
FAMILY ENRICHMENT
NETWORK, INC.

2019-2020

Annual Report

// 2019-2020



Our Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission Statement

Through partnerships with families and community agencies, Family Enrichment Network provides supportive services and programs for the optimal development of children, adults and families.

Vision Statement

The vision of Family Enrichment Network is that all children, adults and families in our service area have the opportunity to grow and develop to their full potential.

Value Statements

We value:

- **Empowerment of parents to more effectively meet the needs of their children and responsibilities to the community.**
 - **All children, adults and families regardless of race, religion, sex, age, ethnic origin, or disability.**
 - **Efficient use of resources.**
 - **Avoidance of duplication of services.**
- **Staff contribution to the success of our organization.**
- **Stakeholder and community partnerships.**



A message from our Board Chair

Dear Parents, Staff and Community Members:

I am very proud to have served another year as Board Chair of Family Enrichment Network. Thank you to our employees, volunteers, Board of Directors and our community partners for your tremendous dedication to our mission. There have been numerous accomplishments throughout the year and I would like to highlight one in particular: Family Enrichment Network was awarded funding (\$4.1 M!) by New York State both through the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative and through the Homeless Housing Assistance Program to construct a two-story building with 19 units of permanent supportive housing for those experiencing homelessness in our community—construction is underway! We will continue to provide superior supportive services and programs for the growth of children, adults and their families in our communities.

Jackie Watson
Board Chair

A message from our Executive Director

It is with great pleasure that we present this 2019-2020 Annual Report. It is hard to believe another year has come and gone.

Our long range planning and aggressive program development has allowed our Agency to weather the economic storm and years of state and federal budgetary challenges. At the end of this year state minimum wage that will go to \$12.50 per hour. We whole heartedly support that activity and feel we are in a good position.

This has been a year of growth for us. Opportunities presented themselves and we pursued them if they were consistent with our mission and vision. The communities we serve have been very helpful and supportive of our efforts.

We would be remiss to not mention that the past few months has been very challenging for staff, parents and children alike. We started the year ready to move forward, but the COVID-19 pandemic changed all of that. As an Agency, we rose to the challenge and served as many children and families as we could using new tools and platforms. Whatever the fall holds for us, we will do our best to continue to serve the community.

We continue to make improvements to our primary site at 24 Cherry Street in Johnson City, Fayette in Binghamton, and our site in Norwich. We plan on opening our first homeless housing project in December to serve 19 homeless families. Construction is on schedule.

We hope that the information in this report will be informative and enlightening. Our Agency's accomplishments continue to amaze me and we celebrate our diversity, but there is more to do. There never seems to be an end. Our Agency continues to grow but the core of what we do will not change: we will continue to offer a diverse array of services to children and families to help improve their lives. We will look to continue expanding services to meet the needs of our community. We could not have done all that we have done without lots of support. I would like to thank the Board, Staff and the entire Community for their dedication and hard work for our Agency and the families we support.

Darrell Newwinen

Executive Director

Our Board Members

**JACKIE WATSON, BOARD CHAIR
WIL MIDYETTE, TREASURER
FRED MEAGHER, SECRETARY
JESSICA AURELLIO
CARRIE BATES
MELISSA LANTZ
CHRIS LEE
DENISE LEE
ANDREA MASTRONARDI
ELIZABETH MYERS
CHRIS RHODE
LISA STRAHLEY
PAM SWARTS
BRIAN TETA**

Our Policy Council

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-
SONYA HERTER- POLICY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON
TAKICIA MITCHELL- POLICY COUNCIL VICE
CHAIRPERSON
DENISE LEE- POLICY COUNCIL TREASURER
CARRIE BATES- RECORDING SECRETARY
KERRY O'BRIEN- CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

**PARENT MEMBERS-
AMBER BACKUS
BRITTANY BARNETT
SHANTEL BESS
CHENOA CHALKER
KAREN COREAS
DIANA FRANCO
ERIKA HINCKLEY
KARINA LIBERATI
CASSANDRA MARTIN
KHEA MC.MULLINS
BARBARA PAUGH
CHRISSY PENA
PETE PENA J
OHN ROBMISON
MOLLY SKINNER
COREY SKINNER
DESERAY SLATER
KENYETTA TORRANCE
MEG WARD
ROZLYN WARTHEN
COMMUNITY MEMBERS-
CHARLI MCLEAN
CHRIS LEE**

Our Senior Staff

DARRELL R. NEWVINE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

APRIL RAMSAY, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

**CHASTITY MCEWEN, HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES
DIRECTOR**

DEB FAULKS, FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES DIRECTOR

DOUG MARSHALL, OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

**JENNIFER PERNEY, CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL
DIRECTOR**

**KATE E. GRIPPEN, HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START
DIRECTOR**

**KATHERINE MCKEEVER, SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES
DIRECTOR**

LINDA DEMARCO, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

MARY DIFULVIO, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

NORA BUSH, FISCAL DIRECTOR

Financial Overview



BHA Section 8- Rental Assistance

Broome County United Way- Social-Emotional Development focusing on pre-schoolers

Care Compass Network- Women's Cohort project, Navigations and COVID-19 impact

Child Care Solutions /NYS Office of Children & Family Services - Infant/Toddler

City of Binghamton Emergency Shelter Grant- Caring Homes

Community Foundation of South Central New York- COVID-19 impact

Department of Health & Human Services- Head Start & Early Head Start (HS & EHS) Broome & Tioga Counties and Pathways to Responsible Fatherhood

Hunger Solutions NY/NYS Department of Health & US Department-Of Agriculture- Nutrition Outreach Education Program (NOEP) and Women, Infants, and Children program

