	611
North Syracuse CSD	717	716	654	649	36	2,772
Onondaga CSD	68	70	64	61	-	263
Skaneateles CSD	124	131	138	121	5	519
Solvay Union Free SD	124	140	125	149	9	547
Syracuse City SD	1,989	1,649	1,134	1,280	212	6,264
Tully CSD	84	77	82	88	-	331
West Genesee CSD	398	415	382	416	16	1,627
Westhill CSD	153	134	151	142	8	588
Non-Public Schools	392	345	332	377	-	1,446
<b>County</b>	<b>6,341</b>	<b>6,045</b>	<b>5,291</b>	<b>5,481</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>23,567</b>

Source: New York State Education Department

**Table 41: School Enrollment in Onondaga County by Grade, 2014-2015**

2014-2015	Public School	Non-Public	County Total
Pre-K	1,396	788	2,184
Universal Pre-K	689		689
Pre-K Total	2,085	788	2,873
Kindergarten	5,023	328	5,351
1	5,070	324	5,394
2	5,102	316	5,418
3	5,059	320	5,379
4	4,856	303	5,159
5	5,062	297	5,359
6	5,004	295	5,299
Ungraded Elementary	220	1	221
7	5,198	312	5,510
8	5,303	335	5,638
9	5,949	392	6,341
10	5,700	345	6,045
11	4,959	332	5,291
12	5,104	377	5,481
Ungraded Secondary	409	0	409
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70,103</b>	<b>5,065</b>	<b>75,168</b>

Source: New York State Education Department

### Prekindergarten Enrollment

48.8% of children enrolled in public school Pre-K programs are economically disadvantaged.

23.6% of children enrolled in public school Pre-K programs are students with disabilities.

Across Onondaga County, enrollment in prekindergarten programs was estimated in 2014-2015 to be 2,873 children (Table 42). Of those, 2,085 were enrolled in public schools, with 56.6% of those in full-day programs. As noted above, 689 were in Universal Pre-K programs operated by Community Based Organizations.

In public school pre-K programs, slightly more than half are males, while slightly more females attend pre-K programs in non-public schools. An estimated 45.7% of the public school pre-K enrollments are Caucasian children, while Blacks make up 28.4% of the total. Furthermore, almost half (48.8%) of all children in public school pre-K programs are economically disadvantaged, while 23.6% are students with disabilities.

**Table 42: County Enrollment in Prekindergarten Programs, 2014-2015**

<b>Public School Enrollment</b>						
	<b>Half Day</b>		<b>Full Day</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Total	904	43.4%	1181	56.6%	2085	
Female	430	47.6%	570	48.3%	1000	48.0%
Male	474	52.4%	611	51.7%	1085	52.0%
White	578	63.9%	374	31.7%	952	45.7%
Black	143	15.8%	450	38.1%	593	28.4%
Hispanic	54	6.0%	135	11.4%	189	9.1%
American Indian	3	0.3%	15	1.3%	18	0.9%
Asian	44	4.9%	77	6.5%	121	5.8%
Multi-racial	79	8.7%	128	10.8%	207	9.9%
Students with Disabilities	249	27.5%	243	20.6%	492	23.6%
Economically Disadvantaged	307	34.0%	711	60.2%	1018	48.8%
<b>Non-Public Schools Pre-K Enrollment</b>						
Total					788	
Female					403	51.1%
Male					385	48.9%

*Source: New York State Education Department*

#### *Comparison Over Time for School Enrollment*

Tables 43 and 44 show comparisons of School Enrollment for 2009-2010 and 2014-2015 by district and by grade, respectively. As can be seen, the county had a 5.6% decrease in school enrollment between these two years, with all grades decreasing except those Ungraded. The largest decrease was in Grade 4 (12.2%), followed by Grade 11 (8.3%), Grade 5 (7.6%) and Grade 6 (7.2%). The grades with the smallest decreases were Kindergarten (2.5%), Grade 10 (3.2%), Grade 1 (3.6%), and Grade 12 (3.7%).

Pre-K enrollment decreased by 5.4% throughout the county. In Syracuse, pre-K enrollment remained relatively stable, decreasing by only 3 children. While enrollment for Kindergarten decreased by 2.5% for the whole county, it increased in Syracuse by 37 children, representing an increase of 2.3%.

The school districts with the greatest decreases in enrollment were Fabius-Pompey (19.3%), Tully (17.8%), and Skaneateles (15%). In addition, the number of students attending Private schools

in the county decreased by 15.9%. However, while all grades decreased in enrollment across the county, not all school district had fewer students. Lyncourt had an 8.6% increase, Jamesville-Dewitt had a 2.1% increase, and Lafayette and Syracuse had minor increases.

**Table 43: Comparison Over Time for School Enrollment by Grade, 2009-2010 and 2014-2015**

	2009-2010	2014-2015	Change	Percent Change
Pre-K	3,037	2,873	-164	-5.4%
Kindergarten	5,488	5,351	-137	-2.5%
Grade 1	5,596	5,394	-202	-3.6%
Grade 2	5,666	5,418	-248	-4.4%
Grade 3	5,734	5,379	-355	-6.2%
Grade 4	5,874	5,159	-715	-12.2%
Grade 5	5,797	5,359	-438	-7.6%
Grade 6	5,710	5,299	-411	-7.2%
Ungraded Elementary	199	221	22	11.1%
Grade 7	5,824	5,510	-314	-5.4%
Grade 8	6,016	5,638	-378	-6.3%
Grade 9	6,675	6,341	-334	-5.0%
Grade 10	6,244	6,045	-199	-3.2%
Grade 11	5,771	5,291	-480	-8.3%
Grade 12	5,692	5,481	-211	-3.7%
Ungraded Secondary	333	409	76	22.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,656</b>	<b>75,168</b>	<b>-4,488</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>

Source: New York State Education Department

**Table 44: Comparison Over Time for School Enrollment by District, 2009-2010 and 2014-2015**

	2009-2010	2014-2015	Change	Percent Change
Baldwinsville CSD	5,815	5,561	-254	-4.4%
East Syracuse-Minoa CSD	3,524	3,493	-31	-0.9%
Fabius-Pompey CSD	838	676	-162	-19.3%
Fayetteville-Manlius CSD	4,588	4,157	-431	-9.4%
Jamesville-Dewitt CSD	2,868	2,928	60	2.1%
Jordan-Elbridge CSD	1,556	1,357	-199	-12.8%
Lafayette CSD	869	870	1	0.1%
Liverpool CSD	7,689	7,202	-487	-6.3%
Lyncourt Union Free SD	326	354	28	8.6%
Marcellus CSD	1,988	1,747	-241	-12.1%
North Syracuse CSD	9,956	9,180	-776	-7.8%
Onondaga CSD	973	872	-101	-10.4%
Skaneateles CSD	1,664	1,414	-250	-15.0%

Solvay Union Free SD	1,615	1,495	-120	-7.4%
Syracuse City SD	21,329	21,334	5	0.0%
Tully CSD	1,109	912	-197	-17.8%
West Genesee CSD	5,044	4,759	-285	-5.7%
Westhill CSD	1,884	1,792	-92	-4.9%
Non-Public	6,021	5,065	-956	-15.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,656</b>	<b>75,168</b>	<b>-4,488</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>

Source: New York State Education Department

The decreases in enrollment across all grades and many school districts can be attributed to decreases in the number of children ages 6 to 17 in both Onondaga County and Syracuse. From Tables 45 and 46, which are expanded from Table 4 above, the number of children between ages 6 and 17 decreased by 2,325 in the county and by 1,083 in Syracuse, representing decreases of 3.2% and 5.0%, respectively. The greatest decreases were for teenagers, ages 12-17, for both the county (5.2%) and for Syracuse (6.3%). Conversely, the number of children under 6 years old in Syracuse increased by 4.5% (520 children), indicating the likelihood of future growth in school enrollment within the city.

**Table 45: Comparison Over Time for Children Under 18 in Onondaga County, 2009 and 2014**

	2009	2014	Change	Percent Change
Total Under 18	106,423	104,152	-2,271	-2.1%
Under 6 years	32,778	32,832	54	0.2%
6 to 11 years	35,226	34,880	-346	-1.0%
12 to 17 years	38,419	36,440	-1,979	-5.2%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

**Table 46: Comparison Over Time for Children Under 18 in Syracuse, 2009 and 2014**

	2009	2014	Change	Percent Change
Total Under 18	33,252	32,656	-596	-1.8%
Under 6 years	11,505	12,025	520	4.5%
6 to 11 years	10,973	10,564	-409	-3.7%
12 to 17 years	10,740	10,067	-673	-6.3%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Child Well-Being and Poverty

21.7% of Onondaga County children and 49.8% of Syracuse children live in households with income below the federal poverty level.

14.9% of children in Onondaga County live in poverty with female-headed household.

35.7% of children in Syracuse live in poverty with female-headed household.

In Onondaga County, 102,643 children are below age 18 (Table 47). Of those, 22,286 (21.7%) live in households with income in the past 12 months that indicates they are below the federally established poverty level. Of Syracuse’s 32,121 children, almost half (49.8% or 15,994) live in poverty. The county rate is comparable to the state’s (21.8%) and the nation’s (21.6%), but the city’s is significantly higher.

Table 47 also depicts poverty status by various household configurations. In all relevant geographies, the greatest percentage of children in poverty is for those in households with a female head and no husband

present. For Onondaga County, that demographic accounts for 14.9% of all children living in poverty, and for Syracuse, 35.7%. By comparison, the percentage for New York State is 12.4% and for the nation is 12.3%.

**Table 47: Children’s Poverty Status by Age and Household Type, 2014**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	Percent of Total Children	Estimate	Percent of Total Children	Percent of Total Children	Percent of Total Children
Total Children Under 18	102,643		32,121		4,186,840	72,309,509
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level:	22,286	21.7%	15,994	49.8%	21.8%	21.6%
In married-couple family:	5,037	4.9%	3,173	9.9%	7.7%	7.3%
Under 5 years	1,538	1.5%	988	3.1%	2.4%	2.2%
5 years	461	0.4%	198	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%
6 to 17 years	3,038	3.0%	1,987	6.2%	4.8%	4.6%
In other family:	17,249	16.8%	12,821	39.9%	14.1%	14.3%
Male householder, no wife present:	1,934	1.9%	1,349	4.2%	1.7%	2.0%
Under 5 years	767	0.7%	630	2.0%	0.6%	0.7%
5 years	83	0.1%	72	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
6 to 17 years	1,084	1.1%	647	2.0%	1.0%	1.2%

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Female householder, no husband present:	15,315	14.9%	11,472	35.7%	12.4%	12.3%
Under 5 years	4,544	4.4%	3,395	10.6%	3.6%	3.9%
5 years	748	0.7%	625	1.9%	0.7%	0.8%
6 to 17 years	10,023	9.8%	7,452	23.2%	8.1%	7.7%
Income in the past 12 months at or above poverty level:	80,357	78.3%	16,127	50.2%	78.2%	78.4%
In married-couple family:	59,457	57.9%	8,489	26.4%	57.6%	59.4%
Under 5 years	15,117	14.7%	2,689	8.4%	15.7%	15.9%
5 years	3,334	3.2%	560	1.7%	3.1%	3.3%
6 to 17 years	41,006	40.0%	5,240	16.3%	38.7%	40.1%
In other family:	20,900	20.4%	7,638	23.8%	20.6%	19.1%
Male householder, no wife present:	4,948	4.8%	1,035	3.2%	5.1%	5.4%
Under 5 years	1,373	1.3%	371	1.2%	1.5%	1.5%
5 years	208	0.2%	4	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%
6 to 17 years	3,367	3.3%	660	2.1%	3.4%	3.6%
Female householder, no husband present:	15,952	15.5%	6,603	20.6%	15.5%	13.7%
Under 5 years	3,475	3.4%	2,012	6.3%	3.6%	3.0%
5 years	781	0.8%	308	1.0%	0.7%	0.7%
6 to 17 years	11,696	11.4%	4,283	13.3%	11.1%	10.0%
Total Under 5 years	26,814	26.1%	10,085	31.4%	27.5%	27.2%
Below Poverty	6,849	6.7%	5,013	15.6%	6.7%	6.8%
At or Above Poverty	19,965	19.5%	5,072	15.8%	20.8%	20.4%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Another indicator of poverty is the percentage of students receiving free or reduced price lunch at school.<sup>35</sup> As seen in Table 48, this varies by school district, with a far greater percentage of students in the Syracuse City School District receiving free or reduced price lunch compared to those in surrounding suburban school districts.

<sup>35</sup> From Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan, 2014-2017, Onondaga County Health Department, page 23

**Table 48. Free and reduced price lunch by school district, 2011-2012**

School District	Minority students	Free or Reduced Lunch
Baldwinsville	8.90%	22.30%
East Syracuse-Minoa	10.60%	33.50%
Fabius-Pompey	4.50%	23.60%
Fayetteville-Manlius	14.20%	8.30%
Jamesville-Dewitt	21.00%	13.20%
Jordan-Elbridge	3.60%	40.20%
Lafayette	33.10%	35.30%
Liverpool	17.70%	28.80%
Lyncourt	17.20%	51.40%
Marcellus	3.00%	12.90%
North Syracuse	11.80%	28.30%
Onondaga	16.40%	34.40%
Skaneateles	3.70%	8.60%
Solvay Union Free	15.90%	46.50%
Syracuse City	73.90%	79.80%
Tully	3.60%	37.10%
West Genesee	9.00%	18.30%
Westhill	8.10%	6.60%

*Source: NYS Department of Education Report Cards, 2011-2012*

Apart from school-based activities, several community organizations offer activities for teens and children including health and physical recreation activities provided through Jewish Community Center of Syracuse, Solvay Geddes Community Youth Center, and Youth Recreation Centers operated by the Syracuse City Department of Parks, Recreation and Youth Programs.

The Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse (KWIC) is a tool to gather and monitor New York State children's health, education and well-being indicator data in order to improve outcomes for children and families.<sup>36</sup> The KWIC Report presented in Table 49 provides a snapshot of the health, education and well-being of children, youth and families in Onondaga County. For each indicator, the baseline and current years reported are in parentheses.

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<sup>36</sup> From Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse:  
[http://www.nyskwic.org/get\\_data/county\\_report\\_detail.cfm?countyID=36067](http://www.nyskwic.org/get_data/county_report_detail.cfm?countyID=36067)

27.1% of children in Onondaga County receive SNAP benefits and 44.1% receive free or reduced-price lunches.

As indicated above, 23.7%<sup>37</sup> of county children live below the poverty threshold, which is slightly more than for the state (22.9%). In addition, 27.1% of county children receive SNAP benefits and 44.1% receive free or reduced-price lunches. All of these figures increased somewhat in the county during the past several years.

**Table 49: Onondaga County Child Well-being Region Profile, Years Vary**

	Baseline Year		Current Year		NYS Current Year
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Rate
Children and Youth Living Below Poverty, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years (2010;2014)	20,645	19.5	23,941	23.7	22.9
Children and Youth Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits, percent children/youth ages birth-17 years (2010;2015)	27,806	26	27,651	27.1	25.8
Children Receiving Free or Reduced-price School Lunch - Public Schools, percent children in grades K-6 (2009-10;2010-11)	15,398	42.8	15,765	44.1	52.4
Child Abuse/Maltreatment - Children/Youth in Indicated Reports of Abuse/Maltreatment, rate/1,000 children/youth ages 0-17 years (2010;2014)	1,781	15.5	1,921	18.3	16.5
Foster Care Admissions - Children/Youth Admitted to Foster Care, rate/1,000 children/youth ages 0-17 years (2010;2014)	176	1.6	286	2.4	2
Foster Care Adoption Milestone - Children/Youth Discharged to Adoption, percent children/youth in foster care with goal and status of free for adoption (2010;2014)	68	48.6	40	42.1	47.7
Foster Care Children In Care - Children/Youth 0-21 years, rate/1,000 children/youth ages birth-21 years (2010;2014)	327	2.4	357	2.4	3.4

<sup>37</sup> These figures differ slightly from those above due to timing of the reported estimates.

Foster Care Discharges - Children/Youth Discharged from Foster Care, percent children/youth in foster care (2010;2014)	223	40.6	253	41.5	35.3
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Source: Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse

In addition to poverty and SNAP benefits, Table 49 also provides information on foster care statistics. In 2014, 357 children were in foster care, representing 2.4 per 1000 children (0.24%). This is an increase of 30 children since 2010, but given the increase in the number of children in the county, the rate of 2.4 per 1000 children remained the same. This rate is below the New York State rate of 3.4 per 1000. As seen in Table 50<sup>38</sup>, the figure for the county rose by 7 children in 2015, increasing slightly the rate per 1000 children.

In 2015, 264 children were admitted to foster care: 88 more than in 2010.

In 2015, 264 children were admitted to foster care, compared to 176 in 2010 and 286 in 2014 (Tables 49 and 50). Of all children in foster care, 254 were discharged in 2015, compared to 223 in 2010 and 253 in 2014. These rates are substantially above the New York State rate of 35.3 per 1000 in 2014.

As presented in Table 51, of all children in foster care in 2015, almost one third were between birth and age 5 (32.4%), which is slightly below the “comparable counties” (34.5%).<sup>39</sup> More than one third (36.8%) are over age 14, which is similar to the comparable counties rate (37.2%). In 2015, almost half the admissions (47.8%) were children ages 5 and younger, which is slightly more than the rate of the comparable counties (40.1%).

In terms of racial distribution, the number of children in foster care in 2015 was divided almost equally among Whites, Blacks and other races (Table 52). However, the number of admissions in 2015 was somewhat greater for Blacks than any other race. About half were placed in foster, boarding or adoptive homes with people who are the same race as the child (Table 53).

**Table 50: Foster Care Admissions / Discharges / In Care, 2015**

	Count	Rate	%
Admissions	264	1.9	1.7
Discharges	254	41.1	41.2
In Care	364	2.6	2.3

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services

<sup>38</sup> From New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYS OCFS)

<sup>39</sup> According to the cluster analysis conducted by the NYS OCFS in 2014 based on number of children with open cases and foster care admissions, the comparable counties to Onondaga County were: Albany, Erie, Monroe, Nassau, Oneida, Orange, Suffolk, and Westchester. From OCFS 2015 Monitoring and Analysis Profile.

