



## *The Children's Community Head Start Birth to Five Program*

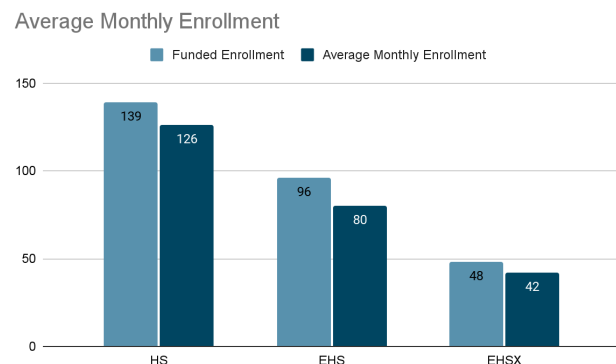
# 2021-2022 Annual Report

The Children's Community Head Start Birth-to-Five Program (CCHSBto5) is a program of the Community Program Centers of Long Island, Inc (CPC), a 501 (C) 3, not-for-profit organization. The Birth to Five Program consists of 139 Head Start slots, 96 Early Head Start slots, and 48 Early Head Start Expansion slots, for a total funded enrollment of 283 infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and pregnant women.

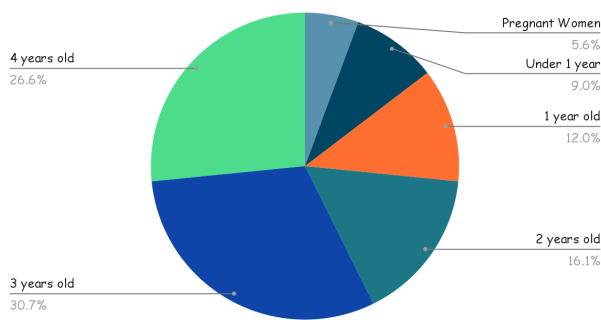
## Enrollment

The Children's Community Head Start B-5 program reopened all center-based classrooms and resumed home visits in 2021. However, some classrooms were not fully enrolled due to lack of available staff to maintain ratios and surges in COVID-19.

The programs were no longer offering virtual or remote services, therefore parents who were concerned with the rise of COVID-19



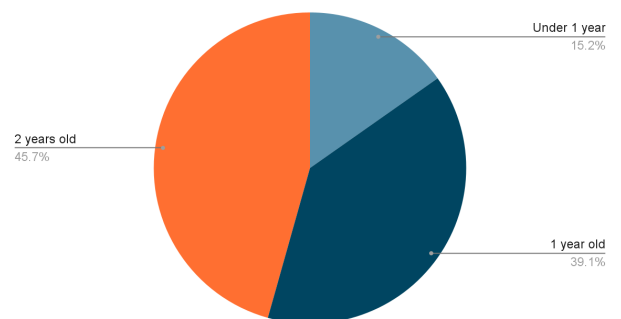
Head Start and Early Head Start Enrollment



within the community, chose to drop their child(ren) from the program. Other families quarantined their children whenever a case of COVID-19 in the center was reported. This led to a high rate of

chronically absent children during the year. The total cumulative enrollment for the 2021- 2022 program year included 313 children and 15 pregnant women enrolled in the Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Head Start Expansion programs. The data presented in this report is based on this total cumulative enrollment.

