

Annual Programmatic Report

2008-2009



The Committee for Hispanic
Children and Families, Inc.

Since 1982, **The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc.** has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for Latino children and their families. Believing that the most effective way to serve Latino families is by building upon their existing strengths and fostering self-sufficiency, CHCF provides a number of programs and services to the community through Youth Development programs and an Early Care and Education Institute.

Grounded in its direct services, CHCF is active in the local, state, and national policy arenas around issues of child welfare, early care, education, and the well-being of Latino children. We combine education and advocacy for Latino children and families to expand opportunities, amplify our voice and create shared prosperity for all Americans.



Dear Friends,

At The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families (CHCF), we believe that if you work hard, live with integrity and serve others, anything is possible. More than ever, the success of our country is tied to the success of the Latino community. That's why we combine education and advocacy for Latino children and families to expand opportunities, amplify our voice and promote participation that strengthens our communities.

We expand opportunity for Latino children and families by providing access to education, child care and health resources. We offer programs that reflect our community's culture and engage the community where they live, work, play and pray in a way that is respectful of their heritage. Believing that strong children start with strong families, we focus on the well-being of whole families and build cohesive, self-sufficient families that take pride in their personal successes, participate fully in society and help improve our community. We understand that in order to truly achieve prosperity, the Latino community needs both expanded opportunities and a voice to represent their unique needs and aspirations. Therefore, we amplify the voice of the Latino community by shaping policy and promoting full civic participation.

As Executive Director of CHCF, I am very proud of what we have accomplished this past year, and I am happy to share with you this Annual Programmatic Report where you will see the highlights of our work in 2008-2009.

Despite the national financial crisis, I am very proud to say that CHCF maintained the high quality of direct services and policy work that we have been providing since 1982. We also exceeded our March 2009 gala fundraising goal, developed a 5 year strategic plan, and created a new branding and messaging platform for the organization.

However, none of this would have been possible without the generosity of our supporters. I'd like to extend my deepest gratitude to our foundation, government, and corporate funders, as well as our individual donors. Thank you for investing in the future of Latino children and families and contributing to a stronger, healthier, more prosperous Latino community.

I would also like to thank our Board of Directors, Corporate Advisory Board, and Young Professionals Group. Their expertise, diligence and commitment to CHCF has brought us countless opportunities and allowed us to serve the Latino community in an effective and meaningful way. I also am very grateful for our invaluable staff who make all our work possible.

By 2050, one in five people living in the United States will be Latino. Please continue to join us in educating and providing opportunities for the growing number of Latino families because when we succeed, America succeeds, and we can all thrive together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elba Montalvo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Elba Montalvo

SUMMARY



Over the past 27 years, the Latino community has grown, and CHCF has grown with it. Committed to improving the lives of Latino children and families, CHCF will continue to be part of the success of the growing Latino community.

Built on a foundation of policy and advocacy, CHCF provides Latino communities with an active policy voice in critical areas of need—child welfare and early care and education. CHCF’s Latino Family Policy Center (LFPC) has become an important advocate for the human, civil, and economic rights of Latino children and families. It is through our LFPC that we amplify the voice of the Latino community by influencing policy in New York and by promoting our community’s full civic participation.

CHCF’s policy work is informed by its direct experiences in our services to Latino families, as well as a host of public forums, coalitions, advocacy days and community conversations. This work raises public awareness and engages the community. On behalf of this community, we reach out to policymakers and other stakeholders to address issues and implement policies in support of the well-being of Latinos. In an effort to make sure the voice of our community is heard, we participate in the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, the Governor’s Children’s Cabinet Advisory Council, the Sub-Committee on Children with Incarcerated Parents, and the Human Services Council. This year, CHCF also joined other organizations to restore human services programs in city and state budgets.

Though we faced a national financial crisis and deficits which threatened essential human services and led to significant budget cuts in programs this year, CHCF continued to add to its list of accomplishments. Notwithstanding the current economic downturn, CHCF served approximately **10,657** persons in early care services, youth development, family health education, and civic engagement between October 2008 and September 2009.

We have successfully begun implementing CHCF’s Strategic Plan by continuing to embed policy work within programmatic areas, thus enhancing the synergy between programs and policy. The LFPC works closely with CHCF’s Early Care and Education Institute and Youth Development Programs by collaborating on several projects to provide the best services in the community. The relationship between the Development Department, Policy, and Youth Development continued to grow this year, as we strived together to secure funding and advocate for the needs of the Latino community. CHCF’s Board, Executive Director and Depu-

ty Directors are committed to increasing fundraising efforts by diversifying the funding base, expanding the corporate and foundation outreach and implementing a targeted individual donor fundraising strategy.

In Early Care Services, we reached the mandated milestones under the New York State contract. Building on our many years of experience in training child care providers, we created The Early Care and Education Institute. Funding from Wal-Mart made possible the development of a broader early care and education curricula. The Institute expanded the trainings offered by including classes in professional development, as well as business management courses, tailored specifically for child care providers that serve Latino and low-income children in New York City. CHCF also continues to be an active member of the New York City Child Care Resource & Referral Consortium.

