ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20
Mosholu Montefiore Community Center
A Frontline Agency!
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends,

We have learned so much about ourselves as an agency in the past few months. Life has tested us many times, but true to form, we continued to rise above the challenges. We saw ourselves in the eyes of a community reeling from the ravages of COVID-19. Amid the pain and suffering, neighborhoods across our country ignited with protest against racial injustice. The rallying cry was deafening as thousands amplified their voices against the societal inequities that have been pervasive in our society for centuries. The Black Lives Movement was at the forefront showing the world that a fair and equitable system for all is the only solution to eradicating these issues.

As a nonprofit, we are using our platform to create changes and build partnerships that will have a lasting impact on our communities. Our staff increased social services resources like our food pantry to help thousands of families in dire need. The MMCC Board of Directors created new coalitions to address these social inequities. They are working in conjunction with staff to develop and implement these initiatives. We received help from foundations and organizations like USA through EAP (Emergency Cash Assistance Program), which provided financial aid to undocumented workers and their families. Donations and grant monies came from Grub Hub, Fresh Direct, The Boys & Girls Club, and the Butler Foundation... to name a few. Their philanthropic support demonstrated their belief in the work that we continue to do for the community without fail. The various MMCC departments and programs, like the Childhood Development Center, Camp, SYEP, Compass, and Cornerstone created innovative online classes to help keep our younger kids engaged.

Despite the level of uncertainty and upheaval, we never shuttered our doors. We met the needs of constituents with compassion, patience, and grace. Our staff’s altruistic philosophy embodied our core values of integrity, kindness, and community. We also managed to open our camp safely and provide kids with a pleasant environment where they could spend their summers.

The common denominator throughout this entire ordeal is our commitment to those we serve. In the past seven decades, we have seen world wars, economic hardships, and social unrest, but nothing has tested our faith and resilience more than the COVID-19 pandemic. In this edition of the annual report, we chronicle how our agency stood firm in the face of adversity and found a new source of strength.

Through this work, we are honoring our founders, who exhibited strength and courage amid war. Although our struggle is with an unseen opponent, we are fighting with the same vigor and determination that kept our agency thriving for 78 years. We look to the next chapter with hope as we stand together as a human family to meet the challenges and strive for a better tomorrow.

With gratitude,

Robert W. Weiss
President

Rita Santelia, LMSW
Chief Executive Officer

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO
MMCC Board of Directors

Honorary Chairperson
Robert Moore, III

President
Robert M. Weiss

Vice-President
Arthur Rubinstein

Secretary
David Ehrlich

Treasurer
Jennifer Cuccaro

President & CEO
Rita Santelia, LMSW

MMCC – Board of Directors

Umbrella Organizations

Boys & Girls Club of America
Human Service Council
USA-Federation of New York

United Neighborhood Houses of Greater NY

Corporations and Foundations

1,199 Hospital Workers Union
Child Care Berkshire Taxic Community Fund
Best Buy

Center for Children’s Initiatives

Charles Hayden Foundation
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Com Ed, Inc.

J.E. & J.B. Butler Foundation

Lifetime Arts

Montefiore Health System

Montefiore Information Technology

Steven Wilson

The Hyde and Watson Foundation

The Kornblau Family Foundation

The Pinkerton Foundation

Government Agencies

Human Services – Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

NYC Department for Aging

NYC Department of Consumer Affairs

NYC Department of Education

NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

NYC Human Resources Administration – Department of Social Services

NYC Department of Children & Family Services

NYC Department of Labor

NYC Dormitory Authority

United States Department of Health

United States Federal Government – Head Start and No Child Left Behind

Leaders

Assembly Member Carl E. Heastie
Assemblywoman Nathalia Fernandez
Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Congressman Eliot Engel

Congressman Adriano Espaillat
Council Member Andrew Cohen
Council Member Mark Gjonaj

Council Member Andy King

Council Member Ritchie Torres

Council Member Ruben Diaz, Sr.

Mayor Bill de Blasio

NYS Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz

NYS Assemblyman Michael Benedetto

NYS Senator Michael Gianaris

NYS Senator Jamil Bailey

NYS Senator Alessandra Biaggi

Funders

MMCC is grateful to all of our funders and donors whose generous gifts make a difference in the lives of our Bronx and Manhattan residents

Governments

1199 Hospital Workers Union Child Care

Berkshire Taxic Community Fund

Best Buy

Child Care for Food Program (CACFP)

Com Ed, Inc.

