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A letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As PEACE, Inc. approaches its 50th anniversary in 2018, we're proud of the positive impact we have made in our community. Because of our programs, children are ready for kindergarten, youth succeed in school, families are more stable, and senior citizens maintain their independence.

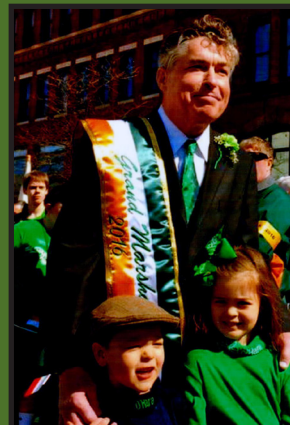
Our community's generosity to PEACE, Inc. and the people we serve is an essential driver of our success. We have been blessed this year with the valuable contributions of many new and returning volunteers. Individuals and groups have shared their time and expertise to help with projects ranging from an appreciation lunch for our Foster Grandparents to painting a youth room at Eastside FRC to gardening at Head Start sites to preparing hundreds of income tax returns. Every year, students from Syracuse University, LeMoyne, OCC, Bryant & Stratton, and other local colleges and high schools help our programs and support services departments through their work as interns and volunteers. I am especially thankful for the dedication of our Board of Directors, Policy Council, and Program Advisory Councils.

I hope you'll join me in celebrating our accomplishments and supporting our work in the community in the way that is most meaningful to you: volunteer, donate, communicate about PEACE, Inc., or advocate for the low-income community. To find out more please go to our website at www.peace-caa.org and like us on Facebook, @Peaceincsy.

