



2007 - 2008

Annual Report



Celebrating the work of the
Kennedy Child Study Center

OUR MISSION IS TO ASSIST YOUNG CHILDREN EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT DIFFICULTY IN CRITICAL AREAS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT SUCH AS COGNITION AND LEARNING, MOBILITY, SPEECH AND COMMUNICATION, AND SOCIAL RELATIONS.

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*Joined September 2008

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FROM THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE BOARD

Michael W. O'Shaughnessy & Lawrence F. McGovern

On behalf of the Kennedy Child Study Center Board of Directors, we want to extend our gratitude to everyone in the Kennedy Child Study Center community for their commitment to the mission of the agency.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Board is to ensure both the short-term and long-term financial stability of our organization. To that end, we are pleased to report that the Center once again balanced its budget last year. We are especially proud that 94% of all revenue is applied to program expenses, and we applaud management in its continuing resolve to provide the children and families we serve with such high quality programs.

Many of us on the Board of Directors have taken the opportunity to visit the Center's programs at one of its three locations. We are continually impressed by the excellence of the staff,

from the classroom teachers and teaching assistants to the specialists in speech, psychology, and physical and occupational therapy. We have the highest regard for the exceptional work and dedication of our staff, and we thank them all for their commitment to the children and families they serve on a daily basis. They are the heart of the Center.

Continuing support of our colleagues on the Board and of our entire community help to ensure the stability of this remarkable agency.

Thank you for helping to make the past year such a successful one. It has meant so much to everyone we serve.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Peter P. Gorham

For the past 50 years, our agency has expressed its conviction that the earlier a developmental problem gets professional attention the better the outcome for both child and family. We have articulated this belief through successful services and programs.

Our programs and services make us one of the foremost resources in New York City for a young child with a developmental disability such as mental retardation or autism.

Two questions should be asked routinely for us to maintain a high level of performance and accountability:

- ❖ How to demonstrate to ourselves and others the immediate and long-term impact of our efforts?
- ❖ How to use this knowledge to improve the quality of our services?

During the past year, we undertook a major effort to answer these questions. With financial support from The Heckscher Foundation for Children, we initiated the "Outcomes Project" to establish criteria for measuring progress being made in key developmental areas by each child enrolled in our programs. We also established criteria for assessing the effectiveness of our efforts to support parents.

Through extraordinary efforts on the part of all KCSC staff, project implementation is occurring at a very fast pace, and we will begin to see meaningful data analysis by the start of the next school year in September 2009.

What will this new data tell us? Early on, we can expect to have a more complete picture of the various therapeutic needs of the children enrolled in program. This will help determine if we have sufficient skills and resources and how to go about securing that which we lack. We will also have a better understanding of the needs of parents and what we can do to meet them.

In the future, the data should assist in placing our graduates in the best possible kindergarten setting. And if we really want to understand what works, we will have to develop resources for tracking our graduates for at least five years after they leave us.

It is fitting that in our 50th year we are engaged in the process of proving the effectiveness of our efforts at early involvement. We previously assumed our success from feedback provided from parents and outside professionals. Soon we will have a more empirical understanding of the reasons behind our achievements. This will lead to better services for the generations of children yet to enter our doors.

Thank you for making their journey possible.

ON A VISIT TO NEW YORK CITY LAST SPRING, HIS HOLINESS

Pope Benedict XVI visited Park East Synagogue our neighbor on East 67th Street. We raised a banner to welcome him, which we followed with one celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2008.

A welcome banner was placed outside our Manhattan site for His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI in April, which drew a lot of attention from the media.

While in New York, His Holiness held a special ceremony for disabled children at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. We were invited to send two children to the ceremony; one from Manhattan and one from the Bronx.

Our Manhattan student, Freddie Ortiz, who recently had had cataract surgery, and his mother, Elizabeth



We followed the welcome banner for His Holiness with a banner celebrating our 50th anniversary year.

Padilla, appeared on NBC-TV to talk about what the experience would mean to them. For an interview on Telemundo TV, Freddie and his mother joined Emily Rodriguez, our Bronx student who was born prematurely and has spina bifida, and her mother, Milagros Lizardo Nieves.

Also attending the special ceremony with the children in Yonkers were our Co-Chair of the Board of Directors, Michael O'Shaughnessy, his wife, Laura, and our Executive Director, Peter Gorham.

ONE HIGHLIGHT OF LAST YEAR WAS OUR OPENING OF A

new Bronx location in March 2008. A formal opening was held before classes began in September. With our programs filled to capacity and space at a premium, the new site allows us to meet a continually emerging need.

The Bronx annex has six preschool classrooms, rooms for speech, occupational and physical therapies, and a large playroom with bikes and climbing equipment. The new site permitted us to enhance our existing programs by providing expanded

space in our original Bronx building. Among the guests at the "formal" opening were members of our Board, and representatives from the community, the Bronx Borough President's Office, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.