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Child Development Center

Afterschool Program

Boys & Girls Club

College Bound/Family Choice

Workforce Development

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MISSION
Our MISSION at MMCC is to improve the lives of Bronx and Manhattan residents through humanitarian efforts. We reach out to a rich tapestry of cultures, opening gateways to success in our quality programs and services. We help the individuals we serve build self-confidence and self-sufficiency.

VISION
Our VISION at MMCC is to ignite new pathways of growth and expansion through our commitment to humanity, equity, and diversity. The proven methods in our services and programs help our individual clients flourish and grow.

CORE VALUES
We deliver the services we have promised, doing business with transparency and consistency. Our relationships with one another and with our clients are based on honesty, trust and accountability.

INTEGRITY
COMMUNITY/FAMILY
KINDNESS/ COMPASSION
GROWTH

BUILDING COMMUNITIES ONE LIFE AT A TIME
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Since day one of this global health crisis, MMCC has been on the front lines providing critical services to support our community in need. COVID-19 has impacted our communities in ways that we could have never imagined. In a matter of a few weeks, 30 million people had filed for unemployment. Many were depending on food pantries like ours to feed their families.

Through donations, we provided over 1,000 families a week with emergency food relief through our pantry. We used Google Classroom, Google Hangouts and Zoom to provide job readiness training, career exploration, Servsafe certification, high school equivalency classes, adult basic education classes, and provide information about resources, health and wellness, and keep our youth engaged and connected.

We served over 400 preschoolers with remote learning to prepare them for Kindergarten.

We kept our Afterschool children engaged with live streamed enrichment classes, incredible instructor-led videos, and all kinds of digital events.

MMCC answered the call for help!

**GRANTS & LOANS AWARDED**

- **Boys & Club Foundation** - $25,000
- **Butler Foundation Food Pantry** - $25,000
- **Cleveland Dodge Foundation** - $10,000
- **Coca-Cola Foundation** - $40,000
- **GrubHub** - $50,000
- **Grub Hub Boys & Girls Club Metro Queens** - $30,000
- **Hayden Foundation** - $100,000
- **Head Start COVID19 Supplemental Fund** - $163,160
- **Lewises Boys & Girls Club** - $15,000
- **Metro PCS Boys & Girls Club** - $25,000
- **New Yorkers Foundation** - $15,000
- **NFF NY Community Trust Grant** - $150,000
- **NFF NY Community Trust Loan** - $750,000
- **Perrigo Charitable Foundation** - $15,000
- **Roben Hood Foundation** - $45,000
- **George Stainman Family Foundation** - $5,000
- **Test & Trace Grant** - $200,000
- **UJA Dance Grant** - $7,000
- **UJA Dance Program** - $15,000
- **UJA ECAP** - $190,000
- **UJA Foundation** - $150,000

**TOTAL: $2,165,160**
Summer 2020 presented an unprecedented challenge in providing camp to our participants. While planning took place before New York State issued clearance to even open camp, our staff worked tirelessly in creating systems that offered a safe and COVID-free environment. Once given clearance to open, Mosholu Day Camp was the first camp in Orange County to receive a permit. It became the only camp in New York State to run without interruption for 8 consecutive weeks, and provided a summer filled with fun and laughter for over 200 children. Parents have been incredibly thankful that their children had the opportunity to participate in camp and were thrilled with the precautions that were put in place to allow their children the chance to experience activities like swimming, boating, climbing, archery and sports.

MOSHOLU DAY CAMP
Located on beautiful Lake Cohasset, Mosholu Day Camp enrolls girls and boys entering grades K-6. This camp offers affordable fees and serves families from the Bronx, Manhattan, Westchester, Rockland, and Putman Counties.

EXPLORER DAY CAMP
This site, on Upper Twin Lake, serves our COMPASS and SONYC children from our DYCD-funded afterschool program and voucher campers. The facility has a large multi-purpose building, a beautiful waterfront, a huge field for archery and sports, as well as a theater and many small buildings that house a variety of camp activities.

TEEN ADVENTURES
The perfect combination of a travel camp, sports camp, arts camp and traditional sleepaway, our Teen Adventures Camp offers our oldest campers a great summer experience. Trips throughout the summer take teens to the area’s best water parks and adventure venues. Teens learn horseback riding, rock climbing, canoeing, and much more from professional trainers. Teens experience sleeping under the stars during camp sleepovers, as well as an extended 3-day trip.

