



Annual Report

(Feb. 1, 2016 - Jan. 31, 2017)

The image features a dark green background with a repeating pattern of white text. The text lists various community services and organizations, such as "Early Childhood Education: Head Start / Early Head Start", "Mentoring: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Foster Grandparents", "Family Stability: Energy and Housing Services, Family Resource Centers, Free Tax Prep", and "Senior Supports: Eastwood Community Center, Senior Nutrition, Senior Support Services". In the center, there are four white, rounded rectangular shapes representing people's heads and shoulders, arranged in a circle and holding hands. The overall design is clean and modern, emphasizing community support and resources.

Programs of PEACE, Inc.

Through a network of neighborhood centers and programs throughout Syracuse and Onondaga County, PEACE, Inc. serves diverse populations of people at every stage of their lives. We've developed a broad spectrum of services to reach out to individuals and families in need and equip them with the skills and self-confidence to move forward in life.



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Improves the lives of school-aged children through a variety of mentoring programs, including school-based, workplace, and one-to-one mentoring.

200 mentors nurtured 199 youth through community-based, school-based, and corporate mentoring models.



Energy and Housing Services

Reduces the energy burden on our clients in Onondaga and Oswego counties by providing cost-effective, energy-efficient solutions to households with low and moderate incomes.

296 homes were weatherized, allowing homeowners to save money on utility bills.



Family Resource Centers

Are safe, secure neighborhood hubs where trained staff provide emergency assistance, advocacy, supportive services, employment support, youth activities, and family development to low-income individuals.

160 children participated in fun, safe, stimulating summer activities at the six Family Resource Centers.



Foster Grandparent Program

Provides senior citizens the opportunity to share their time and talents mentoring at-risk children in our community.

86% of Foster Grandparents surveyed say, "Because I am a foster grandparent, my mental and emotional health has improved."

Program Contact Information

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS).....315.470.3369

Energy & Housing Services (DEHS).....315.470.3315

Family Resource Centers (FRC)

County East FRC, East Syracuse315.437.7071

County South FRC, Tully315.696.8203

County West FRC, Baldwinsville315.638.1051

Family Resource Centers (FRC) cont.

Eastside FRC, Syracuse east 315.470.3325

Emma L. Johnston

Southside FRC, Syracuse south 315.470.3342

Westside FRC, Syracuse west 315.470.3352

Foster Grandparent Program (FGP).....315.295.0719



Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center

Offers residents of the Eastwood neighborhood, particularly seniors, opportunities to socialize, volunteer, learn, and contribute to their community.

87% of seniors surveyed said "My life has improved socially due to my participation at the center."



Free Tax Prep

Trains and supports volunteers who prepare and e-file tax returns for people with low to moderate income so they can receive the largest refund possible and access all eligible tax credits.

1,754 people claimed \$3,502,496.00 in tax refunds last year.



Head Start/Early Head Start

Prepares children for kindergarten by offering a comprehensive, family-focused, early childhood education program that serves pregnant women and children birth to five years old.

1,077 children received high quality early childhood education.



Senior Nutrition

Provides healthy meals to seniors using nutritious, local, and fresh ingredients. Seniors gather together at dining rooms throughout the county to eat together, share stories, and build friendships.

We served 85,000 nutritious meals to seniors in our community.



Senior Support Services

Helps to connect isolated and homebound senior citizens to the services they need to live independently and remain in their own homes.

108 seniors received information and referrals on resources they need to live well in their own residence as they age.

Program Contact Information

Eastwood Community Center 315.437.4011

Free Tax Prep 315.634.3756

Head Start / Early Head Start (HS/EHS) 315.470.3346

Senior Nutrition 315.470.3330

Senior Support Services

Neighborhood Advisor, Baldwinsville 315.303.4280

EISEP Case Manager, Baldwinsville 315.303.5271

Administrative Office: 217 South Salina Street, 2nd Fl, Syracuse, NY 13202 315.470.3300

PEACE, Inc. is Mentoring

FISHING FOR MENTORS

Positive Role Models Can Change Young Lives

Earlier this spring, our Big Brothers Big Sisters staff took 32 kids to a fishing derby at Shook Park in Camillus. Volunteers from our community offered to spend the clear, cool Saturday morning teaching the children how to fish. Although these Littles had a Big at the event, almost all of them are on the waitlist for a permanent match. The list currently has 111 kids; 69 of those are boys.

One of those boys was at the derby that day. Let's call him Kyle. Kyle* is eleven years old and will enter middle school this fall. He has seven siblings and he thinks he lives on the south side, but he's not totally sure. Although Kyle held a conversation for nearly 15 minutes, he claims he's shy. He thinks he doesn't "have a good personality" and he doesn't talk to many people at school. "Maybe two," he says.