NYS Department of Education- Binghamton Schools Binghamton UPK

NYS Department of Education- JC Schools Johnson City UPK

NYS Office of Children & Family Services Child Care Resource & Referral

(CCR&R) and Kinship Care Program

NYS Department of Education

Tioga County Health Department

Madison County Health Department Special Education Services (SES)

Broome County Health Department

Chenango County Health Department

611/619 IDEA Flow Through from School Districts of children served

NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance- Housing

NYS Unified Court System- Courthouse Children's Center

NYS Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities- OPWDD Waiver Services

SUNY Professional Development Program- Private Pay Trainings

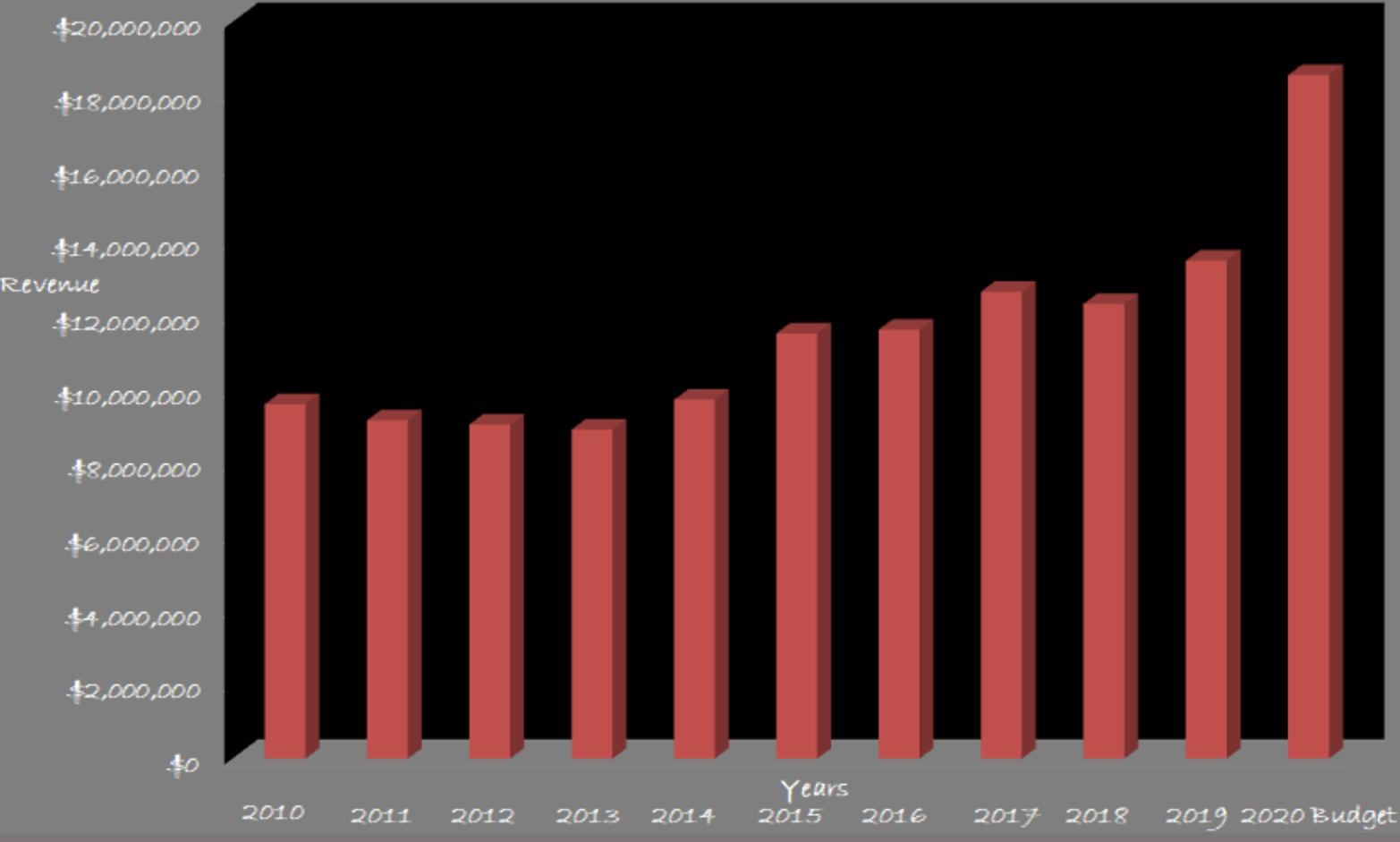
United Presbyterian Church- Walk with Me (Re-Entry)

