

Seniors

Adults

Families

Children



Annual Report

2024-2025

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As of August 1, 2025

Mission

Building better lives and strengthening our community by providing essential human services to children, families, adults, and seniors

Vision

A thriving community of empowered individuals and healthy families

Values

Professionalism, Integrity & Excellence
Proactive Approach to Meeting Community Needs
Strength-Based, Solution Focused Services
Support Inclusivity

Letter from President & Chair



Dear Friends,

This past year at Family & Children's Agency (FCA) was marked by meaningful growth, innovation, and connection. Across every department, our staff responded to increasing needs in the community with dedication, creativity, and compassion, ensuring that individuals and families received support when they needed it most.

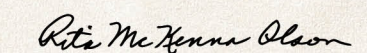
Throughout this report, you'll read about many of the milestones we've reached together. From launching new programs for adolescents to expanding our services in Behavioral Health and Family Support, our work continues to evolve to meet the moment. Our team helped more young people stay in school and graduate, provided care for adults facing mental health and substance use challenges, stood beside families navigating crises, and deepened our support for older adults aging in place.

We are proud to have been selected for several new initiatives, including a statewide pilot for an enhanced clinical model serving youth with substance use disorders. We also began laying the groundwork for new workforce development programs aimed at helping young people gain the tools and opportunities they need to build strong futures. These efforts represent just a portion of the impact made possible by your partnership and trust.

Looking ahead, our focus remains clear: expand access to mental health care, support stability across generations, and continue building programs that respond to both emerging challenges and long-standing needs. We remain deeply committed to our mission, and to serving this community with compassion, integrity, and excellence.

Thank you for being part of this work. Your support is not only appreciated it is essential to everything we do.


Robert F. Cashel
President & CEO


Rita McKenna Olson
Board Chair

The design of this annual report was inspired by art created by our Child & Family Development programs.

CHILDREN

At FCA, children are met with care, consistency, and opportunity. Through nurturing relationships and targeted support, our programs help young people manage emotional challenges, build life skills, and thrive both in and out of the classroom.

GUIDING STUDENTS TO GRADUATION, TOGETHER

This year, FCA joined forces with the City of Norwalk, House of Darla, Elm Village, and Norwalk Public Schools to launch a groundbreaking new initiative: the TAG program (Taking Actions to Graduate).

The program is working directly with families and students to address challenges including school engagement, graduation, and basic needs. FCA coordinates with partners and community resources to create a clear and unified plan of support for each student. This is a first-of-its-kind approach in Norwalk. By aligning systems and walking alongside families, TAG is creating new pathways toward stability and long-term success for students who need it most.

FUTURE IN FOCUS: CAREER SUPPORT

FCA is proud to have been chosen by Fairfield County's Community Foundation to deliver comprehensive wrap-around support for young adults participating in its new Career Pathways for Youth initiative. Working alongside Nuvance Health, CT State Norwalk, and CT State Housatonic, FCA will provide individualized support including case management, mentoring, transportation, childcare, mental health care, and other services to remove barriers to program participants aged 18-25 from Norwalk and Bridgeport.



By providing fully integrated services from enrollment assistance and career coaching to mental health and wellness supports, FCA will ensure that young adults receive the holistic guidance they need as they train for high-demand healthcare careers. This partnership marks a vital step toward enhancing economic mobility and building a diverse, skilled healthcare workforce in Fairfield County.

NEW PROGRAM HELPS YOUTH OVERCOME SUBSTANCE USE

This year, FCA's Multisystemic Therapy (MST) program saw such strong early success that the Agency was selected as one of only two organizations in Connecticut to pilot MST-SU, a specialized adaptation of MST designed to serve youth with serious substance use disorders.

MST is an evidence-based, in-home therapy model that supports youth with complex behavioral and emotional needs by working directly with the family and broader support systems. FCA's clinical team provides intensive, individualized support with a focus on improving functioning at home, in school, and in the community.

Being chosen to implement MST-SU is a significant milestone, reflecting FCA's strong performance, clinical excellence, and commitment to serving youth and families with the highest levels of need.

One of two
CT AGENCIES SELECTED TO PILOT THE
MST-SU PROGRAM, ADDING TARGETED
SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT TO OUR
MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM

104
CHILDREN SERVED
IN FOSTER CARE



FCA's Foster Care program pairs youth with therapy and case management to promote healing, build life skills, and create lasting family connections.

A SECOND CHANCE: LUIS' STORY

At just 16 years old, Luis was found face-down in a park after overdosing on fentanyl. Revived with Narcan, he had already been years into addiction, a heartbreaking trajectory shaped by a childhood filled with abuse, neglect, and trauma.

Luis entered foster care when he was seven. "There wasn't really a 'safe place' for me growing up," he said. "I remember begging not to go inside because I knew what would happen."

Years of instability followed, along with multiple placements and failed treatment programs. His pain ran deep, and like many youth who have experienced significant trauma, he tried to numb it however he could.

When Luis joined Family & Children's Agency's Therapeutic Foster Care program, he needed more than just a place to live. He needed stability, clinical support, and adults who would refuse to give up on him. FCA connected him with Kati and Dan, who saw past the challenges and recognized his potential.

"So many people had already given up on Luis," said Kati. "But we saw someone worth fighting for."

Through unwavering commitment, intensive support, and the wraparound care FCA provides, Luis's story began to change. He was adopted by Kati and Dan in February. He's graduating from high school. He's planning for college. He has a home, a future, and a family that believes in him.

"I didn't know people like this existed," Luis said. "My goal used to be to make money for drugs. Now I have a future."

LUIS



**"NOW, I HAVE
A HOME, A
PERMANENT
FAMILY. I HAVE
A FUTURE."**



Scan this QR code to
watch a video about
Luis and his family.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES, STRENGTHENING FUTURES

For families caring for a child with significant psychiatric needs, safety and stability can feel out of reach. Family & Children's Agency's Intensive In-Home Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Services (IICAPS) provides a lifeline by offering intensive, wraparound support to help keep children safely at home and out of the hospital.

This past year, the IICAPS team served 59 youth and their families, including 25 who also received psychiatric medication management. In addition to focusing on overcoming mental health issues, FCA staff help reduce other stressors including housing instability, caregiving burden, or food insecurity so families can fully engage in the therapeutic process.

Recognizing the complexity of the work, the entire IICAPS team attended a statewide conference this year to expand their knowledge and strengthen their practice. The program continues to be a vital resource for families seeking security, connection, and healing.