**Table 51: Foster Care Admissions / Discharges / In Care by Age, 2015**

	Admissions			Discharges			In Care		
	N	%	Comparable	N	%	Comparable	N	%	Comparable
< 2	73	27.7	22.1	47	18.5	11.9	47	12.9	12.8
2-5	53	20.1	18.0	54	21.3	19.5	71	19.5	21.7
6-9	52	19.7	14.0	48	18.9	13.2	60	16.5	15.1
10-13	31	11.7	13.3	28	11.0	10.1	52	14.3	13.1
14-17	54	20.5	31.1	50	19.7	32.6	95	26.1	30.0
18+	1	0.4	1.4	27	10.6	12.6	39	10.7	7.2

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services

**Table 52: Foster Care Admissions / Discharges / In Care by Race, 2015**

	Admissions		Discharges		In Care	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
White	85	32.2	81	31.9	131	36
African American	106	40.2	100	39.4	126	34.6
Latino	32	12.1	32	12.6	43	11.8
Native American	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian	2	0.8	1	0.4	4	1.1
Unknown	39	14.8	40	15.7	60	16.5

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services

**Table 53: Foster Care Placement by Race of Foster/Adoptive Homes, 2015**

Child's Race	Total	% Same as Foster / Adoptive Parent	% Same as Foster / Adoptive Parent
Total	191	90	47.1
White	91	60	65.9
African American	70	28	40
Latino	27	2	7.4
Native American	0	0	N/A
Asian	3	0	0
Unknown	39	N/A	17

Source: New York State Office of Children and Family Services

## Children with Disabilities

### *Programs for Preschool Children with Disabilities*

For children under age 5 with a developmental disability or handicapping condition, the Onondaga County Health Department administers two programs – the Early Intervention (EI) Program and the Preschool Special Education Program (PSE). The following descriptions of EI and PSE were obtained from the Onondaga County Health Department (<http://www.ongov.net/Health>):

*The Early Intervention Program is a family centered program for infants and young children ages birth to three, with developmental delays or who have a diagnosed condition with a high probability of developmental delay. The program emphasizes the earliest possible identification of infants and toddlers with disabilities. Family participation is encouraged and services are provided in the natural environment for the child whenever possible. A multi-disciplinary evaluation determines eligibility and individual child need determines the services provided. These services may be direct or consultative and may include speech, physical and other therapies, child development groups, family counseling, and transportation. There is no direct cost to the family. Reimbursement is sought from third-party payers. By law, this reimbursement cannot affect a family's insurance lifetime cap or any deductions.*

*The Preschool Special Education Program is a Federal and State entitlement program that provides appropriate therapeutic and educational services for children ages three and four with developmental delays. Eligibility is determined by multi-disciplinary evaluations, and services are based upon individual child's needs as recommended by their School District's Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE). The program offers educational services including speech, physical and other therapies, special education teachers and classroom programs. Preschool Special Education services strive to minimize adverse effects of a developmental delay on a child's ability to learn. There is no direct cost to families for these services.*

*Prevalence of Children with Disabilities*

According to the Onondaga County Health Department<sup>40</sup> in 2014, 689 children qualified and received Early Intervention services (Table 54). During the summer months (July and August), 1,408 children received services through PSE, and 1,943 received services during the school year. These figures are comparable to the preceding two years.

The following sites, all located within the City of Syracuse, participate in the Early Intervention program<sup>41</sup>:

- Jowonio School
- Liberty POST Program
- Margaret L. Williams Developmental Evaluation Center, SUNY Upstate Medical University
- Mid-State Early Childhood Direction Center, Syracuse University
- Parkside Children’s Center, ARC of Onondaga
- Special Children’s Services, Onondaga County Health Department

Other centers with services for children with disabilities, such as social, recreational and educational activities, include:

- Humanitarian Organization for Multicultural Experience
- Elmcrest Children’s Center, Bridges to Health
- Charity for Children

**Table 54: Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education Participants, 2012-2014**

	2012	2013	2014
Early Intervention (EI)			
Children referred from all sources	1,296	1,382	1,418
Children who qualified and were receiving services as of 12/31	683	706	689
Preschool Special Education (PSE)			
Children who received services during the summer, 7/1 – 8/31	1,358	1,389	1,408
Children who received services during the school year, 9/1 -6/30	1,955	1,960	1,943

*Source: Onondaga County Health Department*

<sup>40</sup> 2014 Onondaga County Health Department Annual Report, page 52

<sup>41</sup> From Contact Community Services, Inc.: <https://211cny.com/>

The school districts with the highest percentage of students with disabilities in 2014-2015 were:

- LaFayette (18.4% - 162 students)
- Lyncourt (17.5% - 58 students)
- Syracuse (17.3% - 3,984 students)
- Liverpool (16.8% - 1,256 students)

The school districts with the highest number of preschool students with disabilities in 2014-2015 were:

- Syracuse (410)
- North Syracuse (206)
- Liverpool (100)
- Baldwinsville (95)

The prevalence of children with disabilities varies by school district within Onondaga County. For the 2014-2015 school year, the geographic distribution of students with disabilities served by Special Education programs can be found in Table 55. While the City of Syracuse had the greatest number of students with disabilities (3,984), the district with the largest percentage of students with disabilities was LaFayette (18.4%), followed by Lyncourt (17.5%), Syracuse (17.3%), and Liverpool (16.8%). Fayetteville-Manlius, Jamesville-Dewitt, and Skaneateles all had fewer than 10% of their school enrollment with disabilities.

With respect to preschool students, aside from Syracuse which had 410 preschool students with disabilities, the districts with the greatest numbers were North Syracuse (206), Liverpool (100), and Baldwinsville (95). Skaneateles, Tully, Onondaga, and Fabius-Pompey all had fewer than 10 preschool students with disabilities.

**Table 55: Number of Students with Disabilities by School District, 2014-2015**

District Name	Total Enrollment	School-Age Children with Disabilities	Percent	Preschool Children with Disabilities
Baldwinsville C S D	5,931	722	12.2%	95
East Syracuse-Minoa C S D	3,836	560	14.6%	61
Fabius-Pompey C S D	748	80	10.7%	1
Fayetteville-Manlius C S D	4,509	414	9.2%	48
Jamesville-Dewitt C S D	4,515	393	8.7%	42
Jordan Elbridge C S D	1,349	162	12.0%	17
La Fayette C S D	881	162	18.4%	17
Liverpool C S D	7,455	1,256	16.8%	100
Lyncourt U F S D	331	58	17.5%	11
Marcellus C S D	1,806	186	10.3%	13
North Syracuse C S D	9,418	1,189	12.6%	206
Onondaga C S D	891	117	13.1%	5
Skaneateles C S D	1,434	113	7.9%	9
Solvay U F S D	1,505	213	14.2%	22

Syracuse City S D	23,074	3,984	17.3%	410
Tully C.S.D.	972	121	12.4%	7
West Genesee C S D	5,495	619	11.3%	70
Westhill C S D	1,890	248	13.1%	27
Onondaga County Total	76,040	10,597	13.9%	1,161

Source: New York State Education Department.

Learning Disability represents 38.4% of reported disabilities in Onondaga County children.

Speech or Language Impairment represents 21.9% of reported disabilities in the county.

Autism represents 8.6% of reported disabilities.

The New York State Education Department also reports on the number of students by disability category (Table 56)<sup>42</sup>. During the 2014-2015 school year, the largest reported type of disability for county students was Learning Disability (38.4%), followed by Speech or Language Impairment (21.9%) and, excluding “Other Health Impairment,” Autism (8.6%). Visual and hearing impairment, as well as brain injury, are not as prevalent in Onondaga County.

**Table 56: Students with Disabilities by Category, 2014-2015**

Disability Category	Estimate	Percent
Autism	914	8.6%
Deaf-Blindness	1	0.0%
Deafness	25	0.2%
Emotional Disturbance	493	4.6%
Hearing Impairment	83	0.8%
Intellectual Disability	366	3.4%
Learning Disability	4,080	38.4%
Multiple Disabilities	248	2.3%
Orthopedic Impairment	66	0.6%
Other Health Impairment	1,923	18.1%
Speech or Language Impairment	2,326	21.9%
Traumatic Brain Injury	57	0.5%
Visual Impairment	39	0.4%
All Disabilities	10,621	100.0%

Source: New York State Education Department.

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sedcar/state.htm>

In addition to the data reported from the Onondaga County Health Department and the New York State Education Department, census data provide information on children with disabilities (Table 57). In 2014, an estimated 255 children under age 5 had either a hearing or a visual disability or both. This represents under 1% of the county’s population of children in that age group, which is slightly higher than the percentages for New York State and the United States (both 0.8%). In Syracuse, 118 children (1.2%) under age 5 were reported to have a disability.

For older children, between ages 5 and 17, the numbers are significantly higher, in part due to the broadening of the disability categories to include cognitive, ambulatory and self-care difficulty. In Onondaga County, the percentage of children between age 5 and 17 estimated to have a disability is 5.8% (4,510 children), while the percentage for Syracuse is higher at 8.6% (1,933 children). The rates for the state and the nation are lower (4.8% and 5.3%, respectively).

**Table 57: Children with Disabilities by Age Group and Disability, 2014**

	Onondaga County			Syracuse			New York	United States
	Total	With Disability	% Disabled	Total	With Disability	% Disabled	% Disabled	% Disabled
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population	462,500	54,186	11.70%	141,829	21,162	14.90%	11.00%	12.30%
Population under 5 years	27,140	255	0.90%	10,226	118	1.20%	0.80%	0.80%
With a hearing difficulty		201	0.70%		73	0.70%	0.50%	0.50%
With a vision difficulty		96	0.40%		70	0.70%	0.40%	0.50%
Population 5 to 17 years	77,224	4,510	5.80%	22,592	1,933	8.60%	4.80%	5.30%
With a hearing difficulty		621	0.80%		236	1.00%	0.50%	0.60%
With a vision difficulty		529	0.70%		222	1.00%	0.70%	0.80%
With a cognitive difficulty		3,621	4.70%		1,627	7.20%	3.50%	4.00%
With an ambulatory difficulty		490	0.60%		255	1.10%	0.60%	0.60%
With a self-care difficulty		767	1.00%		397	1.80%	1.00%	0.90%

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Survey respondents from both community partners and PEACE, Inc. staff felt there was a need for more transportation services.

Transportation issues, while a particular challenge for those with disabilities, are a concern for everyone. Survey respondents from both community partners and PEACE, Inc. staff felt there was a need for more transportation services in the area. To address this need, the Onondaga Citizens League (OCL) conducted a study of the region's transportation issues in 2015. According to their findings, "Although Syracuse's transportation system is driven by a car-centric culture, many cultural, demographic and economic trends are spurring change. A growing 'back-to-the-city' movement and increasing aging population are creating more interest in walkable, bikable and transit-served neighborhoods. New transit options and technological innovations are being studied. At the same time, funding cuts are reducing transit runs and job-seekers without cars are left without viable transportation options, even as employers are having difficulty filling job openings. Access to health care is also a critical issue for those without cars or driving ability. OCL's study will develop a framework for considering a 21st century transportation strategy for Syracuse and Onondaga County."<sup>43</sup>

Nevertheless, the following is a list of those who provide transportation for the disabled:<sup>44</sup>

- Able Medical Transportation
- Adam's Apple Services
- Agape Transport, Winds of Agape Family Center
- Call-a-Bus, Centro / Central New York Regional Transportation Authority
- Empire Transportation
- Jordan-Elbridge Transportation Program, Town of Elbridge
- Laker Limo
- Muscular Dystrophy Information and Assistance, Muscular Dystrophy Association
- Non-Emergency Medical Transportation, Rural Metro Medical Services of Central New York
- Outbound Transportation Program, Onondaga County Department of Social Services
- St. Camillus Transportation Services, The Centers at St. Camillus
- Suburban Transportation

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<sup>43</sup> <http://onondagacitizensleague.org/studies/current-study/>

<sup>44</sup> From Contact Community Services, Inc.: <https://211cny.com/>

Child Care Costs

\$12,792 is the average annual cost of child care for an infant in Onondaga County. Average annual cost of child care for children 6 to 12 years old is \$10,400.

Onondaga County child care costs are higher than averages for New York State and surrounding counties.

According to a March 11, 2014 article in the Syracuse Post Standard<sup>45</sup>, “Families in Onondaga County pay among the highest rates in the state for child care. The average cost of care for an infant in the county is \$12,792 a year.” Data provided by the office of US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, D-NY, and depicted in Table 58, show the average cost depends on the age of the child with care for children age 6 to 12 averaging \$10,400 each year. These costs are considerably higher than in other counties within Central New York<sup>46</sup>, and higher than the New York State average.

Affordable child care was identified as one of the most critical unmet needs in Onondaga County and Syracuse by community partners and PEACE, Inc., staff survey respondents.

**Table 58: Annual Child Care Costs by Age, 2014**

	<b>Number of families with children 6 and under</b>	<b>Under 1.5 years old</b>	<b>1.5 to 2 years old</b>	<b>3 to 5 years old</b>	<b>6 to 12 years old</b>
Onondaga County	23,758	\$12,792	\$12,012	\$11,180	\$10,400
Total/Average for Central NY	56,172	\$10,244	\$9,692	\$9,133	\$8,580
NY Total/average	998,034	\$11,795	\$10,736	\$10,027	\$9,573

*Source: Syracuse Post Standard and Office of U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand*

<sup>45</sup> From Syracuse Post Standard:  
[http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2014/03/child\\_care\\_costs\\_in\\_onondaga\\_county\\_among\\_the\\_highest\\_in\\_the\\_state.html](http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2014/03/child_care_costs_in_onondaga_county_among_the_highest_in_the_state.html)

<sup>46</sup> Counties included in the Central New York average calculation were: Cayuga, Cortland, Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and Otsego.

Throughout the county, there are a plethora of child care centers and programs, with an estimated 138 centers as of July 2016.<sup>47</sup> To assist with the cost, subsidies for eligible families are available through the Onondaga County Department of Social Services<sup>48</sup>. In particular, child care funding is available for certain eligible people, including:

- People leaving Family Assistance as a result of employment (Transitional Day Care).
- Employed individuals not receiving Family Assistance, but qualifying for aid on the basis of income (Low-Income Day Care).
- Parents who have a temporary incapacity and who are expected to return to work within a short period of time, usually 30 days or less.
- Parents required to be absent from the home due to an emergency situation.

Other organizations that assist with child care costs include the United Way of Central New York<sup>49</sup> and Child Care Solutions.<sup>50</sup>

### Parent Education Programs

Within Onondaga County, parents have many opportunities to receive education including child development classes, co-parenting workshops, disability-related parenting programs, new parent assistance and home schooling support. A comprehensive list of organizations offering these services and programs can be found on a website maintained by Contact Community Services, Inc.<sup>51</sup>, which is sponsored by the United Way. See also Appendix D.

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<sup>47</sup> [http://childcarecenter.us/county/onondaga\\_ny](http://childcarecenter.us/county/onondaga_ny)

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.ongov.net/dss/dayCare.html>

<sup>49</sup> <http://unitedway-cny.org/>

<sup>50</sup> <https://childcaresolutionscny.org/pay-child-care>

<sup>51</sup> <https://211cny.com/>

Health

In Onondaga County, 17.4% of women smoked while pregnant. 5% reported using illegal drugs while pregnant.

In Syracuse, 24.3% of women smoked while pregnant. 8.8% reported using illegal drugs while pregnant.

2.48% of Onondaga County newborns were hospitalized for drug-related issues – the second highest rate in the state.

Community partners and PEACE, Inc. staff who responded to a survey in July 2016 felt “health” was a challenge for the community. In addition, they expressed a need for increased health-related services, particularly for mental health and substance abuse.

19.3% of county adults smoke.

Table 59-a provides a comparison between Onondaga County, Syracuse, New York State (with and without including New York City), and the United States on various health indicators.

As can be seen in the table, less than 1% of Onondaga County women report using alcohol during their pregnancies, and 1.3% of Syracuse women report using alcohol while pregnant. The percent of women who smoked while pregnant is 17.4% in the county and 24.3% in Syracuse. In Onondaga County, 5% of the women report using illegal drugs while pregnant, and 8.8% of the women in Syracuse report the same. Newborns were hospitalized for drug-related issues at a rate of 248.3 per 10,000 infants (2.48%) in Onondaga County, which is considerably higher than the New York State rate of 72.6 per 10,000 newborns, and is the second highest rate in the state.<sup>52</sup>

In addition, the infant mortality rate reported in the Onondaga County Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan 2014-2017 was 6.4 per 1,000 live births in the county. Furthermore, in 2014, 86.7% of pregnant women in Onondaga County received prenatal care.

The percent of adults who smoke in the county is 19.3%. This rate is greater than for the state, but less than for the nation. Thirteen percent of teenagers in grades 7, 9 and 11 report having ever smoked cigarettes.

**Table 59-a: Health Indicators, 2014**

Substance Abuse Indicators	Onondaga County	New York	NYS Excluding NYC	United States
% adult binge drinking during the past month	21.9	14.8	19.8	27.1
Alcohol-related motor vehicle injury and death rate (per 100,000)	46.1	34.8	47.8	

<sup>52</sup> <http://www.ongov.net/health/heroin/data.html>

% women who report alcohol use during pregnancy	Onondaga County - 0.9; Syracuse - 1.3			
% adults who currently smoke cigarettes	19.3	16	18.9	20.6
% adults who currently live in homes where smoking is prohibited	78.6	80.9	79.3	79.1
% women who smoke during pregnancy	Onondaga County - 17.4; Syracuse - 24.3			
% students in 7th, 9th and 11th grades who report ever smoking cigarettes	13			
Drug-related hospitalizations (per 10,000)	19.5	26.1	21.8	
Newborn drug-related hospitalizations (per 10,000 newborn discharges)	248.3	72.6	89.6	
% women who report illegal drug use during pregnancy	Onondaga County - 5.0; Syracuse - 8.8			

Source: Onondaga County Health Department, *Onondaga County Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan 2014-2017*

34.1% of elementary school students and 36% of middle and high school students are overweight or obese.

Another health issue facing many children is obesity. According to the New York State Department of Health, as of July 2015, 34.1% of elementary students in Onondaga County are overweight or obese, as are 36% of middle and high school students.<sup>53</sup> To address this issue, the county health department began an initiative in 2010 called “Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work, and Play in Onondaga County,” designed to establish and implement programs and policies to “prevent obesity, Type 2 diabetes and other chronic diseases in Onondaga County by implementing sustainable policies, systems and environmental changes.”<sup>54</sup>

<sup>53</sup> NYS Department of Health 2012-2014 Student Weight Status Category Reporting System (SWSCRS) Data as of July, 2015: <http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/general/g68.htm> and <http://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/general/g71.htm>

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.ongov.net/health/healthyplaces.html>

In addition to weight issues, asthma can be a serious problem. Between 2008 and 2010, the rate for asthma-related emergency room visits for children up to age 4 was 134.3 per 10,000 children, although this is significantly lower than the state rate of 221.<sup>55</sup>

AIDS mortality rate (1.4/100,000) is lower in Onondaga County than in New York State.