US Dept. of Agriculture / NYS Dept. of Health- Summer Food Service

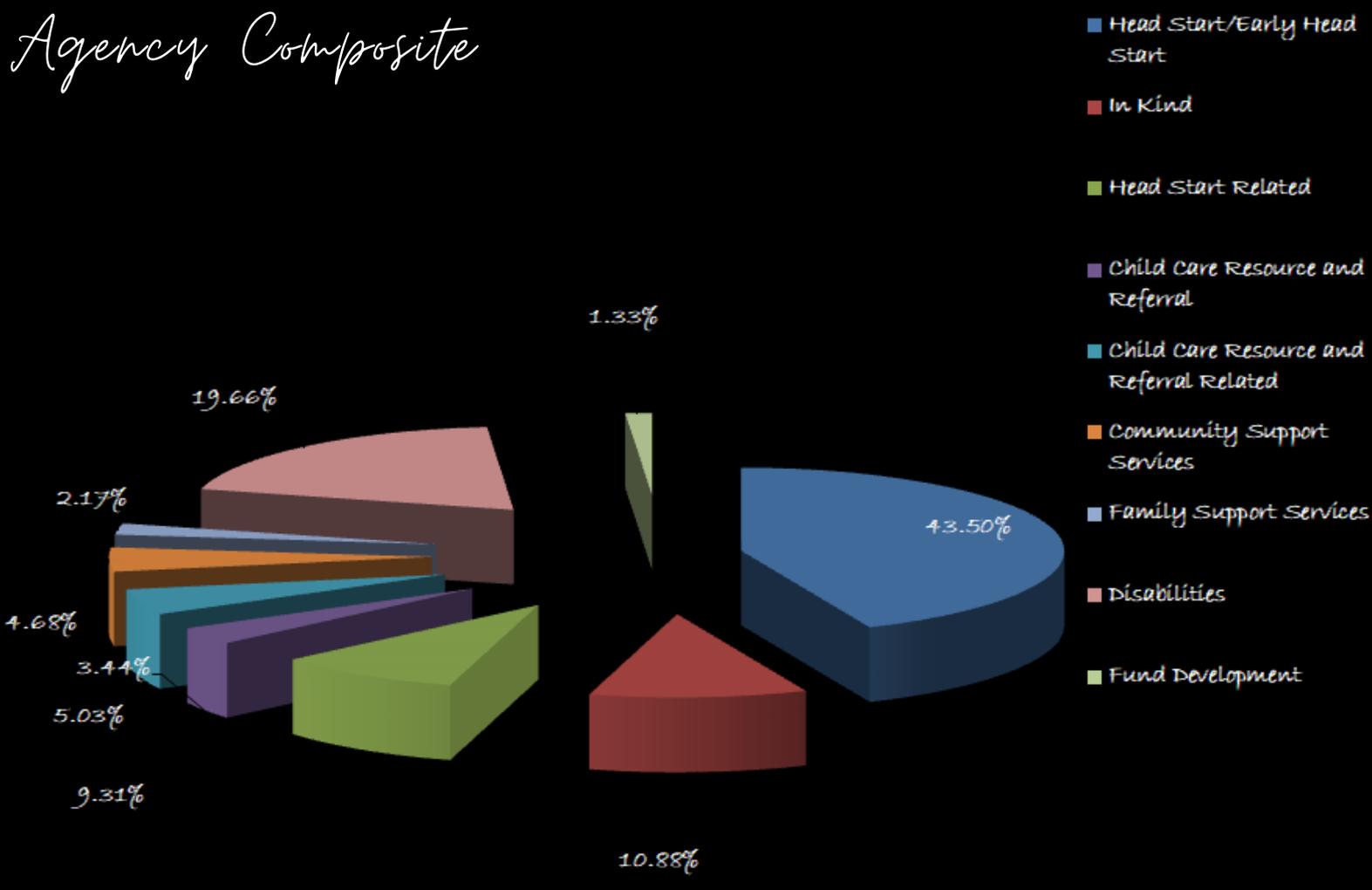
USDA/NYS DOH- Child Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Revenue

Revenue History 2010-2020



Agency Composite



Child Care Resource & Referral

CCR&R recruits, trains, and supports registered/licensed and legally exempt child care providers with all aspects of starting and maintaining a small business.

Our Legally Exempt Specialists enroll providers into the child care subsidy programs and conduct inspections to decrease fraud in child care subsidy payments.

Our Referral Specialist can explore child care options with parents and provide referrals for programs and providers in our database. CCR&R identifies unmet needs in child care, and works to find meaningful child care solutions. Services are available to all parents, community businesses, and locally-based employees of corporations who offer enhanced child care services as an employee benefit. All services are provided FREE of charge and are available in Broome, Chenango, and Tioga Counties.

The Infant/Toddler Technical Assistance Center assists in promoting quality infant/toddler care in New York State. An Infant/Toddler Specialist trains child care professionals, parents, and regional CCR&R staff in infant/toddler best practices, and provides professional development opportunities for infant/toddler caregivers. This service is available free of charge to Broome, Tioga, Cortland, Chenango and Tompkins Counties child care providers, parents and community agencies.

Professional Development/Training program for child care providers consists of Saturday Seminars; evening workshops; on-site workshops for centers; after school programs and family child care providers; CPR/First Aid certification; Health & Safety training, CDA credential trainings, and on-line training. All trainings and workshops assist providers in meeting NYS OCFS training requirements. Providers may choose to access EIP funds for training. A training calendar is provided to the community of child care providers in Broome, Chenango and Tioga Counties. Health & Safety Training offers a workshop facilitated by our certified trainers for individuals in the process of becoming licensed or registered child care providers.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a reimbursement program through The New York State Department of Health, which is geared toward child care providers. Child care providers may be reimbursed by NYS for serving nutritious meals and snacks to the children in their care.



Family Support Services

Courthouse Children's Center

The Courthouse Children's Center (CCC) is a free drop-in child care center at the Broome County Family Courthouse. The Center takes children 6 weeks to 12 years of age and is a safe, fun, nurturing place for children to play while their caregiver is taking care of Family or Drug Court business. The CCC staff are early childhood education trained.

Kinship Care Program

The Kinship Care Program helps adults who are raising someone else's child/ren, Services include: help applying for cash assistance, custody advocacy, support groups, free counseling, & community referrals. The program offers full services in Broome County and Tioga County

Nutrition Outreach & Education Program

NOEP offers free and confidential services to families that have trouble putting enough food on the table. The NOEP Coordinator helps people with the SNAP application process and advocates for them as they apply for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Walk With Me

This program provides re-entry support for those recently released from the Broome County Jail. The program provides immediate crisis stabilization and offers peer mentoring, support groups, employment guidance and help meeting the basic essentials.

