



**QUEENS CENTERS FOR PROGRESS**  
*Services for People with Developmental Disabilities*

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2015-16



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QUEENS CENTERS FOR PROGRESS

Services for People with Developmental Disabilities

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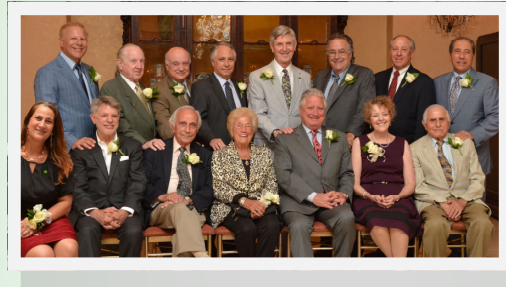
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Fax 718-380-0483

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Fax 718-380-3214

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD PRESIDENT

### A MATTER OF FAIRNESS

As we concluded the celebration of 65 years of service we continue to celebrate the progress made by the children and adults who come to QCP for services that enhance their independence and participation in the community. We are making progress in giving people we support more opportunities to tell us what is important in their lives, what their goals are, so that we can better design person-centered services that will advance those goals.

A main focus in this past year has been advocating for funding that will enable QCP and similar agencies to pay their staff, particularly staff in direct support roles, the wages that they deserve. The resources QCP has to pay its staff are limited and controlled by State government, which sets rates or fees for each service delivered. Provider agencies do not have the option to raise prices for its services.

The situation has been complicated over the past year by State-mandated increases in minimum wages for fast food and other workers. We certainly support changes which enable low-wage workers to earn a living wage, but our staff has been left behind in this process. Some funding has been made available to bring our direct support staff up to the increased minimum wage, but this funding is inadequate for two reasons:

(1) it does not provide for adjusting the salaries of staff who may be making just above the new minimum wage level because they have been employed longer, i.e. the adjustment provided by the State could result in someone just hired making as much as someone who has been on staff for years, thus creating an unfair situation and creating inequities in an agency's internal salary scales. QCP is fortunate to have many long-term staff, but they are disadvantaged when new funding is not available to them.

(2) it does not recognize that the work of providing the daily hands-on support to people with significant needs is not a minimum wage job. These positions require extensive training and carry a heavy responsibility – often the need to make life-or-death decisions about the people in their care.

Currently many direct support staff are forced to work more than one job to make ends meet. Many simply cannot remain in their jobs, much as they find them fulfilling in other-than-financial ways. As a result, agencies like QCP have a great deal of difficulty hiring and retaining direct support staff. There is a state-wide [#beFair2DirectCare](#) campaign aimed at convincing the Governor and the Legislature of the need to increase funding to provider agencies so that they can pass those increases along to staff, particularly direct support staff.

The amount of money being requested as an addition to the State budget is not significant in relation to the State's total spending. It appears more a matter of political will and a recognition that this segment of the State's workforce can't be left out as other workers in the commercial and government sectors see their wages increase.

**It's simply a matter of fairness!!**



Charles Houston,  
Executive Director



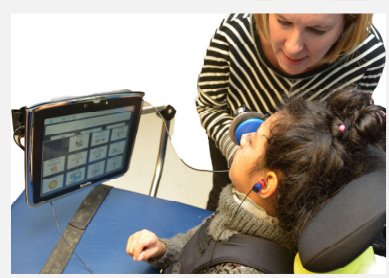
Michael J. Macaluso,  
Board President

# SERVICES



## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- Early Childhood Direction Center
- Apple Tree Nursery School
- Universal Pre-Kindergarten
- APPLE Pre-School
- School-Age Program
- Family Support Projects
- Equipment Loan Program



## ADULT SERVICES

- Article 16 Clinic
- Day Habilitation
- Residential
- Community Connections Seniors Program
- CareerPrep Program
- Community Pre-Voc
- Supported Employment
- Transition Program
- Service Coordination
- Family Support
- Residential Habilitation



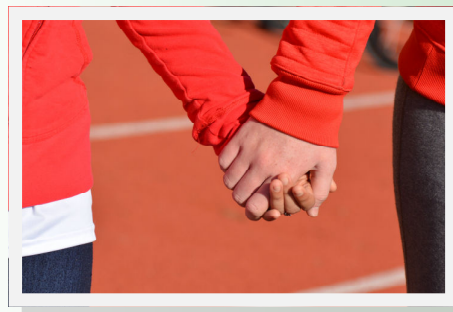
# MISSION STATEMENT

Queens Centers for Progress is committed to providing person-centered services and supports to children and adults who have developmental disabilities. The goal of these services and supports is to promote independence, community involvement, and quality of life.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Queens Centers for Progress will:

1. Provide individually-designed services which will maximize:
  - independent decision-making capabilities,
  - integration into community life,
  - daily living, educational, and work-related skills.
2. Advocate for the rights and entitlements of persons with developmental disabilities.  
Demonstrate our commitment to these rights by always treating those who use our services, and their families, with dignity and respect.
3. Engage in community outreach and public education to further awareness of the agency's services, and the positive role played by persons with developmental disabilities.
4. Establish relationships with community and governmental organizations involved with services to people with developmental disabilities.
5. Attract, train, and retain staff who are committed to providing services of consistently high quality, who are compensated fairly for their work, and who are treated with respect.
6. Operate the agency in a manner which demonstrates adherence to high ethical standards and assures financial stability, and thereby protect the ongoing ability to carry out the agency's Mission.