ASPIRE

FCA's ASPIRE after-school and summer program empowers middle and high school students in Norwalk with academic support, hands-on enrichment, and social-emotional tools for success. In a safe, structured environment, students build skills, explore new interests, and receive personalized support to help them thrive in and out of the classroom.

PARTNERSHIPS PROVIDE HOLISTIC SUPPORT

This year, FCA's ASPIRE program deepened its support for students through a new partnership with the Latinx Integrated Care (LINC) Program. Created to serve recently arrived Spanish-speaking immigrant students in Norwalk Public Schools, LINC provides trauma-informed clinical and care coordination services. Through this collaboration, students receive culturally responsive support as they adjust to a new country, school system, and community, helping them feel seen, supported, and empowered.

ASPIRE also continued its work with Positive Directions, engaging middle and high school students in interactive workshops focused on well-being and healthy choices. From nutrition and sleep to relationships and substance use, students explored critical topics in a safe, discussion-based setting. By encouraging open dialogue and peer connection, these sessions helped students identify positive role models and build the knowledge needed to make good choices.



ASPIRE STUDENTS STEP INTO LEADERSHIP

Each summer, FCA's ASPIRE program offers a unique opportunity for high school participants to return in a new role as paid summer interns. Students interested in the position go through a formal hiring process, preparing resumes and participating in interviews that mirror real-world job searches.

Selected interns become part of the summer program staff, helping plan and lead lessons, support the middle school students, and contribute to a positive, engaging program environment. The internship offers meaningful work experience, builds confidence, and strengthens resumes, while giving students the chance to take on new responsibility and grow as leaders.

A UNIFIED APPROACH TO STUDENT WELLNESS

Through an exciting partnership between ASPIRE and FCA's Behavioral Health department, high school students were able to opt into a social-emotional group designed to build self-awareness, resilience, and coping skills. Together they explored mindfulness, meditation, journaling, art therapy, yoga, boundaries, and more.

Students gained valuable tools to navigate stress, strengthen relationships, and foster emotional well-being in a supportive and welcoming space, essential life skills that will benefit them far beyond the classroom.



JASON



MORE THAN MENTORSHIP: JASON'S STORY

When Jason first walked into Family & Children's Agency's ASPIRE after-school program in sixth grade, he was apprehensive. "I remember being really nervous, but it felt safe. Everyone had similarities," he said. At the time, Jason said he didn't put in effort and struggled to pay attention. That began to change as ASPIRE gave him the structure and encouragement he needed.

Academics were the foundation, and Jason soon saw improvement. "From that year I was getting B's and A's," he said. What made the biggest difference, though, was the support of caring adults, including ASPIRE staff member Allison. "Ally was an adult you can trust, someone you can look up to. She put a lot of time and effort into us. I respected her so much that I would do my homework to try to impress her and make her proud," Jason said.

At home, support was harder to come by. Jason's older siblings had moved out, and he and his mother didn't speak the same language for much of his childhood. "Nobody at home knew English," he said. "So I'd go to program and they would help me translate papers for my mom." ASPIRE became more than a tutoring program. It filled a communication gap and helped Jason feel understood.

"Without them I would've been lost," he said.

With support from FCA's Sullivan-Kindler Scholarship, Jason graduated from Porter & Chester Institute. He is now preparing to attend CT State Norwalk and still reaches out to ASPIRE staff for guidance, proof that the bonds formed years ago continue to guide his future.

 **100%**
OF STUDENTS GRADUATED
HIGH SCHOOL IN FOUR
YEARS AND ALL WENT ON
TO COLLEGE OR CAREER
TRAINING

 **LAUNCHED A PROM CLOSET
TO PROVIDE NO-COST
FORMALWEAR TO STUDENTS**

 **94.7%**
OF STUDENTS EARNED A C+
OR HIGHER IN BOTH MATH
AND ELA, THE HIGHEST
SUCCESS RATE IN TEN YEARS

 **BRAND NEW SIX-WEEK ESL
CLASS WAS SUCCESSFULLY
COMPLETED BY NINE SPANISH-
SPEAKING STUDENTS**



KRIS, MICHELLE,
AND THEIR SON

FCA's programs for families help nurture healthy relationships, support child development, and guide caregivers through times of challenge and change. With personalized services and a focus on long-term stability, we meet families where they are and walk alongside them every step of the way.

JOURNEY TO PARENTHOOD: KRIS AND MICHELLE'S STORY

"We did a lot of research on different types of adoption and agencies," Michelle shared. "We wanted to find an agency that shared our values, one that catered to individuals, same-sex couples, and diverse families. FCA felt like kindred spirits. When we went in for our initial information session at FCA, within two minutes of sitting down, Kris wrote me a note that said, 'You should work here,'" Michelle laughed.

At FCA they met Audrey, who became their adoption home study social worker and, more importantly, their guide and advocate. Audrey connected them with other families who had worked with various placement agencies, offering invaluable insight and advice. "The way she connected us with other people was so beautiful and extremely helpful," Michelle said. "Even now, she checks in on us, and it feels like she's part of the family."

In early 2022, Michelle and Kris were matched with their son's birth mother. They spent a month building their relationship and met in person the night before their son was born. Michelle and Kris held their child for the first time when he was just five hours old. Their bond with his birth family continues to this day. "We're so lucky to have them in our lives," Michelle said. "We visit every year for our son's birthday to celebrate together. Our lives are forever intertwined, and it's exactly the kind of family we wanted to create."

Their little one, now nearly three years old, is the light of their lives. "It's the best thing ever, and also the most exhausting," Kris joked. "It's like having a tiny heart attack every second of every day. He's always surprising us, and it's the most amazing experience."

**"FCA FELT
LIKE KINDRED
SPIRITS."**

FAMILIES

PROTECTING WHAT MATTERS MOST

FCA's DCF Involved Family Support programs help families working with the Department of Children and Families navigate challenges and create a safe, stable path forward. With a focus on in-home, relationship-based support, the programs promote the safety and emotional stability for all family members involved.

Strong outcomes show the impact of this work: 100% of those participating in the Intensive Family Preservation (IFP) and Reunification and Therapeutic Family Time (RTFT) programs had no repeat reports of abuse or neglect during their time in care.

Across every program, staff walk alongside families with compassion, consistency, and the belief that stability is possible.

This year, two of FCA's programs for DCF involved families were invited to participate in the Racial Justice Institute (RJI) Learning Collaborative. This learning group brought together providers and community members with lived experience to discuss structural and systematic challenges.