Photo above left: Catherine Lenihan, Kennedy Board Member, and Jill O'Reilly, Bronx Preschool Director. Photo above right: Setting up the classroom for the first day of school.

Photo at right (l-r): From KCSC are Diane Fitzpatrick, Bronx Assistant Executive Director, and Board Members John Gibbons and Lawrence McGovern, our Board Co-Chair; from the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene's Office of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities



are William Lopez, Assistant Commissioner, and Harris Epstein, Director of Contracts and Community Liaison; and, at far right, the KCSC Executive Director, Peter Gorham.

Photos by Tina Buckman

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Our programs and services are intended for very young children with difficulties in learning and other areas of early childhood development. Our goal is to enable every child we serve to fulfill his or her potential.

Our Preschools provide young children, three to five years of age, with a nurturing, safe, and stimulating child-centered learning environment and offer many opportunities for very young children to explore and learn.

Teachers, therapists and support staff use developmentally appropriate learning materials and provide hands-on activities to help children overcome challenges and develop the necessary skills for academic success.

Breakthrough to Literacy continues to be one of the many specialized programs employed in our classrooms. Published by McGraw Hill Co., it helps children with vocabulary, alphabet awareness and comprehension.

We joined nationwide efforts to reduce childhood obesity and introduced an innovative physical education program last year. SPARK (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids) seeks to increase the amount of time that children spend in physical activities. We also worked with a nutritionist to develop healthy menus for children.

Several teachers participated in a workshop presented by TEACCH, a national training and research organ-

ization that provides programs for individuals of all ages and skill levels with autism spectrum disorders.

In addition to Preschool, very young children, from birth to three years of age, attend our Early Intervention program. It offers therapies for children who have or are suspected of having a developmental delay or disability.

Families as Partners (FAP) is an important part of the EI program. FAP incorporates family participation, encouraging visits to the program at any time by offering a seat for them on the school bus.

We received a generous donation of new picture books in English and Spanish from the Helene Marks Early Start Foundation.



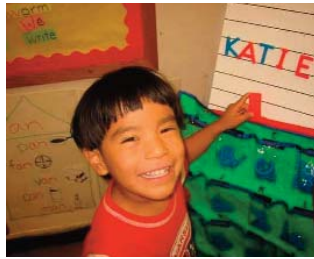
SINCE 1958, KENNEDY CHILD STUDY CENTER HAS BEEN A

leader in providing assistance to very young children with developmental disabilities. Our programs and services help children overcome many developmental issues that appear early in life.

We continue outreach efforts toward young children who are not yet eligible for either Early Intervention or special education preschool but who have a possibility of a developmental delay.

Our initiative is supported by grants from the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation and funds raised at our annual benefit, and includes screening for autism.

Through partnerships with local child-care agencies, we were able to offer screenings for "at risk" children, including children in foster care and other protective service arrangements, or children who have been neglected or abused, or who may have been born with birth defects, extremely low



birth rate or very pre-term.

Our state licensed evaluation clinic provides diagnostic evaluations and assessments for children and young adults up to age 21 who have, or are suspected of having, a developmental disability. Counseling is available for children and for family members to assist them in meeting their child's needs.

Our clinic team includes professionals in pediatric medicine; psychiatry; nursing; social work; psychology; and occupational, physical, and speech therapy. They put together plans for families that address both the current therapeutic needs and future developmental goals of their children.

Medicaid service coordination is available for families who qualify.



IT IS ESTIMATED THAT FROM 9% TO 15% OF ALL CHILDREN

in the U.S. have some type of disability. Of this number, more than one million American children and adults with serious developmental disabilities require long-term services and supports.

Once again during the last year, we provided respite and support services for families of children with developmental disabilities.

Respite services are available for children on Saturdays and during winter and summer vacations. We provided respite for some 140 children during the past year.

With the need for respite services growing, we expect to expand our program, which is sponsored by the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD).

Family support coordinators offer counseling and training on topics such as speech and language development, autism, behavior management, nutrition, and child advocacy. They are the point persons for needy families in our efforts to distribute holiday food baskets and toys as well as warm clothing and household furnishing.

We assist families with the transition process as their children prepare to graduate and leave Kennedy. We continue to offer families guidance in such areas as sheltered housing, domestic abuse, immigration, and access to legal, social and health serv-

ices in the community.

We provide mentoring and coaching for new staff. All staff have opportunities for professional development through our tuition reimbursement program, the Barbara Jean Schraft Memorial Scholarship Fund, and the Elyse Sondra Lane Scholarship Fund.

Last year, seven special educators completed their Master degrees, and one Teacher's Assistant completed her Bachelor's degree.