CAMP SUNSHINE & SUNSHINE TEENS
For special needs children
Our fully mainstreamed program is designed for youngsters who demonstrate developmental disabilities and/or are limited in their social/emotional growth. We provide services to children with a range of classifications/diagnoses: Learning Disability, Speech and Language Disability, Asperger Syndrome, Pervasive Development Disorder (PDD-NOS), Autism (mild to moderate), Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Downs Syndrome and Intellectual Disability (mild to moderate).

This inclusive program is designed to address the needs of the camper by providing a small camper-to-counselor ratio. The children are integrated into the appropriate group setting and have the opportunity to participate in all camp activities. We work with parents and campers to encourage and support social and emotional goals.

Funded by Council Member Andrew Cohen
PREPARING FOR SUCCESS
The ultimate goals of the Child Development Center (CDC) of Mosholu Montefiore Community Center (MMCC) are to prepare children for cognitive, physical, and social-emotional success in Kindergarten and beyond; support their families in responding to their educational and developmental needs; and provide the information and services families in the community need to become self-sufficient. Success will mean that: 1) children have the foundational knowledge and skills to become lifelong learners in Kindergarten and beyond; 2) families are empowered to advocate for their children and be active partners who extend learning into the home; 3) families are self-sufficient, and, 4) staff grow professionally, feel supported and valued. We know that an ongoing commitment to learning is crucial for a successful program. We therefore emphasize and implement ongoing professional development for our staff members and support them in their professional and personal needs.

A CURRICULUM FOR ALL CHILDREN
To accomplish these goals, we provide children with opportunities for higher order thinking and problem solving. This includes art, music/movement, science, math, block play, social studies, reading, writing, dramatic and physical play, and field trips. Activities are based on observing children’s interests and developmental assessments, as well as health, family background/culture, learning style, attitudes, and abilities. Learning environment and curricula are designed to meet the developmental needs of all children, including children with special needs. Our curriculum is Creative Curriculum. We utilize Brigance to screen the children and Teaching Strategies GOLD to assess their development and progress three times a year.

WE ENGAGE FAMILIES
CDC also believes that engaging families as partners is the key to achieving our goals for our children and their families. We engage families through workshops, parent-teacher conferences, volunteer and decision-making (Policy Council) opportunities, a fatherhood program, family goal setting, and community events. We extend learning from school to home by providing parents and children with meaningful home activities. As part of MMCC, CDC is also able to connect families to a wide range of additional support services, including day care, afterschool, education and employment programs for young adults/older adults, benefit screenings, senior programs, and food stamp enrollment. We are a “one stop shop” for quality community-based services for both children and families. At CDC, family comes first.

Child Development Center

Child Development Center is NAEYC Accredited Early Learning Program

“During the pandemic, the learning kit was great and Carla continues to learn! The school is wonderful...so much support for my child and me. I appreciate everything!”

Child Development Center

7 8

We serve 401 children onsite & remotely during COVID-19

We serve 399 families

We serve 42 children with special needs served

We serve 2 new head start centers added
Afterschool Programs

AFTERSCHOOL
Kindergarten-5th grade - 1,400 elementary school children were cared for at the MMCC main building and local elementary schools. The programs meet from the end of the school day until 6pm. We keep young people safe and engaged!

Children are served through a combination of fee-for-service, vouchers from the Agency for Child Development, and other funding sources. Children with special needs are welcome in the afterschool program. Admission is based on intake interviews and specific criteria.

COMPASS/SONYC
MMCC provides afterschool programming for more than 2,700 elementary and middle school children. We manage 18 sites, operating year-round with a total of $8.7 million in funding.

Funded by NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

EMPIRE STATE
Funded through the state initiative, MMCC provides afterschool care for approximately 400 elementary and middle school students.

CORNERSTONE PROGRAMS NYC HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA)
MMCC operates 8 NYCHA community centers in the Bronx and Manhattan. The program serves more than 3,000 elementary, middle, and high school students in afterschool and evening programming that provides teens with arts, sports, lounge and game rooms, fitness and weight rooms, and young adults with GED and ESL services.

Funded by NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

BEACON PROGRAMS
We operate 3 Beacon Youth Centers in our community, serving more than 5,000 participants. Facilities are instrumental in keeping young people safe, as they are open Monday through Friday afternoons and evenings, as well as Saturdays. Beacon provides academic, leadership, and sports programming, as well as the MMCC College Bound Success program.