Case rates in Onondaga County for Gonorrhea (188.4) and chlamydia (332.7 for males, 698.3 for females) are higher than in the state.

Additional health indicators for county residents can be found in Table 59-b, with comparisons to the state and nation. Those that are statistically significant include:

- The AIDS mortality rate is lower in Onondaga County than in New York State.
- Gonorrhea and chlamydia case rates are higher in Onondaga County than the state in most reported age categories and for both genders (except for cases of Chlamydia for total females ages 15 to 44).
- The early syphilis case rate is less in the county than the rate for New York State.

**Table 59-b: Health Indicators, 2014, con't.**

Indicator	Onondaga County	New York	NYS Excluding NYC	United States
<i>HIV / STDs</i>				
HIV case rate (per 100,000)	8.4	20	7.3	15.7
Difference in rates (Black and White) of new HIV diagnoses	24.2	59.4		
Difference in rates (Hispanic and White) of new HIV diagnoses	-	31.1		
AIDS case rate (per 100,000)	5.4	15.2	5.2	13.8
AIDS mortality rate (per 100,000)	1.4†	4.7	1.4	3.7
Gonorrhea case rate (per 100,000)	188.4†‡	95.8	54.4	103
Age 15-19	631.7†‡	362	200.7	
Women age 15-44	505.2†‡	203.4		
Men age 15-44	349.3†‡	221.7		
Chlamydia case rate – Males (per 100,000)	332.7‡	323	190	256.9
Age 15-19	1,128.8‡	1,077.10	614.2	803
Age 20-24	1,730.5†‡	1,484.30	1,009.10	1,343.30
Chlamydia case rate – Females (per 100,000)	698.3‡	674	445.8	648.9
Age 15-19	3,805.9‡	3,773.90	2,417.20	3,416.50

<sup>55</sup> [https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention\\_agenda/2013-2017/indicators/2013/onondaga.htm](https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/prevention_agenda/2013-2017/indicators/2013/onondaga.htm)

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Age 20-24	3,492.0†‡	3,344.70	2,542.60	3,722.50
Age 15-44	1,687.50	1,619.80		
Early syphilis case rate (per 100,000)	2.0†	12.4	2.6	4.3
Primary and secondary syphilis case rate – Males (per 100,000)	2.7	11.2		
Primary and secondary syphilis case rate – Females (per 100,000)	0	0.5		
Pelvic inflammatory disease hospitalization rate per 10,000 females age 15-44	2.1†	3.5	2	
<i>Vaccine-preventable diseases</i>				
Pertussis incidence rate (per 100,000)	12.4†‡	4.2	5.7	6.1
Mumps incidence rate (per 100,000)	0.1†‡	5.5	3.9	0.1
Meningococcal incidence rate (per 100,000)	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
H. influenza incidence rate (per 100,000)	2.3	1.5	1.6	1.2
Hepatitis A incidence rate (per 100,000)	0.2	0.7	0.5	0.5
Acute hepatitis B incidence rate (per 100,000)	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.9
Hepatitis C screening rate per 100, age 47-68	46.4	37.1		
Shigella incidence rate (per 100,000)	53.3†‡	7.2	7.4	4.3
Pneumonia / influenza hospitalization rate per 10,000 age 65 years and older	161.3†‡	122.3	132.7	
% of adults aged 65 years and older with a flu shot in the last year	82.4	75		66.6
% of adults who received their flu shot or spray in the past year	54.3	48.2		
% of adults aged 65 years and older who ever received a pneumonia shot	83.0†‡	64.7	71.2	60.1
% of adults who report ever having received a pneumonia shot	40	31		
% of children with 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 immunization series, age 19-35 months	59.8	48		
% of adolescent females with 3-dose HPV immunization, ages 13-17 years	59.8	47.6		

† The Onondaga County rate is statistically significantly different than the NYS rate.  
‡ The Onondaga County rate is statistically significantly different than the NYS Exc. NYC rate.

*Source: Onondaga County Health Department, Onondaga County Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan 2014-2017*

In 2015, there were 21 more cases of heroin related deaths in Onondaga County than in 2014. In the first half of 2016, there have already been 6 more cases than in all of 2014.

In 2015, there were 25 more cases of deaths related to prescription opioids in Onondaga County than in 2014. In the first half of 2016, there have already been 3 more cases than in all of 2014.

As reported above, Onondaga County has the second highest rate in New York State of newborn drug-related diagnoses (248.8 per 10,000 newborn discharges from 2011-2013)<sup>56</sup>. Furthermore, reports from the Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office, depicted in Figures 14 through 16, show the number of drug-related deaths involving the use of heroin, fentanyl, and other opioids over the past several years. As can be seen, 44 deaths were related to heroin in 2015, and 28 were already reported by the first half of 2016. In addition, 52 deaths in 2015 were related to prescription opioids, and 30 such deaths were already reported by June 2016.

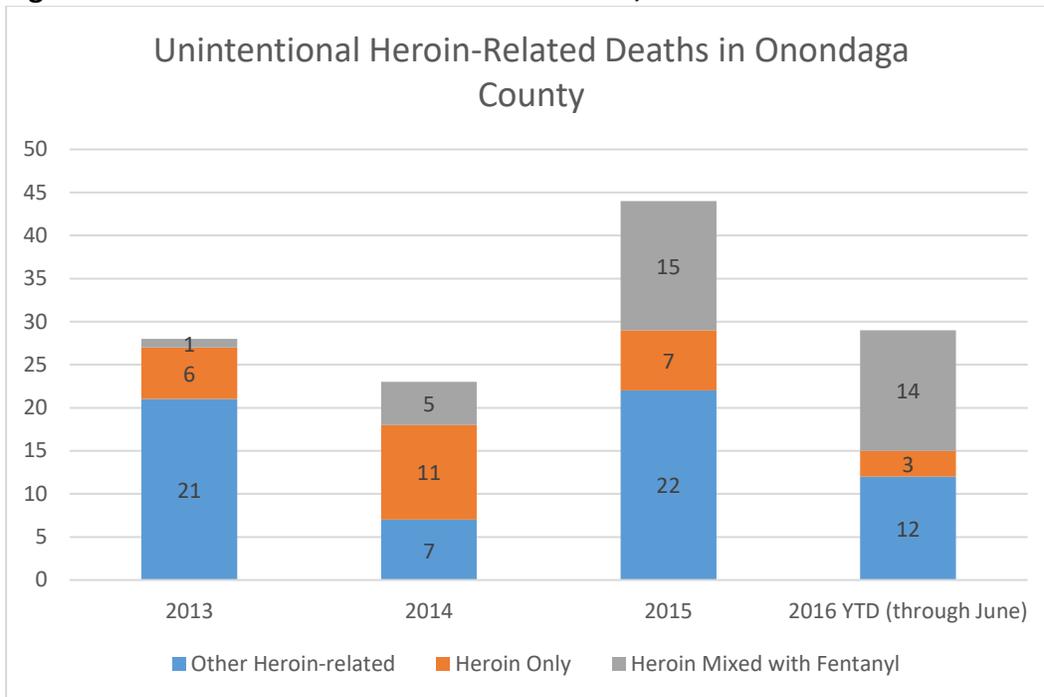
Related to the above, 11,732 individuals from the Syracuse area were admitted to drug rehabilitation facilities in 2012, representing 1.58% of the population.<sup>57</sup> This is an increase of 14.4% from 2007. Of those, 36.5% were for alcohol treatment, 21.7% for heroin addiction, and 14.1% for other opiates and synthetics.

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<sup>56</sup> From: Ongov.net – Onondaga County – Combat Heroin

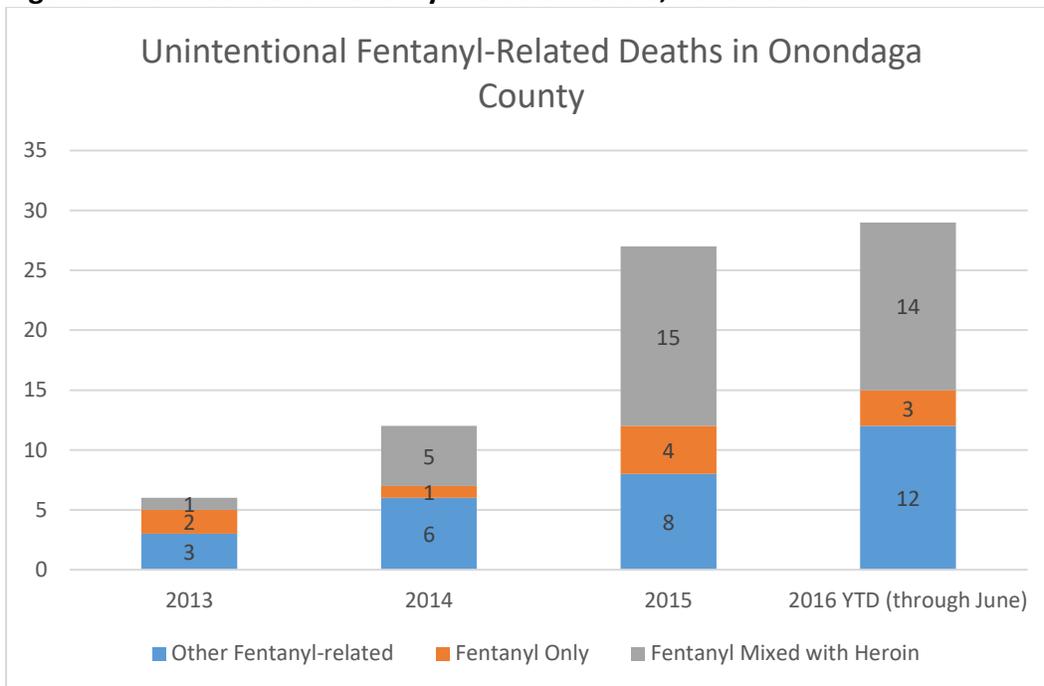
<sup>57</sup> <http://drug-abuse-rates.healthgrove.com/l/192/Syracuse-New-York>

**Figure 14: Unintentional Heroin-Related Deaths, 2013-2016**



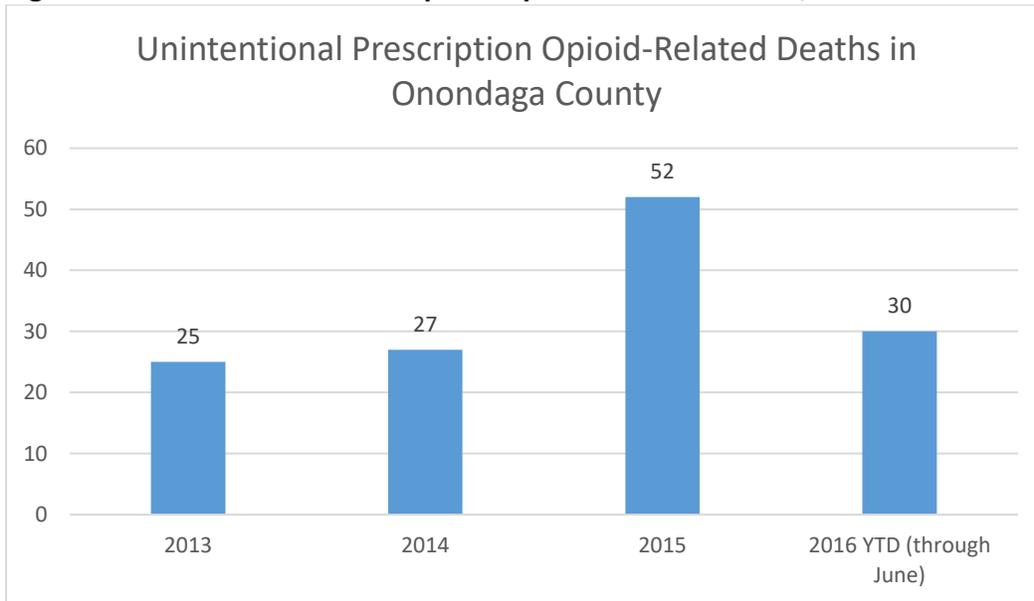
Source: Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office

**Figure 15: Unintentional Fentanyl-Related Deaths, 2013-2016**



Source: Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office

**Figure 16: Unintentional Prescription Opioid-Related Deaths, 2013-2016**



*Source: Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office*

To address the county's health issues, many services are available particularly for children and teens for treatment, information, counseling, therapy and medication, for both physical and mental health concerns. A comprehensive list of organizations offering these services and programs can be found on the 211CNY website maintained by Contact Community Services, Inc.<sup>58</sup> and in Appendix D. In addition, various medical clinics, pediatricians and dentists accept Medicaid and Child Health Plus, the New York State health insurance plan for children, and are particularly suited to serving children. Furthermore, several organizations provide transportation to health services.

According to the Association of Health Care Journalists, cultural attitudes and perceptions can affect health. The following is adapted from the *Covering Health* blog (Seegert, 2014):<sup>59</sup>

Cultural perception of aging can affect how we are cared for later in life and how we feel about our own health. Family living arrangements and one's social circle are also connected to a healthier aging. Weight and body size preference are found to be more largely determined by one's immediate social circle rather than those outside. Diet and exercise are perceived as inhibited primarily by constraints of time and money. Cultural perceptions of poor sexual health causes individuals to hesitate in seeking treatment [and obtaining] regular evaluation.

<sup>58</sup> <https://211cny.com/>

<sup>59</sup> <http://healthjournalism.org/blog/2014/09/cultural-perceptions-of-aging-affect-health-status-caregiving/>

Violence and Crime

Stakeholder surveys of community partners and staff, as well as focused group discussions with participants of PEACE, Inc. services, revealed a strong concern about violence and crime in the community.

*Child Abuse and Maltreatment*

Since 2010, the number of cases of child abuse or maltreatment increased by 7.9%.

As previously presented in Table 49 and partially reproduced below in Table 60, an estimated 1,921 cases of abuse or maltreatment of children through age 17 were reported in Onondaga County in 2014.<sup>60</sup> This represents a rate of 18.3 per 1000 children (1.83%), which is higher than New York State (16.5 per 1000 children), and is an increase since 2010 of 140 reported cases (an increase of 7.9%).

**Table 60: Onondaga County Child Well-being Region Profile, Child Abuse Reports, 2010-2014**

	Baseline (2010)		Current (2014)		New York Current (2014)
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Rate
Child Abuse/Maltreatment - Children/Youth in Indicated Reports of Abuse/Maltreatment, rate/1,000 children/youth ages 0-17 years	1,781	15.5	1,921	18.3	16.5

*Source: Kids' Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse*

<sup>60</sup> [http://www.nyskwic.org/get\\_data/county\\_report\\_detail.cfm?countyID=36067](http://www.nyskwic.org/get_data/county_report_detail.cfm?countyID=36067)

*Domestic Violence*

County law enforcement offices receive almost 4 times as many Domestic calls per person than NY (excluding NYC). In 2014, they answered 16,657 Domestic calls, representing an increase of 5,954 calls since 2012.

25% of homicide victims are women killed by a former or current male partner.

According to statistics published by Vera House, Inc., a domestic violence service near Syracuse, and presented in Table 61, law enforcement officials answered 16,657 domestic calls in 2014, over half of which were in the City of Syracuse (57.8%).<sup>61</sup> This reflects a rate of 356 domestic calls for every 10,000 people in the county, which is almost 4 times higher than the rate for New York State excluding New York City (90 calls per 10,000 population)<sup>62</sup>. This also represents 5,954 more calls than were answered in 2012<sup>63</sup>. There were 2,279 arrests of domestic violence perpetrators, 60.4% of which were

made by Syracuse Police.

**Table 61: Domestic Violence and Sex Offense Calls and Arrests, 2014**

	<b>Onondaga County Law Enforcement*</b>	<b>Syracuse Police</b>	<b>Total</b>
Answered Domestic Call	7028	9629	16,657
Answered Sex Offense Calls	359	315	674
Arrested Domestic Violence Perpetrators	903	1376	2,279
Arrested Sex Offender Perpetrators	72	56	128

\*Onondaga County Law Enforcement includes County Sheriff, State Police, Town and Village Police.

*Source: Vera House, Inc.: 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Report to the Community on Domestic & Sexual Violence – 2015 Justice Domestic Violence report.*

According to Vera House,<sup>64</sup> during 2014 the Onondaga County District Attorney’s Special Victims Bureau prosecuted 662 felony arrests and 267 misdemeanor arrests between partners or ex-partners. In addition, the bureau prosecuted 60 felony arrests and 14 misdemeanor arrests for child sexual abuse in 2014, and prosecuted 21 felony arrests and 9 misdemeanor arrests for adult sexual assault in 2014. During the same time period, the Onondaga County District Attorney’s City Court Bureau prosecuted 772 misdemeanor arrests between partners or ex-partners.

<sup>61</sup> From Vera House: 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Report to the Community on Domestic & Sexual Violence – 2015 Justice Domestic Violence report

<sup>62</sup> <http://opdv.ny.gov/statistics/nydata/2014/nys2014data.pdf>

<sup>63</sup> <http://www.verahouse.org/news-events/2013-rtc-justice>

<sup>64</sup> From Vera House: 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Report to the Community on Domestic & Sexual Violence – 2015 Justice Domestic Violence report

Combined, these represent over 1800 cases of domestic violence and sexual assault prosecuted within the county in 2014.

Concurrently, the Onondaga County Integrated Domestic Violence Court served 86 new families, while the Syracuse City Domestic Violence Court handled 772 new misdemeanors and 230 new felonies, for a total of 1,088 new cases in 2014.

Onondaga County Family Court issued 656 Temporary Orders of Protection and 143 Permanent Orders of Protection. Within the city, the Syracuse City Domestic Violence Court issued 477 Orders of Protection. This represents a total of 1,276 Orders of Protection issued throughout Onondaga County in 2014.

Furthermore, the Onondaga County Probation Department supervised and investigated 1,132 identified domestic violence cases in 2014 and supervised 234 registered sex offenders in 2014.

According to Vera House<sup>65</sup>, nearly 700 adults and children obtain shelter due to domestic violence annually, and about 25% of homicide victims are women killed by a former or current male partner.