WIC Help NY

This new program provides WIC eligible families with assistance applying for WIC. The WIC Help Specialist can help determine eligibility, assist with the needed documents and set up the first appointment. The program works with families in Broome & Delaware Counties.



Head Start

Head Start

(Broome County) provides comprehensive early childhood and family development services to ensure school readiness for children and families living in Binghamton, Johnson City and the Susquehanna Valley School District. Center Based, Full-Day, Full-Day/Full-Year, and UPK programs for Binghamton and Johnson City four year old children are available with limited transportation. The Center-Based option includes a classroom experience of four 3 1/2 hour days per week, scheduled home visits, and opportunities for parents to volunteer in the program. The Full-Day option provides children with a 7 hour program, five days a week from September-June. Full-Day/Full-Year includes a Head Start/UPK program: it is a 7 hour program, five days per week from September through August. Limited transportation and meals are provided; income eligibility and age guidelines apply.

Head Start

(Tioga County) provides 3 and 4 year old children with comprehensive child development and family development services to ensure school readiness. Programs are offered at three centers in Tioga County, and include Owego, Newark Valley, and Waverly locations. Programs are 1/2 day center based and full day. Transportation and meals are provided; income eligibility and age guidelines apply.

UPK Program

Conducted in partnership with the Johnson City School District. We operate a 3 1/2 hour program Monday-Friday, and it runs in accordance with the JC School District Calendar.



Early Head Start

Early Head Start

(Broome County) Early Head Start offers a center based, full day early childhood program for families with children six weeks to three years of age. Services include programming in health, nutrition, early education, special services, family and community partnership. Transportation (as needed), and meals are provided; income eligibility and age guidelines apply. The Early Head Start program operates year round at three locations in Binghamton and Johnson City, and serves families who live in Binghamton, Johnson City, and the Susquehanna Valley School District.

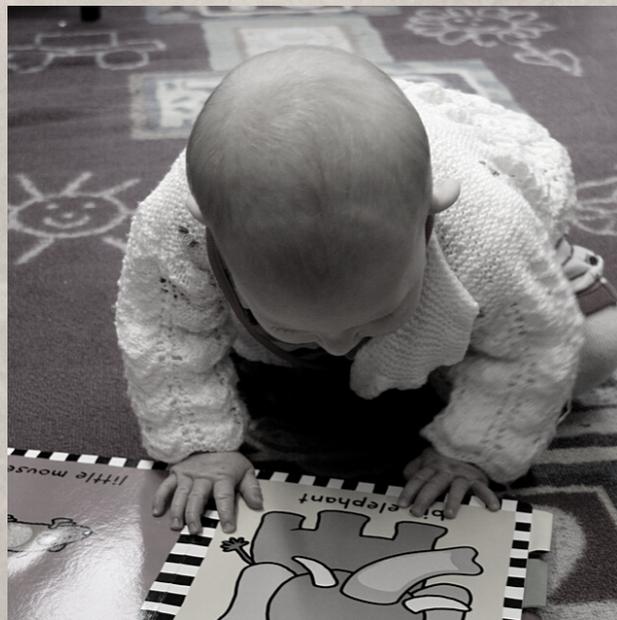
Early Head Start

(Tioga County) provides infants, toddlers, and their families with programming that enhances children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development to ensure school readiness. FEN's full-day center-based program operates year round at the Owego location. Services include programming in health, nutrition, early education, special services, family and community partnership. Transportation (as needed) and meals are provided; income eligibility and age guidelines apply.

Early Head Start Prenatal Program

The purpose of the Early Head Start Prenatal Program is to provide women and their families programming that enhances children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development to ensure school readiness. The program assists pregnant women with access to comprehensive prenatal and post-partum care. The Socialization Specialist will help guide mothers through their pregnancy and prepare them for a successful, healthy birth of their infant. This process will include home visits which will:

- Provide information regarding fetal development, nutrition, labor, delivery, and breastfeeding.
- Ensure a smooth transition for babies by expanding parent support systems to include family, friends, and other community resources.



New Pathways for Fatherhood & Summer Meal Program

New Pathways for Fatherhood Program

The New Pathways for Fathers Program is dedicated to serving the needs of low-income fathers and father-figures in Broome and Tioga Counties. In the “24/7 Dad” class, men are encouraged to build on their strengths to improve their parenting skills. Classes are offered at different times and locations throughout the year. Trained facilitators and guest speakers will lead participants in fun, hands-on activities, as well as group discussions.

Summer Meal Program

This program offers nutritious meals to children up to age 18 in the surrounding community. This program runs through the summer months from June to August. We offer an AM snack from 8:00-8:30 and lunch from 11:30-12:30.



Housing & Community Services

Housing.

Family Enrichment Network owns three properties in Johnson City. Two properties are located on Roberts St. and a 3rd property on St. Charles St. These properties offer low income housing and accept section 8 vouchers.

Caring Homes Program

This program works to prevent homelessness through support and financial assistance for homeless families and those at risk of becoming homeless. Eligible client families may receive one time financial assistance for things such as security deposits, rent arrears and/or utility shut off notices. Clients work with our Housing Case Manager to create a plan for housing stability.

Community Habilitation

Community Habilitation is a waiver program funded by Medicaid and is available to children and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The goal of Community Habilitation is to provide community integration and independent living skills. An individual in the program may receive anywhere from 4 to 30+ hours a week of the service - depending on their needs. Community habilitation is based on person centered planning, meaning that the individual decides what goals are important to work on and how the goals will be met.