Funded by NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

virtual activities uploaded to youtube during COVID-19
MMCC operates Boys & Girls Clubs that are free to the community. The clubs offer sports, game rooms, art, cooking, computer, homework help, performing arts, and educational classes.

MMCC Boys & Girls Club programs are committed to providing teens with a safe place to learn and grow. Teens build relationships with caring adult professionals and participate in life-enhancing programs and character-developing experiences that foster hope and opportunity. Our Boys & Girls Club program serves more than 2,700 children and teens each year.

In 2019-2020, MMCC managed 7 Boys and Girls Clubs in the Bronx.

- AmPark Boys & Girls Club
  Amalgamated Houses, 130 Gale Place
  Bronx, NY

- MMCC Boys & Girls Club
  3450 Dekalb Avenue, Bronx, NY

- Co-op City Boys & Girls Club
  141 Einstein Loop, Bronx, NY

- Parkchester Boys & Girls Club
  2051 St. Raymonds Avenue, Bronx, NY

- Edenwald Boys & Girls Club
  110E. 229th Street, Bronx, NY

- Beacon B6
  2756 Reservoir Avenue, Bronx, NY

- Baychester Club
  1220 E. 229 Street, Bronx, NY

COLLEGE BOUND FAMILY CHOICE

COLLEGE BOUND PROGRAM
The College Bound Program helps high school students learn about college choices, narrow down programs, fill out applications, apply for financial aid, receive professional counseling and visit colleges. Each year over 700 students and their families are helped by the Center.

MARIE CURIE HIGH SCHOOL FOR NURSING & ALLIED MEDICAL PROFESSIONS
Now in its 10th year, our very successful school serves students in grades 8-12. The school presently has 500 students. We continue to have a high school graduation rate of 88%.

FAMILY CHOICE
MMCC Family Choice program supports life-enhancing opportunities and counseling for the at-risk and underserved, focusing on 100 special needs students and their families by providing:

- Individual support to families with the middle and high school application process, which includes finding the appropriate setting for families and their child.

- Conducting workshops for families, which include establishing connections and outside services, understanding their child’s IEP, standardized test, and the high school selection process.

- Information to parents about student rights.

Funded by the NYC Department of Education and the J.E. & Z.E. Butler Foundation.

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Funded by the J.E. & Z.E. Butler Foundation.
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

LEARN & EARN
IN-SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAM
Assisted 56 low-income high school youth with career development and vocational training skills to help enter the workforce through career exploration, internships, and job placement.

TRAIN & EARN
OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAM
Assisted 75 young adults who are unemployed and out-of-school, to enter the workforce. Includes a culinary training program and advanced training opportunities in CUNY schools.

INTERN & EARN
Served 155 out-of-school 17-24 year olds with counseling, job training, career development, vocational skills, and paid internships.

HSE (GED) NEW OPTIONS PROGRAM
Prepared 150 students for the TASC test to obtain their high school equivalency diploma (HSE).

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (STEP)
Enrolled approximately 2,185 youth participants (New York City best) in more than 200 job locations throughout the Bronx and Manhattan. Participants, ages 14-21, learned about the world of work while earning minimum wage, working 20-25 hours per week for 6 weeks. YMHC youths worked for every major hospital in the Bronx, nursing homes, police precincts, the NYS courts, NYC probation systems, various day camps/child care, and fast food locations such as Burger King, and McDonalds.

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH
Provided 46 young adults, ages 18-24, who are neither enrolled in school nor employed, with a 14-week paid internship in Neighborhood Development Areas (NDA) numbers 7 and 8.

NDA EDUCATION SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
Provided 23 high school students with academic intervention, social, and academic supportive services.

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA) PROGRAM
Through a partnership with Hostos Community College Continuing Education Department, we are able to serve 30 students annually, ages 18-24, who are interested in a career in the health industry. Due to COVID-19, we only served 18 students because we had to shut down in March.

All programs listed above were funded by NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

Funded by the NYC Department of Labor

75 students in new DYCD Advance & Earn program
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SENIOR CENTERS
MMCC operates 3 senior programs for well, older adults (age 60+). These locations are MMCC’s main building, Marble Hill Houses, and Fort Independence. The programs serve more than 1,300 seniors. In addition to lunch, members enjoy socialization, classes in art, drama, crafts, current events, social action, book discussion, technology, fitness, friendship clubs, and trips to fun and interesting places.