ROOTED IN CONNECTION

FCA's Child & Family Development programs are helping parents build skills while also building community. This year, we've seen families form meaningful, lasting relationships through group activities that go beyond the home visiting experience.

These group offerings have allowed families to develop friendships, and they have begun offering each other emotional support, child care assistance, and opportunities for connection, a critical step in reducing social isolation and maternal depression.

One standout example is our gardening group, where families come together weekly to tend FCA's flower beds at Fodor Farm. Parents and children work side by side, selecting plants, learning about nutrition, and spending quality time together. These moments reflect the heart of our work nurturing resilience, relationships, and a stronger sense of belonging.

PROVIDING CRITICAL SUPPORT IN MOMENTS OF CRISIS

This year, Family & Children's Agency joined Norwalk's Crisis Response Team, a collaborative effort led by the Norwalk Health Department to support families following a suicide or unexpected death. The team offers immediate outreach, connection to grief support groups, therapy, faith-based resources, and other community supports.

As the only clinical provider on the team, FCA's staff member offers guidance on trauma response, helps families navigate their emotions, and recommends appropriate mental health services. By contributing clinical expertise to this collaborative effort, FCA is helping to build a more responsive and compassionate system of care for Norwalk families in their most difficult moments.

108 FAMILIES SERVED IN
FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS



**BEGAN A SERIES OF
PLAYGROUPS FOR ADOPTIVE
FAMILIES TO BUILD COMMUNITY**



733 PARENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE
PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM
(PEP) TO LEARN HOW TO
PRIORITIZE THEIR CHILD DURING
THEIR SEPARATION OR DIVORCE



ADULTS

Adults navigating life's challenges find trusted, compassionate support at FCA. Our dedicated team creates a safe, welcoming space where individuals can address mental health needs, overcome substance use, and move beyond housing instability, building a stronger foundation for what comes next.

LATINO OUTREACH: REDUCING STIGMA, EXPANDING ACCESS

FCA's Latino Outreach program is designed to build trust and break down barriers for Spanish-speaking individuals at risk for or experiencing substance use and behavioral health challenges. With a strong presence in the community, the program met 347 individuals through outreach efforts this year, provided 139 people with direct case management, and referred 7 individuals to withdrawal management services.

What sets this program apart is its deep connection to the communities it serves. Through 107 presentations to community providers and regular participation in regional collaboratives, the program promotes awareness, reduces stigma, and ensures Latino individuals and families know where and how to access care.

The results speak for themselves: 95% of those contacted received at least one service within 180 days, exceeding the statewide average of 78%. Whether assisting with transportation, making Narcan available for overdose prevention, or helping navigate complex systems, FCA's Latino Outreach Worker is a trusted advocate, meeting people where they are and helping them take the next step toward healing.

THE POWER OF HOLISTIC CARE

At FCA, the strength of our work lies not only in individual programs, but in the way those programs come together to serve the whole person, and often the whole family. This year, our housing programs deepened partnerships with other FCA departments to provide more holistic support to clients.

Through close collaboration with FCA's Senior Services, Project REWARD, and Child & Family Development programs, older adults received wellness checks and benefit coordination, women in recovery connected to behavioral health and peer supports, and families with young children were provided parenting and child development education.

This level of integrated care is a unique benefit of an organization like FCA, where multiple programs work in tandem to wrap our arms around individuals and families. By addressing challenges beyond housing, including trauma, caregiving stress, or developmental needs, we are better equipped to support long-term stability and reduce the root causes of homelessness.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS, SHARED PURPOSE

This year, Family & Children's Agency strengthened its commitment to collaboration through two new partnerships that expand access to behavioral health support and empower clients on their path to wellness.

Through our partnership with Laurel House, FCA provides clinical counseling to individuals with serious mental health conditions, while FCA clients benefit from Laurel House's education and employment services.

A second partnership with Mid-Fairfield AIDS Project (MFAP) connects individuals living with HIV/AIDS to FCA's trauma-informed therapists for personalized emotional and mental health support. These partnerships amplify our impact, reach more people, and ensure that no one has to navigate life's challenges alone.



Project REWARD is a trauma-sensitive outpatient recovery program for women, offering mental health and substance use treatment with supportive services that promote healing and long-term stability.

FROM HOSPICE TO HOME: KIRBY'S STORY

At one point, Kirby was in hospice, unable to walk and unsure if she would survive. Doctors told her she might not make it. But Kirby refused to give up. Nearly two years later, she is sober, back in school, and determined to create a future full of purpose. She says the support she found at Family & Children's Agency's Project REWARD program has been "life changing."

Kirby's path to recovery was shaped by deep loss and trauma. As a teenager, she lost her mother and turned to drugs to numb the pain. She was sent to a boarding school which was later shut down for child abuse, where she endured even more hardship. "It wasn't long until I was back, getting high... except this time around I had more things that I was trying to not feel," she said. Addiction, arrests, and eventually alcohol use followed, leaving her hospitalized with cirrhosis and placed in hospice care.

Even in those darkest moments, Kirby's determination kept her going. Slowly, she rebuilt her strength, even relearning how to walk. When she entered FCA's Project REWARD, she found the support system she had been missing. "This has become my biggest support system, having that one-on-one with a counselor every week. It has been so essential to me maintaining my sobriety and to find more confidence in myself. It is a really, really big blessing," she said.

Through counseling, trauma groups, and relapse prevention, Kirby discovered new coping skills and a community rooting for her success. "It just makes me feel so, so cared about. And it makes me more confident in my sobriety, myself as a person, myself as a mom, a daughter, a member of my community," she said.

Today, Kirby has rebuilt her relationships and her sense of hope. She is present for her son, cheering him on at his sporting events and showing him that change is possible. She has returned to school and is preparing for a career helping others in recovery. "[Project REWARD] was a real opportunity for me to continue to strive to be a better person, to continue my sobriety, to understand things in life outside of your control. There are ways of dealing with it. It's never too late to heal from it," she said.

96% OF INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT PROGRAM CLIENTS WERE NOT ARRESTED DURING THE YEAR, EXCEEDING THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF 75%

0% OF OUTPATIENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLIENTS WERE HOSPITALIZED DURING THE YEAR

KIRBY



Adults

SENIORS

FCA's Senior Services empower older adults to stay independent, connected, and informed. From help navigating benefits to in-home care to opportunities for social engagement, our programs offer the practical support and personal connection that help seniors thrive in their homes and communities.