Kyle doesn't really like sports, but his face lit up when he heard that Big Brothers Big Sisters has an annual bowling event. "I want to do that!" he says, before sharing a story about beating his mom and his aunts in a game. Once he got going, the boy who said he wishes he could "be quiet for a million years" wouldn't stop talking. He just needed someone to listen.

The impact of positive role models in a child's life is undeniable. And the lack of strong male mentors, for kids like Kyle, was identified by all three focus groups in our most recent community needs assessment. PEACE, Inc. Big Brothers Big Sisters matches adult mentors with children ages 6 to 12. Children in the program show improved behavior, better grades and increased self-confidence.

** The photo is of another Little on the waiting list. This Little was able to attend the fishing derby and was matched up with a Big for the day.*



A letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of PEACE, Inc.,

Thank you for your generous support over the past year. Whether you volunteered your time, donated resources, or shared your expertise, you made a big difference. The stories you will read in this report illustrate the amazing impact your contributions had on the lives of children, adults, and families. As we celebrate 50 years of service to Syracuse and Onondaga County in 2018, please consider a gift in any amount to sustain and grow the PEACE, Inc. programs that empower our neighbors and our community to thrive.

Every Kind Wish,

Joseph E. O'Hara



PEACE, Inc. is Senior Supports

Warm Hugs for Grandma

Foster Grandparent Program changes the lives of the children & the seniors

The children in the PEACE, Inc. Early Head Start (EHS) classroom where Grandma Nellie volunteers rush to the door when they see her arrive in the morning. Because they're so small, they can only reach her legs to hug her. "It's so beautiful when you come in," Nellie says. "They come to you, grab you, and hug you."

It took some time for Grandma Nellie, a one-year volunteer with PEACE, Inc.'s Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), to adapt to being with kids. She spent most of her life working with adults as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) and although she raised six kids, they've been on their own for a while. "I didn't know if I was going to really like it, but I love it now," Nellie says. "I'll stick with it until my brains go." Nellie spends five hours per day, every Monday through Thursday, in an EHS classroom with seven or eight children ranging from six weeks to two or three years old.

In addition to school work and playtime, Grandma Nellie makes an effort to teach the kids about respect and people skills. Working with the children makes Nellie feel needed and she often recommends the program to friends. "I love PEACE. I like all of the people, the foster grandparents, and the staff," Grandma Nellie says. "They've made me feel welcome and they're warm-hearted."

The Foster Grandparent Program provides senior citizens the opportunity to share their time and talents mentoring at-risk children. Volunteers age 55 and over stay active and engaged by spending approximately 20 hours per week serving children and youth in their community.

Pictured is Grandma Nellie reading to a child from PEACE, Inc. Early Head Start, UUMC site.



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PEACE, Inc. is Early Childhood Education

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Head Start Teaches the Whole Family

Omar and Sangabo came to the United States as refugees from Somalia with little transferable job experience and no knowledge of English. “We started like A, B, C, D,” says Omar. They were both going to English classes for half of the day and working for the other half. But the job was for experience, not pay. They received a little bit of money for rent, provided they kept attending language classes and job training. But there’s “no way to do that and have your kids at home,” Omar says. Their oldest son, Mohamed, was four years old at the time. Luckily, a caseworker from Northside CYO referred them to PEACE, Inc. Head Start.



Although Mohamed, now 15, didn’t enroll in the program, the other six of their seven children attended Head Start. Their kids developed early learning skills - like reciting the alphabet, writing their names, and counting - that prepared them for kindergarten. But the staff also helped the family with everyday life situations, like completing and submitting a form to a program for an air conditioner for their son with asthma.

“If ... they don’t have that service, the good thing is they’re going to find information and send you there and say you can get it [at] that place,” Omar says. They connect families to WIC, help set up doctors’ appointments, and suggest where to find affordable clothes and shoes. Sangabo, who volunteered as a bus monitor for three years, now works in a classroom at the same school where her son goes.

Head Start helped their children be kindergarten ready, but also enabled Sangabo and Omar to earn their GEDs and find secure jobs. They talk about going to college. They’re hopeful about their future - and their children’s future.

PEACE, Inc. Head Start and Early Head Start prepare America’s most vulnerable young children to succeed in school and in life. To achieve this, Head Start programs deliver services to children and families in core areas of early learning, health, and family well-being while engaging parents as partners every step of the way.