Every Kind Wish,

Joe

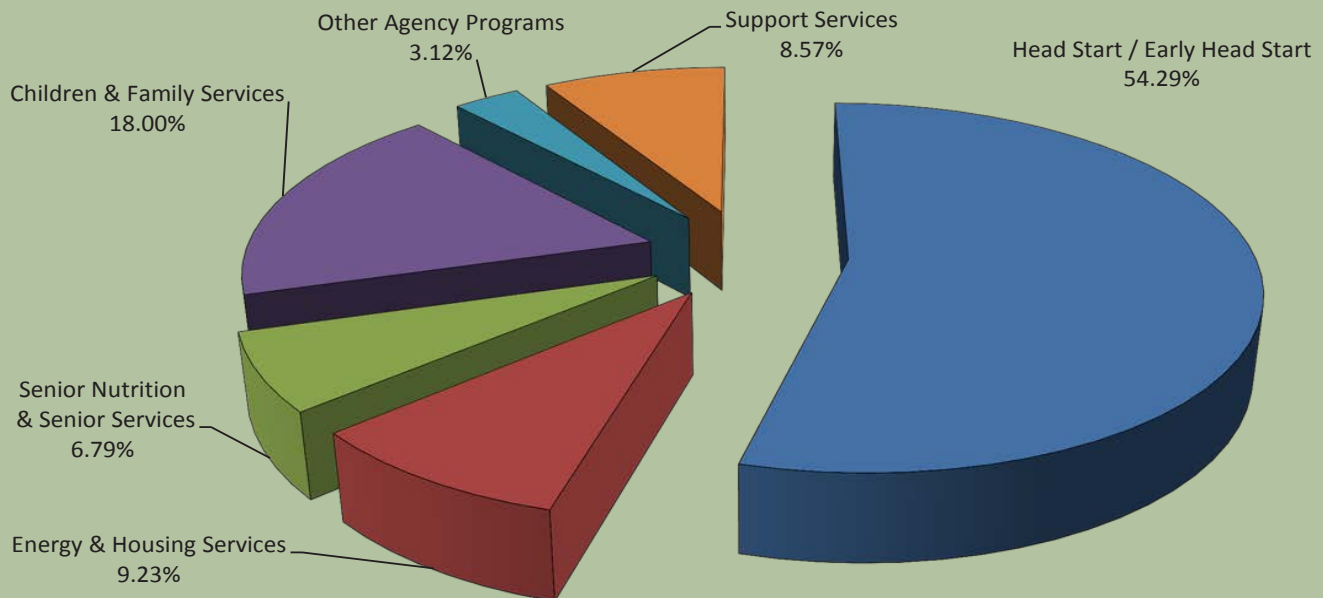
Joseph E. O'Hara
Executive Director



Expenses / Revenue

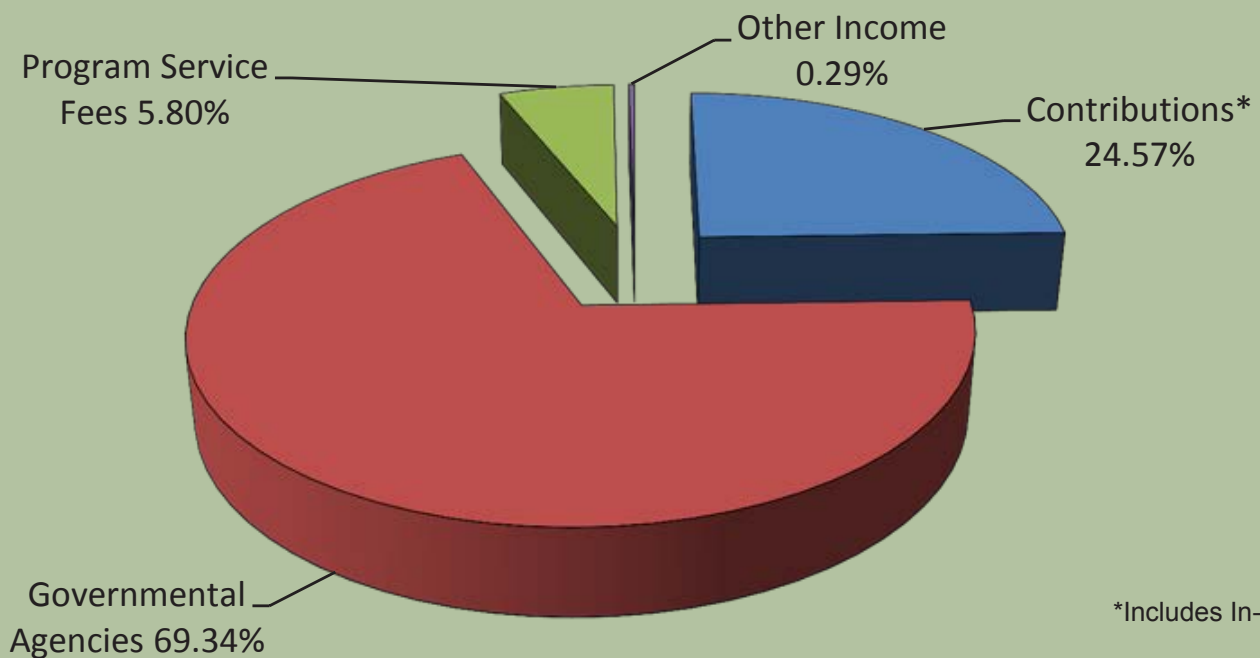
In the fiscal year ending January 31, 2016, 91% of the expenses of PEACE, Inc. were directly related to programming.

Operating Expenses



Totals **\$24,210,709** **100%**

Operating Revenue



*Includes In-kind

Totals **\$24,869,169** **100%**

By the Numbers



Food Service produced and delivered nearly **350,000 healthy meals and snacks** to Head Start and Senior Nutrition sites. An **11% increase** from last year. Yum!

Number of preschoolers in **Head Start** ready to start school on par with their peers: **863**.



Eastwood Community Center solicited, processed, and distributed **\$2,000,000** in donated goods. That's a lot of community support.

Number of state and federal tax returns filed by the **EITC You've Earned It!** (free tax program): **4,422**; the amount of tax return dollars received by low and middle income families in Onondaga County: **\$3,091,012**.

Percentage of students who improved their academic engagement after working consistently with a **Foster Grandparent: 95%**.



Amount of milk provided to children and seniors by our Food Service Department: **14,000 gallons of milk** – enough to fill the average size swimming pool.

Number of **buses and vans** needed to transport our HS and EHS children and families: **55**.

249 individuals developed skills required for employment through the **Family Resource Centers**.

447 households lowered their utility bills and **made their homes more energy efficient**. 251 units through weatherization and 196 units through EmPower NY.



Total number of **volunteer hours** donated to PEACE, Inc.: **88,318**.

Percent of **seniors** who report that their **lives have improved** emotionally because they are a Foster Grandparent: **91%**.

After **18 months** of spending time **with a Big**, little brothers and sisters were **52% less likely** than their peers **to skip school**.



PEACE, Inc. Program Highlights

Youth

Head Start/Early Head Start is a comprehensive, family-focused child development program that serves pregnant women and children from birth to five years of age. Through these highly successful early childhood programs, PEACE, Inc. has been promoting the healthy development and school readiness of young children from low-income families since 1968 and infants, toddlers, and pregnant mothers since 1995 throughout Onondaga County. Our current enrollment is 863 preschoolers in Head Start and 214 infants, toddlers, and pregnant women in Early Head Start. In 2015, staff members were recognized nationally for their innovative work with refugees.



Big Brothers Big Sisters matches children ages six through 18 with mentors to provide support, guidance, and a nurturing presence. In 2015, 215 volunteers provided at risk youth with 9,166 hours of mentoring. A recent national study found that 89% of youth in the BBBS program improve their ability to avoid risky behavior.



Family Resource Centers, in addition to serving the community at large, offer specialized programming targeted at developing the potential of our youth. In 2015, Family Resource Centers provided afterschool programs, on site day camps, community service opportunities, healthy meals, tutoring services, summer camp scholarships, and educational and recreational day trips for children and their families.