Pre-Vocational Services

Pre-Vocational Services is a waiver program funded by Medicaid and is available to adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The individual works with a job specialist who assists them in implementing their individualized goals pertaining to community employment. The service setting takes places at various voluntary work opportunities within the community. The goal of this service is for the individual to gain employment skills that will assist them in obtaining paid community employment.



Special Education Services

Special Education Integrated Classrooms

SES Integrated Classrooms are available for preschoolers with identified disabilities at FEN's Cherry Street and Fayette Street location and Binghamton's (Horace Mann Elementary). The Chenango County site has integrated classrooms that provide services at At our Norwich site. These programs offer a quality early educational experience coupled with individualized instruction, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and/or counseling as identified by each child's individual educational plan.

Related Services

Related services includes speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and counseling are provided to identified children at all Family Enrichment Network sites, daycare settings, and at times, the home.

Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT) services

SEIT services are offered to identified children who require the services of a special education teacher in their home, daycare setting, or FEN classroom. These services are currently available in Broome and Chenango Counties.

Evaluation Services

Evaluations are provided by a multidisciplinary team to preschoolers at risk of developmental delays and are provided at the Johnson City and Norwich sites.

Behavioral Supports

Funded by the Family Support Services Program of OPWDD FEN's Behavioral Support services helps identified families better understand their children's (ages 3-8) behaviors. They deliver the needed support for those who are eligible for OPWDD services such as Autism, Down Syndrome, intellectual disabilities etc. and who also have behavioral problems. This program is provided at no cost to eligible families



2019-2020 at a glance

323

**CHILD CARE REFERRALS
PROVIDED FOR PARENTS
THROUGHOUT BROOME,
CHENANGO AND TIOGA
COUNTIES**

2,511

**CHILD CARE TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES TO 158
PROGRAMS AND 166 ONSITE
VISITS TO 67 CHILD CARE
PROGRAMS**

321

**CHILDREN SERVED THROUGH
HEAD START IN BROOME COUNTY**

62

**CHILDREN SERVED THROUGH
HEAD START IN TIOGA COUNTY**

2019-2020 at a glance

92

**INFANTS/TODDLERS/AND
PREGNANT WOMEN SERVED
THROUGH EARLY HEAD START IN
BROOME COUNTY**

32

**INFANTS AND TODDLERS
SERVED THROUGH EARLY HEAD
START IN TIOGA COUNTY**

1,074

**CHILDREN SERVED THROUGH
THE COURTHOUSE
CHILDREN'S CENTER**

230

**CHILDREN WERE SUPPORTED
THROUGH THE KINSHIP
CAREGIVER PROGRAM.**

2019-2020 at a glance

408

**HOUSEHOLDS WERE
SCREENED FOR SNAP
BENEFITS**

65

**PARTICIPANTS WERE
ASSISTED THROUGH
RE-ENTRY SERVICES**

555

**INDIVIDUALS WERE
PRESCREENED FOR WIC
ELIGIBILITY**

174

**PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED IN
THE NEW PATHWAYS FOR
FATHERS PROGRAM
THROUGHOUT BROOME AND
TIOGA COUNTY**

2019-2020 at a glance

58

**HOUSEHOLDS WERE
ASSISTED WITH HOMELESS
PREVENTION SERVICES.**

40

**PARTICIPANTS SERVED
THROUGH OPWDD
COMMUNITY HABILITATION**

20

**INDIVIDUALS SERVED
THROUGH OPWDD PRE-
VOCATIONAL SERVICES**

3

**LOW-INCCOME HOMES ARE
FULLY RENTED.**

2019-2020 at a glance

12

**YOUTH SERVED THROUGH
THE SUMMER EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAM**

96

**PRESCHOOL AGED CHILDREN
RECEIVED SPECIAL
EDUCATION RELATED
SERVICES**

70

**PRESCHOOL AGED CHILDREN
SERVED THROUGH
INTEGRATED PRESCHOOL
PROGRAMMING**

226

FULL TIME EMPLOYEES

70

PART TIME EMPLOYEES

Success Stories- CCR&R

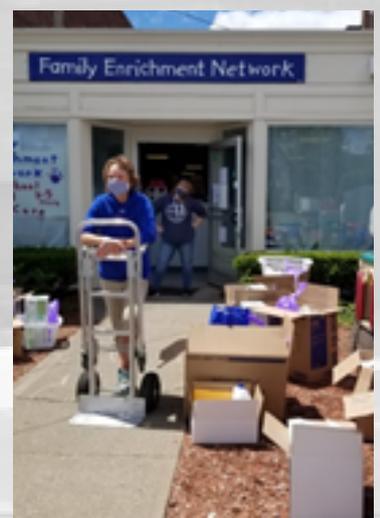
-The Child Care Specialist has been working intensively with a center classroom. They are making strides to change their environment and curriculum in order to best meet the needs of the children. The teachers are very receptive and make a big effort to implement suggestions from the Specialist. They are also very open to changing some of the ways they interact with the children and using FLIP-IT for behavior management.

-The Infant Toddler Specialist worked with a family child care provider who was hesitant to enroll infants. After much discussion and encouragement, the provider accepted an infant into her program. The Infant Toddler Specialist has conducted visits to coach the provider in caring for the infant. The provider had questions and concerns about the feedings of the baby and the Specialist was able to assist in determining the bottle nipple flow was too fast for the baby. After talking with the parent, the provider switched to a slower flowing nipple and the baby is eating better in the program.

-The Training Specialist conducted a Mandated Reporter Training at a local child care center. After the training, 2 staff approached the Specialist and disclosed they had concerns about a child and suspected abuse was occurring at home. They had not dared call the Child Abuse Hotline, but after the training felt empowered to make the call. CPS is now investigating.