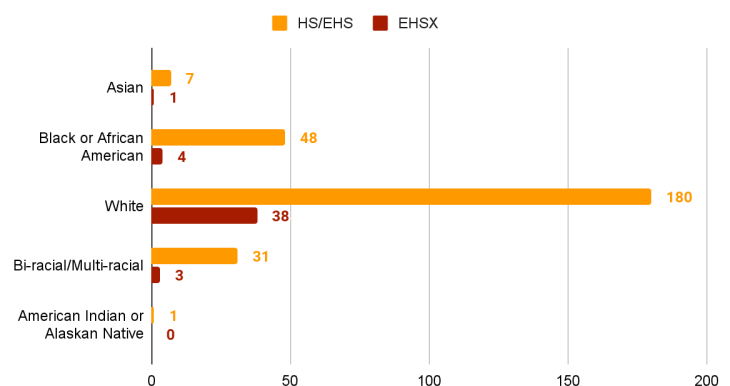
Early Head Start Expansion Enrollment



## Equity Among Diverse Groups

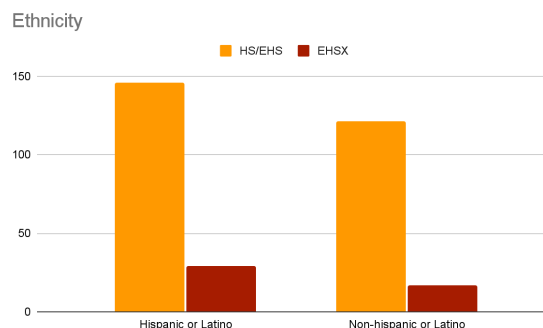
The Children's Community Head Start Birth to Five program continues to prioritize racial, cultural and linguistic equity. While the majority of enrolled children continue to be white/caucasian, over the

Racial Demographics



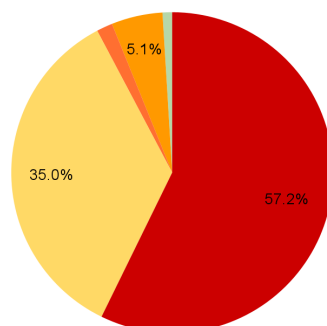
past several years we have seen a steady increase in the number of hispanic families enrolling in the program. In fact during the 2021-2022 program year, 56% of the total enrollment was hispanic. In response, the program strives to hire a diverse workforce and

provide services that are respectful of various languages, cultures,



Home Language

- English
- Spanish
- Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages
- European & Slavic
- Other



preferences and beliefs. The staff emphasize the importance of maintaining the families' home language, to ensure the children receive the benefits of bilingualism. At the same time, the Home Visitors and Family Services staff support parents in their efforts to acquire the

English language, through referrals to local community programs. During the 2021-2022 program year 52% of enrolled children were dual language learners and 30% of the education and child development staff spoke languages other than English.

## Our Staff

In November 2021, the Office of Head Start issued an Interim Final Rule for “Vaccine and Mask Requirements To Mitigate the Spread

## of COVID-19 in Head Start Programs” which required that all Head

Turnover Comparison



Start staff be vaccinated for

COVID-19 by January 31, 2022.

As several staff preferred not to receive the vaccination, this led to a significant number of resignations and high turnover during the course of the year.

Due to the resignations, the

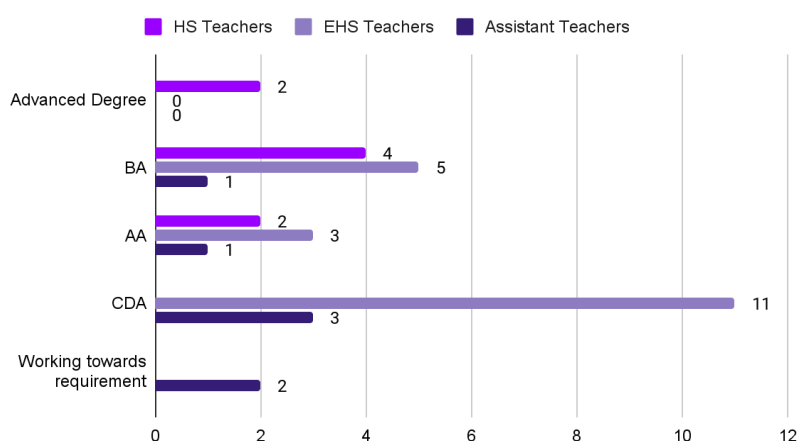
## EHS and EHSX

programs experienced the greatest amount of vacant positions, the majority of which remained vacant for more than six months.

The teacher qualifications for the EHS Teacher are very specific, which leads to

difficulty hiring qualified candidates. Additionally, the Home Visitor position experienced continuous turnover, with 10 people filling the five positions throughout the year. During this time, the Birth to Five program did maintain 25 staff members with longevity of five years or more. This level of extensive experience allowed the program to continue to provide quality services to children and families throughout the 2021-2022 program year.