FINDING SUPPORT WHEN HE NEEDED IT MOST: LUIS' STORY

At 75 years old, Luis is raising his energetic 9-year-old son, Juan Felipe, on his own. When they moved to Norwalk from Stratford he was overwhelmed and unsure where to turn. "I was completely lost," he said.

Luis had just enough money to cover rent and no family or friends nearby. Unsure how to register his son for school or find help, he was referred to Family & Children's Agency. That's when he met his case manager, Mayra, who quickly became a lifeline.

"Thank God," Luis said. "I feel a little more security, you know, because anytime I need something, I can call."

Since that day, Mayra has helped him navigate nearly every challenge, enrolling Juan Felipe in school, applying for benefits, finding help with electric bills, and connecting to organizations for food and clothing when money was tight. FCA even helped secure financial aid for Juan Felipe to join a soccer team.

Life remains hard for this family. Luis is on a long waitlist for affordable housing and lives on a fixed income, but he said FCA gives him hope and stability. Without FCA, he said, life would be "very difficult."

Luis spends nearly every moment with Juan Felipe, determined to give him the future he deserves. "I spend a lot of time with my boy," he said. "I have him and he has me."

Now, fortunately, they both have FCA.

LUIS & JUAN FELIPE



 **144**
SENIORS RECEIVED
IN-HOME SERVICES INCLUDING
HOMEMAKING, ASSISTED
TRANSPORTATION,
COMPANION SERVICES,
AND MORE

 **984** RENT REBATE
APPLICATIONS, RESULTING IN
\$434,659 IN DIRECT FINANCIAL
RELIEF FOR OLDER ADULTS



A RECOGNIZED LIFELINE FOR SENIORS

This year, Family & Children's Agency was honored to be designated a Community Focal Point by the Southwestern CT Agency on Aging, a recognition that affirms our role as Norwalk's trusted access point for aging and disability services.

For older adults in Norwalk, a single call to FCA can lead to housing assistance, food benefits, healthcare access, and community connection. Now in its fourth year as the City of Norwalk's Municipal Agent for the Elderly, FCA continues to serve as a trusted lifeline for seniors navigating complex systems and limited resources.

This year, FCA served 939 clients through our Senior Services programs. Of those, 82% were over age 65 and 99% were classified as low-income. These numbers reflect a growing need for support among older adults, and a growing trust in FCA to deliver it.

Often, what starts with a question about one benefit becomes a gateway to holistic support. Clients leave not only with forms completed but with new tools, new connections, and renewed confidence.

BECAME A DISTRIBUTOR OF
SENIOR FARMER'S MARKET
NUTRITION PROGRAM'S CARD
AND DISTRIBUTED
298 CARDS

CONDUCTED
1,539
WELL-BEING CHECKS

 **99%** OF SENIORS
RECEIVING IN-HOME
SERVICES REMAINED
IN THEIR HOMES

BRINGING SENIORS TOGETHER

This year, FCA staff hosted 145 groups with themes ranging from scam prevention and wellness workshops to gardening days and creative events. These groups served more than 1,200 participants and were held in senior housing complexes, libraries, and community spaces across Norwalk, ensuring all can attend and creating welcoming and accessible programming.



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR AGING ADULTS

Last year, FCA's Senior Outreach and Engagement program supported 165 older adults across the community, helping reduce isolation and connect individuals to the care they need. The program focuses on building relationships with adults age 55 and older who may be experiencing anxiety, mental health challenges, or substance use concerns.

Through regular outreach and compassionate care coordination, FCA social workers meet clients where they are, whether at home or in community settings, to ease fears, offer guidance, and provide referrals to vital services. Fostering trust and reducing barriers to support, the program continues to bring stability and hope to some of Norwalk's most vulnerable seniors.

Donors

The generosity of our donors helps make FCA's life-changing work possible. Thank you for your dedication and support.

Individuals' names reflect cumulative cash gifts between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

**Have given consecutively for the past 5+ fiscal years*

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(\$100,000+)

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WILLIAM O. MURPHY
FAMILY STRENGTHENING AWARD

The William O. Murphy Family Strengthening Award recognizes individuals and/or organizations in the community whose contributions have dramatically impacted FCA's ability to strengthen and stabilize families. The award is named in honor of William O. Murphy, who was affiliated with the Agency for nearly 30 years.

The 2024 William O. Murphy Family Strengthening Award was presented to Kenneth Waller and Norwalk Community Health Center (NCHC).

Under Kenneth's leadership as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operations Officer, NCHC has been a vital partner in ensuring the health and well-being of Norwalk's families. Kenneth's extensive experience in healthcare leadership and his commitment to addressing social determinants of health have been instrumental in forging this impactful collaboration.

Together, FCA and NCHC have expanded services to Norwalk's most vulnerable populations. Our partnership has enabled early intervention through developmental screenings for young children, prenatal support for mothers, postnatal mental health services, and case management for seniors — all offered through office hours held by FCA staff at NCHC. This collaboration has resulted in hundreds of children entering kindergarten developmentally ready, more families accessing home visiting programs to enhance parenting skills, and reduced stress for elderly patients and their families.

Congratulations to Kenneth Waller and Norwalk Community Health Center.



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If we inadvertently misspelled or omitted your name, we apologize. Please call the Development office at 203-855-8765 so we may correct our records.

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IMAGINE

IMAGINE 2025 was a lively evening of connection and generosity. ASPIRE student co-hosts brought fresh energy to the stage, joined by James Naughton as Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer Lydia Fenet. Guests enjoyed an inspiring program, including a moving client story, and came together to support FCA's work. With leadership from Co-Chairs Jamie Buschmann and Sean McMurtry and the commitment of our event committee, the night was both memorable and impactful.



Bingo at the Beer Garden

FCA's Bingo at the Beer Garden returned this year, bringing together friends and supporters for an afternoon of games, prizes, and community fun. With the Junior Board of Advisors leading the way in planning and organizing, the event was a great success in raising funds and connecting people to FCA's mission.



Mother's Day Tea

Our Mother's Day Tea brought together a record number of friends and supporters for a beautiful day celebrating extraordinary women and raising vital funds for FCA's programs. The event combined stunning weather, a vibrant shopping boutique, and heartfelt storytelling to create a memorable afternoon.



Golf Classic

FCA's annual Golf Classic brought supporters together for a beautiful day on the Brooklawn Country Club course in support of our mission. A highlight was a special conversation between Ian O'Connor and Armen Keteyian about O'Connor's bestseller about Aaron Rogers. With the dedication of our golf committee and the generosity of participants, the event raised vital funds to help children, families, adults, and seniors in our community.