In Youth Development, we received funds for Focus Forward, a credit recovery, college readiness program that complemented the work of CHCF's Drop-Out Prevention Program at Christopher Columbus High School in the Bronx, New York. We have continued the Safe Alternatives for Family Enrichment (SAFE) program, a mental health intervention program which enhances the work of our Drop-Out Prevention Program at PS 333/335, and which was extended to run until December 31, 2009. In addition, we received funding from the NBC Universal Foundation for our project called Opening Doors to the Future (Abriendo Puertas al Futuro). This project compliments the Responsible Fatherhood Initiative by providing internships, as well as additional workshops, trips, and experiences geared towards educating the young father participating in the program on the various options for life after high school.

This year, CHCF's Manager of Data Collection and Evaluation has collected and analyzed data to evaluate our programmatic functions, thereby advancing our efforts to develop model programs and best practices, and to quantify our accomplishments, achievements and outcomes. In addition to the internal evaluation of our programmatic functions, CHCF's fiscal operations have been evaluated by Charity Navigator resulting in a third four-star rating from this national evaluator of charities. CHCF has also received "accredited charity" status from the Better Business Bureau. Through evaluation, CHCF has the capacity of showing the impact of our important work and opening the doors to more funding sources.

We thank our staff, our Board, volunteers, donors and supporters for believing in CHCF's mission and enabling us to continue building a strong future for Latino families.

This report summarizes our activities and accomplishments during the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



The educational support services CHCF provides to our youth in the Bronx are the groundwork of our education policy agenda. By respecting and honoring the diversity of Latino cultures and advocating for the use of children’s home language in educational activities,

CHCF’s youth development programs, for youth from K to 12, provide enriching learning experiences and sources of growth and academic support. Our dedication to increasing the academic achievement of youth is shown through a supportive and nurturing environment. Our holistic approach allows all families to be healthy, achieve economic independence and contribute to thriving, prosperous communities.

To attest to the joint efforts between policy and youth development, the first Policy Brief topic was *Parental Involvement*, which is a critical subject for the education of Latino youth in New York City’s public school system. Latino parents **want** their children to succeed in school but barriers, such as language, an unwelcoming environment, and working non-traditional hours, prevent effective parental participation in school affairs. Also CHCF’s Latino Family Policy Center organized a Youth Development staff focus group to collect opinions on issues affecting Latino families in the schools in Bronx County, such as poverty, inadequate housing, food insecurity and poor education.

In addition to providing after-school activities, attendance improvement and counseling in school settings, our youth development programs address issues facing youth today, including sexual health issues, teen pregnancy, responsible fatherhood and career building. We also motivate them to be leaders and strong advocates of issues affecting Latinos.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

**A TOTAL OF
635 STUDENTS
SERVED
(GRADES K-8TH)**



CHCF provides a wide array of services focused on the well-being of families. Through our after school programs, we offer comprehensive resources to promote the nurturing of children and contribute to their academic success by providing homework help, literacy and math instruction, arts enrichment, and sports and exercise. Our programs are funded by

The After School Corporation (TASC), New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), and the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

We believe that strong children start with strong families. We create opportunities that engage the whole families. In this way, we build cohesive, self-sufficient families that take pride in their personal successes and their culture, participate fully in society and help improve our community.

At PS 306, our staff engaged 50 parents in parent/child game nights. The activities were designed to encourage parents and children to spend quality time together.

Our program at PS 59 is recognized for its emphasis on the arts. This year, CHCF obtained funds from the Robert Bowne Foundation to implement the Family Literacy Program. Forty-two participants, which included students and their families, wrote and illustrated books telling their family stories. These families met every Saturday morning, as early as 8:30 am, for a total of 12 weeks to work on their books. Parents in this program all said that they were motivated to participate in the program because of the opportunity to spend more time with their children. They also enjoyed the actual creation of the book and appreciated the emphasis on reading.

At PS/MS 279, the program shifted its focus to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. CHCF offered several enhancements such as a Criminal Science Investigating (CSI) component through the New York Hall of

Science and the 4H-Wonderwise component, which encourages girls to pursue education and careers related to science. The principal of the school credited CHCF's after school program in helping the children increase their science scores.

CHCF provides opportunities for communities to voice opinions, foster collaboration and build a sense of unity. With the collaboration of CHCF's policy staff, we are encouraging parents and students to advocate by helping them draft letters in support of funding for PS/MS 279 After-School Program. The Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Community Walk at PS/MS 279 took place in honor of Mothers' Day and drew together over 250 participants, including students, parents and community residents.

DROP-OUT PREVENTION PROGRAMS



CHCF provides high school Drop-Out Prevention Programs so our community's youth can make informed decisions about their education and lead successful adult lives. CHCF Drop-Out Prevention Programs provided individual and group counseling, attendance monitoring, parental involvement and home visits, and youth development activities. Our four (4) Drop-Out Prevention Programs at Columbus High School, PS 333, PS 335 and MS 391 continued to be recognized as being among the most effective in the city in improving attendance and involving families. These programs are funded by the United Way of New York City.

Students in Christopher Columbus High School, when asked about what they liked the most about the program, expressed: "That we get an extra push to come to school and that they [CHCF's Staff] keep us grounded".