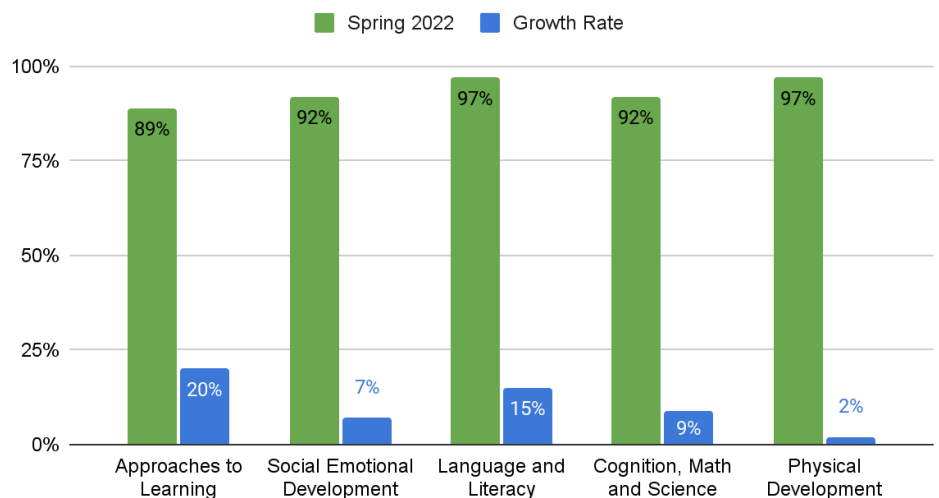
Head Start Teacher, Early Head Start Teacher, Assistant Teacher Qualifications



# A look at School Readiness...

The Children's Community Head Start Birth to Five program has established School Readiness goals with the input of teachers, parents, and local educational leaders. These goals are aligned with the curricula in both the center-based and home-based programs, the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, and the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) assessment tool. The teachers and home visitors plan age appropriate activities that support children in their progress of these school readiness goals, using *Partners for a Healthy Baby*, *The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos*, and *The Creative Curriculum for Preschool*. Utilizing anecdotal observations, children are rated using the DRDP tool three times per year. This allows for the ability to track progress of all children ages birth - 5 yrs, in their acquisition of school readiness skills. The tool is inclusive of children with an IEP or IFSP and dual language learners. The program also uses information from the assessment

Head Start Spring 2022 Assessment Results and Growth Rate



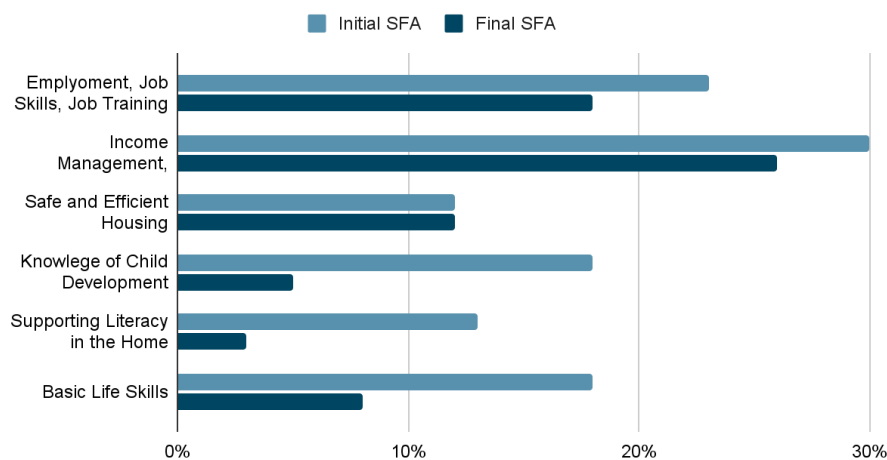
tool to collaborate with parents, plan for professional development, and enhance the learning environments. Infants are assessed in how they are *RESPONDING* to their caregivers and the environment, toddlers are rated in how well they are *EXPLORING* the environment and materials provided, and preschoolers are measured on their progress in *BUILDING* on their prior knowledge and skills. By Spring 2022, 93% of children ages 3-5 years were on target for building skills in all areas of development, with the highest growth rates in the areas of Approaches to Learning and Language and Literacy. Through this continuous approach of the educational component, our children are being well prepared for their transition to kindergarten.