Aside from Vera House, other shelters within Onondaga County that accept women and children include<sup>66</sup>: Barnabas House, Dorothy Day House, Emergency Family Shelter, International Victims Project, Rescue Mission Women's Shelter, and Salvation Army Women's Shelter. In-person crisis intervention is also available through various organizations and professional counselors, particularly through Access, PEACE, Inc. Family Resource Centers and the Mobile Crisis Outreach program through St. Joseph's Hospital.

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<sup>65</sup> Vera House - Domestic Violence FAQ's: <http://www.verahouse.org/domestic-violence-sexual-assault/domestic-violence-faqs>

<sup>66</sup> From: <https://211cny.com/>

*Reported Violent and Property Crimes*

Stakeholder surveys of community partners and staff, as well as focused group discussions with participants of PEACE, Inc. services, revealed a strong concern about violence and crime in the community.

While the number of crimes has decreased, in 2015 Onondaga County had the 12<sup>th</sup> highest crime rate in New York State for all crimes (excluding New York City).

In 2015, Onondaga County had the 8<sup>th</sup> highest rate in New York for *violent* crimes.

In 2015, law enforcement officials reported 11,574 crimes in Onondaga County, more than half of which (53.8%) were in the City of Syracuse (Table 62).<sup>67</sup> There were a total of 1,500 reported violent crimes throughout the county, which include murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Of the 24 murders reported in 2015, 22 were in Syracuse. Of the 149 rapes reported, more than half were in Syracuse (51.7% or 77). Outside of the city, most of the reported rapes and the other 2 murders were addressed by the County Sheriff and State Police, although 6 rapes were reported to the Camillus Town and Village Police Department.

For the property crimes, the county reported 10,074 incidents in 2015, which include burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. Of those, more than half (5,087 or 50.5%) were in Syracuse.

**Table 62: Reported Crimes in Onondaga County by Law Enforcement Agency, 2015**

Agency	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Property Total	Violent Total	Total
Baldwinsville Vg PD	0	0	1	0	68	1	69
Camillus Town and Vg PD	0	6	7	14	410	27	437
Cicero Town PD	0	0	5	10	325	15	340
DeWitt Town PD	0	0	11	11	434	22	456
Geddes Town PD	0	0	1	6	240	7	247
Jordan Vg PD	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Liverpool Vg PD	0	0	0	2	32	2	34
Manlius Town PD	0	1	2	8	406	11	417
Marcellus Vg PD	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
North Syracuse Vg PD	0	1	1	5	73	7	80
Onondaga County Park PD	0	0	0	0	18	0	18

<sup>67</sup> From New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services: <https://data.ny.gov/Public-Safety/Index-Crimes-by-County-and-Agency-Beginning-1990/ca8h-8gjq>

Onondaga County Park Rangers	0	0	0	0	19	0	19
Onondaga County Sheriff	2	32	31	122	1,924	187	2,111
Onondaga County State Police	0	32	7	22	771	61	832
Skaneateles Vg PD	0	0	0	0	35	0	35
Solvay Vg PD	0	0	7	11	112	18	130
SUNY - Upstate Medical Center	0	0	0	0	84	0	84
SUNY College-Env. Science and Forestry	0	0	0	0	25	0	25
Syracuse City PD	22	77	359	684	5,087	1,142	6,229
<b>County Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>10,074</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>11,574</b>

*Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services*

The number of all reported crimes for Onondaga County in 2015 represents a crime rate of 49.4 crimes per 1000 residents (Table 63). For violent crimes in the county, the rate is 6.4 per 1000 residents.<sup>68</sup> These figures are higher than those for all of New York State excluding New York City, which are 37.1 per 1000 residents for all crimes and 4.4 per 1000 residents for violent crimes. Furthermore, the rate for all crimes in Onondaga County is the 12th highest of all counties in New York excluding New York City, and the rate for violent crimes in Onondaga County is the 8th highest in the state.

**Table 63: Crime Rates by New York State County, excluding New York City, 2015**

County	Total Crimes	Total Violent Crimes	Population	Rate Per 1000 Residents	
				All Crimes	Violent Crimes
Albany	16,448	2,010	309,381	53.2	6.5
Allegany	1,154	114	47,462	24.3	2.4
Broome	12,890	1,244	196,567	65.6	6.3
Cattaraugus	2,538	248	77,922	32.6	3.2
Cayuga	3,106	392	78,288	39.7	5.0
Chautauqua	6,596	706	130,779	50.4	5.4
Chemung	3,806	318	87,071	43.7	3.7
Chenango	1,698	202	48,844	34.8	4.1
Clinton	2,496	230	81,251	30.7	2.8
Columbia	1,776	202	61,509	28.9	3.3

<sup>68</sup> New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

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Cortland	1,114	92	48,494	23.0	1.9
Delaware	1,468	156	46,053	31.9	3.4
Dutchess	9,014	1,108	295,754	30.5	3.7
Erie	52,182	7,576	922,578	56.6	8.2
Essex	762	90	38,478	19.8	2.3
Franklin	1,676	176	50,660	33.1	3.5
Fulton	2,618	246	53,992	48.5	4.6
Genesee	2,396	230	58,937	40.7	3.9
Greene	1,192	230	47,625	25.0	4.8
Hamilton	86	6	4,712	18.3	1.3
Herkimer	2,042	196	63,100	32.4	3.1
Jefferson	5,066	442	117,635	43.1	3.8
Lewis	544	54	26,957	20.2	2.0
Livingston	1,764	152	64,717	27.3	2.3
Madison	2,008	210	71,849	27.9	2.9
Monroe	41,064	5,048	749,600	54.8	6.7
Montgomery	2,516	198	49,642	50.7	4.0
Nassau	32,570	3,960	1,361,350	23.9	2.9
Niagara	11,800	1,548	212,652	55.5	7.3
Oneida	10,886	1,166	232,500	46.8	5.0
<b>Onondaga</b>	<b>23,148</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>468,463</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Ontario	3,670	288	109,561	33.5	2.6
Orange	14,446	1,836	377,647	38.3	4.9
Orleans	1,346	138	41,582	32.4	3.3
Oswego	4,676	488	120,146	38.9	4.1
Otsego	1,680	156	60,636	27.7	2.6
Putnam	1,092	84	99,042	11.0	0.8
Rensselaer	8,386	1,092	160,266	52.3	6.8
Rockland	7,518	960	326,037	23.1	2.9
Saratoga	5,680	514	111,007	51.2	4.6
Schenectady	8,410	1,012	226,249	37.2	4.5
Schoharie	802	76	154,604	5.2	0.5
Schuyler	298	28	31,330	9.5	0.9
Seneca	1,434	122	18,186	78.9	6.7
St Lawrence	3,320	284	34,833	95.3	8.2
Steuben	3,098	368	97,631	31.7	3.8
Suffolk	47,050	3,890	1,501,587	31.3	2.6
Sullivan	2,652	338	74,877	35.4	4.5
Tioga	920	108	49,453	18.6	2.2
Tompkins	4,412	280	104,926	42.0	2.7
Ulster	6,014	608	180,143	33.4	3.4
Warren	2,168	214	64,688	33.5	3.3

Washington	1,058	180	62,230	17.0	2.9
Wayne	3,164	394	91,446	34.6	4.3
Westchester	24,406	4,272	976,396	25.0	4.4
Wyoming	844	116	41,013	20.6	2.8
Yates	598	50	25,048	23.9	2.0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>417,566</b>	<b>49,446</b>	<b>11,245,386</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>

*Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services*

Table 64 depicts the number of reported crimes for the first four months of 2016.<sup>69</sup> During the first third of the year, there have already been 11 murders in the county, which is almost half (45.8%) of all the murders in 2015. Of those murders, 10 were reported in Syracuse. Outside of Syracuse, most crimes are reported through the County (Sheriff and State Police), with a total of 129 reports. In addition, the Dewitt Town Police Department reported 24 cases of burglary and 11 cases of vehicle theft, with a total of 46 crimes. The next most reported crimes in the first four months of 2016 were with the Manlius and Solvay Village Police Departments.

**Table 64: Reported Crimes by Law Enforcement Agency, January – April 2016.**

<b>Law Enforcement Agency</b>	<b>Aggravated assault</b>	<b>Murder</b>	<b>Robbery</b>	<b>Burglary</b>	<b>Vehicle theft</b>	<b>Total</b>
Baldwinsville				3		3
Camillus	5			2		7
Cicero	2		1	6	3	12
DeWitt	4		7	24	11	46
Geddes	1		1	3	4	9
Manlius	4		2	11	3	20
North Syracuse	1				3	4
Onondaga County	25	1	11	80	12	129
Skaneateles				1		1
Solvay	4		1	11	2	18
Syracuse	195	10	104	292	104	705
<b>County Total</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>954</b>

*Source: Syracuse Post Standard*

<sup>69</sup> From Syracuse Post Standard: <http://www.syracuse.com/crime/police-reports/>. NOTE: Due to data conversion issues, the Syracuse Police Department was not able to provide new crime reports since early May. In addition, the Post Standard has a policy of not publishing information on reporting rapes to protect the identify of victims of sex crimes.

*Comparison Over Time of Reported Crimes*

Table 65 compares the number of all reported crimes in Onondaga County in 2010 and in 2015.<sup>70</sup> Both the county overall and the City of Syracuse each saw an 11% decrease in the number of reported crimes. However, several agencies reported significant increases in reported crimes. The Town of Camillus and the State Police both reported 120 more crimes, most of which were from property theft (107 for Camillus and 85 for the State Police), which also accounts for the significant increase in crimes in Skaneateles (30).

**Table 65: All Reported Crimes in Onondaga County by Agency, 2010 and 2015**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
Baldwinsville Vg PD	145	69	-76	-52.4%
Camillus Town and Vg PD	317	437	120	37.9%
Cicero Town PD	531	340	-191	-36.0%
DeWitt Town PD	629	456	-173	-27.5%
East Syracuse Vg PD	174		-174	NA
Geddes Town PD	233	247	14	6.0%
Jordan Vg PD	3	2	-1	-33.3%
Liverpool Vg PD	33	34	1	3.0%
Manlius Town PD	460	417	-43	-9.3%
Marcellus Vg PD	11	9	-2	-18.2%
North Syracuse Vg PD	85	80	-5	-5.9%
Onondaga County Park PD	20	18	-2	-10.0%
Onondaga County Park Rangers	47	19	-28	-59.6%
Onondaga County Sheriff	2,268	2,111	-157	-6.9%
Onondaga County State Police	712	832	120	16.9%
Skaneateles Vg PD	5	35	30	600.0%
Solvay Vg PD	218	130	-88	-40.4%
SUNY - Upstate Medical Center	99	84	-15	-15.2%
SUNY College-Env. Science and Forestry	16	25	9	56.3%
Syracuse City PD	6,999	6,229	-770	-11.0%
<b>County Total</b>	<b>13,005</b>	<b>11,574</b>	<b>-1,431</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>

*Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services*

Table 66 compares the number of violent crimes reported in Onondaga County in 2010 and 2015. There were 1500 reported violent crimes in Onondaga County in 2015, compared to 1608 in

<sup>70</sup> New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

2010. This represents a decrease of 6.7%. Of those, 1142 violent crimes were reported in Syracuse in 2015, which represented a decrease of 11.5% since 2010.

As noted above, most of the violent crimes outside of Syracuse are reported through the Onondaga County Sheriff Department and the State Police, which together saw a 35.5% increase in cases from 2010 to 2015. Other local law enforcement agencies that had an increase in reported violent crimes were Camillus Town and Village (92.9% increase), North Syracuse (16.7% increase), and Cicero (15.4% increase). Baldwinsville Village had the greatest percentage decrease.

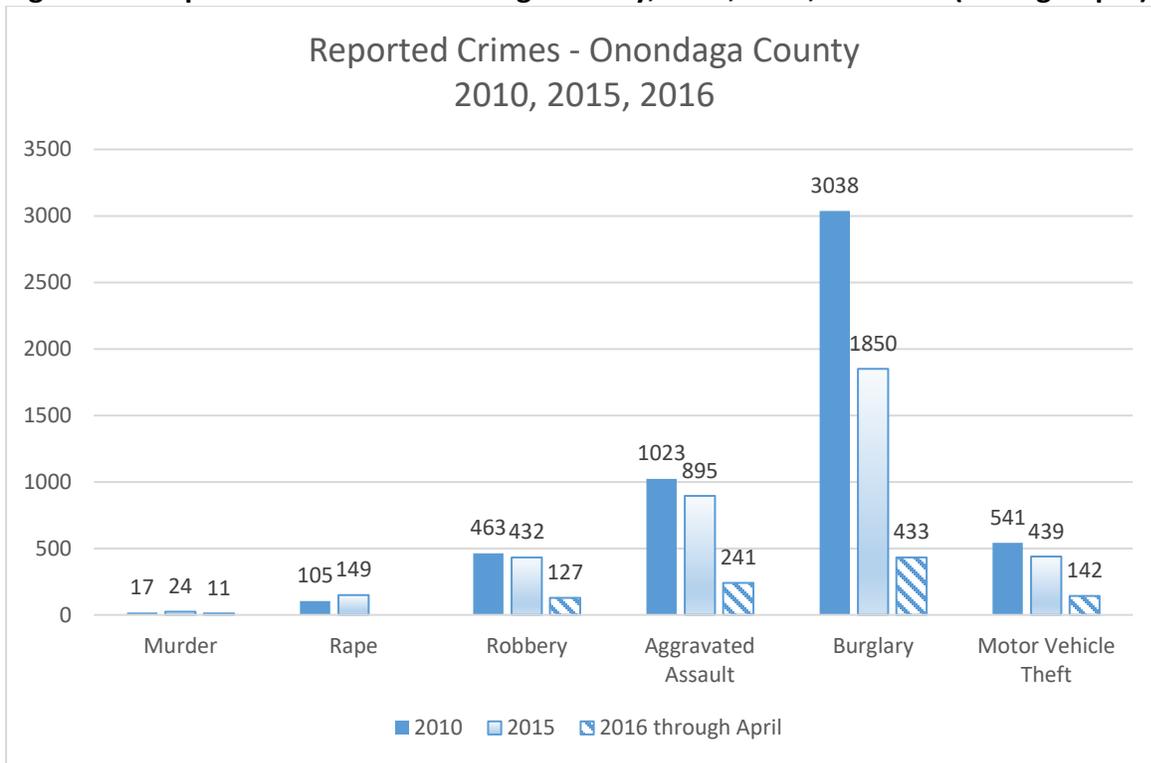
**Table 66: Violent Crimes in Onondaga County by Law Enforcement Agency, 2010 and 2015**

<b>Law Enforcement Agency</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
Baldwinsville Vg PD	5	1	-4	-80.0%
Camillus Town and Vg PD	14	27	13	92.9%
Cicero Town PD	13	15	2	15.4%
DeWitt Town PD	37	22	-15	-40.5%
East Syracuse Vg PD	9		-9	NA
Geddes Town PD	7	7	0	0.0%
Jordan Vg PD	0	0	0	NA
Liverpool Vg PD	0	2	2	NA
Manlius Town PD	16	11	-5	-31.3%
Marcellus Vg PD	0	0	0	NA
North Syracuse Vg PD	6	7	1	16.7%
Onondaga County Park PD	1	0	-1	NA
Onondaga County Park Rangers	1	0	-1	NA
Onondaga County Sheriff	157	187	30	19.1%
Onondaga County State Police	26	61	35	134.6%
Skaneateles Vg PD	2	0	-2	NA
Solvay Vg PD	21	18	-3	-14.3%
SUNY - Upstate Medical Center	2	0	-2	NA
SUNY College-Env. Science and Forestry	0	0	0	NA
Syracuse City PD	1,291	1,142	-149	-11.5%
<b>County Total</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>-108</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>

*Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services*

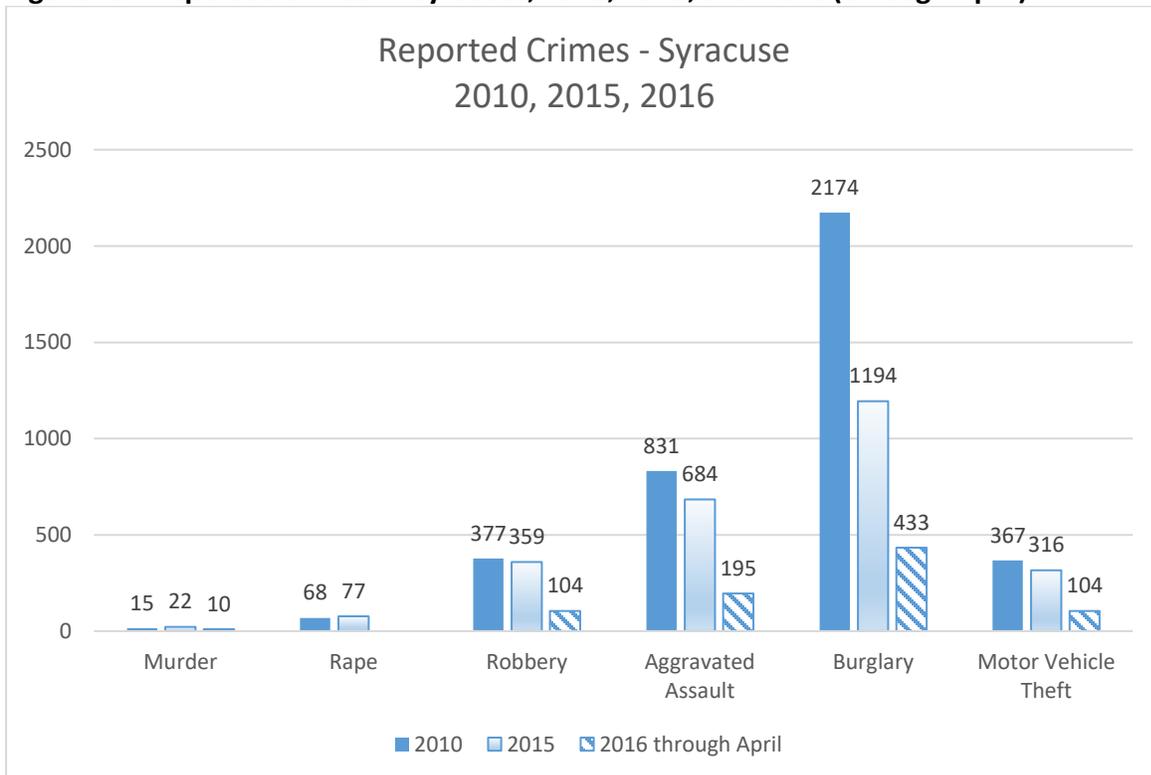
Figure 17 graphically depicts the comparisons over time for Onondaga County by type of crime, while Figure 18 depicts the comparisons for Syracuse.

