

PEACE

EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO THRIVE | EST. 1968

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

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL - JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER



A message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We began the year with vaccine clinics, tablet classes, and food delivery as many of our at-risk neighbors continued to isolate.

As we learn to live with COVID, we are welcoming clients back and prioritizing social interaction and peer support. The long isolation reinforced our belief in the importance of community building.

As always, we strive to treat all people with respect and kindness. PEACE, Inc. plans for the future recognizing that the most vulnerable among us need access to

resources, freedom from systemic inequalities, and an opportunity to lead their lives with dignity.

Let me conclude with a huge thanks to our dedicated staff, board members, donors, volunteers, and funders. During this year of transition, we simply could not fulfill the agency's mission without your help.

All the Best,

Carolyn D. Brown



Fulfilling Strong Families in Central New York: The Fatherhood Initiative at PEACE, Inc.

In 2021, PEACE, Inc. became the designated Central New York backbone agency for the statewide Fatherhood Initiative, an evidence-based initiative that assists single fathers with information and resources to help with child and family development.

Specifically, PEACE, Inc.'s Family Services Department introduced a Fatherhood Initiative Pilot Program at the agency's South Side Family Resource Center (SSFRC). The agency collaborated with internal programs - including the Early Head Start/Head Start Program - and external regional partners for effective programming. PEACE, Inc.'s Family Navigator, Parent Engagement Coordinator, and Family Reentry Case Manager worked with Founder and Director of The Fatherhood Connection, whose curriculum guided the project. 9 young fathers and fathers-to-be were assisted, including individuals reentering society from incarceration and reuniting with their children. For 10 weeks, the initiative focused on topics such as defining love, healthy relationships, and parenting and co-parenting tips. One-on-one case management was offered for fathers seeking additional supports.

PEACE, Inc. Fatherhood Initiative members participated in a program coined for purpose, passion, and persistence. Participants reported that – amongst many program successes – they recognized and gained maturity; increased knowledge and confidence in handling family dynamics; developed a sense of “self-purpose” and value of fatherhood; and collectively acknowledged how cycles can be broken. One young client informed staff that, “I cannot wait for my child to be born, thank you for your resources” while another expressed love for his family, “I long to be with my son everyday...”

Family Services plans to launch the second group of the Fatherhood Initiative at the East Side

Family Resource Center. To enhance services, the initiative will continue to work with the Fatherhood Connection, collaborate with the agency's Early Head Start/Head Start program, and provide participants with program meals and child care supports.



Photos were taken at the Fatherhood Initiative Pilot Program graduation ceremony at SSFRC

PEACE, Inc. by the Numbers in 2021

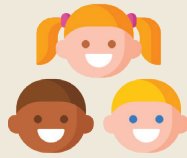
The countless impact of the agency's 9 major programs and services within it.

Feeding Our Community



54,511

Meals for Seniors provided through Senior Nutrition Program



102,091

Meals and

49,518

Snacks given Early Head Start/Head Start Youth



11,184

Meals delivered to Seniors housebound and Large families through the CARES Act Home Delivered Meals Program

Championing Healthy and Affordable Housing

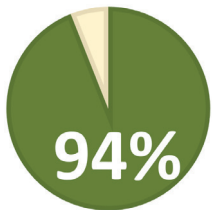


108 Homes weatherized by the Department of Energy and Housing Services (DEHS). DEHS also installed 103 Air Conditioner Units through the New York State Emergency Cooling Program.

185 Syracuse Residents received Eviction Prevention Counseling Services through a CARES Act partnership with the Volunteer Lawyers' Project of Onondaga County.



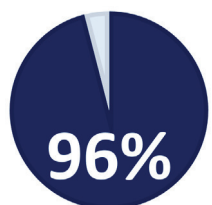
Helping Seniors Thrive



Seniors say attending the Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center has improved their lives socially



Senior Citizens received services to support healthy and independent living.



Despite the pandemic, 96% of Foster Grandparent Program participants reported improved mental and emotional health.



FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM



Numbers are Based on the Previous Program Year (Specific Dates Vary by Program) and are calculated using required reports, survey results, and other reliable data.

Stabilizing Families

3,623

Households received food pantry, clothing, or other support services by Family Resource Centers

1,243

Taxpayers received -on average- \$2173 worth of refunds through the Free Tax Prep Program

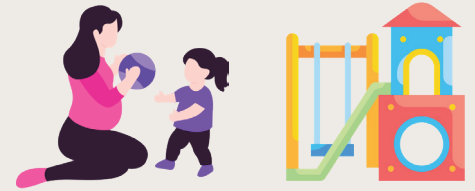
80%

of Big Brothers Big Sisters "Littles" reported improved relationships with family members and peers

 **Big Brothers Big Sisters**
OF ONONDAGA COUNTY

192

Childcare slots and 6 Family Daycare Centers were created through the Early Childhood Career Pathway Project in partnership with Child Care Solutions of CNY.



Growing Tomorrow's Leaders Today



3,129

youth under the age of 18 served by PEACE, Inc.



87%

of all Head Start students met or exceed social-emotional development goals



80%

of Big Brothers Big Sisters Littles demonstrated an increase in life skills



4x

as many Head Start children received dental treatment in 2020-2021 compared to the previous schoolyear

Strengthening Our Community by Helping Those in Need



\$577,329

spent on transportation and facility upgrades to ensure safe and healthy access to resources



\$2,782,022

in Federal and State Tax Refunds secured and reinvested into the CNY Economy



1597

individuals volunteered **21,249** hours



\$4,404,512

worth of donations redistributed to the Community

Numbers are Based on the Previous Program Year (Specific Dates Vary by Program) and are calculated using required reports, survey results, and other reliable data.