CHCF enhanced the Drop-Out Prevention Program at PS 333/335 with a program called Safe Alternatives for Family Enrichment (SAFE) funded by the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). This enhancement provides more intensive assessment and referrals for children and families identified as being in need of additional support and services. Through activities such as Circles of Support, we created safe forums for honest discussions on hopes, needs, aspirations and successes. Circles of Support are non-traditional support groups.

**A TOTAL OF 703
STUDENTS AND
FAMILIES WERE
SERVED
(GRADES K-12TH)**

The Drop-Out Prevention Program at PS 333/335 was able to increase attendance for 70% of the students enrolled in the program. However, the program's impact on a child's life went beyond increasing attendance rates, as this student explains: *"I changed how I express myself. Before, I used to keep everything inside of me and it was eating me up. Then the CAPS program [Drop-Out Prevention Program] picked me up, and I started expressing myself and my inside started growing. I felt like me again and now I feel like I can conquer anything"*.

The Circles of Support program successfully helped all participants form friendships amongst each other, reduce feelings of distress and learn different stress relief techniques. One participant expressed that the program helped her increase her ability to communicate and relax:

"I used to be very closed. I didn't trust anyone enough to talk to them, much less to a lot of people. Here I have learned to let loose. I feel that it has bettered me as a person. I was very impulsive. I have tried to calm myself because it's not easy. I have learned to talk about things, before I didn't have, I don't know, the capacity, to understand and react. I used to do things and that was it. Not here. Here I have learned."

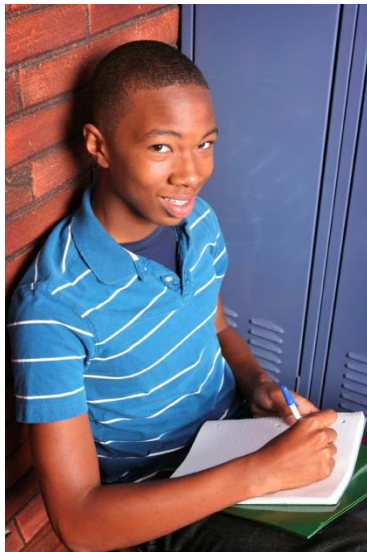
Our Drop-Out Prevention Program at MS 391 again surpassed the required number of students and families to be served. During the Culminating Event, 88 students were honored for their dramatic improvements in attendance and academic work. Over 75 parents attended the event, with many expressing their gratitude for the work CHCF had done with their children. Moreover, the program increased quarterly attendance rates in 66% of the students. Students in the program have talked about how the program helped them realize their priorities: *"I had a bad time with teachers; I used to not do my homework. CAPS [Drop-Out Prevention Program] helped me realize that it's important to do my homework, if I want to be someone in life"*.

At Columbus High School, CHCF's Drop-Out Prevention Program continued its work with over 110 students. This year, CHCF obtained funds from the United Way of New York City for Focus Forward, a credit recovery, college readiness program. This program complemented the work of the Drop-Out Prevention Program by giving students the opportunity to obtain credits, enhance their writing skills, and explore their options for life after high school. Students also valued the opportunity to gain extra school credits in the Focus Forward program and that the program

“helped me pass the English Regents by improving my skills with essays and paying attention and reading more carefully.”

As in previous years, CHCF offered The Healthy Living Summer Program, funded by The Aetna Foundation. The program was created with a deep understanding of our diverse Latino population and uses Latino traditions to teach healthier habits for cooking meals. In addition, CHCF staff engaged adults, teens, and children in facilitated supervised physical activities to promote regular exercise. Parents expressed their appreciation at having learned so much about nutrition in areas that were new to them, such as nutrients, protein, fats, and sugars, and portion control.

THE RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE



CHCF provides training and support needed to be successful and self-sufficient. In its third year, the Responsible Fatherhood Program, geared toward fathers, fathers to be, and/or father figures, continued to provide workshops designed to develop and improve necessary skills for young men to graduate from high school and lead successful adult lives. This program is funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with The Puerto Rican Family Institute.

Young men in the program said that “This education gives more of a sense of responsibility for our lives”; and that the program coordinator “makes it comfortable to talk to somebody”, which is important to them because “physically, you want someone that’s there, that you can see that oh yeah, he’s been through what I’ve been through. And he’s doing something good, something positive.”

As a testament to CHCF’s dedication to providing educational opportunities, we obtained funding from the NBC Universal Foundation for a new initiative, Opening Doors to the Future (Abriendo Puertas al Futuro). This project is an enhancement to the Responsible Fatherhood Initiative and provides the comprehensive enrichment our young men need to be confident and successful at school, at work and in the community.

**A TOTAL OF 75
STUDENTS WERE
SERVED
(GRADES 9TH-12TH)**

ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAM

A TOTAL OF **1,205**
STUDENTS SERVED
(GRADES 6-12TH)



CHCF is committed to providing youth with the tools they need to make informed decisions about their health. In its fourth year of a five year contract with the New York State Department of Health, the CHCF's Adolescent Pregnancy

Prevention Program continued to provide individual and group sessions, youth development activities, and a peer educators program. Students are trained as peers and form a student leadership team which is invested in promoting a healthy, diverse and informed student community.