**Figure 17: Reported Crimes in Onondaga County, 2010, 2015, and 2016 (through April)**



Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

**Figure 18: Reported Crimes in Syracuse, 2010, 2015, and 2016 (through April)**



Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

*Inmates in Onondaga County Facilities*

15.3% of those incarcerated in Onondaga County and 22.8% of those incarcerated in Syracuse are under age 18.

In 2010, there were 1,179 people in correctional facilities in the county, representing 0.25% of the population (Table 67). In Syracuse, 671 people were in correctional facilities, which is 0.46% of the city population. Both the county and city percentages are slightly below the state and national figures (0.54% and 0.79%, respectively). In the county, 85.2% of people incarcerated are males, and in Syracuse, 87%. In Onondaga County, 180 of the people incarcerated are under age 18 (15.3%); in Syracuse, 153 people (22.8%) are under age 18.

**Table 67: Population in Correctional Facilities by Gender and Age, 2010<sup>71</sup>**

	Onondaga County		Syracuse		New York	United States
	Estimate	% of Population	Estimate	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total Population	463,704		144,734			
Total in Correctional Facilities	1,179	0.254%	671	0.464%	0.543%	0.794%
<b>Male:</b>						
Under 18 years:	145	0.031%	128	0.088%	0.031%	0.032%
Correctional facilities for adults	37	0.008%	37	0.026%	0.005%	0.003%
Juvenile facilities	108	0.023%	91	0.063%	0.026%	0.029%
18 to 64 years:	859	0.185%	455	0.314%	0.462%	0.673%
Correctional facilities for adults	853	0.184%	451	0.312%	0.456%	0.665%
Juvenile facilities	6	0.001%	4	0.003%	0.006%	0.008%
<b>65 years and over:</b>						
Correctional facilities for adults	1	0.000%	1	0.001%	0.005%	0.009%
<b>Female:</b>						
Under 18 years:	35	0.008%	25	0.017%	0.013%	0.012%

<sup>71</sup> 2010 is the most recent census data reported for “group housing”.

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Correctional facilities for adults	5	0.001%	5	0.003%	0.000%	0.000%
Juvenile facilities	30	0.006%	20	0.014%	0.013%	0.012%
18 to 64 years:	139	0.030%	62	0.043%	0.032%	0.068%
Correctional facilities for adults	129	0.028%	57	0.039%	0.029%	0.066%
Juvenile facilities	10	0.002%	5	0.003%	0.003%	0.002%
65 years and over:		0.000%		0.000%	0.408%	0.330%
Correctional facilities for adults	0	0.000%	0	0.000%	0.000%	0.001%

*Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau*

Given the number of men and women incarcerated within Onondaga County and Syracuse, government and social services are needed to assist with reentry into civilian life. A list of organizations offering assistance with mental health, employment and substance abuse counseling can be found on the 211CNY website<sup>72</sup> and in Appendix D.

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<sup>72</sup> <https://211cny.com/>

## V. Perceptions of Stakeholders

*Key points emerging from focus groups and surveys are highlighted in Green colored boxes.*

Stakeholder Input was collected in July 2016 through focus group discussions and surveys with key informants.

### Focus Groups

#### Focus Group Themes:

- Violence and concern for safety in communities
- Need for strong male role models for children
- Need for educational, mentoring and training programs

Apter & O'Connor conducted three focus group meetings in July 2016. Each meeting engaged a different group of community members who are familiar with PEACE, Inc. and its programming. The people who attended each focus group came from three different sectors of the PEACE, Inc. community:

- Seniors attending activities at one of the PEACE, Inc. Family Resource Centers.
- Mothers of children in the Head Start program who are all members of Policy Council.
- Volunteers at a newly reopened Family Resource Center.

The first focus group of seniors was held at the Eastside Family Resource Center and included five men, seven women and one female staff member. The second group, which consisted of Head Start mothers, was held at a Head Start facility and included six women, three African American and three White. The third group were volunteers at the Emma L. Johnston Family Resource Center, including four women, two men, all African American and of mixed age.

All the focus group participants reported a comfort and fondness for their communities but were very concerned about violence and issues associated with poverty, drugs and lack of jobs. They felt that PEACE, Inc. is positively contributing to the community by providing opportunities for social interaction and much needed assistance with basic needs. When asked what PEACE, Inc. could do better, most suggested offering more programs that help with basic needs, provide solid role models for children and prepare people for jobs.

Each group expressed a desire for greater cooperation with law enforcement. They want a greater police presence to support safer neighborhoods and they want better relationships with officers.

See Appendix A for a full report on the results of the three focus group sessions.

*General Themes Across All Groups*

Three themes emerged across all three of the focus groups.

1. Violence and concern for safety in communities.

People like and appreciate their communities but worry about crime and violence. They talked about drugs and gangs and worry that young people are killing each other. Guns are easy to get but knifings and other forms of violence also exist. Mothers worry about their childrens' safety. They noted that the parks their children play in are littered with trash and, worse, dirty needles. All the groups want more engagement by police in their neighborhoods and positive relationships with law enforcement.

2. Need for strong male role models for children.

Head Start mothers talked about the need for more males in classrooms, in order to provide a strong role model for children. The seniors talked about how their communities used to have "doctors and lawyers," professional and educated people whom children could look up to. Now children in their neighborhoods see only drug dealers. Many said that a stronger police presence would help children see the positive side of policing.

3. The need for educational, mentoring and training programs for members of the community.

Participants felt that a lack of jobs caused many problems for their communities. They want to see more programs to train people for work so people do not resort to violence or crime. They also suggested educational and informational outreach programs to help people access available services or programs.

## Surveys

PEACE, Inc. conducted two surveys of stakeholders in July 2016: one with community partners and one with its staff members, both administered through Survey Monkey.

### *Community Partners Surveys*

Most critical unmet needs according to community partners:

- Employment
- Affordable housing
- Affordable transportation
- Child care and education
- Access to community resources
- Accessible mental health options
- Services for adolescents

Electronic surveys were sent to community partners representing local human services nonprofit agencies, government employees (police, teachers, and employees of various Departments including Social Services, labor, and planning), ministers, community activists, and other people associated with PEACE, Inc. (consultants, volunteers, and vendors).

The surveys contained open-ended questions about the community's greatest strengths, weaknesses and need for additional services (the survey instrument can be found in Appendix B). There were 156 completed surveys.

When community partners were asked about the community's greatest strengths, common responses included "a sense of community," diversity, the people and the resources available. Other responses included proximity to nature, relative affordability and size.

Frequent responses to the question about the area's greatest challenges reflected concerns about poverty, housing, violence, schools and education, and employment. Less frequent responses, but a significant number nonetheless, included segregation and race, transportation, and health. The Word Cloud in Figure 19 depicts this visually.



Disability diagnosis and support services	10
Financial literacy	9
Activities to support seniors	8
Violence, safety, law enforcement	7
Adult literacy classes	6
GED or high school diploma	6
ESL classes	5
Accessible medical diagnosis and treatment options	5
Home weatherization services	5
Financial concerns	5
Better public schools	4
Prenatal care	2
Civic engagement	2

*PEACE, Inc. Staff Surveys*

Services needed for the community according to PEACE, Inc. staff:

- Education and training programs
- Employment opportunities,
- Transportation
- Physical and mental health services
- Affordable child care,
- Affordable housing
- Access to healthy foods

Electronic surveys were sent to all current PEACE, Inc. staff. In addition to questions about the community’s strengths, challenges and service needs, staff were asked about their role within PEACE, Inc. (the survey instrument can be found in Appendix C).

There were 100 completed staff surveys. Tables 69 and 70 show the breakdown of roles and areas where respondents work.

**Table 69: Position of Staff Survey Respondents**

Position	Count*
Management/Supervisory	34
Support Staff or Clerical	29
Direct Service	34
Other	9
*Some respondents identified more than one position.	

**Table 70: Area within PEACE, Inc. Where Staff Survey Respondents Work**

<b>Area in PEACE, Inc.</b>	<b>Count</b>
Head Start / Early Head Start	53
Family Resource Centers	8
EITC	1
Energy and Housing	5
Nutrition Services	3
Big Brothers Big Sisters	3
DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center	2
Foster Grandparent Program	3
Neighborhood Advisor/EISEP	2
Maintenance/Facilities	4
Administrative (Fiscal, IT, HR, Community Engagement, Executive)	12
Transportation	2
Other	1

When staff were asked about the community’s greatest strengths, common responses included availability of resources, “a sense of community,” diversity, and programs and services. Others were support, education and “helping.”

Frequent responses to the question asking about the area’s greatest challenges reflected concerns about employment, violence and crime, poverty, education and schools, housing, and transportation. Less frequent responses, but a significant number nonetheless, included drugs, as well as awareness of resources to address drug addiction and access to those resources.

When staff were asked about services needed for the community, the most frequent responses were education and training programs, employment opportunities, and transportation. Other services often mentioned were physical and mental health services, affordable child care, affordable housing, and access to healthy foods. The Word Cloud in Figure 20 depicts this visually.



## **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Apter & O'Connor, in collaboration with PEACE, Inc. administration, has presented a comprehensive view of the demographics, challenges and supports available in Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse. Throughout the report, key issues emerging from the collected data, including the input from key stakeholders, have been documented. The following areas are of particular relevance to future planning and allocation of resources for PEACE, Inc., Early Head Start/Head Start, and the Family Resource Centers:

- Support for children who are overweight or obese.
- More positive interactions with law enforcement officers to address violence and safety concerns within the communities.
- Support for education and job training programs to assist residents with employment opportunities.
- Provide opportunities to support positive male role models for children.
- Support for grandparents who have primary responsibility for their grandchildren.
- Support for English Language Learners and those who do not speak English well.
- Support for pregnant mothers with prenatal care and health education.

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## **Appendix A: Focus Group Report**

**PEACE, Inc.**  
**Focus Groups**  
**July 2016**  
**Summary Report**  
**Revised 8.4.16**

PEACE, Inc. is conducting a community needs assessment. As part of this effort to understand community needs facilitators from Apter & O'Connor conducted three focus groups in July 2016. Each of the three meetings engaged a different group of community members that are familiar with PEACE, Inc. and programming it provides. The first focus group was held at the Eastside Family Resource Center and focused on seniors. The second group was held at a Head Start facility and focused on mothers of children in the Head Start program. They mothers are all also volunteers for the agency. The third focused on volunteers at the Emma L. Johnston Family (ELJ) Resource Center. This report outlines the process and the themes that emerged from each of the three groups.

The protocol and questions were the same for each group with slight modifications to accommodate different populations represented. During each session the facilitator asked additional probing questions to engage the group. The protocols and questions can be found at the end of this report.

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The people who attended each focus group came from three different sectors of the PEACE community; seniors attending activities at one of the PEACE Family Resource Centers, mothers of children in the Head Start program who are all members of Policy Council, and volunteers at a newly reopened Family Resource Center. They all report a comfort and fondness for their communities however violence, issues associated with poverty, drugs and lack of jobs are of great concern.

They feel PEACE is contributing to the community in positive ways whether it is opportunities for social interactions or providing much needed assistance with basic needs. When asked what PEACE could do better, most suggested offering more programs that would help with basic needs, provide solid role models for children and prepare people for jobs.

Each group expressed a desire for greater cooperation with law enforcement. They want more police presence to support safer neighborhoods and they want better relationships with officers.

### **FOCUS GROUP – PEACE, Inc. Pre-discussion Survey Questions and Themes**

As participants arrived they were given a short survey to fill out. This was intended to help them focus on the types of questions we would be asking and to get their thoughts and opinions before hearing from others in the group. The questions are listed here with the themes from the participants' responses.

1. How long have you lived in this community?

Many people who attended the senior group have lived in Syracuse for as long as sixty (60) years. Many people across the three session said they had lived in Syracuse "all my life". One person in the Head Start group had only lived in Syracuse two and a half (2.5) years.

2. How long have you been coming to this Family Resource Center/Head Start? And how often do you come?

The senior group listed a range from three months to thirty years. The Head Start group listed a range from two years to fourteen years. Emma Johnston Resource Center (EJR) just reopened in March so the group all had various start dates ranging from March to July 2016. In addition, these participants are all volunteers or interns.

Since participants in the Head Start and EJR Center groups spend time volunteering they come to their respective classrooms or centers on a regular basis. The Seniors ranged from two to three times per week.

3. How would you describe your community to a friend? What do you like best about your community?

Many, across all groups, used the word "poverty" to describe their community. They also used words such as "good people, friendly, inclusive, diverse, family oriented and caring".

4. What do you worry about? What do you think are the greatest challenges for families in your community?

People across all groups listed crime, violence, safety and not enough for young people to do. Several people mentioned lack of jobs and meeting basic needs like food and shelter.

5. How would you describe this Family Resource Center to a friend? (You can answer with even 1 word)

The senior group used words such as "sharing, wonderful, enjoyment, nice community, place to receive important information". The Head Start group listed things like "helping people, providing opportunities to children, blessing for the whole family". The EJR Center described their center as a warm, caring and loving place, "like a family".

6. What do you like best about this Family Resource Center/Head Start?

The senior group listed attributes like friendly, caring and good social interactions. The Head Start group described the educational opportunities for children and families. They also liked the opportunities for parents to volunteer. The EFR Center listed things like family oriented, comfortable environment and non-judgmental atmosphere.

7. What could they do better in terms of **supporting families**?

Everyone suggested more services and programs. The Head Start group suggested more programs for children five days a week to give parents opportunities for work. Also, include transportation for kids.

**GENERAL THEMES ACROSS ALL GROUPS:**

Three themes emerged across all three of the focus groups.

4. Violence and concern for safety in communities

Across all groups people like and appreciate their communities however they worry about crime and violence. They talked about drugs and gangs and worry that young people are killing each other. Guns are easy to get but knifings and other forms of violence also exists. Mothers worry about the safety of their children. They complained that the parks their children play in are littered with trash and, worse, dirty needles. All the groups would like to see more engagement by police in their neighborhoods and positive relationships with law enforcement.

5. Need for strong male role models for children

Head Start mothers talked about the need for males in the classrooms to provide a strong role model for their children. The senior group talked about how in the past the communities had “doctors and lawyers”, professional and educated people children could look up to. Now they only see drug dealers. Many said that a stronger police presence would help children see the positive side of policing.

6. The need for educational, mentoring and training programs for members of the community

Participants said they felt lack of jobs caused many problems for their communities. They want to see more programs to train people for work so that they would not have to resort to violence or crime. They also suggested educational and informational programs to help people access services or programs that might be available to them.

**FOCUS GROUP THEMES:**

**Focus Group #1 – PEACE, Inc. Eastside Family Resource Center**

Participants: 13 people - 5 men, 7 women, 1 female staff. All are seniors including staff member.

- Need for better sense of “community”  
There is a concern that people in their communities are no longer engaged or involved in what happens in the neighborhoods. People are not watching out for each other. People are apathetic believing that they don’t have a voice.
- Intergenerational activities – recreation, education, meals  
Activities are for one age group or another but rarely shared among generations. Programs like Foster grandparents or “family dinners” could build a stronger sense of community and provide role models for children.
- Role models and mentoring, especially males with diverse (and successful) careers  
Young people need to see strong male role models to provide good examples for positive behaviors. Mentoring programs, including cross generational, could also help young people feel a sense of belonging and community.
- FRC outreach and communication with neighborhood, activate neighborhood advisory board  
People want to have a voice in what happens in their communities and the Family Resource Centers. Also there’s a need for more information and referral services.

What they like about PEACE

- Good place to socialize with friends
- Provides help and resources to those who need them

What can PEACE do better?

- Initiate the Community Advisory Group
- Communicate with the community via social media
- Get people involved in activities together across generations
- Look for opportunities like Foster Grandparents or Boy & Girls Clubs for mentoring and focusing on male role models.
- More activities and classes for kids
- Provide services like food, social activities and help with National Grid bills

**Focus Group #2 – Head Start - Sumner Location**

Participants: 6 women, all Head Start parents and all members of Head Start Policy Council, three African American, 3 white

- Need for more online communication between Head Start and parents  
Use of social media would be a great benefit to the program and to parents. The current website is outdated.

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- Educational programs for parents  
Educate parents on ways to get out of poverty, how to buy a house, what services are available. Continue to provide child development and parenting education for parents. Head Start is supportive and non-judgmental so it is a safe place for parents to learn. There are many opportunities for parents to become involved.
- Community safety  
Parents want safe places for the children to play free of drugs and paraphernalia. Violence is a big issue and participants want better community relations with police both for adults and children. More safe and clean parks and recreational facilities for children.
- Need for more male role models  
Head Start encourages parent involvement. They need to hold parents accountable for their commitment to classroom time. There is a need for more diversity in staff so that children see people who look like them. More men are needed to provide strong male role models for kids.

### What they like about PEACE

- Parent engagement and education
- Head Start has plans for children and supports their development, not just day care
- Teachers are an asset
- Employment opportunities
- Partnership between parents and teachers

### What can PEACE do better?

- Provide training for improving credit and eventually buying a house
- Sponsor more events to bring diverse groups together to get to know each other
- Hold all parents accountable for their commitments
- Provide a diversity in Head Start teachers, including men, so children see people who look like them in roles of authority
- More and longer summer programs for children to help parents who work or are looking for a job
- More online communication between Head Start and parents
- Use influence to support clean-up of our parks

### **Focus Group – PEACE, Inc. Emma L. Johnston Family Resource Center**

Participants: 6 people - 4 women, 2 men, all volunteers, mixed ages, all African American

- More educational programs  
There is a need for more educational and training opportunities. Basic skills, literacy and GED programs would be useful. Job training programs are needed to support economic development in the community.

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- Maintenance and upkeep needed for building (e.g., ramp and sidewalk)  
The ELJ - Resource Center was closed and recently reopened (March 2016) so there are a number of maintenance issues that need to be addressed.
- Continue to improve relationship with police  
Violence is a key concern for people in the community. Guns, gangs, drugs, knifings are all prevalent in the neighborhood. They would like to see more police presence and stronger positive relationships with police.
- Basic needs  
This community has a great need for basic services like shelter, food and clothing.
- Loving, non-judgmental environment  
Continue to support the family atmosphere for volunteers which will extend to people who come in for help. The center is new to many people so they are discovering the resources the center can provide. They can see this is an open and friendly place to be.