-A newly registered family child care provider struggled through the registration process. The provider told the Quality Improvement Specialist if it wasn't for the support she received from Family Enrichment Network, she would have given up on the idea of becoming a provider.

-CCR&R staff distributed supplies to child care programs who remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic with funding from the CARES Act. Supplies were given to almost 100 programs throughout Broome, Chenango, and Tioga Counties to help with the added costs of cleaning and sanitizing.



Success Stories- Family Support Services

Courthouse Children's Center- A mom arrived with her two children; a 16-month-old and a 15-year-old and was politely informed that the 15-year-old exceeded the Center's, 12-year-old age limit requirement and could not stay in the Center. Mom stated that she could not leave her toddler alone without the assistance of her older child and she declined to use the Center for care. Ten minutes later, mom returned and signed her toddler into the Center stating that the toddler would cry and not want to stay. The lead teacher held the child, engaging her with several toys as mom left. Upon mom's returned, she found her toddler smiling, sitting on the floor playing with toys and the lead teacher. Mom was equally surprised that her toddler barely noticed that she had returned. Mom was so impressed at the fun the child was having with one particular toy that she took a closer look stating that she would purchase it for home. When saying goodbye, the toddler blew hand kisses to the staff, surprising mom yet again.

Kinship- The Kinship Advocate (KA) worked with a non-related Kinship Caregiver who took in a 17 year old girl because the girl reported that her mom was physically aggressive towards her and did not take care of her or her siblings. A CPS call had been made and CPS told the caregiver that because of the teen's age they were going to close the case and the teen could be considered a homeless youth. When it was time to enroll the teen in school the school district would not allow the caregiver to enroll the teen because she did not have custody. The teen was turning 18 in 5 months and the caregiver did not believe she would be awarded custody by the courts before that. The KA explained the state law that stated that kinship caregivers do not have to have custody to enroll a child in school. The school district continued to deny the teen to enroll in school. The school district where the teen had had lived with her mother refused transportation because they said the teen could return to her mother's house. The caregiver and advocate both reached out to CPS to get a statement but they stated they had closed the case and could not do anything. The KA reached out to NY Teachs and attended a webinar on determining eligibility under the McKinney Vento law which provides protections for homeless youth. This webinar stated that a child placed with another family informally by CPS is eligible for McKinney Vento, regardless of whether or not the parent states that the child is allowed to return home. The KA gave this information to the Kinship Caregiver. After contacting CPS again the caregiver was able to get a statement from them and the teen was enrolled in school.

Success Stories- Family Support Services

NOEP- The NOEP Coordinator (NC) received a permission to contact form from the New Pathways to Fatherhood, parenting program. The applicant was enrolled in the fatherhood program and just released from prison. At the same time the applicant ended up with emergency placement of his two year old daughter. He was staying with his mother and unable to work because of his parole requirements. He had no food, money or anything for his daughter. The NC pre-screened him over the phone for potential SNAP eligibility and set up an application appointment right after his 24/7 Dad parenting class. The NC completed the application; copied required documents needed and scheduled the DSS/SNAP telephone interview. The NC called the dad to follow up and was informed that he received expedited SNAP (benefits within 5 days) which he received before the holiday season! The dad thanked the NC and explained how thankful he was for the entire agency and all the help and guidance he had received from all the staff and programs at FEN he had worked with.

WIC Help NY- the WIC Help Specialist (WHS) and the NOEP Coordinator have successfully worked together with two families needing assistance with both WIC and SNAP benefits. They met with a single mom at the YWCA and completed a SNAP application and set up a WIC appointment for her to get benefits all at the same time. They also collaborated with the Kinship Advocate to provide services for a kinship caregiver single mother. An appointment was made at Family Enrichment Network (based on the caregiver's schedule) to provide this mom with all the wrap-around services she needed. This team collaboration by the WIC Help NY Specialist, the NOEP Coordinator and the Kinship Advocate helped reduce the number of appointments a family must keep and provides a one stop shopping experience! In both these cases the families were very grateful for the coordinated services.

Walk with Me- Mr. H. was released from Broome County Jail in early July 2019 and the Re-entry Specialist (RS) helped him obtain emergency housing at the VOA and apply for Temporary Assistance, health insurance and SNAP benefits. The RS purchased a telephone and talk/text card so Mr. H. could reconnect with his mental health provider at Lourdes and re-established his Substance Use Disorder treatment at ACBC. The RS also, assisted with application for supported housing at the Rescue Mission and he was accepted into the program in early August 2019. In late August he interviewed at a local restaurant chain and started training in early September shadowing other servers as well as taking written tests on menu and drinks. He also took on additional training to run food to get more knowledge on the menu and what is called the expo line. The RS received a call from Mr. H. who reported he and one other person were chosen from the pool of trainees and began working in mid September.



Success Stories-Head Start & Early Head Start

-Head Start - In November, our Head Start children focused on different breathing techniques to help calm our bodies. We practiced using the drain, pretzel, and balloon. We found that it helped when we turned the lights off to peacefully calm down while breathing quietly. We read the scripted story Tucker Turtle Takes Time to Tuck and Think as a teaching technique to help solve problems using a different breathing technique. We had the children pretend to be a turtle while tucking in their shell and breathing. The story promotes positive outcome after thinking, breathing, and calming down.

- Head Start Children are actively involved in the task of suiting up for colder weather. The need for successful zippering, shoe changes, and hat and glove applications has been providing the children with fine motor skills development and self-reliance.