As part of the Adolescent Pregnancy Program at the Walton Educational Campus and MS 391, the Young Men's Accountability groups continued to be in high demand. These groups engage young men in dialogues on male responsibility, decision making, and healthy relationships. The topics discussed create awareness in the participants that advance the goals of the program. Like Circles of Support, this is another way in which CHCF creates forums for open discussions on real issues affecting our youth and families, as well as promoting the well being of children, combating domestic violence and gender and sexual violence. We spotlight major challenges and teach teens how to rise above them.

More than anything, students valued learning about their rights and resources and having the opportunity to form a relationship with an adult who respects them. Two students explained:

"Thanks to this I feel like I have an upper hand. You feel like you have resources now, like to go to adults now. Before, you felt young, and you could go on the internet but it's still like, ok, this is in Queens, and you live in the Bronx. Now you have an adult that can talk to other adults and has connections."

"I have a lot of support, with Joseph [Program Coordinator], that I can go somewhere when I have a problem that I have adults to talk to now."

CHCF provides the education and opportunities youth need. In collaboration with the Institute for Culinary Education (ICE) and celebrity chef, Daisy Martinez, CHCF initiated its third Annual Chef Contest. This competition represents an opportunity for students interested in the culinary arts to showcase their talents and skills in the kitchen and meet celebrity chefs dedicated to supporting emerging talent in their field.

Yamilka Santana, a student at the International School of Liberal Arts (ISLA), at the Walton Educational Campus in the Bronx, won the grand prize this year: a half tuition scholarship to ICE, valued at \$15,000, and was honored at CHCF's Annual Gala.

FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION



CHCF engages the community where they live, work, play and pray in a way that is respectful to their heritage. Our staff not only understands the diverse Latino population, but also represents our community's culture. CHCF's Proyecto Gol, funded by New York State Department of Health - AIDS Institute, provided HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention education services through visiting Latin

American consulates, distributing safer sex kits, providing workshops in schools and referrals for HIV testing.

**A TOTAL OF 250
PEOPLE WERE
SERVED**

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

**A TOTAL OF 146
PEOPLE ATTENDED
CIVICS CLASSES,
27 COMPLETED
APPLICATIONS,
20 PASSED THE
CITIZENSHIP TEST**



CHCF inspires the Latino community to be active members of our community. Our civic education and citizenship classes teach Latinos about the democratic process, the importance of active citizenship and ways to serve the community.

CHCF assisted immigrants in realizing their dream of becoming United States citizens by helping them complete and file the N-400 applications and ensuring that they meet citizenship requirements in both English language proficiency and knowledge of American history and government. CHCF participated in a voter registration drive in partnership with the Hispanic Federation, helping Latinos complete voter registration forms. Currently, CHCF is collaborating with the Census Bureau and the National Institute for Latino Policy so that Latinos in New York are not excluded in the 2010 Census.

THE EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION INSTITUTE

From Child Care Services to Early Care and Education Institute

CHCF Child Care Services has undergone a transformation process, including a name change and is now called the *Early Care and Education Institute*. This new name represents our commitment to improving the quality of Latino children's early care and education and the professional and leadership development of early care educators and parents.

The Institute has implemented new program strategies to increase its impact:

Understanding that improving the quality and efficiency of our staff will improve the quality of our services, our staff is working in three groups: Marketing and Communication, Data and Evaluation, and Curriculum Development. Each group is composed of staff members who work in the same area but with different levels of experience, training and responsi-

bilities. It provides an excellent opportunity for leadership development and in-house training. At the same time, our staff is discussing CHCF's unique contribution to the community: a cultural approach.



Besides the trainings that are offered on a weekly basis to providers, the Institute has implemented CHCF's Provider Consultation Day as a comprehensive approach to our services that encompasses all of our areas of expertise: Child Development, Business Development, Grants, and Technical Assistance, among others. The event gives providers the opportunity to receive services, trainings and consultations based on individual program needs.

Last year, CHCF was able to offer financial literacy workshops to early care and education providers through the support of Citibank. CHCF is implementing a new schedule that best fits the community needs. Our office is open from Monday to Saturday.

Contributing to the growth of the Institute are CHCF's well-organized community outreach activities. CHCF continues to implement targeted strategies to reach prospective and existing child care providers in each of the 5 boroughs. Its staff continues to research, identify, compile and disseminate information and resources to child care providers, including information on regulations, available resources, training and special events. In addition, with the assistance of CHCF's policy staff we monitored translations to Spanish of the New York State Family Day Care Provider Hand Book.

CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL

**4,067 FAMILY
REFERRALS.**

**1,735 TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
CONTACTS.**

**552 HOURS OF
INTENSIVE FACE-TO-
FACE ASSISTANCE.**

**723 HEALTH CARE
CONSULTANCIES.**



CHCF is one of five agencies in New York City that comprise the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Consortium, which are under contract by OCFS, to meet specific milestones for each borough, each contract year.

Our referral program helps Spanish-speaking parents find affordable care for their children, which is in high demand in Latino communities. We help Latinos build job skills and launch their own businesses. Our program offers providers professional development training and business management courses so participants can achieve financial independence. We also educate parents in early childhood literacy.