Senior centers also provide case assistance for entitlements and support services.

Funded by NYC Department for the Aging, Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz, City Council Member Andrew Cohen, Council Member Ydanis Rodriquez and State Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz

HEALTHY FAMILIES
The Healthy Families program design combines our philosophical commitment to youth development principles and an assets/strength-based approach with case management practices to help individuals and families address their needs and overcome barriers and poverty. MMCC uses the expertise of our staff and the resources of our agency and its partners to build on each client’s strengths and empower them to get the benefits and services they need. In our second contract year, we served more than 350 families.

Funded by NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

CORNERSTONES
Cornerstones are in NYCHA housing developments and provide the community with afterschool, teen/adult evening and Saturday programs.

Bronx Locations
Edenwald Cornerstone
Boston Secor Cornerstone
Marble Hill Cornerstone
Gun Hill Cornerstone
Fort Independence Cornerstone
Parkside Cornerstone
Pelham Parkway Cornerstone

Manhattan Location
Grant House

Funded by NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

BEACON YOUTH CENTERS
Beacons are in NYCDOE schools and provide the community with afterschool, teen/adult evening and Saturday programs.

Beacon 8
Evander Childs Campus Beacon
Beacon 86

Funded by NYC Department of Youth & Community Development

14 cornerstones, beacons & senior centers set up food pantries during COVID-19
SPORTS & ENRICHMENT

SATURDAY ACADEMY
Saturday enrichment classes are one of MMCC’s most popular programs and are always seeking new and innovative enrichment programs to add to its curriculum. There are three 8-week sessions.

Children enjoy classes that include: gymnastics, ballet, musical theatre, art, ceramics, music (vocals, guitar, piano), design, computer skills, coding, healthy cooking, and sports (basketball, baseball, karate, gymnastics, soccer).

TAEDWON-DO SCHOOL
MMCC’s martial arts program offers boys and girls a fun way to achieve fitness and focus, while learning self-discipline and socialization skills. Participants start out as beginners and earn belts as they progress.

BASEBALL
The MMCC baseball program went through some changes and prioritized learning and loving the game. This year, about 100 children, ages 4-10, had a chance to play and develop their skills, and learn about teamwork.

SWIMMING
Through a cooperative arrangement with the Lombardi Swim Center at Fordham University, 700 children learned how to swim! Classes are held on Saturdays and Sundays, with an adult learn-to-swim class on Wednesday nights.
SUPPORT SERVICES

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)
Our SNAP professional assists clients with the red tape associated with the food stamp program. We screened 2,214 potential clients, and 610 eligible households received SNAP benefits.
This program has been welcomed at the center by the community and seniors who cannot travel to the Human Resource Administration offices.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGE S (ESOL)
MMCC believes that adult education is vital to our community. Our Adult ESOL Education program focuses on education and citizenship. Classes are offered in English as a Second Language (ESL) and Civics to help immigrants become United States citizens. The ESOL programs serve more than 300 adults each year and is located in our main building and at four satellite sites.

IMMIGRANT LEGAL SERVICES
On Wednesdays from 10am-5pm, MMCC provides an attorney specializing in immigrant services to assist and guide individuals through the myriad of paperwork and processes needed by immigrants in our community. Last year we serviced 302 individuals.

VITA/TCE VOLUNTEER TAX PREPARATION
Individuals and families that qualify can receive NYC Free Tax Prep assistance from an IRS-certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer. In 2019-20, we helped prepare 2,877 tax returns.

OPEN TENT (UJA Initiative)
In partnership with the PiazzaStealthy Community Synagogue (PCS), in Westchester County, this program engages community members who are often underrepresented in the broader Jewish community and looking for places where their needs can be met through a unique lens. Our goal is to seek out traditional and non-traditional Jewish individuals and families, who identify as interfaith or LGBTQ+ — reflective of our mission to seek out the underserved and multicultural groups to build acceptance. This year we were able to offer 11 events and serviced over 40 interfaith and LGBTQ+ families.

DOVE (Domestic and other Violence Emergencies)
DOVE program design combines our philosophical commitment to asset, strength-based approach with case management practices to help individuals and families address their needs and overcome barriers of poverty and violence. The objective is to combat violence by providing services and referrals. The program works alongside our Healthy Families and this year we were able to serve over 20 families.

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