- The Family Advocate has worked closely with one of her program parent's since her child's enrollment to the program. The parent was informed about our Child Care Givers Training Program which can lead to employment after completing the classes and participating in the classroom volunteer hours. When September came, the Family Advocate was able to connect the parent with our Child Care Specialist, and the Head Start mom registered for the training; participated in all five sessions of training, and in completing her volunteer hours in the classrooms. The parent participated in her very first interview at FEN. Mom is very excited about getting a job and is looking forward to the being employed at Family Enrichment Network.

- In April a Head Start girl had been asking her parents for activities that she does in school. Her parents have become more involved in her schooling than ever before. They had asked me (her Teacher) to email them our morning name writing activity and other learning tools that they can print and work on at home. This family was contacting me regularly and even provided me with a few resources to share with the entire class. This child is on our weekly Zoom every week and says she missed school, but she loves having her mom and dad teach her too! I am seeing this child continue to improve on the areas we have been working on even though we cannot be at school right now. I constantly commend her parents for their work because this child is thriving!

Early Head Start- A one year old boy who really didn't say that many words has come a very long way and is starting to talk. During circle time when we do the ABC cards with pictures (26) of them he is able to identify most pictures. He also participates more at circle with singing and dancing. He can ask for what he wants if he needs anything. He loves to blow kisses and say "have a day" at the end of the day or when someone leaves the room.

-We have two of our older infants who always like to play and interact with each other without any conflicts. They are already learning how to share with their peer. That is so incredible. The parents are so happy about the milestone of social interaction between the two babies.

Success Stories-head Start & Early Head Start

- In the age of COVID-19, while our in person programs were closed, Teacher, Family Advocates, Nurses, and Program Managers remained connected with Head Start and Early Head Start families through phone calls, emails, the FEN Kids Facebook, Zoom Classroom, Zoom Meetings, Go To Meeting, FaceTime, and paper communications.

This helped families plan and prepare for educating their children at home; providing resources and materials to families in need; comforted families who were struggling emotionally with the changes that they were facing; and assisting families in recognizing the successes that resulted during the pandemic. Those successes included: keeping safe and healthy; children and their families bonded and became even closer with the quality time that they had at home; that parents recognized that they are their children's first and most important teacher; and that program staff were working and supporting families individually with what they needed to find success amid the pandemic.



Success Stories- New Pathways for Fathers

-Despite the stress and disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, New Pathways for Fathers staff was able to enroll our first groups of virtual workshop participants and successfully completed 40 workshop sessions while working remotely. This was a venture into totally new and unknown waters for participants and program staff, and yet we were able to plan and execute the program very successfully. We were able to make significant changes in a relatively short time and overcame the additional stressors to staff quarantining, emotional stress and fear about COVID, struggles with adapting to a totally new way of living, working from home with kids, partners, and pets involved, etc.. This shows our strength, perseverance, and our sincere commitment to our program, the Agency, and to serving the community individuals who need our program.

-A participant and his partner (former participant) contacted the New Pathways for Fathers Case Manager via Messenger for the NPF Facebook page, seeking information about housing. They were given an eviction notice, and were in need of emergency assistance for housing, including rent and security deposit assistance. The Case manager gave them instructions to first go to DSS for help, then to call 2-1-1 to be connected to Coordinated Entry to be pre-screened for a security deposit through the ESG program. The Participant followed the steps that case manager suggested, and was able to secure housing. The participant expressed great thanks to case manager for helping guide him through the steps.

-While out in the community, the New Pathways for Fathers Specialist encountered a past participant who gave updates about all he had accomplished since completing the “24/7 Dad” workshop. He had enrolled himself into the paralegal program at SUNY Broome and had secured housing from the shelter where he was living. He also now has more frequent visitation with his two sons

- The New Pathways for Fathers Case Manager followed-up with a past participant from one of the summer “24/7 Dad Bootcamp” workshops. This participant had taken the workshops while in a custody fight with the father and both of them were trying to remove this child from foster care. The father, coincidentally, had been a participant in the Spring 2019 workshops. During the time that they were each in our program, they had a very tumultuous relationship. The father in the program had to be discouraged from referring to her in a negative manner multiple times during the workshops he attended. She, on the other hand, often spoke tearfully as she recounted the difficulties she had in trying to communicate with him as a co-parent. When the Case Manager saw the female participant, she let the case manager know that they had been successful, with the help of our program, in getting the child out of foster care and successfully co-parenting the child, She explicitly stated that they both were able to connect through principles that they learned in the “24/7 Dad” workshops, and sent her thanks to staff for helping them see better ways to co-parent.



Success Stories-Housing & Community Services

ESG- A young father of a newborn baby girl reached out to 2-1-1 for financial assistance when he was notified that the apartment building that he was living in was being condemned. Having had a rough start in life, being incarcerated for several years and being released from jail with a criminal background, he found himself facing many challenges. Rather than letting those challenges overcome him, he forged ahead and chose a better path. He found a full time job where he is able to provide for his family. He was able to locate a safe and affordable apartment for his family but needed some help with the initial expenses. The Caring Homes Program was able to provide the financial support necessary to help cover the security deposit for a new apartment. Through case management with the Caring Homes housing case manager, he has stayed the course, remained current on his rent and has maintained full time employment.