This year CHCF received the Best Practices Certification in September 2009, after a thorough process by Early Care and Learning Council Best Practices Quality Assurance Review.

INFANT AND TODDLER RESOURCE CENTER

**127 TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
CONTACTS.**

**43 HOURS OF
INTENSIVE
FACE-TO- FACE
ASSISTANCE.**

**183 TRAINED
PARENTS &
PROVIDERS.**



Our Infant Toddler Specialist provides training, technical assistance and professional development for providers and parents in both center-based and family child care programs that care for children up to 36 months of age.

FAMILY DAY CARE NETWORK



CHCF's Family Day Care Network, "Conexiones Entre Familias," provides technical support, home visits and opportunities for providers, children and parents to interact. Providers get opportunities to grow professionally with dedicated staff who visits them. A total of 70 providers belong to our network.

**OUR NETWORK HAS
42 PARENTS,
50 CHILDREN AND
10 PROVIDERS ACTIVE
UNDER THE ACS
PROGRAM**

One important highlight is the **Annual Family Day Care Conference**, the only Spanish language event for early care and education providers in the entire state. CHCF hosted the sixth annual conference, Cuidando a Nuestros Niños: Conferencia para Padres & Proveedores de Cuidado Infantil, on September 27, 2008 at Scholastic, Inc. Approximately 162 providers participated in the Conference which had presentations on areas such as child development, nutrition and business management.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Institute partners with various institutions and supports several initiatives that make an impact on the quality of service our children and families receive.

CHCF's Early Care and Education Institute is an active participant in *QualityStarsNY*, a quality improvement and rating system in early care and education designed by the Office of Children and Family Services to recognize programs that demonstrate quality above and beyond meeting New York's strong regulatory standards. We evaluated QualityStarsNY and recommended incorporating cultural competence in all sections and increasing the number of points for the family engagement component.

Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield partnered with us for a small pilot program "Cooking Healthy, Easy, Budget Conscience Meals." The program aims to teach low income families how to purchase nutritional groceries and also cook healthy meals that are easy and fast. Children and their parents enjoyed cooking together and spending time as a family.

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS' VIEWS ON THE EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION INSTITUTE



Child care providers who have received training at CHCF have said in focus groups that CHCF training staff are “professionals who are dedicated to their craft and to child care providers.” When they are participating in trainings at CHCF, they

feel that they are receiving information from “well-informed, well trained and intelligent individuals” who also respect them as child care professionals. The office space, specifically the training room, was favored by providers and described as a “professional and welcoming setting”.

PARENTS' FEEDBACK ON CHILD CARE REFERRALS

CHCF conducted a survey of 150 parents who have received child care referrals services, and it yielded very positive results. The survey revealed the following data about the parents:

- 34.8% (54) are from the Bronx, 18.1% (28) Queens, 23.9% (37) Brooklyn, 20.6% (32) from Manhattan and 1.9% (3) from Staten Island.
- 94.2% (146) found the consultation helpful.
- 89% (138) found the referral list helpful.
- 86.5% (134) found the information on the referral list accurate.
- 44.5% (69) found child care.
- 35.5% (55) found child care from the referral list.
- Of the 69 families who found child care, 61 told us what kind they used, and most (42.6%, 26), placed their children in group family day care.
- For the 79 families who didn't find child care, the major obstacles mentioned* were cost (19%, 17) and a lack of slots (23.6%, 21) in the ACS child care provider network and daycare centers for low income families.
- Two thirds (62.5%, 97) of the families rated CHCF's service as excellent or good.

**Families were able to mention more than one obstacle. Percentages are out of a total of 89 obstacles mentioned.*

THE LATINO FAMILY POLICY CENTER



Marilyn Aguirre-Molina, Director of CUNY Institute for Health Equity participating in our Forum: The State of Latino Families in New York, June 2009.

CHCF's Latino Family Policy Center (LFPC) continues to make important strides in advancing its policy and advocacy mission and has established itself as a source of information and expertise on Latino families in the areas of early care and education and child welfare. CHCF is expanding its policy and advocacy capacity in juvenile justice by organizing panels, participating in forums and advocating for a comprehensive reform of the juvenile justice system in New York. We are developing plans to further the growth and visibility of CHCF's policy agenda. In accordance with CHCF's strategic plan, the LFPC is incorporating policy work within programmatic areas; engaging the community in informing our policy efforts and guiding advocacy needs.

The LFPC organizes capacity building trainings for program staff. For example, the Executive Director facilitated a seminar with the deputy directors, directors and coordinators in cultural competency to better serve clients with different cultural needs. We also addressed differences in Latino cultures and mainstream-American cultures and how we can use the strengths in each to appropriately serve our community.

FORUMS



Forum: The Rights of Immigrant Children from an International and Human Rights Perspectives. July 2008.

In commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, CHCF's LFPC organized the forum "The human right to education of immigrant children", at United Nations Plaza Church Center on December 10, 2008. The forum was co-sponsored by the International Forum on Child Welfare (IFCW) and the American Association of Jurists. It engaged and informed the international community, mostly representatives of UN diplomatic missions and consulates of Latin American countries, on ensuring the rights of Latino families in New York.

international community, mostly representatives of UN diplomatic missions and consulates of Latin American countries, on ensuring the rights of Latino families in New York.