### What they like about PEACE

- The ELJ-Resource Center provides hope
- Helping people with whatever they need - work to find resources for people
- Non-judgmental atmosphere – people won't be turned away

### What could PEACE do better?

- More programs for youth, job training
- Programs for the disabled
- Give neighborhood people a voice in what happens at the Center
- Foster better relationships with the police and a greater sense of safety (security cameras)
- Marketing for the Center to let people know we are here and can help

PROTOCOL AND QUESTIONS:

❖ **Welcome and Introductions.**

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone attending this focus group today. My name is Cynthia O'Connor (1 focus group) / Susan Burgess (2 focus groups) and my firm has been hired by PEACE, Inc. to conduct a Community Needs Assessment. I'm joined today by my colleague Marvin Blachman. We've come because the staff at PEACE recognize that you - as members of this community - are best suited to help define the community's needs. We would like to spend some time asking you questions about your experiences with PEACE and Family Resource Center / Head Start and your concerns and observations about the community. This will help us understand your community and help PEACE improve its services in the future.

We know that everyone may have different opinions and that is fine. We want to hear what all of you have to say. Before we begin, I just want to go over some ground rules for our discussion:

First: There are no right or wrong answers. We really are interested in what everyone has to say.

Second: Please do not criticize or argue with what other people say. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion.

Third: What is said here stays here. We will not write down people's names when we take notes nor will we use names when we write up the findings.

Also, I want everyone to know that participation is voluntary.

As we talk, Marvin will be taking notes. He will also use a tape recorder to help him summarize the conversation. But again your names will not be used and your comments will be confidential. They will not be linked with your name in any way.

Because we are taping the meeting, I may remind you occasionally to speak up and talk one at a time.

Even though I'll be asking questions, I would like you to feel free to respond to one another.

Let's start by going around the room and having each person tell us your first name and how long you have lived in this community, whether you have children and /or grandchildren in the community and how long you have been coming to this center.

❖ **Let's start with the Community – what is on you mind?**

- **What do you like best about your community? What are you proud of when you think of your community?**
  - How would you describe your community to a friend?

- How does the community do when it comes to supporting families? /What are its greatest strengths when it comes to supporting families?
- **What are you worrying about?**
  - What are your community's greatest challenges?
  - What do families currently need?
- **What resources or services would your community and families benefit from in the future /going forward?**
- ❖ **Now let's talk about PEACE and this FRC - When you think about PEACE, Inc. and the Family Resource Center/Head Start what comes to mind?**
  - **How would you rate the *quality* of PEACE programs and services?**
    - Why? - How would you identify or define quality for these services?
    - Are they responsive to issues and concerns in the community?
    - How would you describe this program/service to a friend?
    - How do people find PEACE / this Family Resource Center?
  - **What do you like best about this FRC/Head Start?**
    - What does PEACE /this FRC currently provide or do well for families (for the issues identified)?
  - **What could they do better?**
    - What might you change here at the FRC?
    - **What other supports or services should /could PEACE provide for families?**
- ❖ **What else could the Community at-large / others do to support families (to address the issues identified)?**
- ❖ **(if appropriate), Can we prioritize these issues raised regarding families**
  - **What are the top 1 or 2 concerns?**
  - **What do you think are the critical resources needed?**
- ❖ **What else?**
  - **What didn't we talk about that we should have?**

## Appendix B: Community Partners Survey Instrument

Welcome

**This survey is part of our community needs assessment. Your responses will help us better understand the needs of the community and determine the best ways for PEACE, Inc. to do its part toward meeting those needs.**

**Thank you for taking a few minutes to share your thoughts and ideas.**

1. What do you see as the 3 greatest strengths of our community?

1.

2.

3.

2. What do you see as the 3 greatest challenges facing people in our community?

1.

2.

3.

3. What do you perceive to be the 3 most critical unmet needs in our community?  
Check your top three choices only.

- Dependable, high quality childcare and/or early childhood education
- Programs and services for adolescents
- Affordable housing
- Adult literacy classes
- ESL classes
- GED or high school diploma
- Emergency services: food, shelter, clothing
- Mentoring
- Access to/Awareness of community resources
- Reliable transportation, public or private
- Accessible medical diagnosis and treatment options
- Accessible mental health diagnosis and treatment options
- Employment opportunities
- Job training
- Financial literacy
- Parenting education
- Wellness education, healthy food and exercise, obesity prevention
- Home weatherization services
- Activities to support seniors
- Prenatal care
- Disability diagnosis and support services
- Refugee services
- Other (please specify)

## Appendix C: PEACE, Inc. Staff Survey Instrument

Welcome to PEACE, Inc.'s Staff Survey on Community Needs

**As part of our Community Needs Assessment, we are looking for some quick input from all staff. Based on your experience and expertise, please take a few minutes to answer this brief survey on perceived challenges and needs of people across Onondaga County.**

**Thank you in advance for your help!**

1. How would you categorize your position with PEACE, Inc.? Please check all that apply.

Management/Supervisory

Support Staff or Clerical

Direct Service

Other (please specify)

2. In which area of PEACE, Inc. do you work?

- Head Start / Early Head Start
- Family Resource Centers
- EITC
- Energy and Housing
- Nutrition Services
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center
- Foster Grandparent Program
- Neighborhood Advisor/EISEP
- Maintenance/Facilities
- Administrative (Fiscal, IT, HR, Community Engagement, Executive)
- Transportation
- Other (please specify)

**Please share your opinions on the following three questions. Please do not worry about writing in full sentences. We are looking for short answers – just a list of your top 3-4 ideas for each question.**

3. In your opinion, what are the greatest strengths of our community?

Strength 1

Strength 2

Strength 3

Strength 4

4. In your opinion, what are the greatest challenges for people in our community?

Challenge 1

Challenge 2

Challenge 3

Challenge 4

5. In your opinion, what services are needed in our community? These can be services that are already available but not accessible to all, services that are already available but are lacking sufficient capacity to meet all needs, or services that are not available at all.

Service 1

Service 2

Service 3

Service 4

**Thank you for taking the time to share your input. Your perspective on these questions is greatly appreciated.**

## Appendix D: Community Resources

From: 211CNY website maintained by Contact Community Services, Inc., unless otherwise noted.<sup>73</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> <https://211cny.com/>

### **Transportation to services for Disabled**

- Able Medical Transportation
  - Provides non-emergency medical transportation to individuals with physical/mental disabilities to any destination including medical appointments and social functions. Includes long distance trips for individuals seeking medical attention from outside central NY. Wheelchair & stretcher service
- Adam's Apple Services
  - 106 South Arterial Road  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides non-emergency medical transportation for the elderly and disabled in Onondaga County. Services also include grocery shopping with personal escort as well as group bus trips (shopping, restaurants, apple farms, etc.).
- Agape Transport  
Winds of Agape Family Center
  - 1414 Grant Boulevard  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers transportation for individuals that need assistance and may not be able to afford public transportation or other alternatives. Transports agency Homecare Staff and clients with disabilities in the community.
- Call-a-Bus  
Centro / Central New York Regional Transportation Authority
  - 200 Cortland Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Coordinates ride-sharing transportation aboard CNYRTA Specialized Transportation vehicles and specially-marked vendor vehicles for individuals who have been deemed functionally unable to ride Centro due to their disabilities.
- Empire Transportation
  - 6500 New Venture Gear Drive  
Suite 800  
East Syracuse, NY
  - Provides Medicaid-approved transport in Onondaga, Oswego, Lewis, and Jefferson counties. Airport transport is also available.
- Jordan-Elbridge Transportation Program (JET)  
Town of Elbridge
  - 5 Route 31  
Jordan, NY
  - Provides transportation for elderly and disabled residents to medical and non-medical appointments as well as local shopping trips.
- Laker Limo

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- PO Box 644  
Skaneateles, NY
  - Provides Senior and Disabled Transportation for the residents of Skaneateles.
- Muscular Dystrophy Information and Assistance  
Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)
  - 6315 Fly Road  
Suite 102  
East Syracuse, NY
  - Provides clinical research, genetic counseling, transportation assistance, orthopedic appliances, and aids to daily living for people fighting muscular disease.
- Non - Emergency Medical Transportation  
Rural Metro Medical Services of Central New York
  - 488 West Onondaga Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides non-emergency medical transportation for individuals in need.
- Outbound Transportation Program  
Onondaga County Department of Social Services
  - 421 Montgomery Street  
Civic Center, 10th Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides transportation to disabled individuals who are unable to leave their homes without assistance and who cannot use existing transportation services such as Call-A-Bus. Transportation provided by Able Medical Transportation.
- St. Camillus Transportation Services  
The Centers at St. Camillus
  - 813 Fay Road  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides transportation for anyone who needs assistance to get to and from any medical provider in Cayuga and Onondaga counties. Able to accommodate non-emergency wheelchair, walk-on, and stretcher patients, and provides door-through-door transportation.
- Suburban Transportation
  - 6327 East Molloy Road  
East Syracuse, NY
  - Provides transportation for elderly and disabled clients. Provides wheelchair service for individuals who are non-ambulatory. Passengers may use their own chair or one will be provided. Provides escort services for individuals who are ambulatory but may need some assistance or guidance.

### **Crisis assistance programs**

- In person crisis intervention:
  - Access (serves children with emotional/behavioral issues)
  - Advocacy Program (victims of sexual, domestic, family violence and other crime)
  - Anthony Fazzino (mental health counseling)
  - Brynn Jenna Rogers (systemic therapy)
  - Domestic Violence Program (long- and short-term crisis intervention)
  - PEACE FRCs
  - Mobile Crisis Outreach (provides off-site initial screenings for individuals in an emotional crisis)
  - Patrick DiGirolamo (mental health counseling)
  - Tracy Carmody (substance abuse counseling)
- Domestic Violence Shelters:
  - International Victims Project (services include a 24-hour hotline, advocacy and outreach, emergency shelter, counseling, referrals)
  - Shelter for Victims of Domestic/Sexual Violence/Abuse – Vera House (provides housing, food, personal items, counseling, advocacy, referral, case management, group support)

### **Employment services**

- Supported Employment:
  - Onondaga Community Living (one-to-one support in job development and advocacy in community jobs)
  - Unity House of Cayuga County (individualized services in career exploration, skills assessment, and long-term services to obtain and maintain competitive employment)
  - ARISE Child and Family Services (supported employment services to individuals and employers)
- Blended Services  
Humanitarian Organization for Multicultural Experience (HOME, Inc)
  - 831 James Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides day habilitation and prevocational services to participants who are developmentally disabled and require more individualized attention related to behavior or degree of disability. Includes on-site and volunteer activities that help clients improve their communication skills.
- Career Resource Center  
Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES
  - 4500 Crown Road  
Liverpool, NY

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- Provides job seeker and employer services including career counseling, computer training, job fairs, and new employee recruitment services.
- Career Training Center  
Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES
  - 4500 Crown Road  
Liverpool, NY
  - Offers a range of full-time career training programs ranging from health occupations to office technology.
- Developmental Disabilities Services  
Epilepsy-Pralid
  - 1065 James Street  
Suite 220  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides advocacy, training, and other supports for individuals with developmental disabilities. Services include service coordination, supported employment, and individualized skill-building
- Developmental Disabilities State Operations Office (DDSOO) Region 2  
New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)
  - 187 Northern Concourse  
Syracuse, NY
  - Administers and oversees state operations for the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), including the direct delivery of services and supports to people with developmental disabilities by state staff.
- Employment Services  
ARISE Child and Family Services
  - 635 James Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers supported employment services to individuals and employers. Employment consultants help individuals identify work goals and seek employment, career counseling, and job placement. Consultants also offer disability awareness training to employers throughout the Central New York area.
- Employment Services  
CNY Works
  - 960 James Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides employment-related services that include universal access to job search and labor market information. Resource room includes access to personal computers, fax machine, and internet access for job search. Partners from various agencies provide basic information on a variety of services.

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- Employment Services  
Learning Disabilities Association of CNY
  - 212 East Manlius Street  
East Syracuse, NY
  - Offers multiple employment options for those who need additional assistance finding and keeping a job, including pre-employment job development and career exploration, on and off site job coaching and employment support, as well as ongoing employment support and work readiness workshops.
- Family Resource Centers  
PEACE, Inc
  - 217 South Salina Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a comprehensive range of services, including employment, education, recreation, health, energy, disabilities services, consumerism, transportation, and information and referrals.
- Independent Living for Foster Children  
Onondaga County Children and Family Services
  - 421 Montgomery Street  
Civic Center, 8th Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides services to all teens ages 14 years and older in foster care who are interested in learning real world life skills through intensive casework and participation in group activities.
- One-on-one Career Counseling  
Women's Opportunity Center (WOC)
  - 901 James Street  
2nd Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers one-on-one career counseling, using assessment testing and Skill scan to help clients decide what career options they may have.
- Parent Success Initiative  
Syracuse Model Neighborhood Facility Southwest Community Center
  - 401- 425 South Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Assists non-custodial parents of children receiving, or eligible for, public assistance with finding and/or keeping employment or improving their present employment situation in order to increase the support to their children. Provides employment counseling, direct assistance finding and/or keeping a job
- Parent Support Program  
Center for Court Innovation

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- Onondaga County Courthouse  
401 Montgomery Street, Room 116  
Syracuse, NY
- Provides non-custodial parents who are involved in child support cases with a range of employment services, including resume preparation, career exploration, and interview readiness, as well as ongoing support after securing employment in an effort to help non-custodial parents meet their child
- Project Connection  
PEACE, Inc
  - 202 South Beech Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides a comprehensive activity center specializing in preventive youth services and adult self-enrichment training.
- Supported Employment  
Unity House of Cayuga County
  - 518 James Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers individualized services to meet specific needs and may include career exploration, skills assessment, and long-term services to obtain and maintain competitive employment. Advocacy and benefit management services are also available, as well as transportation training.
- Visions for Change
  - 1201 East Fayette Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides a workforce development program aimed toward building self-sufficiency through education and support. Works with individuals who are living in poverty and determined to move toward financial stability. Individuals start with the Choosing to Thrive workshop, they graduate and become Leaders
- Vocational Program  
Onondaga Case Management Services (OCMS)
  - 620 Erie Boulevard West  
Suite 302  
Syracuse, NY
    - Provides job development and job retention assistance. Conducts assessments and provides career development services. Assists with benefit planning.

### Government services

- [ongov.net](http://ongov.net) provides a comprehensive list of social services assisting with economic security. People can access any of the services through the contact information provided by the site
- Baldwinsville Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Baldwinsville
  - 16 West Genesee Street  
Baldwinsville, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses. Other services include collecting property taxes for ...
- Camillus Town Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Town of Camillus
  - 4600 West Genesee Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to Town residents, as well as collecting property and school taxes. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor
- Cicero Town Clerk  
Town of Cicero
  - 8236 Brewerton Road  
Cicero, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to Town residents, as well as collecting property and school taxes. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor
- Clay Town Clerk  
Town of Clay
  - 4401 Route 31  
Clay, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to Town residents, as well as collecting property and school taxes. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor
- Deeds and Mortgages\_  
Onondaga County Clerk
  - 401 Montgomery Street  
Room 200  
Syracuse, NY

- Provides deed and mortgage services.
- DeWitt Town Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Town of DeWitt
  - 5400 Butternut Drive  
East Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to Town residents, as well as collecting property and school taxes. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor
- East Syracuse Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of East Syracuse
  - 204 North Center Street  
East Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Elbridge Town Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Town of Elbridge
  - 5 Route 31  
Jordan, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents, as well as collecting property taxes from town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/
- Elbridge Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Elbridge
  - 210 West Main Street  
Elbridge, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include disabled parking permits and peddler/solicitor licenses. Other services maintaining village records and archives as well as preparing and collecting property taxes for residents ...
- Fabius Town Clerk  
Town of Fabius
  - 7786 Main Street  
Fabius, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.

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- Fabius Village Clerk  
Village of Fabius
  - PO Box 102  
Fabius, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational service to Village residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/wagering licenses.
- Fayetteville Village Clerk  
Village of Fayetteville
  - 425 East Genesee Street  
Fayetteville, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Geddes Town Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Town of Geddes
  - 1000 Woods Road  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Jordan Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Jordan
  - 7 Mechanic Street  
Jordan, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents, as well as collecting property taxes from residents. Licensing and permits include disabled parking permits, block party permits, and peddler/solicitor licenses. Other services include maintaining village ...
- LaFayette Town Clerk  
Town of LaFayette
  - 2877 US Route 11  
La Fayette, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.

- Liverpool Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Liverpool
  - 310 Sycamore Street  
Liverpool, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents, as well as collecting property taxes for residents of the village. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party ...
- Lysander Town Clerk  
Town of Lysander
  - 8220 Loop Road  
Baldwinsville, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Manlius Town Clerk  
Town of Manlius
  - 301 Brooklea Drive  
Fayetteville, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Manlius Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Manlius
  - One Arkie Albanese Avenue  
Manlius, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Marcellus Town Clerk  
Town of Marcellus
  - 24 East Main Street  
Marcellus, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.

- Marcellus Village Clerk  
Village of Marcellus
  - 6 Slocombe Avenue  
Marcellus, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Minoa Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Minoa
  - 240 North Main Street  
Minoa, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents, as well as collecting property tax for village residents. Licensing and permits include disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- New York State Governor's Office of Regional Affairs
  - 333 East Washington Street  
Hughes State Office Building, 5th floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Serves as a clearinghouse for information on state programs, assists individuals experiencing problems with state agencies, and refers individuals to the appropriate agencies.
- North Syracuse Village Clerk and Treasurer  
Village of North Syracuse
  - 600 South Bay Road  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Onondaga County Clerk
  - 401 Montgomery Street  
Room 200  
Syracuse, NY
  - The Onondaga County Clerk's Office acts as Custodian of the records for the County and provides certificates and licensing for residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor
- Onondaga County Department of Emergency Management

- 421 Montgomery Street,  
John Mulroy Civic Center, Sub-basement  
Syracuse, NY
- Engages in emergency planning and preparedness for entire community by providing training for and coordination of county-wide fire services and emergency medical services, partnering with government agencies and community and volunteer organizations.
- Onondaga County Executive Office  
Onondaga County Government
  - 421 Montgomery Street  
Civic Center, 14th Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Serves as the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Budget Officer of Onondaga County Government. Provides internal support to the County's departments and organizations, and external support to the residents, communities and businesses of Onondaga County to ensure implementation of legislative ...
- Onondaga Town Clerk  
Town of Onondaga
  - 5020 Ball Road  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Otisco Town Clerk  
Town of Otisco
  - 1924 Barker Street  
Tully, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Pompey Town Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Town of Pompey
  - 8354 US Route 20  
Pompey, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents, as well as collecting property taxes for town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/s

- Salina Town Clerk  
Town of Salina
  - 201 School Road  
Liverpool, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Skaneateles Town Clerk  
Town of Skaneateles
  - 24 Jordan Street  
Skaneateles, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, and racing/ wagering licenses. Other services include processing passport applications as well as ...
- Skaneateles Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Skaneateles
  - 26 Fennell Street  
Skaneateles, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses. Other services include collecting property taxes for ...
- Solvay Village Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Village of Solvay
  - 1100 Woods Road  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to village residents. Licensing and permits include disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses. Other services include collecting property taxes for ...
- Spafford Town Clerk  
Town of Spafford
  - 1984 State Route 174  
Skaneateles, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.