## Just the Facts.....

- QCP continues to be a major employer in Queens with about 600 staff.
- 755 families were assisted through the Early Childhood Direction Center (ECDC) in securing evaluation/services for their children. 35 workshops were provided to over 300 families and 600 professionals.
- This year Team QCP participated in the TCS NYC Marathon raising over \$35,000 for QCP's programs.
- The Children's Center served over 140 children from 3 through 21, including 30 students in inclusionary classes.
- 56 children were "adopted" by QCP staff and 7 families were adopted by a generous community donor during the holidays to help bring a little joy their lives.
- 524 individuals received ongoing Medicaid Service Coordination.
- 180 persons with developmental disabilities continued to be employed through Supported Employment.
- Individuals from QCP's Day Services Program volunteered in the community at SNAP, North Shore Animal League, local churches, schools, bakeries, retreat houses and libraries. This helps promote job readiness skills.
- Individuals with severe developmental disabilities received individually-designed services to promote independent living and community inclusion activities that included joining the YMCA gym, a running club and Zumba classes.
- This year the Eastern Adult Tennis Foundation continued their support of QCP's Day Services Tennis Program.
- The Work Centers transitioned to Community Pre-Voc to help individuals take the next step in obtaining employment by volunteering in the community.
- 201 families have benefited from our "Family First" program which permitted funding for respite, medical, and equipment needs in times of crisis.
- In our Article 16 Clinic: 880 individuals received clinical services. 119 individuals received free clinical evaluations under the Family Support Grant. 41 individuals were evaluated and approved for Medicaid Service Coordination.
- QCP's Family Support Services-Non-Medicaid Case Management served 106 individuals and families secure Medicaid eligibility, referral to OPWDD services and other services.
- QCP's Article 16 Clinic at Bellerose is now providing access to clinical services that include Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech, Psychology and Nursing.
- QCP attended the CP State Conference in Albany celebrating Jacqueline Rodriguez, recipient of the AI Felmet Achievement Award this year.
- 25 individuals participated in weekly track workouts with Achilles International's Queens Chapter and the St. John's Women's Track Team.
- QCP supported the State's efforts in the #bFair2DirectCare Advocacy Campaign to support measures to increase wages for direct support professionals.

## Summary of Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

### Support & Revenue

<b>Public Support</b>		
Contributions	\$ 32,767	
Special events	1,108,196	
Government grants	394,290	
<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>1,535,253</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
<b>Program Revenue</b>	<b>33,814,969</b>	<b>95.6</b>
<b>Interest Income</b>	<b>39,092</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>35,389,314</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Clinical and coordination	2,910,460	8.2
Adult day services	9,219,396	26.0
Vocational services	3,799,835	10.7
Residential services	10,764,074	30.4
Children's Center services	5,949,528	16.8
<b>Program Services</b>	<b>32,643,293</b>	<b>92.1</b>
Management and general	2,554,855	7.2
Fundraising	247,976	0.7
<b>Supporting Services</b>	<b>2,802,831</b>	<b>7.9</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>35,446,124</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets from Operations</b>	<b>\$ (56,810)</b>	
Assets	\$ 19,719,474	
Liabilities	(8,827,702)	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,891,772</b>	

## DURING THIS YEAR.....



QCP's 20th Annual Golf Outing was an outstanding success with the help of QCP's partnership with The Home Depot. With nearly 400 golfers and three courses, the event raised over \$1 million for QCP's programs.

QCP was proud to be part of the #bFair2DirectCare Advocacy Campaign to help increase wages for direct support professionals .



The Community Pre-Voc Program expanded to many new sites as individuals learn employment skills while out in the community.



QCP's New Horizons Young Professionals Group started meeting regularly to help further QCP's mission. Members serve as QCP ambassadors to promote the agency to the community.



## DURING THIS YEAR.....



QCP honored almost 100 staff at the Years of Service Ceremony. We are fortunate to have an amazing group of dedicated professionals at QCP.



QCP's resident and musician, Tommy, turned 90 this year! Staff and fellow-residents had an incredible birthday celebration for him.



QCP partnered up with St. John's University and Achilles International Queens for a six week training session with the St. John's Women's Track Team. Kudos to Wendy Phaff for starting an Achilles Queens Chapter this year.



QCP's Bellerose Day Services enjoyed a fun Pumpkin Contest this year with judges from the community.

## QCP APPRECIATES OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS FOR HELPING TO MAKE OUR MISSION POSSIBLE

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