On December 11, 2008, CHCF released the report *Building on Latino Children's Language and Culture*. The report was informed by a forum organized on June 24, 2008 at Baruch College, by the Latino Coalition for Early Care and Education (LCECE), a policy initiative of CHCF. The report identified six key areas as critical for Latino and ELL children's education from the time of birth to 5 years of age: language access, opportunities for professionals in the field, school readiness, family engagement, a Quality Rating and Improvement System, and community involvement and outreach. Speakers included Council members Robert Jackson and Melissa Mark-Viverito, and NY1 covered the event.

CHCF's commitment to building strong Latino families and communities with a promising future resulted in the forum "The State of Latino Families in New York" at New York University Kimmel Center on June 25, 2009. The forum was co-sponsored by SBETAC (*Spanish Bilingual Education Technical Assistance Center*). A total of 111 persons attended the forum. Presentations were made by key public officials and experts, such as Commissioner Gladys Carrión, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, Councilmember Melissa Mark-Viverito, Eric Brettschneider, Esq., Linda Lausell Bryant, MSW, Dr. Marilyn Aguirre-Molina, Dr. Gail Mellow, Hayley Figueroa, MPH, Dr. Rebecca A. Colman, Michael Corriero, Esq., Tanya Krupat, LMSW, MPH, Dr. Pedro Noguera, Dr. Francisco X. Gaitán and Dr. Luis O. Reyes. Our aim was to create awareness about the realities and

barriers facing Latinos, and in turn further advocate for profound policy changes. There were four (4) interactive discussion groups in child welfare, education, juvenile justice and health, all relevant topics to the well-being and human development of Latino children and their families. Overall, the *invisibility* of Latino needs in the various social, political and economic systems has led to an overwhelming and alarming *overrepresentation* of Latino youth in New York's child welfare and juvenile justice systems. In addition, Latino children and youth are dramatically affected by negative health conditions such as childhood obesity. Thus, the forum brought attention to the unique and urgent needs of Latino families, while initiating a feasible plan of action to transform their lives through equal access and better opportunities. A report will be published in early 2010.

An evaluation form that was given out at the forum was returned by 43 people. Of these, the majority of respondents came from other community based organization (25.6%, 11), state government (18.6%, 8), city government (14%, 6), or were advocates for an issue (14%, 6). Everyone reported that they would recommend the forum to others, and they rated the forum either excellent (67.4%, 29) or very good (30%, 13). A follow up survey was sent to forum attendees, to determine whether the forum had made a lasting impact. The twelve persons that responded felt more knowledgeable about Latino issues in New York after attending the forum. More importantly, the majority of respondents felt that they are more knowledgeable about what they can do to support issues relevant to improving the state of Latino families in New York.

POLICY BRIEFS AND FACT SHEETS

In an effort to increase the capacity within the LFPC, CHCF recruited a masters-level Senior Policy Analyst in the latter part of summer 2009, which has allowed us to issue fact sheets, policy briefs and participate in policy-related activities on a regular basis. CHCF issued a policy brief featuring Family Engagement and will be publishing a brief on Child Care Vouchers by December 2009. In addition, the LFPC issued its first fact sheet about how Latinos are faring in health, education, juvenile justice and child welfare.

COALITION BUILDING



Elba Montalvo at the first summit convened by The Coalition for Latino Families.

By building coalitions, CHCF mobilizes individuals and organizations around issues affecting Latinos in New York. CHCF created the Coalition for Latino Families (CLF) in 2006 to preserve and strengthen Latino families by significantly enhancing the quality and availability of family support

services throughout New York City. CLF has grown to 70 members since its creation. Recently, CHCF took the initiative in convening meetings to analyze ACS's child welfare services Request for Proposals (RFP) and provided technical assistance to new organizations that were considering responding to the RFP.

CHCF also created another groundbreaking coalition, the Latino Coalition on Early Care and Education (LCECE), an advocacy group of experts committed to increasing the availability and quality of culturally and linguistically appropriate child care and early education for Latino children and all English Language learners at both city and state levels. LCECE will receive the Community Leadership Award from Child Care, Inc. for its outstanding work at an award ceremony on November 2, 2009.

COLLABORATIONS IN POLICY



Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito in our Forum: The State of Latino Families in New York, June 2009.

CHCF has been strengthening its relations with local, national and international not for profit organizations, which has amplified CHCF's voice in including the needs of Latino children and families in policy discussions on early care and education, child welfare and socio economic changes.