- Tully Town Clerk  
Town of Tully
  - 5833 Meetinghouse Road  
Tully, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.
- Tully Village Clerk  
Village of Tully
  - 5833 Meetinghouse Road  
Tully, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational service to Village residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/wagering licenses.
- Van Buren Town Clerk and Tax Receiver  
Town of Van Buren
  - 7575 Van Buren Road  
Van Buren, NY
  - Offers a wide range of licensing, records, and informational services to town residents. Licensing and permits include marriage licenses, hunting/fishing/trapping licenses, disabled parking permits, dog licenses, block party permits, peddler/solicitor licenses, and racing/ wagering licenses.

### **Senior support services**

- Family Members and Friends of Alzheimer’s/Memory Impaired Persons
- Many senior/community centers and day programs
- Senior bus services available in Cicero and Syracuse, Area North Transportation Services
- PEACE, Inc. Community & Resource Centers are located throughout Onondaga County and offer a variety of services.
  - Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center is a community center offering a variety of programs and activities for the residents of the Eastwood community, especially for seniors. Activities include senior nutrition lunches, wellness programs, dancing, card games, day trips, celebrations and more.  
<http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/individuals-families-services/community-resource-centers/frank-defrancisco-eastwood-community-center/>
  - The Family Resource Centers are community-based sites located throughout Onondaga County. Programs include emergency assistance, crisis intervention, advocacy, supportive services, employment support, youth activities, education

and family development partnerships. <http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/individuals-families-services/community-resource-centers/family-resource-centers/>

- The Neighborhood Advisor Program can provide support to senior citizens ages 60 and above who live in the Baldwinsville area or the Town of Elbridge. Provides assistance to seniors in order to allow them to remain independent and living in their own home. <http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/seniors-services/information-assistance/>
- Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) provides case management for seniors that include in-home personal care, light housekeeping, laundry, and meal prep for non-Medicaid eligible seniors. <http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/seniors-services/information-assistance/>
- PEACE, Inc.'s Senior Nutrition Program provides nutritious lunches for seniors at many sites throughout Onondaga County. <http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/seniors-services/senior-nutrition/seniorlunches/>
- PEACE, Inc.'s Foster Grandparent Program provides seniors with a volunteer opportunity to help kids do better in school. Volunteers will receive paid orientation and training, transportation reimbursement, lunch while on duty, and accident and personal liability insurance. <http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/seniors-services/fostergrandparents/>

### Services for teens

- Health, Physical Education, and Recreation – JCC (offers variety of gymnastics, dances, fitness, and sports and other classes for school-age children)
- Youth Program – Solvay Geddes Community Youth Center (provides recreational activities for children)
- Youth Recreation Centers – Syracuse City Department of Parks, Recreation, and Youth Programs (ages 7-15)
  
- Adolescent Health Initiative  
ACR Health
  - 627 West Genesee Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides a targeted prevention program that focuses on reducing the rates of HIV/AIDS, STDS, Hepatitis C (HCV), substance use/abuse, and teen pregnancy among youth. Equips youths with information and skills to make healthy choices in their lives by providing evidence-based sexual health education
  
- Adolescent Medicine Program  
SUNY Upstate Medical University
  - 90 Presidential Plaza  
Syracuse, NY

- Offers primary and specialty care to patients ages 11 through 21 years. Focuses on both the psychosocial and physical needs of the adolescent patients. Screens adolescents in order to identify high risk activities and behaviors and offer appropriate counseling.
- Barnabas Recreation Center  
Salvation Army of Onondaga County
  - 1941 South Salina Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers free recreational, educational and living skills programming to youth. Helps youth learn skills, attitudes and behaviors necessary for successful independent living.
- Camillus Town Shop Youth Center  
Town of Camillus
  - 67 Main Street  
Camillus, NY
  - Provides local youth with a place in their community to find guidance, support, and companionship, plus have enriching cultural, recreational, and community service experiences. Offers a large recreational area on the first floor for games, including an antique pool table, as well as resource ...
- Centre Syracuse
  - 3300 James Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - An eating disorders day treatment center. More information may be found at [www.centresyracuse.com](http://www.centresyracuse.com). Offers support groups, call for more information.
- Choices Seven Challenges Program  
Elmcrest Children's Center
  - 960 Salt Springs Road, Cottage 6, Third Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - An outpatient substance abuse program for individuals ages 13–24, dually-diagnosed with substance abuse and mental health or other life-challenging issues. Regulated by NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse.
- Hutchings Children and Adolescent Inpatient Services  
Hutchings Psychiatric Center
  - 430 Irving Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides a short-term psychiatric inpatient level of care for children and adolescents, ages 5 through 17 years of age. Provides active treatment for patients and their families including assessment, medication management, individual/group/family therapy, and therapeutic programming to assist each

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- Hutchings Children and Adolescent Outpatient Services  
Hutchings Psychiatric Center
  - 650 Madison Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides outpatient mental health services (individual, group, family psychotherapy, and medication management) to youth ages 5 through 17 years old manifesting with moderate to severe emotional disturbance.
- Independent Living for Foster Children  
Onondaga County Children and Family Services
  - 421 Montgomery Street  
Civic Center, 8th Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides services to all teens ages 14 years and older in foster care who are interested in learning real world life skills through intensive casework and participation in group activities.
- Martin Brown, LMHC
  - 50 Presidential Plaza  
Suite LL5  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides mental health counseling to individuals ages five years and older.
- Phoebe Cannon, LCSW-R
  - 7000 East Genesee Street  
Building C  
Fayetteville, NY
  - Provides mental health counseling to individuals ages 12 years and older.
- Rose Hill
  - 100 County Route 43  
Brasher Falls, NY
  - Provides inpatient and residential drug rehabilitation for chemically dependent youths between the ages of 12 and 21. Services offered include clinical and medical treatment, education and recreational activities. The site itself includes a 30-bed residential facility that treats and houses both ...
- Signature Music
  - 118 Julian Place #229  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides music education for teen musicians including free lessons, free instruments, performance opportunities, college preparation, and a summer music camp.
- Teen Afterschool Program  
Huntington Family Centers

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- 405 Gifford Street  
Syracuse, NY
- Provides a year-round program for teens ages 13 through 19 years of age residing on the Westside of Syracuse focused on accepting and respecting individual differences, developing a positive identity, empowering teens, and treating them as valued members of the community. Activities include help ...
- Teen Health Clinic  
Syracuse Community Health Center (SCHC)
  - 1701 South Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Offers medical, dental, family planning, and mental health services for adolescents in confidential settings.
- Youth Enforcement Section  
Syracuse City Police Department
  - 511 South State Street  
3rd Floor  
Syracuse, NY
  - Addresses both juvenile crime and missing juveniles.

### Services for children

- Health, Physical Education, and Recreation – JCC (offers variety of gymnastics, dances, fitness, and sports and other classes for school-age children)
- Youth Program – Solvay Geddes Community Youth Center (provides recreational activities for children)
- Youth Recreation Centers – Syracuse City Department of Parks, Recreation, and Youth Programs (ages 7-15)
- Children's Hearing Aid Program (CHAP)  
Aurora of Central New York
  - 518 James Street  
Suite 100  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides low-cost hearing aids and follow up support for families who qualify financially.
- Children's World  
Onondaga County Public Library (OCPL)
  - The Galleries of Syracuse  
447 South Salina Street, 4th Floor  
Syracuse, NY

- Provides professional guidance in the selection and use of books and other materials (kits, learning games, computers, etc.) for children. Provides programs and activities for toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary school students year round. The Kid's Answer Place at Central Library is a special ...
- Christine Matteson, LMHC, LCAT
  - 1600 Teall Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides individual, group, and parent / child conjoint psychotherapy for clients ages three years and older, specializing in eating disorders, mood disorders, and grief / loss. See her website at [www.christinematteson.com](http://www.christinematteson.com) or her blog at [www.creatingyourhealth.com](http://www.creatingyourhealth.com) for more details.
- Growing Up Healthy Hotline  
New York State Department of Health Office of Public Health
  - New York State Department of Health  
Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY
  - Provides information about health care, nutrition, and other health and human services for families across New York State.
- Hutchings Children and Adolescent Inpatient Services  
Hutchings Psychiatric Center
  - 430 Irving Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides a short-term psychiatric inpatient level of care for children and adolescents, ages 5 through 17 years of age. Provides active treatment for patients and their families including assessment, medication management, individual/group/family therapy, and therapeutic programming to assist each
- Martin Brown, LMHC
  - 50 Presidential Plaza  
Suite LL5  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides mental health counseling to individuals ages five years and older.
- Parkside Children's Center  
ARC of Onondaga
  - 416 East Raynor Avenue  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides an inclusive preschool program for children ages 3 and 4 yeras. Services include physical, occupational, and speech therapy and family trainings and workshops.
- Stewards of Children  
YMCA of Greater Syracuse

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- 340 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, NY
- Offers a child sexual abuse prevention and awareness program that teaches adults how to recognize the danger signs and to respond responsibly.
- Youth Services  
Center for Community Alternatives (CCA)
  - 15 East Jefferson Street  
Syracuse, NY
  - Provides support and counseling for youth suspended from, or at risk of, suspension or arrest at Syracuse City Schools. Offers Violence Prevention training, Peer Leadership training, Aggression Replacement Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and youth participation in OnCare

### **Services available for children with disabilities.**

- Early Intervention: Jowonio School, Little Lukes, Liberty POST Program, Maragaret L. Williams Developmental Evaluation Center, Mid-State Early Childhood Direction Center, Parkside Children's Center, Special Children's Services
- After School Program – Humanitarian Organization for Multicultural Experience (provides social, recreational, and life skills)
- Bridges to Health – Elmcrest Children's Center (meets the needs of children with disabilities in foster care)
  - Elmcrest also offers Medicaid Waivers
- Charity for Children (financial and educational services)

### **Mental health services for children**

- Hutchings Children and Adolescent Outpatient Services – Hutchings Psychiatric Center (ages 5-17)
- Liberty POST Program – Liberty Resources (birth – 5 years old for children with developmental delays)
- Onondaga County Department of Mental Health (both outpatient and day treatment)

### **Mental health providers who serve low-income families**

- Mental Health America of Onondaga County, Inc. can provide referrals and information about affordable programs/services
- Baldwinsville Medical Ass. 3070 Rt 31 Baldwinsville NY 13027 635-5700 635-5313
- Brighton Hill Pediatrics 115 Intrepid Lane Syracuse 13205 469-8191 469-7164
- Care Best Pediatrics 3448 Rt 31 Baldwinsville NY 13027 622-6595
- Christian Health Services 3200 Burnet Ave. Syracuse 13206 433-9999
- Purnima Vyavaharkar 8400 Oswego Rd Liverpool, NY 13090 652-7939 652-6331
- Pediatric Associates 601 North Way Camillus 13031 487-1541 487-3485
- Dr Rurka 1200 E. Genesee St Syracuse 13210 475-6101 475-1827

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

- SCHC 819 S Salina St. Syracuse 13202 476-7921 234-599
- Medical records 476-7921 x 2631
- SCHC 603 Oswego St. Syracuse 13204 424-0800 424-1030
- SCHC 1938 E. Fayette St. Syracuse 13210 474-4077 474-6579
- St Joseph's 301 Prospect St. Syracuse 13203 448-5743 448-6203
- Family Practice Medical records
- Syracuse Pediatric Group 3175 E. Genesee St Syracuse 13224 251-2612 251-2616
- Dr Jones/Dr. Freshman
- Summerwood Pediatrics 4811 Buckley Rd Liverpool 13088 457-9966 457-9854
- 5700 W. Genesee St Camillus 13031 488-2868 488-6759
- UHCC 90 Presidential Plaza Syracuse 13202 464-4357 464-7212
- University Pediatrics 1200 E. Genesee St Syracuse 13210 471-4196 471-0845
- Dr Dunbar, Dr Eastman, Dr Starr
- Primary Care West 216 Seymour St. Syracuse 13204 703-2600 703-2621

### **Mental health clinics or other treatment facilities**

- Onondaga County Department of Mental Health
- Janet Jaffe PhD
- Jeffrey Carmen PhD
- Clifford Ivers PhD
- James Square Health and Rehabilitation Center
- Aspire Behavioral Health Services
- Syracuse Community Health Center (SCHC)
- Jo Anne Bakeman RN MS
- Health Education CASAC
- Psychological HealthCare
- Morgan Neilon PMHNP-BC
- Lynne Odell NPP FNB-BC
- Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare

### **Availability of transportation to health services**

- TLC Medical Transportation Services
- Speedy Medical Transportation
- CatFISH of Camillus
- CodFISH of Dewitt
- FISH of Fayetteville-ManliusLafayette, Tully, Skaneateles
- Rural Metro Medical Services of Central New York
- Road to Recovery
- St. Camillus Transportation Services

**Dentists who serve low-income families/Dentists who take Medicaid and serve children**

- \*Butternut Family Dentistry 1423 Butternut St. Syracuse, NY 373-0187
- Brewerton Family Dentistry 5501 Bartell Rd. Brewerton 676-2209
- Choice Family Dental 6195 Route 31 Cicero 698-6880
- East Hill Medical 144 Genesee St. Auburn , N.Y. 255-9294
- \*Eastman Dental Center 625 Elmwood Ave Rochester 585-275- 5051
- \*Fayetteville Family Dentistry 6962 High Bridge Rd. Fayetteville 373-0869
- #Pediatric Dentistry 8-16 E Genesee St Fayetteville NY 637-6961
- Fidelis
- Dr. Procopio 2412 Brewerton Rd, Mattydale 454-4400
- \*Quality Dental 4309 Genesee St, Suite 1 218-7366
- Salina Family Dental 6846 Buckley Rd. N.Syr. 457-7393
- SCHC 819 S. Salina St, Syracuse 476-7921 x 2851 or 2419
- Fax 234-5945
- SCHC West 603 Oswego St, Syracuse 424-0800
- SCHC East 1938 E. Fayette St, Syracuse 474-6579
- Shahine Dental 8075 Oswego RD. Liverpool N.Y. 622-660
- \*St. Joseph's Hospital 101 Union Ave, Syracuse 448-5477
- Westside Dental 4700 Onondaga Blvd, Syracuse 442-7779
- \*Robert Willis/C Rozhon 7282 Oswego Rd Liverpool NY 13090 451-6260
- United health care Medicaid only
- \* represent practices that do sedation

**Medical clinics, PA/NP/CNM, and Pediatricians who accept low-income families/Medicaid**

- Baldwinsville Medical Ass. 3070 Rt 31 Baldwinsville NY 13027 635-5700 635-5313
- Brighton Hill Pediatrics 115 Intrepid Lane Syracuse 13205 469-8191 469-7164
- Care Best Pediatrics 3448 Rt 31 Baldwinsville NY 13027 622-6595
- Christian Health Services 3200 Burnet Ave. Syracuse 13206 433-9999
- Purnima Vyavaharkar 8400 Oswego Rd Liverpool, NY 13090 652-7939 652-6331
- Pediatric Associates 601 North Way Camillus 13031 487-1541 487-3485
- Dr Rurka 1200 E. Genesee St Syracuse 13210 475-6101 475-1827
- SCHC 819 S Salina St. Syracuse 13202 476-7921 234-599
- Medical records 476-7921 x 2631
- SCHC 603 Oswego St. Syracuse 13204 424-0800 424-1030
- SCHC 1938 E. Fayette St. Syracuse 13210 474-4077 474-6579
- St Joseph's 301 Prospect St. Syracuse 13203 448-5743 448-6203
- Family Practice Medical records
- Syracuse Pediatric Group 3175 E. Genesee St Syracuse 13224 251-2612 251-2616
- Dr Jones/Dr. Freshman
- Summerwood Pediatrics 4811 Buckley Rd Liverpool 13088 457-9966 457-9854
- 5700 W. Genesee St Camillus 13031 488-2868 488-6759
- UHCC 90 Presidential Plaza Syracuse 13202 464-4357 464-7212

- University Pediatrics 1200 E. Genesee St Syracuse 13210 471-4196 471-0845
- Dr Dunbar, Dr Eastman, Dr Starr
- Primary Care West 216 Seymour St. Syracuse 13204 703-2600 703-2621

**Facilitated Enrollers for Child Health Plus and Medicaid**

- Ameri Choice by United Health Care 433–5856
- Fidelis 424-2135
- Total Care 634 – 5555

**Agencies Providing Literacy Education for English Language Learners:**

Cnylearns.org

- English Language Institute of University College  
<http://eli.syr.edu/>  
ELI is a pathway to achieving English language proficiency. It provides English courses incorporating cultural as well as linguistics knowledge and skills for many purposes: academic, business, general, law, or whatever you might need.
- JOBSplus!  
<http://www.jobsplus.cc/main.htm>  
315-442-3242  
It is the mission of JOBSplus! to focus everything that is said and done in the welfare system on helping people find and keep employment. This begins the moment individuals first apply for public assistance and continues until all who are able to have achieved economic independence. JOBSplus! will provide more opportunity for participants in this endeavor by enhancing and increasing their responsibility for their own success.
- LiteracyCNY  
<http://www.lvgs.org/>  
315-471-1300  
To provide adults in Central New York with the literacy tools and skills that they need to be contributing, productive, and engaged members of the community. We do this by advocating for adult education, providing instruction, and partnering with other community based agencies. Improving Adult Literacy makes our community stronger.
- MANOS Early Childhood Education Program  
<http://www.partnerscny.org/manos/>  
315-435-6000 x 5629  
MANOS provides a dual-language environment where children & parents learn together. Children ages 2 through 4 years old participate in activities to cultivate Spanish and English language skills while supporting cognitive, social, emotional, and physical

development. Each week parents work together to lead PACT, Parent and Child Together learning opportunities.