## Family Outcomes

**Family Advocates and Home Visitors work with families on setting goals based on their individual needs. The family services staff meet with families to complete the Scaled Family**

**Assessment twice per year. The first meeting assists families in determining their areas of need, and setting goals for improvement. Home Visitors and Family Advocates then provide support and resources to assist the families in working**

Scaled Family Assessment Needs Data



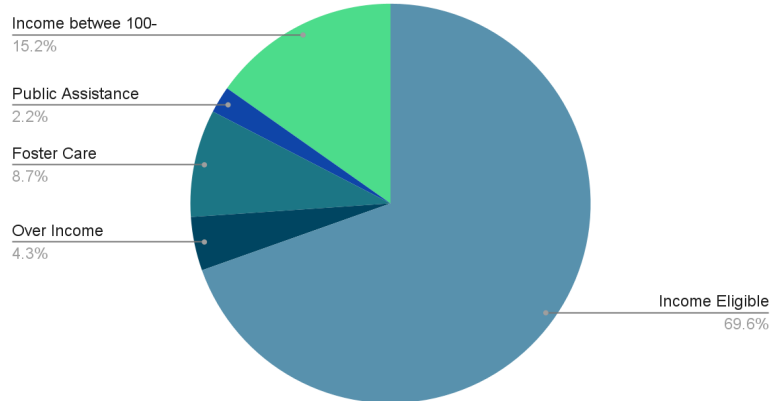
towards those goals throughout the program term. The second meeting allows the staff to determine if the families achieve success in those areas. During the 2021-2022 program year, families made the most growth

in *Families as Lifelong Educators/Families as Learners* with approximately only 5% of those enrolled, still presenting with

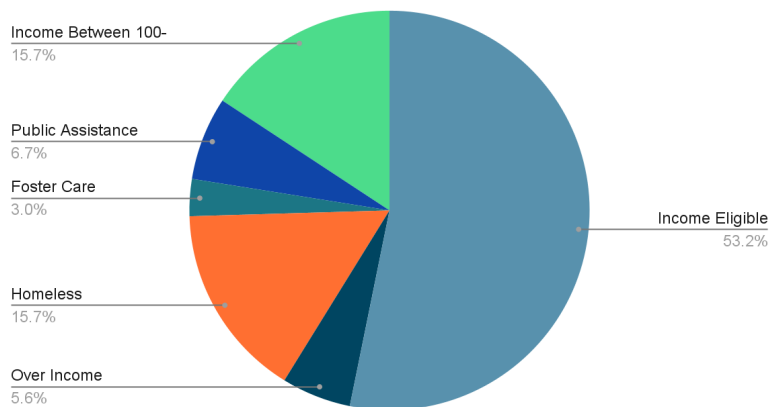
needs in areas such as *Knowledge of Child Development, Supporting Learning and Literacy in the home, Supporting Education and Educational Plans, and Communication and Basic Life Skills.* Areas

with limited growth included *Employment, Job Skills, Job Training; Income Management, Financial Security, Budgeting; and Safe and Efficient Housing.* In April 2022, the Office of Head Start included SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) as categorically eligible, allowing more families to be eligible for

Early Head Start Expansion Eligibility

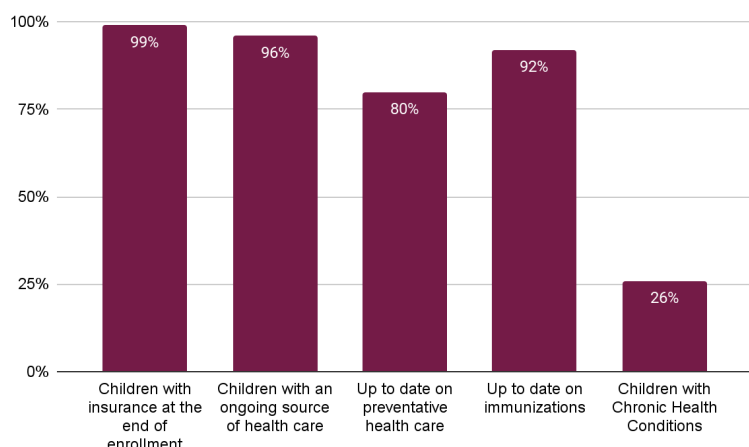


Head Start/Early Head Start Eligibility



**Head Start services, and assisting enrolled families continue to make strides towards income management and budgeting.**