The following are some examples of our collaborations last year:

- International Forum on Child Welfare (IFCW): CHCF is a member organization of IFCW, which has provided a voice in forwarding the Latino agenda in the international child welfare and well-being arena. Each year, IFCW co-hosts a World Forum to share experiences, knowledge and concerns about child welfare in the world. At the World Forum in Jakarta, Indonesia in October 2009, CHCF delivered presentations on: Capacity Building and Developing Boards to Help in Fundraising and the Impact of Immigration Laws on Children.
- CHCF will host IFCW's World Forum 2010 in New York, under the theme "A World Fit for Children: Advancing the Global Movement."
- CHCF participated in a Community Conversation at La Guardia Community College with Juan Sepulveda, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, addressing what the White House should do to improve Latinos' educational performance and access to higher education.
- In September 2009, CHCF participated in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Public Policy Conference in Washington D.C. "Latinos Leading in a Global Society," opening a door to working with potential national partners on major policy issues affecting Latinos and developing future Latino leadership.
- CHCF worked with NCLR on designing an advocacy tool kit, *"New Leaders, New Directions: Tools for Advancing and Early Childhood Agenda for the Latino Community,"* to help Latino early care and education advocates build effective strategies to ensure academic success for Latino and English Language Learner (ELL) children and families. CHCF will be using this innovative step-by-step resource with providers and parents to become effective advocates on these issues. The tool kit also includes a number of templates and examples which can be adapted to reflect specific priorities and interests.
- CHCF's policy and child care staff participate jointly with Winning Beginning NY in discussions about current issues affecting early care and education. CHCF participates in discussions and setting forth Latino concerns on various topics such as: the

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, ACS's policy changes and OCFS's implementation of Quality Star Rating System field test.

- Co-chairing the Sub-Committee of the Governor's Children's Cabinet Advisory Committee on Children with Incarcerated Parents and helping to draft the "Bill of Rights of Children of Incarcerated Parents."
- Member of New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, chaired by former Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, Hon. Judith S. Kaye.
- Developing closer working relationships and joint activities with NCLR, the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF), New York University Metropolitan Urban Center, Human Services Council (HSC), Welfare Reform Network (WFN) and the Childcare Committee and Preventive Service Action Network (PSAN).
- Provided training to senior staff of the OCFS on cultural competency in working with Latino families.
- Evaluated the OCFS Basic Academy Training curriculum for cultural competency.

THE MEDIA

Using a Media Tracking Form, we have been able to track the media exposure that CHCF has received in the past year to glean information regarding what kind of media outlets mention CHCF or cover CHCF activities. We are also collecting information to evaluate the quality of the coverage we receive. The TV and print media covered CHCF's briefing on December 11, 2008 "Building on Latino Language and Culture" and the June 10, 2009 Forum "The State of Latino Families in New York." In addition, the Deputy Director for Policy participated in a half hour discussion on the Latina teen pregnancy rate in ABC's *Tiempo*, a program that airs every Sunday. Furthermore, NBC covered the ceremony in which CHCF was presented with a check to enhance the Responsible Fatherhood program, and NY1 attended a check presentation by Wal-Mart to CHCF's Early Care and Education Institute. NYC TV attended CHCF's "A Slice of Latin America" Gala held in March 2009.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Government contracts and grants	-	3,371,884	3,371,884
Foundations, corporations & other contributions	71,316	971,249	1,042,565
Special Events	377,682	-	377,682
Less: direct expenses	(66,503)	-	(66,503)
Rental Income	41,250	-	41,250
Fees for program services	65,485	-	65,485
Interest income	2,278	-	2,278
Honorariums	15,355	-	15,355
Conference fees	6,314	-	6,314
Other income	6,855	-	6,855
Net assets released from restrictions	4,302,366	(4,302,366)	
Total Support and Revenue	4,822,398	40,767	4,863,165
EXPENSES			
Program services	3,892,329		3,892,329
Management and general	756,117		756,117
Fund raising	174,770		174,770
Total Expenses	4,823,216		4,823,216
Change in net assets	(818)	40,767	39,949
Nat assets at the beginning of the year	425,931	125,000	550,931
Net assets at the end of the year	425,113	165,767	590,880

Our latest financial report is on file with the NYS Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, NY, NY 10271

CHCF BALANCE SHEET

AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

ASSETS

Current Assets:

Cash	203,004
Contract revenue receivable	632,567
Parent's fees receivable	258
Prepaid expenses and other receivables	15,634

Fixed Assets:

Furniture and Equipment	389,530
Improvements	204,596
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(395,646)

Other Assets:

Reserve Fund-certificate of deposit	26,827
Security deposits	89,468

Total Assets **1,166,238**

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	229,544
Salaries payable	81,970
Payroll taxes payable	5,764
Pension payable	25,167
Loan payable - Citibank line of credit	60,000
Refundable advances	68,010
Deferred rent payable	104,903