- Newland Learning Center  
<http://cnylearns.org/business/newland-learning-center/>  
315-471-1446  
The Newland Center is a non-profit, volunteer-based organization that is dedicated to providing free adult literacy services to our Syracuse inner-city neighborhoods. What makes us different from other local literacy centers, is that the Newland Center has a more “home-like” atmosphere since it is located in a house and students are expected to feel welcomed and learn comfortably.
- North Side Learning Center  
<http://www.northsidelearning.org/>  
315-378-4818  
The NSLC empowers refugees through English Language education to be independent and to become active participants in their community.
- OCM BOCES  
<http://www.ocmboces.org/>  
315-453-4672  
To provide adults in the Central New York with the literacy tools and skills that they need to be contributing, productive, and engaged members of the community. We do this by advocating for adult education, providing instruction, and partnering with other community based agencies. Improving Adult Literacy makes our community stronger.
- Onondaga County Public Library (OCPL) at The Galleries of Syracuse  
[http://www.onlib.org/web/serv\\_coll/literacy/index.htm](http://www.onlib.org/web/serv_coll/literacy/index.htm)  
315-435-1835  
The Onondaga County Public Library’s Adult Literacy Program offers a variety of materials and services in support of our mission to assist our adult learners in becoming “information literate,” and to help them on a path to lifelong learning. Information literacy includes:
  - traditional literacy (reading and writing)
  - media literacy (using videos and audiotapes for information)
  - computer literacy (using literacy software and other basic applications)
  - network literacy (using OCPL’s online catalog, serials database and the Internet)
- Partners in Learning, Inc. JOB Link (West Side Learning Center)  
<http://www.partnerscny.org/>  
315-744-3831  
Partners in Learning, Inc. supports adults, children and families of diverse cultures and languages in their efforts to learn, earn and live well in Syracuse and Onondaga County. We offer education and employment services designed to: enhance literacy and

language skills, promote intergenerational learning, and build cross-cultural connections.

- ProLiteracy  
<https://www.proliteracy.org/>  
315-422-9121  
Here at ProLiteracy, we believe that a safer, stronger, and more sustainable society starts with an educated adult population. For more than 50 years, we've been working with passionate people and organizations across the globe to build that society—and to create a world where every person can read and write.
- Refugee Assistance Program (SCSD)  
<http://www.syracusecityschools.com/districtpage.cfm?pageid=4295>  
315-435-5801
- Syracuse Educational Opportunity Center (SUNY EOC)  
<http://www.syracuseeoc.com/>  
315-472-0130  
The SUNY EOCs are a system of educational enterprises that serve eligible adult learners. As a part of this system, the Syracuse EOC delivers comprehensive, community-based academic and workforce development programs and provides support services that lead to enhanced employment opportunities, access to further education, and personal growth and development. These goals are accomplished through relevant courses of instruction, counseling, employment and educational placement, and through programs of community service.
- West Side Learning Center  
<http://www.syracusecityschools.com/districtpage.cfm?pageid=552>  
315-435-4013  
The WSLC offers many programs for adults who are English Language Learners.
  - Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced classes for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) students
  - Integrated instruction in listening, speaking, reading, and writing English
  - Group language practice
  - Vocational English and Training (VESOL) in our Computer and Teaching Assistant programs

## Financial Services

- Financial Readiness Program  
<http://drum.armymwr.com/us/drum/programs/army-community-service>  
315-772-6556

Offers education, counseling and support services including financial counseling, budgeting education, debt management and liquidation assistance, consumer advocacy and complaint resolution and Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance screening (FSSA). Eligibility: active duty military and their families, retired military and their families, surviving families of military personnel who died while on active duty, Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers on active duty and their families, Department of Defense civilians

- Catholic Charities Emergency Services

<http://www.ccoc.us/search/index?q=emergency+services>

315-475-3807

Provides assistance with basic needs for individuals or families who have emergency need, including those who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Services provided, as resources permit, include emergency rent payment assistance, local and long distance transit fare, prescription payment assistance, food pantry, clothing, and information and referral.

- Family Direct Supports

<http://www.contactefr.org/>

315-478-1462 x300

Provides direct financial assistance to support people with developmental disabilities living with their families. Priority is given to requests which have the greatest impact in support of the person with the disability.

- Foreclosure Prevention Program

<http://www.homehq.org/>

315-474-1939

Provides a program designed to help homeowners keep their homes, establish financial stability, and learn strategies to avoid foreclosure proceedings in the future.

- Budget and Credit Counseling

<http://www.clearpoint.org/>

Syracuse Office: 315-445-8960

Provides a private, confidential review of all income, living expenses, and current debt to create a plan to achieve client's financial goals. Based on complete analysis of income, living expenses, and debts, recommendations are made for setting priorities, increasing financial resources, restructuring family budget, and other means to avoid or handle financial crisis.

- Representative Payee Services

<http://www.ccoc.us/>

315-424-1810

Provides financial management, direct deposit, and bill paying for individuals who are unable to handle their own finances. Eligibility: Individuals ages 60 years and older with a documented disability.

○ Housing Counseling

<http://www.southernhillspc.org/>

315-677-3863

Provides individual pre- and post-purchase counseling as well as homebuyer classes that lead to a certificate (required by some agencies and lenders, such as USDA Rural Development for their home loan program). Grants for first-time homebuyers may be available. Eligibility: Low- and moderate-income individuals can receive services; Call for grant eligibility information

○ EITC You've Earned It! (Free Tax Program)

<http://www.peace-caa.org/programs-services/individuals-families-services/taxes/>

315-470-3300

PEACE, Inc. helps people with low to moderate income receive the largest refund possible and access all eligible tax credits as our volunteers prepare and e-file tax returns for free.

○ Individualized Support Services Program (ISS)

<http://www.accesscny.org/>

315-410-3335

Provides financial support for security deposits, furnishings, household supplies, and support services for individuals to assist them in living more independently. Eligibility: Adults with developmental disabilities who are OPWDD eligible and residing in Onondaga County

○ Employment Services

<http://www.ldacny.org/>

315-432-0665

Offers multiple employment options for those who need additional assistance finding and keeping a job, including pre-employment job development and career exploration, on and off site job coaching and employment support, as well as ongoing employment support and work readiness workshops. Eligibility: Individuals with a learning disability, ADHD, or other related disorders

○ Debt Management Program

<http://www.clearpoint.org/>

Syracuse Office: 315-445-8960

Offers financial counseling to provide participants with personalized, structured, repayment plans to help avoid bankruptcy or debt settlement.

## Legal Services Available

### Free Legal Information and Representation for Low-Income Families (3)

- Legal Services of Central New York  
<http://www.lscny.org/>  
315-703-6500  
A non-profit law firm founded in 1966 to provide free, civil legal assistance to low-income families and individuals in thirteen counties of Central New York. The legal assistance we provide ensures our clients have those things many of us take for granted. We represent people in court, at administrative hearings, before government agencies and the legislature.
- The Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc.  
<http://www.lasmny.org/Index.shtm>  
315-703-6600  
The Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc. is a not-for-profit law office. We provide free legal information, advice and representation to people who can't afford a lawyer. Our clients come from many different backgrounds. They are working people, families and people with disabilities. They are senior citizens, veterans, and people who get public benefits. They are U.S. citizens, immigrants and refugees, and temporary workers.
- Volunteer Lawyers Project of Onondaga County, Inc.  
<http://www.onvlp.org/>  
315-471-3409  
OnVLP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit legal aid organization that provides free legal information, assistance, and representation in civil legal matters to low-income people. Our services are provided by volunteer attorneys with the help of law students and are supervised by a small staff. Our mission is to provide equal access to justice to those in need.

### Onondaga County Youth Services Directory – Legal Issues/Concerns (5)

- Hiscock Legal Aid  
<http://www.hiscocklegalaid.org/>  
315-422-8191  
Legal services for residents of Onondaga County whose families are unable to afford private counsel.
- New Justice Conflict Resolution Services, Inc.  
<http://www.newjusticeservices.org/>  
315-471-4676  
Mediation/conciliation for youth involved in a variety of school, family or peer issues causing conflict. Referrals accepted. Presentations and conflict resolution skill workshops to schools, youth groups, youth serving agencies, and parent groups.

- Mediation Services  
<http://www.newjusticeservices.org/>  
315-471-4676  
Mediation services are available to youth involved in school, family or peer conflicts. Neutral mediators assist the disputants to construct specific behavioral agreements as to future conduct. Youth may request mediation with their parents, school officials or other youth. Other programs offered include PROJECT RESPECT and YOUTH COURT.
  
- Onondaga County Youth Court  
<http://www.newjusticeservices.org/>  
315-295-0397  
A voluntary diversion program for first time offenders ages 7-15 of low level juvenile offenses. By agreeing to participate in Youth Court, the offender must admit to his/her guilt. The youthful offender is then given a sentence which is appropriate to the offender if the crime. Youth Court members are volunteers, ages 13-19 years that are enrolled in a public or private school in Onondaga County. Members must successfully complete a training program which includes shadowing existing members. Youth Court is held in the following Towns/Villages: Camillus, Dewitt, Baldwinsville, Cicero and the City of Syracuse
  
- Victim Assistance Program  
[http://www.ongovda.net/section/programs/victims\\_assistance\\_program/](http://www.ongovda.net/section/programs/victims_assistance_program/)  
315-435-3916 x 4425  
Provides services to victims of, and witnesses to, crimes. Assists with helping victims file affidavits and claims for Crime Victims Board compensations.

### **Services that Support the Inclusion of Fathers**

- Fathers' Rights Association of New York State CNY Chapter  
<http://www.fathersrightsny.com/>  
315-452-0259 or Toll Free 888-991-8867  
Provides public awareness, education, and peer support to promote shared parenting and assistance to fathers seeking equal access to their children.
  
- Childbirth and Breast Feeding Classes  
<http://www.auburnhospital.org/>  
315-255-7381  
Offers childbirth and breastfeeding education classes to expectant mothers and fathers. Provides a "And Baby Makes Four" class that focuses on preparing older children for the arrival of their new baby and weekly support group for breastfeeding mothers.
  
- Hello Baby Program

<http://www.huntingtonfamilycenters.org/what-we-do/family-services/hello-baby-program/>

315-476-3157

Offers a parenting program for pregnant and postpartum women (6 weeks after delivery) who have a child three (3) years of age and under. Fathers and significant others are encouraged to participate. Group topics include child development, early infant care, support, and education. Childcare is provided during groups, and bus tokens are available to and from group if needed. Home visits on an as-needed basis.

- Onondaga County Family Court Clinic

<http://www.onvlp.org/>

315-471-3409

Volunteer attorneys provide assistance with completing custody, visitation, paternity, and child support petitions; and they provide advice and information regarding family court matters to drop-in clients. This program does not provide lawyers to go to court with clients, only assistance with filing and information regarding the court process. A lawyer referral service is available for individuals who can afford an attorney.

- Children's Rights Family and Law Clinic

<http://law.syr.edu/academics/clinical-experiential/clinical-legal-education/>

315-443-4582 or Toll Free 888-797-5291

Represent families and children in federal and state courts and before administrative agencies regarding a variety of legal matters including custody and visitation issues, child and spousal support, domestic violence, matrimonial matters, and general and special education issues.

### **Shelters Accepting Women and Children**

- Barnabas House

<http://syracusenys.salvationarmy.org/>

315-475-9720

Offers up to one year of short-term residential and nonresidential services for older homeless youth that are unable to live with their own parents due to ongoing conflict and dispute. Helps them learn the skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary for successful independent living. Provides emergency and transitional housing, emergency basic needs, a 24-hour hotline service, case management, outreach services, advocacy and referrals, family mediation, living skills groups, youth center recreation, and aftercare services.

- Dorothy Day House (DDH)

<http://www.ccoc.us/>

315-476-0617

Provides a 24 hour emergency shelter for women and women with children who are homeless or housing vulnerable. Support services include advocacy, crisis counseling, casework, support groups, referral and assistance with relocation.

- Emergency Family Shelter

<http://syracusenysalvationarmy.org/>  
315-479-1332

Provides services through a plan that is mutually agreed upon and developed to meet the unique needs of each individual or family. This 36-bed, dormitory-style facility provides crisis intervention and counseling, short-term emergency housing, meals, laundry facilities, supplies to meet basic needs, counseling and assessment for concerns related to health, mental health, substance abuse, and domestic violence, social work support and case management assistance to help find stable employment, and permanent solutions to housing problems.

- Rescue Mission Women's Shelter

<http://www.rescuemissionalliance.org/>  
315-472-2324 x5225 or x5226

Provides an emergency shelter for women with access to meals, permanent housing, employment and spiritual assistance. Makes referrals for individuals with drug and alcohol issues. Case managers are available to provide assistance.

- Women's Shelter

<http://syracusenysalvationarmy.org/>  
315-472-0947

Provides 16 beds for emergency housing. Offers meals, laundry facilities, personal hygiene items, crisis intervention and conflict resolution training, case management and referrals to community resources, educational and recreational activities.

- Vera House

<http://www.verahouse.org/>

Comprehensive emergency sheltering services to women and men in crisis and their children. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at two confidential locations. Call our 24-hour Crisis & Support Line at 315-468-3260 for more information.

### **Parent Education Programs**

- Baby Beginnings @ Consortium for Children's Services

<http://www.childrensconsortium.org/>  
315-471-8331 x202

A support program at Crouse Hospital for parents of children newborn through 3 years of age. Program uses Nurturing Parenting curriculum and focuses on parenting skills, health and wellness, and literacy/language development. Parents are visited within 48

hours of the birth of their child and are informed about community resources. Newborn and parenting classes are offered on site at Crouse Hospital, as well.

- Best Beginnings Childbirth and New Family Classes @ SUNY Upstate Medical Center  
<http://www.upstate.edu/>  
315-464-2756  
Offers classes for new and expectant mothers, caregivers, and family members. Classes cover subject areas such as expectant parents, newborn care, breastfeeding, and new siblings.
- Healthy Families  
<http://www.onhealthyfamilies.com/>  
315-435-2000  
Provides a variety of services for infants, children, new moms, and parents. Services include home visits, breastfeeding support, family planning, child immunizations, parenting and child development education, and connections to resources like daycare programs, doctors and dentists, transportation assistance, public assistance programs (including WIC), and lead testing services.
- Young Parents Program  
<http://www.huntingtonfamilycenters.org/what-we-do/family-services/young-parents-program/>  
315-476-3157  
Offers a parenting program for adolescents 13 through 21 years of age who are pregnant or parenting. Provides parents with the necessary and appropriate skills to build healthy relationships with their children including education on pre-natal development, child development, nutrition and general health, parenting, self-care skills, and information regarding linkage to local resources. Childcare is provided during groups and bus fare to and from is available if needed.
- Children 1<sup>st</sup>!  
<http://www.contactsyracuse.org/children-1st.shtml>  
315-251-1400 x132  
Provides a six-hour educational program for parents who are separated, divorcing, or otherwise sharing custody of their children.
- Family Support and Education Center  
<http://www.accesscny.org/>  
315-478-4151  
Serves family members of individuals with a mental health diagnosis through crisis consultation, education, and individualized support and advocacy for family and concerned friends of persons labeled with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, clinical depression, and other serious mental health diagnoses. Offers services to help

caregivers of individuals with mental health issues. Provides a free 12-week course titled "Supportive Family Training".

- NAMI Syracuse  
<https://namisyracuse.org/>  
315-487-2085  
Provides services for parents and relatives of individuals with mental illness including information and resources, family support and education classes, school-based education, and a monthly support group.
- Family Support and Education Center  
<http://www.accesscny.org/>  
315-478-4151  
Serves family members of individuals with a mental health diagnosis through crisis consultation, education, and individualized support and advocacy for family and concerned friends of persons labeled with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, clinical depression, and other serious mental health diagnoses. Offers services to help caregivers of individuals with mental health issues. Provides a free 12-week course titled "Supportive Family Training".
- Hello Baby Program  
<http://www.huntingtonfamilycenters.org/what-we-do/family-services/hello-baby-program/>  
315-476-3157  
Offers a parenting program for pregnant and postpartum women (6 weeks after delivery) who have a child three (3) years of age and under. Fathers and significant others are encouraged to participate. Group topics include child development, early infant care, support, and education. Childcare is provided during groups, and bus tokens are available to and from group if needed. Home visits on an as-needed basis.
- Lullaby League  
<http://www.ccoc.us/services/parents/parent-education-center-lullaby-league>  
315-424-1800  
Provides infant care classes to pregnant women, partners and families. Information and referral. Lullaby League provides layettes to participants who complete the parenting class.
- Domestic Violence Education Classes  
<http://www.verahouse.org/>  
315-425-0818  
Provides a ten-week domestic violence class for survivors/victims of domestic violence. Addresses effects of domestic violence on children, warning signs of abuse, safety planning, and resources.

- Family Support Network  
<http://www.huntingtonfamilycenters.org/what-we-do/family-services/family-support-network/>  
315-476-3157  
Provides support and home visitation on an as-needed basis to pregnant/parenting adults. Group sessions take place three mornings a week and provide parenting education, basic life skills, information and linkages to other community programs. Childcare is provided during group sessions and transportation tokens can be acquired to get to and from group.
- Incredible Years Parenting Classes  
<http://www.ccoc.us/services/parents/incredible-years-parenting-classes>  
315-362-7547  
Offers classes for parents of children in foster care between 2 and 8 years and parents with infants/toddlers (birth through 3 years of age).
- Parenting Classes  
<http://www.schcny.com/index.php>  
Client Services 315-476-7921 x202  
CAPS Department 315-475-1448  
Meets for eight consecutive weeks. Classes help parents to talk with their children, improve their parenting skills and become better parents.
- Teenage Parenting Program @ Syracuse City High Schools  
315-471-8331  
A parenting program offered in four Syracuse City School District high schools. Addresses needs of participants as teens and as parents; offered twice per year within the schools. Curriculum includes information about parenting skill-building, early childhood development, community resources for adolescent parents, career planning, goal-setting, and decision-making. Meets social and emotional competencies in self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, and social awareness.
- The Parent Project  
<http://www.ocmsinc.org/>  
315-472-7363  
Works with parents of youth with defiant and/or aggressive behaviors in an effort to improve the parents' ability to deal with challenging behaviors. Parents and teens learn in a classroom model utilizing large and small group activities and self-help support groups.
- Parent Aide Program  
<http://www.ccoc.us/services/parents/parent-aide>  
315-424-1880

## PEACE, Inc. 2016 Community Needs Assessment

Provides intensive home visiting services for parents who are active with DSS and have children who are identified as at-risk for or placed in foster care. Parent Aides teach basic living and parenting skills in the home setting in addition to connecting families to various community resources and supports.