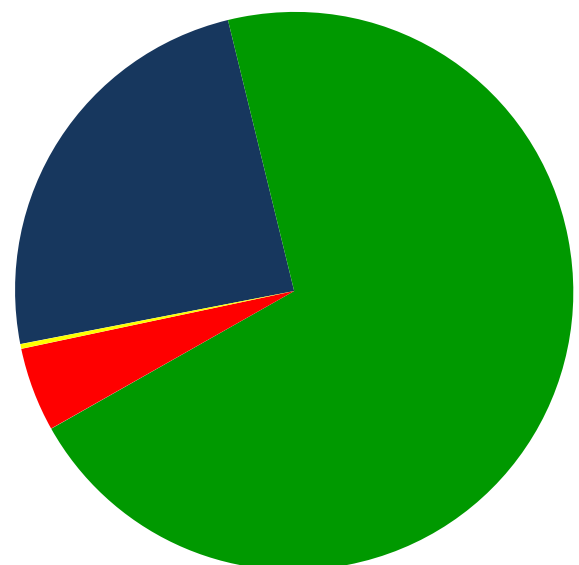
Photo is of Omar and Sangabo along with six of their seven of the children.

Financial Report Budgeted Income & Expenses for Feb. 1, 2016 through Jan. 31, 2017

Total Operating Revenue: \$25,384,953

70.61%	Governmental Agencies
24.25%	Contributions*
0.26%	Other Income
4.89%	Program Service Fees
100%	

*Includes In-Kind



PEACE, Inc. is Family Stability

PARENTING 101

Support Group Provides Friendship, Understanding and Community

After her son's DWI charge and during his journey through Alcoholics Anonymous, Laura* leaned on the other mothers in her parenting education class for support. The small group of women, who meet weekly during the school year, have similar stories; all are raising boys although they range between two and 32 years old; all feel somewhat isolated or alone by lack of friends and family, and all share the common experience of abuse or trauma in their relationships and lives. During their last two years attending this group, they've been able to work through situations specific to their own lives, like parenting a child with Asperger's Disease, while addressing universal parenting concerns like internet safety and social media.

The parenting class is just one way the staff at County South Family Resource Center work with the community in Tully. Other examples include an after-school program and summer camp for teens and youth, transportation to medical appointments (FISH [Friends in Service Here] Program) and family development. The center also has a transitional apartment program that rents a two-bedroom apartment to an eligible family in the family development partnership.



Our six Family Resource Centers, located throughout the county, develop unique programs and services to meet the needs of their immediate community. They work with individuals and families to help them set and reach their goals, which often include connecting them to other community resources. We have three Family Resource Centers within the city, as well as three in more rural areas including East Syracuse, Tully, and Baldwinsville. Some highlights include food pantries, clothing closets, a re-entry program that provides case management for formerly-incarcerated individuals, and Project Connection, an after-school program for youth with developmental disabilities.

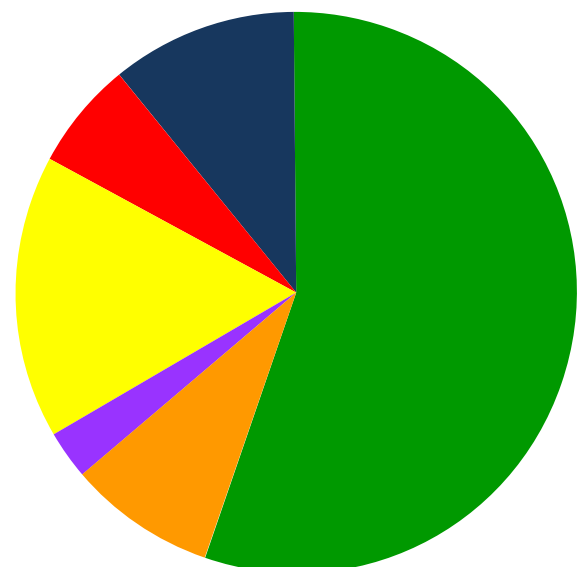
Photo of attendees of a summer camp who participate at PEACE, Inc. County South Family Resource Center.

In the fiscal year ending Jan. 31, 2017, 91.50% of the expenses of PEACE, Inc. were directly related to programming.

Total Operating Expenses: \$25,082,328

■ 55.37%	Head Start / Early Head Start
■ 10.72%	Energy & Housing
■ 6.22%	Senior Nutrition & Senior Service
■ 16.31%	Children & Family Services
■ 2.88%	Other Agency Programs
■ 8.50%	Support Services

100%





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PEACE, Inc. helps people in the community realize their potential for becoming self-sufficient.

We impact the quality of life in Central New York by providing services and supports that improve individuals' lives and the community as a whole.

PEACE, Inc. values and provides:

- **Early Childhood Education** so young children love learning and grow up safe, healthy, and happy.
- **Mentoring** so youth are successful in school and graduate with a plan for their future.
- **Family Stability** so adults have a home, support themselves, and feel part of the community.
- **Senior Supports** so older individuals remain active and maintain their independence as long as possible.