Individual and Family Programs

Family Resource Centers are community based sites offering emergency assistance, advocacy, supportive services, employment support, youth activities, and family development partnerships to low-income individuals. In 2015, we continued to foster relationships with community partners to better serve our clients and the community. Our Eastside Family Resource Center and National Grid, along with 16 additional community partners, hosted two expos to offer assistance with utilities and other needed services. Both expos were attended by more than 200 PEACE clients!

EITC You've Earned It! (free tax program) provides free tax preparation assistance for families with low to moderate income for free. In 2015, through a partnership with United Way of CNY, Onondaga County CASH Coalition, and Key Bank, the EITC program completed over 4,000 state and federal returns and recouped more than \$3 million dollars in tax refunds. Our volunteer tax preparers donated 1,078.5 hours to prepare accurate returns and ensured that our clients receive the maximum refund allowed.



The Department of Energy & Housing Services provides cost effective, energy efficient solutions to low and moderate income households, which helps reduce the energy burden on our clients in Onondaga and Oswego Counties. In 2015, we served 251 households through the Weatherization Assistance Program and 166 homes through the EmPower NY Program. As a primary partner in the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative Greater Syracuse, PEACE, Inc.'s Department of Energy and Housing will help homeowners remedy health, safety, and energy needs in their homes. This past year, we also embarked on an initiative with National Grid to convert homes heated by propane and oil to the more energy efficient natural gas.



Program Highlights cont.

Senior Programs

Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center promotes

health, wellness, and a better quality of life for its clients, most of whom reside in the Eastwood neighborhood of Syracuse. In 2015,

the program helped 180 senior citizens live independently through recreational activities, senior meals, volunteer opportunities, food assistance, free tax services, and referrals. The volunteer program continues to grow with individuals of all ages helping to distribute community donations in excess of \$2 million.



Senior Nutrition prepares healthy meals and serves them to low-income seniors at 36 sites throughout Onondaga County. The program offers homemade, fresh, local, and healthy foods with a focus on lower sodium meals. During the summer, Senior Nutrition serves meals featuring local produce at the CNY Regional Market.



The **Foster Grandparent Program** offers senior citizens the opportunity to share their time and talents with children and young adults in our community. In 2015 the Foster Grandparent Program continued its quest to place a Foster Grandparent volunteer in every 1st and 2nd grade classroom in the Syracuse City School District. Since August 2015, 71 new senior citizens have joined the Program, leading to the placement of Foster Grandparents in 16 of the Syracuse City School District's 19 elementary schools. Another priority for Foster Grandparents is early childhood education. Foster Grandparents serving at Head Start and Early Head Start centers provide extra attention and support aimed at developing the children's social and emotional skills. While role modeling appropriate social skills and behaviors, Foster Grandparents also read, tell stories, and converse with the children while promoting self-help skills and supplying positive encouragement.

Senior Services: Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) and **Neighborhood Advisor Program** continue to provide case management and information referral services for seniors, helping them maintain their independence in their homes and connect with their community.



Giving

This year **YOU** made a difference at PEACE, Inc. when you:

Sponsored an event

Volunteered your time and talent

Made a donation

Thank you, Central New York!

**Each one of us can make a difference.
Together we make change.**

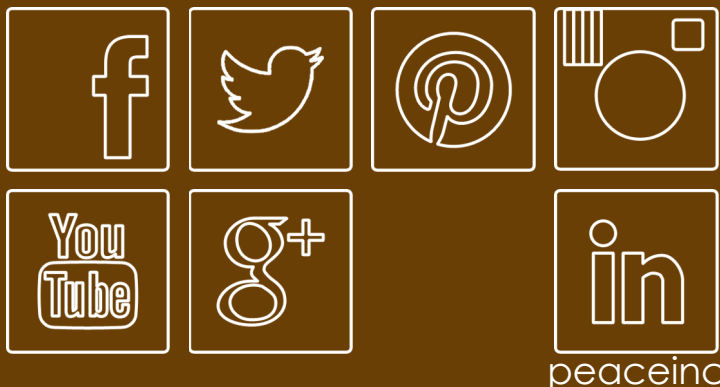
- U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski



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peace-caa.org

[peaceincsy](https://www.instagram.com/peaceincsy)



2015 - 2016

Annual Report



Programs

Administrative Office.....	470-3300	Foster Grandparent Program (FGP).....	295-0719
Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS).....	470-3369	Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center.....	437-4011
Department of Energy & Housing Services (DEHS).....	470-3315	Head Start / Early Head Start (HS/EHS).....	470-3346
Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly (EISEP)...	303-5271	Neighborhood Advisor, Baldwinsville.....	303-4280
^{EITC} You've Earned It! (free tax program)	634-3756	Senior Nutrition.....	470-3330
Family Resource Centers (FRC)			
County East FRC, East Syracuse	437-7071		
County South FRC, Tully	696-8203		
County West FRC, Baldwinsville	638-1051		
Eastside FRC, Syracuse east	470-3325		
Emma L. Johnston Southside FRC, Syracuse south...	470-3342		
Westside FRC, Syracuse west.....	470-3352		

Administrative Office:
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