Total Liabilities **575,358**

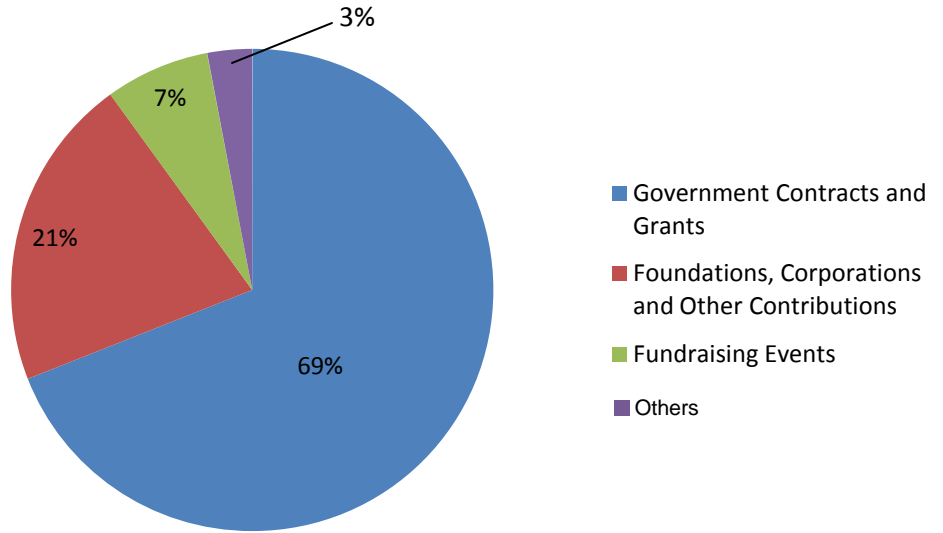
NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	425,113
Temporarily restricted	165,767

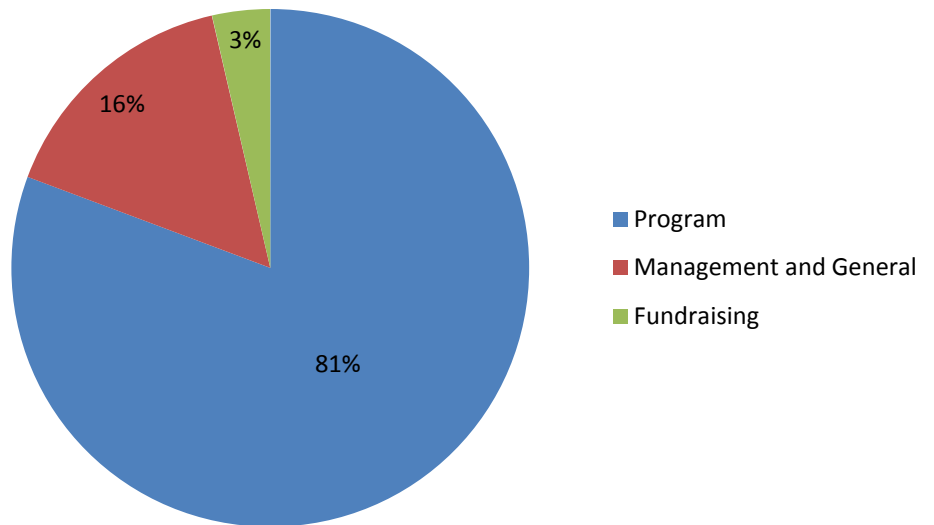
Total Net Assets **590,880**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **1,166,238**

SUPPORT & REVENUE



EXPENSES



CONCLUSION



Undoubtedly, 27 years after its creation, CHCF continues to broaden its recognition within the local, state and national levels as a premier policy, advocacy and direct service provider for Latino children and families. We are very excited about the growth of our Latino Family Policy Center and its success in organizing forums for diverse audiences, focusing on the Latino family policy agenda. We are also very proud of contributing to raise the quality and availability of affordable child care in New York City and developing business opportunities for early care and education in low-income Latino communities in New York City through our Early Care and Education Institute. CHCF is looking to the future by implementing its 5-year strategic plan. We look forward to continuing to meet the changing needs of Latino children and families.

A VERY
SPECIAL THANKS
TO OUR
SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT

Administration on Children, Youth & Families * New York State Department of Education * New York State Department of Health * New York State Office of Children and Family Services * New York City Administration for Children Services * New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene * New York City Department of Youth & Community Development * New York City Department of Education * New York City Council * United Way of NYC- CAPS * Puerto Rican Family Institute Inc.

FOUNDATIONS

Aetna Foundation * Annie E. Casey Foundation * Archbold Charitable Trust * Bank of India * Bendit Family Foundation * Carnegie Corporation * Charles Hayden Foundation * Citigroup * ConEdison * Frances L. & Edwin L. Cummings Memorial Fund * Hispanic Federation * JP Morgan Chase Foundation * Kurz Family Foundation * National Council of La Raza * Ridgewood Savings Bank * State Farm * The After School Corporation * The Robert Bowne Foundation * Verizon Foundation * United Way of New York City * Unilever United States Foundation * Wal-Mart Foundation

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*Deputy Director
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Early Care & Education*

Sandra Morrice
*Director for Finance &
Administration*

ADMINISTRATION

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Comptroller

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Eneida Artuz
Bookkeeper

Heidi Montes
Bookkeeper

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Director of Youth Development-CAPS

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Griselda Estevez
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at Columbus H.S.*

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CAPS Program Counselor at Columbus HS

Claudia Urey
Community Educator

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION INSTITUTE

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Network Coordinator

Nadia Rivera
Provider Support Specialist

Miguel Rodríguez
Network Assistant & Data Specialist

Genine Tantaó
Infant/Toddler Specialist

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Business & Community Outreach Coordinator

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Counselor & Referral Specialist

Doris Cruz
Counselor & Referral Specialist

Paulina Borja
Training Coordinator

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