Pre-Vocational Services- In February 2018, a young man decided to set a goal for himself that would include job training, work and social skill building with the end result of gaining paid employment. He enrolled in our Community Based Pre-voc Program where he met a Direct Service Professional ready to lead him into various work experiences. He began his experience in the B.U. Marketplace dish room. He learned how to operate all of the equipment and how to load and unload dishes. He developed his work skills and his ability to be socially appropriate and was well liked by all of the employees. He continued to seek out new work experiences at Thrifty Shopper, Price Chopper, Suquehanna Nursing Home, the Boys and Girls Club, Ross Park Zoo, the Humane Society, Animal Care Council, and the Rumble Ponies just to name a few. In August of 2019 he had the opportunity to participate in a non- paid experience at LOWES in Binghamton. He shadowed employees in different areas, watched what they did, watched and listened to how to communicate with customers, mixed paint, helped customers design kitchens, etc. He was able to follow instructions and complete his tasks in a timely manner. Staff and customers alike commented on how well he was doing and how polite he was. After only one month at LOWES, he was approached by a Manager and asked if he would be interested in applying for a paid position at LOWES. To date, he is employed at LOWES and loves it; this is his first job, and more importantly, his first opportunity to collect a paycheck, in February 2020, just two years after starting his first employment experience, he was able to move into a supervised apartment setting where he is independent in his daily living.

Summer Employment- A young lady, "C", enrolled in the program in 2019. She was assigned to work at the Humane Society with two other girls. She was quite shy and it took her awhile to warm up to her peers but over the next few weeks she gained confidence and grew into a leader among her peers. Staff would give her additional responsibilities and she always rose to the occasion. At the end of the program the Humane Society stated that she developed into a strong leader who they could depend on. They would welcome her back anytime! She had an amazing work ethic, she was dependable and was eager to take on new tasks. At the end of the program, she was asked to stay on and work a few additional weeks. She accepted without hesitation!



Success Stories-Special Education Services

Tele-Therapy- In a typical week, Family Enrichment's staff of 12 therapists including, physical, occupational and speech therapy, provide services to over 100 different preschool students who are in need of therapy for developmental delays or diagnosed medical disorders. When school closures occurred on March 16, 2020, due to the State of Emergency caused by Covid-19, all therapy abruptly came to a halt. When it became apparent that this would be a prolonged closure, FEN's therapy staff not only reached out to families to provide guidance and "at home activities," but pursued learning a new skill - "tele-therapy."

Tele-therapy for therapists involves much more than face-timing with a child on a smart phone. There are very specific NYS education requirements, Medical insurance and County requirements that must be met in terms of confidentiality, obtaining parental consent, and securing a HIPPA compliant internet videoconferencing platform. There was also a need to acquire additional equipment for FEN therapists to engage in online therapy.

Furthermore, the therapists engaged in formal continuing education courses to earn how to technically navigate videoconferencing, and to learn strategies to engage children "on line" which included learning about online visual materials and activity websites, as well as creating their own materials. The therapists engaged in a combined total of over 75 hours of continuing education to learn both new skills necessary for tele-therapy and to improve their own clinical skills.

Starting April 24, 2020, we had the capability to electronically email parents a consent form to allow their children to participate in tele-therapy. We are thankful for grants made by the CFSCNY and Care Compass Network to provide this to over 50 preschool students who were enrolled in tele-therapy in the spring. Therapists were very happy to engage in what they are passionate about - helping preschool students develop and overcome their delays and disabilities!

We are very happy to have schools open again this summer so that the therapists can start working with preschoolers in person!! Currently therapists are providing therapy both in person and via tele-therapy for students who are not participating in a summer preschool program.



Program Development

Program Development consists of research, partnerships, and development of new programs to address identified gaps in services in our service area. Programs are developed based on identified community needs and are in line with Family Enrichment Network's mission and vision to help children, families, and adults have the opportunity to grow and develop to their full potential.

Grant Research and Writing consists of research to identify a variety of funding sources available to enhance and sustain, to the extent possible, existing projects and fund new programs that have been created through the program development process. Grants are also submitted to support identified agency needs. Once funding sources are identified, proposals are written to secure funding.

Currently, Family Enrichment Network receives funding from local, state, and national foundations and government agencies.

Resource Development

Family Enrichment Network has implemented a Resource Development and Sustainability Plan to ensure the agency has sufficient program and non-program revenue to meet agency needs. All of the components of this plan collectively allow for progressive resource development. The plan identifies a number of diverse fund development activities including: grant writing, fundraising, direct mail, and fee for service activities.

*"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."
- Helen Keller*

Annual Special Events



In 2019, 156 families and 427 children were adopted because of the generous support of local individuals and businesses looking to help out. Before we knew it, the Agency was filled with clothing, toys, food and necessities ready to be delivered to our families by our hard working staff.

We are gearing up for this year's program and always welcome new businesses and individuals to join us in this rewarding effort.



In 2019, Bates Troy cleaned 1,244 donated coats which represents a \$18,660 value (retail). In addition the Knights of Columbus donated 72 brand new coats. All of the coats were given out to community families in need. We are very grateful to have such a generous and supportive community.

We look forward to another successful event this fall!

Our Offices

24 Cherry Street
Johnson City (607) 723-8313

Carlisle (BHA)
150 Moeller Street
Binghamton (607) 238-7119

Chenango County Offices
21 South Broad Street
Norwich (607) 373-3555

Children's Courthouse Center
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton (607) 240-5818

Fayette Street
29 Fayette Street Binghamton (607) 723-8313

Horace Mann School
30 College Street
Binghamton (607) 762-6026

Saratoga (BHA)
35 Felters Road, Bldg. 16
Binghamton (607) 237-0676

Woodrow Wilson School
287 Prospect Street
Binghamton (607) 797-2110

Tioga County
1277 Taylor Road
Owego (607) 687-6721

Waverly
12 Cooper Street
Waverly (607) 565-7149

Newark Valley
117 Whig Street
Newark Valley (607) 354-3102

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