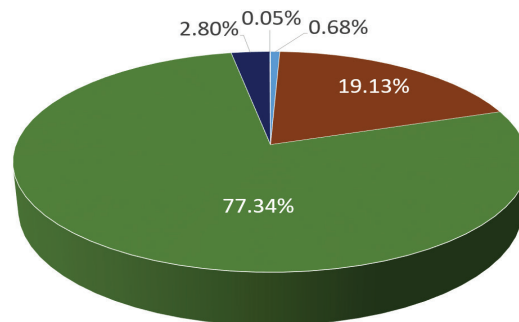
Financial Report

Budgeted Income & Expenses for February 1st 2021 through January 31st 2022

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE **\$25,932,662**

Direct Contributions & Fundraising	0.68 %
In-Kind Donations	19.13 %
Governmental Agencies	77.34 %
Program Service Fees	2.80 %
Other Income	0.05 %

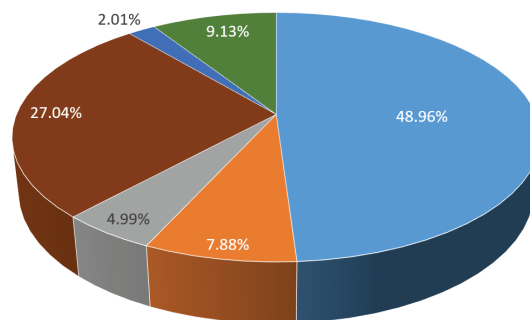
100 %



TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES **\$25,633,096**

Head Start / Early Head Start	48.96 %
Energy and Housing	7.88 %
Senior Nutrition and Food Services	4.99 %
Children and Family Services	27.04 %
Other Agency Programs	2.01 %
Support Services	9.13 %

100 %



A PEACE, Inc. Supporter Creates Sports Gear for Good

Volunteers/supporters drive Community Action Agencies such as PEACE, Inc. Providing their time and energy, they ensure quality tax refunds and credits for those who most need them. They distribute meals, food stuffs, and other nutrition for those who are hungry. They provide smiles and kind words of encouragement for youth who can never have enough of both. A community member's desire to strengthen their community takes many forms. We'd like to spread the word about a new PEACE, Inc. opportunity born out of a volunteer's love for sports and family, Sports Gear for Good.

Developed by long-time PEACE, Inc. supporter and previously volunteer Jeff Miller, Sports Gear for Good provides the resources for those families and their youth to purchase quality sporting equipment or to attend a sports camp. For Kids, sports provide critical vehicles for socialization, leadership development, and fun most importantly. Yet sometimes, the cost of simply a baseball glove or a lacrosse stick can deter low-income youth from pursuing athletic interests. Jeff's generous annual donation seeks to eliminate such barriers. Sports Gear for Good is also personal for him.

For more than 45 years, Jeff's family has owned and operated Scholastic Sports Sales out of Manlius. As Jeff talked with the community engagement team about passing on the family business to his children, he also shared how athletics have been "good to his family" and hopes that Sports Gear for Good can pay it forward. He knows firsthand the needs of PEACE, Inc. families. For nearly 10 years (2005-2015), Jeff served as a PEACE, Inc. "Big Brother" to his "Little" Carlos. They still remain friends to this day. He also spoke about how participating in the agency's "Give-A-Holiday" holiday gift giving program is an annual highlight for his family. At that time, Jeff and his wife come together with his children and grandchildren to shop for their assigned family and enjoy burgers at Red Robin afterward.

Through their efforts, supporters such as Jeff help PEACE, Inc. creatively respond to the needs of Central New York families. If you know a family who could benefit from Sports Gear for Good, contact our County West Family Resource Center in Baldwinsville at 315-638-1051. Likewise, have a skill or passion that you'd like to share with us? Visit our "Get Involved" Page www.peace-caa.org/get-involve.

Big Little News

Match Spotlights

Jeff Miller & Carlos

It has been almost nine (9!) years since Carlos and I met at our introductory match meeting at his house. I remember the day like it was yesterday. Carlos and I went for a short walk to Delaware Elementary School which was the school he attended at the time.



As we were walking and talking Carlos kept tripping over the snow banks because, instead of watching where he was walking, he kept looking up at me with the biggest smile. We talked about his family, school and of course his favorite sports. It was quite obvious at that time that Carlos and I had the opportunity for a great match.

Since that meeting Carlos and I have had many memorable times together as a Big and Little, a lot of which have been scheduled around food as we both enjoy eating out.

Our most memorable activity was two years ago when we went to Buffalo to watch Carlos' favorite football team, the Tennessee Titans, beat the Buffalo Bills!



Fast forward 9 years. Still with his big smile, Carlos has his driver's license, and is a Senior and honor student at Corcoran High School. He plays lacrosse, soccer and basketball, while at the same time being a big help to his mom and family at home.

I have been very fortunate and humbled to have had the opportunity to play a small part in Carlos' life through my volunteer effort in the BBBS program. After watching Carlos grow up into a remarkable young man I no longer look at him as my Little but as a brother and a friend. Now I have the opportunity to look up to Carlos like he looked up at me nine years ago. Not to mention he is three inches taller than I am...

Carlos and I have both benefited greatly from our partnership in the BBBS program.

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Make a Donation



Volunteers



Interns



Mentors

www.peace-caa.org/get-involve

Get connected with us:
@PEACEIncSy



PEACE, Inc.'s Programs and Services

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS)

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

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.

Free Tax Prep

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

Energy & 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.

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.

Foster Grandparent

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

Senior Nutrition Program

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.

Senior Supports

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

Frank DeFrancisco Eastwood Community

provides senior and community programs to the residents of the Greater Eastwood Community of Syracuse.

More Information: call (315) 634-3740, email us at info@peace-caa.org or visit www.peace-caa.org