We have partnerships with local colleges including Bank Street College of Education and Hunter College for student teaching opportunities and classroom observations.



**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:
JULY 1, 2007 ~ JUNE 30, 2008**



AGENCY REVENUE

Service Fees from Government Contracts	\$15,142,993
Government Grants	<u>662,737</u>
Total Revenue	\$15,805,730

AGENCY EXPENSES

Salaries	\$ 9,312,979
Employee Benefits	<u>2,809,582</u>
Total Staff Expenses	\$12,122,568
Contracted Health Services (Therapists, etc.)	<u>\$ 1,669,285</u>
Total Direct Service Expenses	\$13,791,853
Rent, Utilities, Program & Other Supplies	\$ 1,325,391
Other Expenses	<u>\$ 1,041,639</u>
Total Other Expenses	\$ 2,367,030

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$16,158,883**

Deficiency of Government Revenue Over Expenses **\$ (353,153)**

Non-Government Support

Contributions (including Special Events)	\$ 434,449
Investment Income	<u>199,032</u>
Miscellaneous Fees	<u>326</u>
Total Non-Government Support	\$ 633,807

Surplus (Deficit) **\$ 280,654**

The above revenue and expense figures do not reflect in-kind rent or prior fiscal year's income.

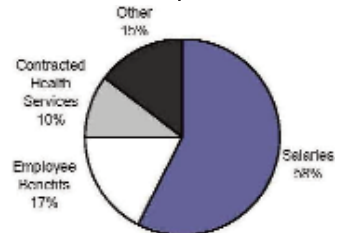
**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:
JULY 1, 2007 ~ JUNE 30, 2008**



FY'08 Revenue



FY '08 Expenses



FY '08 Contributions



ANNUAL BENEFIT

We held our 16th Spring Benefit in May at the Racquet & Tennis Club of New York.



Our annual benefit recognized two distinguished New Yorkers for their longtime support of Kennedy Child Study Center. Rev. Msgr. Kevin Sullivan, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York, was heralded as a prominent voice for our neighbors in need. As the head of Catholic Charities, he leads an organization that helps to solve the problems of all New Yorkers – Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

Jerry Camera, Managing Director of Morgan Stanley, was honored for his commitment to the world around him and for his efforts to assist children with disabilities and their families who attend Kennedy programs. The event included a cocktail reception and silent auction and attracted more than 225 guests from the world of business and the community at large.

Rev. Msgr. Sullivan was presented with the Distinguished Service Award by Lawrence F. McGovern, Co Chair of the Kennedy board of Directors; Mr. Camera was presented with the Center's Humanitarian Award by Michael A. O'Connor, Benefit Chair and Treasurer of the Kennedy Board.

The evening's emcee was former NBC news anchor, Rob Morrison. Other highlights included remarks by Kennedy Executive Director Peter Gorham, who informed guests that the Center will celebrate its 50th year of service to the community beginning in September 2008; a viewing of an NBC-TV media story on a preschool child who attended Pope Benedict XVI's special ceremony for disabled children at St. Joseph's Seminary; and the grand prize raffle drawing of two club class tickets to London on British Airways.

Photo above (l-r): Kennedy Board Co-Chair, Lawrence McGovern; event honorees, Jerry Camera and Msgr. Kevin Sullivan; and Benefit Chair and Board Treasurer, Michael A. O'Connor. Photo left (l-r): Magee Hickey; Kennedy Board Chairman Emeritus, Lawrence Hickey; and former Kennedy Executive Director, Sister Sheila O'Friel, D.C.



2007--2008 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

We are pleased to honor the many individuals and companies who have generously contributed restricted and unrestricted funds during the past fiscal year. These gifts help to ensure that we are able to continue to provide exceptional services and personal support to the children and families whom we serve. The following list reflects actual gifts received between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

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continued on page 14

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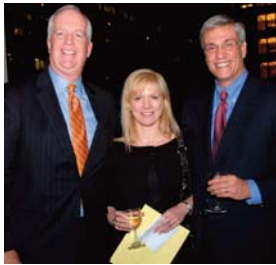
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William Ellis
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William Feldman
Robert Ferrari
James Fiesel



(l-r) Benefit Chair Michael
O'Conor, event honoree Jerry
Camera and his wife Kim.

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Michael Gulbin
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Catherine H. Lenihan
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Mary G. McCarthy
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Rob Morrison & NBC Studios
National Football League
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Quigley's Restaurant
Rothman's Restaurant
Uptown Grill
Elizabeth Schmeelk
Madalena Nicole Sheehan
John Stockinger

CBS

*The list reflects actual gifts
received during our fiscal year,
July 1, 2007, through June 30,
2008. Every effort has been
made to ensure accuracy.*

*If your name is incorrect or has
been omitted, please contact us
at 212 988 9500. We regret any
errors or omissions.*



Members of Marian and Frank Burke's family.