In Honor & Memory

We are extremely thankful to those who chose to honor and memorialize their loved ones by donating to Family & Children's Agency.

In recognition of all the extraordinary women honored and memorialized through our Mother's Day card campaign:

In Honor of Susan Beyman
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Young

In Honor of Ben Fernald
Ms. Katherine Bossio
Ms. Lauren Burke
Ms. Jaclyn Ferguson
Ms. Lily Janda
Ms. Shelby Tadman

In Honor of Dianne Green
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In Honor of Jamie Buschmann and Sean McMurtry
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Foster

In Honor of Neil Nathanson
New York Life

In Honor of the Norwalk Early Childhood Council
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In Honor of Owen Steuerer
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Mrs. Anky Koudjis
Ms. Deborah Taverna

In Honor
Julie Alberty
Chelsea Anderson
Christine Andrew
Pammie Bassock
Carol Bauer
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Denise Bergen
Michelle Beyman
Anne Bleckman
Barbara Bleckman
Sue Boldra
Nancy Bourque
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Cheryl Brzezinski
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Lisa Collins
Cathy Conover
Laura Conti
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Dot Dudek
Corinne Pilar Eckstein
Kate Erskine
Lucy Feldkircher
Theresa Figueiras
Mary Ann Genuario
Jean Goodwin
Laura Greenbaum
Julene Greenshields
Lisa Habasinski
Jeana Hahn
Ali Havens
Maureen Hughes
Debra Hyman
Mary Jeffery

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Shirley Kenowitz
Elaine Kerr
Kimberly Kubin
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Catherine Leslie
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Corinne Pappas Maskaleris
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Cecilia Mesh
Tami Miller
Hillary Mooers
Diane Morey
Brandy Mullins
Donna Murphy
Kathleen Murphy
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Barbara Nixon
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Amy Nussbaum
Elizabeth O'Connell
Judy Orr
Patti Ovitt
Connie Paquette
Audrey Patterson
Marcy Perry
Nancy Peters
Jytte Pirritt
Molly Posner
Alessandra Reda
Barbara Rittner
Michelle Rodney
Tracy Rosen
Diane Rosenthal
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Rosemary Schmitt
Jennifer Serenbetz
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Judy Sidarweck
Ginger Sollazzo
Lisa Sollazzo
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Sidnee Streater
Patti Taconne
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Jackie Trombetta
Cheryl Spritz Unger
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Barbara Vivencio
Amy Vojta
Virginia Vozzolo
Cindy Ward
Christin Weberman
Kristin Wilcox
Maria Wilcox
Angela Yelich
Laurie Young

In Memory
Gloria Boccuzzi
Patricia Correia
Helen Fennell
Elizabeth Furlong
Lillian Galante
Mary T. Gleason
Joan Grasso
Mary Vakos



In-Kind

In-kind donations from local businesses, community organizations, and individual donors significantly bolster FCA's ability to provide essential support to our clients.



Anonymous
314 Beer Garden
Albourn Partners
Ms. Susanne Hall-Armstrong and
Mr. Peter F. Armstrong
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Ms. Bernadette Baldino
Ann and Jonathan Bell
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Belport
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Ms. Linda Clarkson
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Dave's Planet Pizza of Norwalk
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Del Vecchio
Dr. Jeffrey DePanfilis
Diamond's Brick Oven Pizza
Dooney & Bourke Inc.
Lilwyn and Paul Dyer
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The Griswold Inn
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Knights of Columbus, St. Matthew
Council 14360
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kokias
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. LaCroix
Lambda Zeta Sigma Chapter of Sigma
Gamma Rho Sorority
Lazy Sister
Sean P. Lenahan
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Maclaren
Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk
Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Martin
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Sean and Scott McMurtry
Ms. Mary Ann Meils
Morgan Stanley
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Mr. and Mrs. Eric Niegelberg
NORD/LB Norddeutsche Landesbank
Girozentrale
Norwalk Senior Center
Ox Ridge Elementary School,
Kids Care Club
Ms. Joan Paul

Prestige Consumer Healthcare
Ms. Mary Rauscher
Ravago
RightClick
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Rosen
Rowayton Library
Rumble Boxing Sono
Rumjhum and Bharat Sarpeshkar
Mr. and Mrs. Streeter Seidell
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Serotta
Service League of Boys (SLOBs) -
New Canaan
Service League of Boys (SLOBs) -
Wilton
Shipman & Goodwin
[solidcore]
St. Matthew's Church
SweatHouz
Tauck
Mrs. Jennifer Toll
Total Wine & More
Toys for Tots - Norwalk
The Umbrella Club
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Valiante
WaterWipes
Mr. and Mrs. William O. Webster, Jr.
Weston Women's League
Westport Auction
Whalers Brewing Company
Maria and Tom Wilcox
Bobbie L. Willmore
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Willmott, Jr.
The Wine Basket
Wood-n-Tap



Volunteers

Through their selfless contributions, volunteers not only amplify FCA's impact but also create a sense of community and empowerment for those they serve.

Reverend Elizabeth C. Abel
Charlotte C. Ackerman
Lianne Acosta-Rua
The Alberty Family
Albourn Partners
Anita Alcoser
Melissa Algarin
All Saints Catholic School
Siri Anagani
Kathryn M. Anderson
Sara Anson
Anne Atkins
Jaquelline Avila
Sadiqua Azad
Toby Baker
Jill Bakken
Carol Ball
Ann Barton
Aly Beaumont
Julia Beausoleil
Jonathan Bell
Donna K. Below
Charlotte Berger
Susan Beyman
Stefanie Blum
Caryn Bocchino
Yolanda Bonomo
Barbara Boyd
Joann Brant
Nick Brillo
Broad River Church
Jean Brown
Lori Buchanan
Louisa Jane Buckey
Aviva Budd
Amy Burke
Jamie Buschmann
Katherine Buse
Laura D. Callahan
Meg Campbell
Wenton Camporin
CARE
Carousel Preschool

Janel Cassara
Valerie Davila
Kelly Chapple
Mia Chatterjee
Brianna Cintron
Joel Clark
Linda Clarkson
Janine Cleary
Agatha Cobert
Ellen Coghlan
Jessica Connolly
Maura Connolly
Elizabeth Cook
Sarah Cooke
Amy Cooper
Nancy Coppotelli
Cornell Club of Fairfield County
Tricia Costanzo
Mary-Pat Cottrell
Grace Curley
Lillian Damast
Carly Danziger
Jennifer Davatzes
Brian Davidson
Nicola Davies
Kari Davis
Cheryl C. De Vonish
Deb DeFeo
Peggy DeSantis
Elyse Dickenson
Jill C. Dimitrief
Rachael Dineen
Michelle Doggett
Eliza Doolittle
Madison Dopwell
Brittany Dube
Marilyn Dugan
Haiku Durden
Lilwyn Lucas Dyer
Patricia Egan
Lizzy Eifler
Mary Ellen Elias
Pam Ely

Joe Enright
Becky Esposito
Carrie Everett
FactSet
Pam Fadner
Samuel Farquhar
Jim Fatsi
Michelle Fechter
Maureen Ferguson
Phoebe Fernander
Carey Field
Theresa Figueiras
Filling in the Blanks
Debbie Finkel
Beth B. Flavin
Julia Fliegelman
Susan Florido
Amy Foodman
Dana Freeman



Michael Friedman
Deborah S. Fuller
Ernesta Gadalla
Evelyn Galarza-Villegas
Gallagher
Emily Galligan
Peggy Garbus
Gen Re
Mary Ann Genuario
Oliver Gershey
Christopher Giordano
Ana Goizueta
Heather W. Goldberg
Jonathan Goldstein
Susan Gomes
Goodwives Quilters
Josh Gordon
Dianne and Will Green
Carly Greenberger
Matthew Greene
Greens Farms Academy
Julene M. Greenshields
Rita Gresl
Rebecca Grippando
Olivia Grubb
Cassidy Gutman
Margaret Haase



Minks to Sinks

Minks to Sinks had a milestone year, raising more than \$100,000 for Family & Children’s Agency, marking its highest total since before the pandemic. Through two well-loved tag sales in Wilton, this all-volunteer organization continues to make a meaningful impact, supporting FCA’s wide range of programs for children, families, adults, and seniors.

With more than 90 years of history, Minks to Sinks reflects the power of community and service. This year, the group welcomed Laura Rowley as its new Chair. A dedicated volunteer with nearly a decade of experience, Laura brings deep knowledge and commitment to her new leadership role.

We are incredibly grateful to the volunteers who bring Minks to Sinks to life. Their generosity and hard work make a real difference, and we look forward to another successful year ahead.



Stephanie Habasinski
Nick Hahn
Claudia Halsey
Robert Hansen
Denise Harned
Maureen Hart
Sandy Hart
Elinor Hauff
Nancy Hayes
Kim Healy
Shelley Heiss
Henkel
Kristine Reddington Herlyn
Diego Hernandez
Natalie Hester
Noni Higgins
Sheila Higgins
Anne D. Hoelzl
Caroline Hoffman
Jody Holmes
Keira Zheng
Noelle K. Hughes
Laura Hussey
Caroline Hutton
Justin Hylwa
Banji Iyun
Jen Jaehnig
Chris John
Holly Johnson
Junior League of Stamford-
Norwalk
Evie Kaczmarek
Jane Kandiew
Colleen Cary Katz
Jason Katz
Cynthia Keating
Susan Kellogg
Karen Kelso

Luisa Kelso
Armen Keteyian
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Nora King
Donna Kleiber
Anne Klotz
Knights of Columbus,
St. Matthew Council 14360
Linda Koch
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Eve Krauss
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Jane Legaz
Brittany Leitten
Sean P. Lenahan
Suzanne Lenzer
Rachel Lieberman
Lisa Sheffield Lillie
Gail Lilly
LuAnn Lindon
Ryan Little
Nancy Lombardo
Long Lots Elementary
School - PTA
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Kim Luppino
Dana Lupton
Justin Lux
Mark D. Lux
Haley MacDonald

Lindsey Mackay
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Nancy Marino
Meredith Marks
Leslie Markus
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Virginia C. Martin
Natalia Martinez
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Sean McMurtry
Rob Meerman, Jr.
Michelle Messina
Fleuranda Metellus
Angela Middleton
Natalia Sieira Millan
Karen Miller
Minks to Sinks
Hilary Mitchell
Laureen Mody
Jennifer Moore
Jennifer Morales
Erin Moran
Raymond Moskow

Lorena Mreca
Sandy Mumbach
Catherine Munera
Kathleen and Peter Murphy
Mandy Murphy
Peter Murphy, Jr.
Ginger Murtaugh
Wendy Nadel
Jennifer Napoleon
New Canaan Country School
Ann Newton
Dana Nickel
Hillary Niegelberg
Gail Nielsen
Audra Noble
Mary Norman
Norwalk Senior Center
Carolyn O’Brien
Daniel O’Connor
Rita McKenna Olson
Andrea A. O’Meara
Gladys O’Neill
Julia Cereghino
Carrie O’Reilly
Delphine Overby
Ox Ridge Elementary
School, Kids Care Club
Dawn Padovan
Grace Papadakos
Amber Paquette
Marisa Parrotta
Dolly Patterson
PDC Brands
Candy Perusi
Maddy Peterson
Serena Peterson
Andress Pettibone
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Betsy Pettit
Melissa Phillips
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Charlie Pieterse
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Claire Plowright
Helen Poliner
Kelly Porter
Isabelle Pound
Suzie Bowen Powers
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Will Raskopf
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Kerry Ray
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Daisy Restrepo
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Maya Ohl Rodriguez
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Brianne Rosenblitt
Linda Ross
Avery Rowe
Laura Rowley
Meghan Russo
Carrie Sanders
Santino Crudele Sands
Bharat Sarpeshkar
Megan Saverine
Karen Scappaticci
Krystyne Scherma
Lynn Schneider
Julianna Scianti
Maurice K. Segall
Taylor Serotta
Service League of Boys (SLOBs) -
New Canaan
Service League of Boys (SLOBs) -
Wilton
Hirva Shah
Aiden Sharp
Caleb Sharp
Shipman & Goodwin

Sara Minueso Sicilia
Kathleen M. Shouvlín
Chrissy Silva
Josie Silva
Joanne Simeone
Neha Singh
Helen D. Skipper
Slalom
Martha Yepes Small, MD
Karoline Smokler
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Leena Wangneo
Nancy Ward
Julia Wayland
Trish Weber
William O. Webster
Jennifer Weil
Nancy Weiner
Kelly Weldon
Weston Women’s League
Westport Auction
Katy Williams
Andrew Wind
Martha Witte
Angela Wood
Jane Wood
Emilia Woodhouse
Nicole Woodring
Samantha Yan
Brianna Zarate
Rick Zaremski
Susan Zelman
Ellen Zumbach



ANNE C. CARY
VOLUNTEERISM AWARD

The Anne C. Cary Volunteerism Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated the highest level of volunteerism on behalf of Family & Children’s Agency. The award is named in honor of Anne C. Cary, who was involved in nearly every aspect of volunteerism at the Agency for over 25 years.

The 2024 Anne C. Cary Volunteerism Award was presented to Meg Campbell.

Meg’s unwavering dedication to FCA has spanned nearly three decades. Since 1995, Meg has played an integral role in the major Minks to Sinks biannual fundraiser, serving in various leadership positions, including Executive Committee member, Corresponding Secretary, and Chair. Through her tireless work with this unique fundraising initiative, she has contributed significantly to the resources and support available to families in our community.

Meg’s commitment to FCA extends well beyond her work with Minks to Sinks. From 2007 to 2009, she served on the FCA Board of Directors, bringing her insight and passion to help guide the Agency’s mission. Additionally, she was a key member of the Benefit committee in 2009-2011, helping to ensure the success of FCA’s fundraising events. Whether through organizing or hands-on efforts, Meg has consistently stepped up to lead and support FCA’s initiatives.

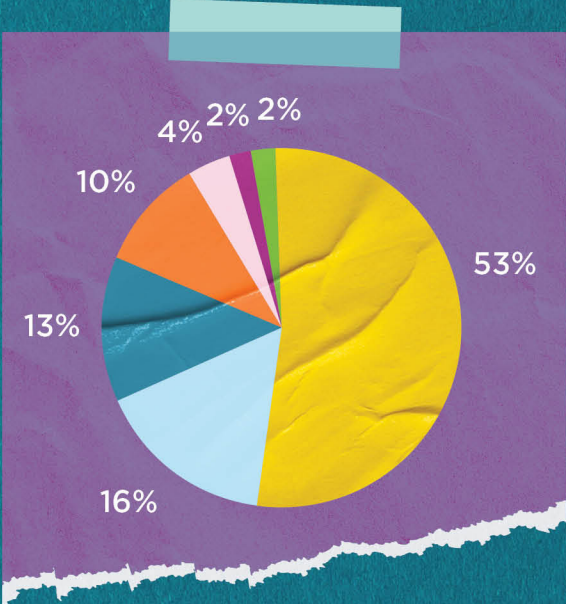
From working on one-time projects to volunteering in multiple capacities over the years, Meg has proven time and again that her dedication to FCA’s mission is heartfelt and enduring. Congratulations to Meg, on this well-deserved award.

Financial Report 2024-2025

Operating Revenues

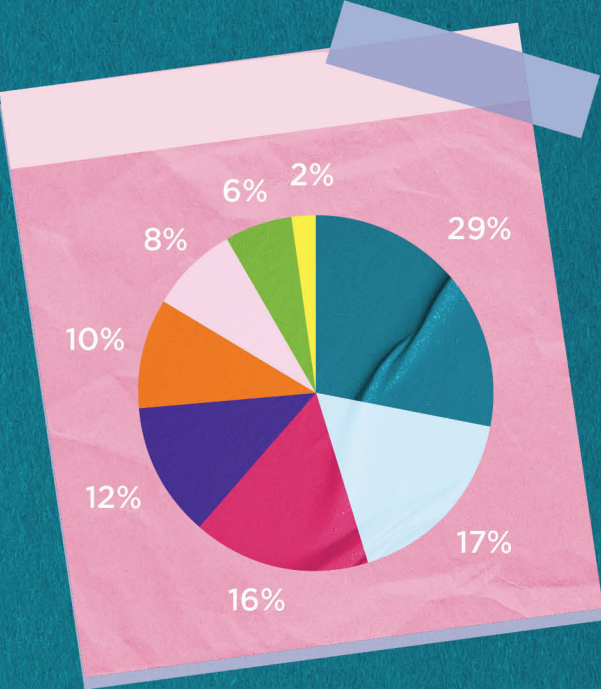
● Government Grants	\$8,977,002
● Program Services	\$2,664,880
● Contributions	\$2,217,408
● Private Grants	\$1,716,800
● Special Events	\$642,551
● Investment Activities	\$311,481
● Other Revenue	\$254,419

Total **\$16,784,541**



Operating Expenses

- Family Support & Foster Care
- Adoption & Early Childhood Home Visiting
- Behavioral Health
- Housing Retention
- Senior Services
- Development
- ASPIRE
- Management & General



Results are unaudited as of publication date. Complete financial statements audited by CliftonLarsonAllen are available upon request.



Staff

Sharise Abraham, Karina Alonso-Ferrari, Kara Altieri, Julia Anderson, Yvonne Grant Ankle, Katherine Aquino, Silvia Arnoso, Michele Ayles, Ructhmy Bellefleur-Large, Mallory Benjamin, Charmante Boiteux, Juanita Bond, Eskarlith Bonilla, Madeleine Bray, Jane Breen, Eliza Brown, Odete Brown, Jordon Brown, Chaneil Bruton, MaryGrace Burke, Sharri Butler, Marian Caldera, Andrea Cameron, Mary Capers, Camila Cardona, Arlindy Castillo, Violetta Cedeño, Erlande Celadon, Xiomara Celis-Galvez, Kannika Chap, Josiane Charlot, Monange Cineas, Darlene Cirilli, Karen Clark, Setsue Clarke, Katrell Clay, Maria Cloke, Agatha Cober, Caitlin Collette, Renee Cortinhas, Brenda Costa, Demetria Dash, Monica D'Auria, Jordan Davila, Diana DeJesus, Emma Devine, Maryse Dugue, Beatrice Easton, Audrey Elliott, Paul Escandon, Daihara Feliz, Calondra Ferguson, Heysi Fernandez, Kashaine Ferryman, Nicole Finch, Claudia Fleuriot, Allison Footit, Roselaine Fourn-JeanFrancois, Emily Fox, Amy Galarza, Isabel Gallego, Angel Garcia, Enna Garcia, James Gilliard, Pamela Ginyard, Theresa Gleason, Kaytlin Gomez, Mariana Goni, Ximena Gordon, Dorothy Grajales, Angie Guzman, Ana Guzman-Castro, Lisa Habasinski, Michelle Hanson, Tiana Hatton, Alyssa Havens, Viviana Hernandez Ramirez, Jeanmarie House, Isabel Huyhua, Hilda Ibarra Munoz, Christopher Jachino, Marcela La Torre Laos, Samantha Leathers, Iridiana Leon, Jeremy Leone, Jacie Levethan, Karen Lewis, Christiana Liwag, Vanessa Lochard, Guerline Louis-Fin, Elizabeth Lupinacci, Claudia Maldonado Pierrette, Jennifer McBride, Tiffany McCarthy, Scott McGraw, Michelle McRae, Janet McRae Knight, Yulan Menzie-Hackney, Devon Miles, Sara Molina, Bernadette Mooney-Burke, Yadira Morales, Susan Myers, Natividad Franchesca Naso, Samuel Nerette, Jessica Nieves, Niana Nieves, Manuela Ochoa Isaza, Melissa Pagan, Altagracia Pena, Consuelo Perez, Ashely Perez, David Perez, Jennifer Perrottelli, Lindsay Perry, Lynn Pettway-Harris, Madge Philippe, Ans Plonquet, Andrea Prevost, Christina Prevot, Soraya Principe, Jennifer Procopis, Lindsay Quesada, Lucy Regalado, Anita Reid, Sandra Reyes, Althea Richards, Marta Rivera, Helen Robinson, Khaiesha Robinson, Melisa Robles, Peggy Rodgers, Abigail Rodriguez, Valeria Rojas, Codana Romalho Benjamin, Jennifer Sagastume, Elsa Sanchez, Marggie Sanchez, Sunil Saxena, Janina Serrao, Marie Simon, Dolly Singleton, Alexandra Sollazzo, Arianna Sosa-Vila, Christina Spieler, Rachel Spotts, Sidnee Streater, Yohanna Sufran, Stephanie Sylvestre, Andrea Tafur, Aniana Tavarez, Shaun Taylor, Marie Telo, Beatrice Thomas, Rena Thorne, Pamela Ulrich, Mercia Ulysse, Johanna Vasquez, Andrea Vasquez Franco, Claribel Velez, Mayra Velez, Daisy Velez Ferreira, Laurette Monica Vereen, Emilia Andrea Vila, Jessica Vivenzio, Roxann Ward, Thandeka White, Amanda Wien, Danielle Wilson, Margaret Woglom, Lu Xu, and Monica Zavala

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Vice President, Human Resources
Averi Dudek

Chief Financial Officer
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Vice President, Youth and Family Empowerment
Mary Kate Locke

Vice President, Community and Behavioral Health
Ligia Masilamani

Vice President, Chief Development Officer
Andrea Vakos

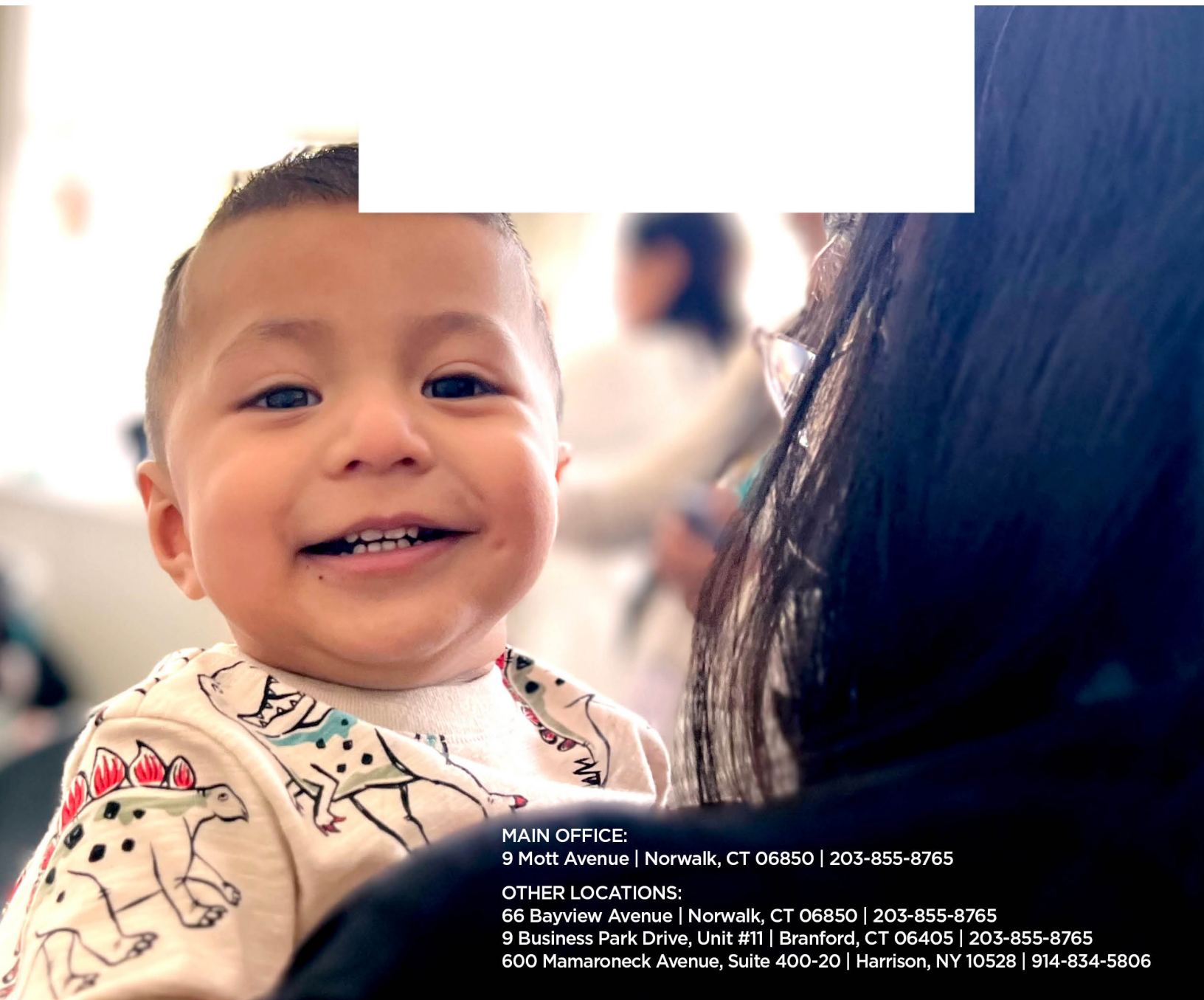




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9 Business Park Drive, Unit #11 | Branford, CT 06405 | 203-855-8765

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