## Health and Wellness

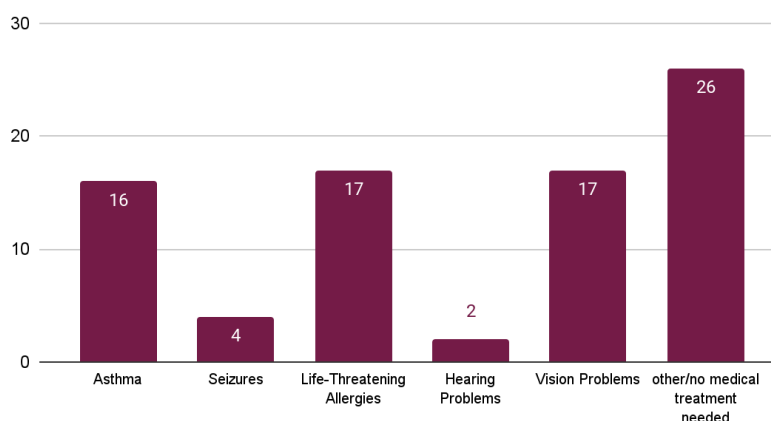


**Medical and dental care was also a strength for 95% of families in Spring 2022. Some of the challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic improved and families were able to make appointments and get**

**caught up on their immunizations and preventative care. This is a 12% increase from the previous year. Twenty-six percent of children enrolled during the 2021-2022 program were diagnosed with chronic health**

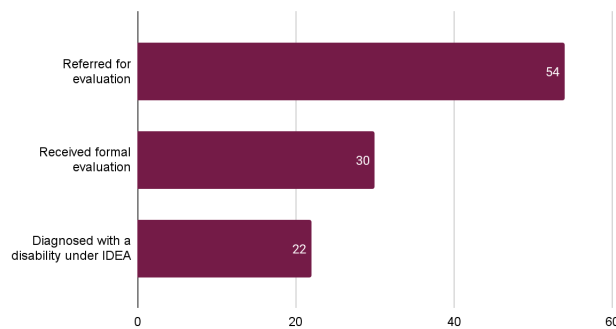
**conditions, with a substantial increase in the number of children with Life-Threatening Allergies. In 2021 the program developed an *Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy* to ensure the safety of children with allergies, in compliance with Elijahs's Law.**

Children with Chronic Health Conditions





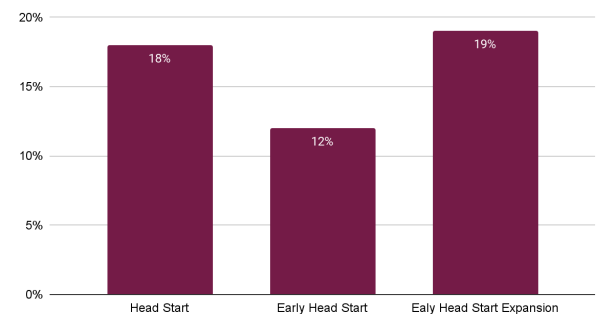
## Developmental Evaluations



**The Children’s Community Head Start Birth to Five program also screens all enrolled children for sensory, developmental, and behavioral concerns. During the program year, 147 newly enrolled children were screened. Thirty**

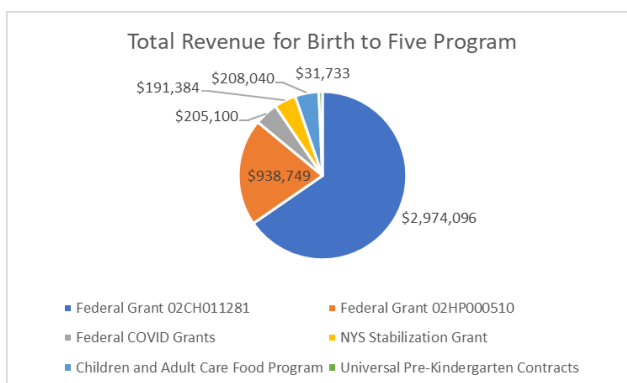
**one percent of whom required follow-up assessments or formal evaluation from a physician, Early Intervention, or the local Committee on Preschool Special Education. CCHSBto5 exceeded the Head Start requirement of maintaining 10% of enrollment for children with special needs, in all programs.**

## Children with an IEP/IFSP



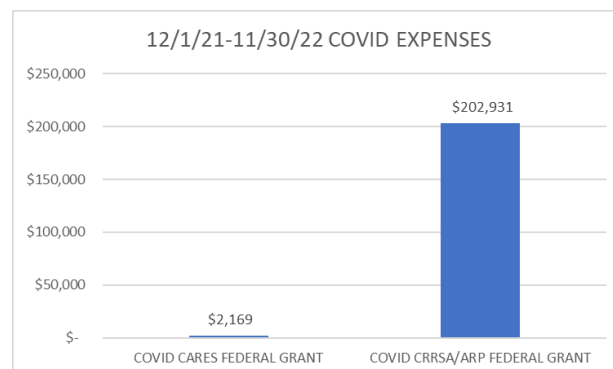
# Fiscal Reporting

**The Children’s Community Head Start Birth to Five program, is a program of The Community Program Centers of Long Island, Inc. The**

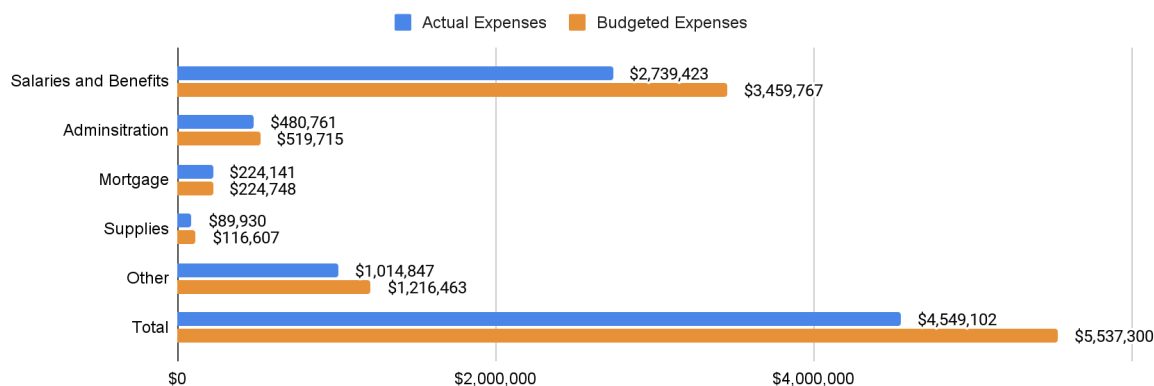


**following information includes financial data relevant to the Birth to Five program. In addition to Head Start funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, the program utilized funding from**

the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), UPK contracts with local school districts, and funding from the New York State Stabilization Grant. Stabilization grant funds were solely used to address the Head Start workforce shortage by supplementing staff salaries. Federal COVID CARES and CRRSA/ARP funding was also available during the 2021-2022 program year. These funds were used for the specific purpose of responding to COVID-19 and preparing for future pandemics, such as the replacement of the HVAC system in the Ronkonkoma Center, COVID tests for staff and families, and projects related to staff wellness. The program also requested



#### 2021-2022 Expense Report



using remaining funds to replace the roof in the Ronkonkoma Center. Although the project was approved for the 2021-2022 program year, we are awaiting approval for those funds to be carried over to the following year, due to time constraints on the project completion. CCHSBto5 also received Supplemental Grants

from HHS for the amount of \$47,290, to complete remediation of the dry wells and cesspools in both centers. Other expenses include building repairs & maintenance, food, consultants, utilities/telephone, training, advertising, recruitment, insurance, travel, bank fees, payroll fees, subscriptions and miscellaneous expenses.



The Children's Community  
Head Start Birth to Five

#### ***Our Management Team***

Colleen Crispino, CEO

Christine Beatty, B-5 Director

Sharon Evers, Fiscal Manager

Amanda DiBernardo, Disabilities/Mental Health Supervisor

Kathleen Frigiola, CFO

Kerry Hosek, Assistant Director/Home Based Manager

Linda DelPesce, Registered Nurse

#### **Port Jefferson Center:**

Chrissy Reilly, Center Director/Health & Nutrition

Debbie Sweet, Education Manager

Samantha DeStefano, Family Development Manager

#### **Ronkonkoma Center:**

Angela Servedio, Center Director/Health & Nutrition

Melissa Kaleita, Education Manager

Mary Ellen Butcher, Family Development Manager

The Children's Community Head Start Birth-to-Five Program is a program of the Community Program Centers of Long Island, Inc (CPC), a 501 (C) 3, not-for-profit organization. Our program operates under the guidance of the Board of Directors and Policy Council.

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