KENNEDY CHILD STUDY CENTER SAW THE RETIREMENT OF

two long-term members of the Board of Directors during the fiscal year. The Honorable Charles S. Haight, Jr., a Board Member for 30 years, and Helen Morris, a Board Member for 22 years. We will miss their wise counsel and wish them all the best.

As Kennedy Child Study Center enters its 50th anniversary year, we are looking forward to celebrating the event on Thursday, May 28, 2009 at the New York Athletic Club. We hope you will join us for this milestone in our history as we celebrate a half century of service to the community.

FACTS ABOUT KCSC:

- ❖ Nearly 95% of children in our programs receive speech therapy and more than 50% receive either physical or occupational therapies, or both.
- ❖ Most of the children we serve are from very low-income households; 65% are from Latino families and 25% are from African-American and Caribbean-American families.
- ❖ During the past year, we provided services for 1,800 children who have or are suspected of having a developmental delay or disability and their families.
- ❖ There was a dramatic increase in the need for services over the previous year. Our clinic served 31% more families and individuals; we served 16% more through Medicaid Service Coordination.
- ❖ The past year, KCSC graduated 190 pre-school children. Most of our graduates entered kindergarten programs operated by the New York City Board of Education; 15% of the graduates attend regular classes.
- ❖ We recognize that every child, regardless of current ability, is capable of further growth and achievement.



GIVE A GIFT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

When you make a gift to the Kennedy Child Study Center, you make a difference in the lives of young children with developmental challenges and related disabilities.

Your support will help to ensure that KCSC provides the highest quality services to young children with special needs. Help us fulfill our mission and continue our important work by making a donation today.

There are several ways to give to KCSC:

Cash Writing a check is the simplest way to make a gift to KCSC. For income tax purposes, the gift is deductible to the extent provided by law.

Make your check payable to Kennedy Child Study Center and mail it to us at 151 East 67th Street, New York, NY 10065.

Matching Gifts If you or your spouse are affiliated with one of the many matching gift companies, you can double or even triple the dollar value of your annual gift.

Please take a moment to check with your company's Human Resources Office – it will make a difference.

Gifts of Securities Gifts of appreciated securities are always welcome and may offer significant tax advantages to the donor.

Planned Gifts You can help KCSC carry on its mission for years to come. Consider leaving a bequest in your estate plans. You can make a cash bequest in your will or make a gift of real estate or property. You can contribute an insurance policy or name the Kennedy Child Study Center as a direct beneficiary of a portion of your retirement resources or IRA.

Your contribution will have an impact on many young children and their families whom we serve each year.

For information on planned giving opportunities or on how to transfer appreciated securities, please call the Development Office at 212-988-9500.

As with all legal and financial activity, please seek counsel of a legal or financial advisor.

Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. *Kennedy Child Study Center is registered under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.*

MISSION STATEMENT

Kennedy Child Study Center is dedicated to assisting very young children who are undergoing significant difficulties in learning and other areas of early childhood development.

We accomplish this purpose through a coordinated system of evaluation and diagnosis, multi-faceted therapy, specialized preschool education and partnership with families.

In addition, we provide direct services and supports to parents and other caregivers as they seek to provide a rich family life in which these children can thrive.

In conjunction with these services, we strive to communicate the needs of these children to the general public, train professionals from a variety of disciplines for work in the area of developmental disabilities, develop new service programs and facilities, and encourage positive public policies that benefit young children with disabilities.



Tina Buckman



Additional photography by:
Sari Anthony
Peter Garham
Rita Leo
Patricia O'Callaghan
Jill O'Reilly,
Katie Prince
Joseph Spanberger



Sari Anthony, Editor
Gutenberg Printing

THE AMERICAN PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDS THAT ALL CHILDREN UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE BE SCREENED FOR AUTISM. RESEARCH INDICATES THAT EARLY DIAGNOSIS IS ASSOCIATED WITH BETTER OUTCOMES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM.

Kennedy Child Study Center is a non-profit agency established under Section 501 (c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Certified by the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) and New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene as a Clinic (DOH).

Licensed by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Bureau of Day Care

Approved by the New York State Department of Health and New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene as an Early Intervention service provider.

Approved by the New York State Education Department and New York City Department of Education as a Special Education Preschool service provider.

Offering services to all New Yorkers, Kennedy Child Study Center is sponsored by the Catholic Charities Alliance of the Archdiocese of New York.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

MANHATTAN
151 East 67th Street
New York, NY 10065
212-988-9500



BRONX
1028 East 179th Street
Bronx, NY 10460
718-842-0200



1071B East Tremont Avenue
Bronx, NY 10460
718-842-8942



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PETER P. GORHAM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR