

Annual Report Fiscal year ending June 30, 2020

Message from José F. Velilla, Executive Director

The year that ended June 30, 2020 was marked by change and disruption. The year began with the administrative transfer of our Head Start and Child Care programs from the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) to the Department of Education (DOE). We began the year getting to know our counterparts at the new agency, and becoming familiar with its systems. The year ended with the Covid-19 pandemic, which resulted in the city-wide closing of all schools and programs for children. We ended the year learning how to communicate with our quarantined families and provide our educational program electronically. During this highly unusual year, the Bloomingdale Family Program continued to serve our families and our children with care and dedication.

The program year began with the enrollment of new children, as our graduating four-year-olds moved on to kindergarten. We maintained robust enrollment of children in our two-year-old and three-year-old classes, but continued to have enrollment shortfalls in our four-year-old classes, a situation affecting Head Start programs throughout the city following the expansion of UPK classrooms in the public schools. This expansion also made it difficult to retain certified teachers, particularly given the salary and benefit disparities between Head Start and DOE teachers. We temporarily closed our 4s classroom at our 109th Street location for lack of a certified teachers at that site.

On March 13, 2020, responding to a city-wide directive, we closed our sites to students and teachers, and began to deliver our program electronically to our families. With our full staff at work, we established direct daily contact with our families via phone and internet, posting lessons and activities on our bilingual website. We successfully maintained our privately-funded program of therapeutic preventive services, providing individual support – again via phone and on-line platforms -- to children whose social/emotional, verbal, or attentional issues impede their learning in the classroom and who, without this individual support, would struggle with the demands of the academic program after their transition into our local public schools. The services we provide – play therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy – have been key to our long term success preparing “at risk” preschool children for a successful academic future.

We also continued our Homework Help program, providing academic support to children who had received our preventive services as preschoolers and whose kindergarten through third grade classrooms were now shuttered by the pandemic. We plan to offer a summer academic program for these children, who have already lost months of crucial instructional time.

Delivering our programs electronically puts additional burdens on families living in poverty. Many of our families do not have computers, and some have only limited access to the internet. We succeeded procuring some tablets and iPads from the DOE, and we obtained a foundation grant that enabled us to purchase others and make sure that all our families could participate in the educational program.

To see the lessons and activities we have been providing for our children, and the resources we are providing to our families, we invite you to visit our website – www.bloomingtonfamilyprogram.org.

As the year comes to a close, there are still many uncertainties about what our program will look like in the 2020-21 program year. Our strength is our skilled and dedicated staff, who are committed to serving our children and our families. Bloomington's Governing Board, which has been enlarged and strengthened during the past two years, is equally committed to our program and our mission. Our board chair is retiring after 16 years of service in that capacity, and we are looking forward to the coming year under the leadership of our new chair, Georgia Levenson Keohane.

June 30, 2020

José F. Velilla, Executive Director

Financial Highlights

Program Revenue	FY 2020 (Projected)	FY 2019
Public Funds	\$ 3,044,330	\$ 3,156,739
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Private Fundraising Revenue		
Individual Gifts Donations	115,575	77,799
Foundations	317,272	420,657
Earned Income	24,036	32,047
In-Kind	582,750	528,064
Total Program Revenues	\$4,083,963	\$4,215,306

(Note: Our Disability (Preventive) Services for special needs children, Yoga program, and afterschool Homework Help program are funded by grants from private foundations and by contributions from individual donors.)

Program Expenditures

Program	\$3,123,815	\$ 3,730,339
Management and General	495,724	591,974
Fundraising	-	-
Total Program Expenditures	\$3,619,539	\$4,322,313

Audit and Other Reports

The Bloomingdale Family Program is audited annually. The Audit and the program's 990 report for FY 2019 is available on request. The Audit and program's 990 report for FY 2020 is not available at this time.

The annual report of the Mayor's Office on Contracts for 2018 awarded Bloomingdale the rating of Excellent for Program Quality and Good for Financial Management.

The Bloomingdale Early Childhood Program

Bloomingdale currently operates three early childhood centers in the Manhattan Valley community of New York City. All provide year-round full-day programs for children aged two to five. Our West 109th Street center operates as Head Start program serving low-income families at no charge; our Columbus Avenue center operates as both, a Head Start and Early Head Start operated as a Child Care program serving low-income families at no charge and families who are working or in school at fees based on family income.