The Children’s Aid Society of New York City provides comprehensive support for children in need, from birth to young adulthood, and for their families, to fill the gaps between what children have and what they need to thrive.
The current economic crisis is straining our social fabric, making The Children’s Aid Society’s work even more vital to the increasing number of children and families who need our help.

Direct referrals to Children’s Aid’s Family Wellness domestic violence program were up 39 percent this fiscal year over last. Economic and other stressors can trigger abuse or escalate existing problematic behaviors, including substance abuse and alcoholism, which lead to family strife, abuse and neglect. Children’s Aid’s Office of Public Policy & Client Advocacy (OPPCA) reports a rise in eviction cases and subprime displacement from two or three cases a month to an average of twenty.

These services help keep family members safer and together. Our Adoption and Foster Care, Preventive and Homemaker Services also strive to keep children safe and achieve or retain permanency. In the past fiscal year, we cared for only slightly more foster children than the previous year, but saw a 20 percent increase in adoptions.

For-profit corporations streamline their businesses in times of economic turmoil, but The Children’s Aid Society must expand its services to ensure that we can help as many children as possible while remaining fiscally responsible. To this end, Children’s Aid’s Board has approved the use of an additional $1.1 million from the agency’s reserves for the upcoming fiscal year (FY 2009–2010), above the five percent customarily authorized. Even with this additional commitment, we still had to reduce next year’s budget by $4 million to account for inflation and loss of revenue. The Children’s Aid Society hasn’t had to take such large-scale measures since the Great Depression. The additional spending of our reserves demonstrates our commitment to shepherding New York City’s children through this difficult time, by providing the individual and family supports they need to grow into happy, healthy and successful adults.

Despite all the gloom and doom in the news, The Children’s Aid Society’s Board, leadership and staff remain optimistic about the future—this is an essential attribute for those who work with children. Our leadership and staff are naturally forward-thinking and the Board Members are stepping up to match this optimism. While acknowledging and appreciating the hardships that everyone faces, we call on our donors to increase their support as demand for our services grows.

Angela Diaz, M.D., M.P.H.
President, Board of Trustees
For more than 156 years, The Children’s Aid Society has made the difference for children and families at critical moments in their lives. We weave a broad web of support—with programs, health care, resources and mentors—that helps youth develop their strengths, their leadership skills, a sense of right and wrong and a hopeful vision for their future. We equip them to make good choices on their passage to adolescence—and beyond. This is our approach; it happens in our community schools, in our community centers, our teen programs and through the Children’s Aid Society Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, a holistic program that empowers youth with a rich sense of themselves and their future options, and that was recently found to meet Top Tier Evidence of Effectiveness by the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy.

Children’s Aid helps recent immigrant parents build vital bridges to their new culture through our community schools in Washington Heights. Expectant newcomer families find the medical and social support they need at the schools before, during and after their baby’s birth, thanks to our pregnancy coaches, doula and Early Head Start programs. From the start, we welcome that new child and his or her family into the fold of their community school, where we support healthy development such as learning of language and age-appropriate play and offer a plethora of programs for parents, including ESL classes and job training. By the time a child starts kindergarten, the family and child have been part of the school community for five years, which is very empowering for any five-year-old and tremendously helpful for the family.

Transitioning from childhood to adolescence, from one culture to another, from juvenile justice or from foster care back into society... These are some of the many critical moments during which we as a society can lose a child for good—to crime, drugs, the streets, entrenched poverty, teen pregnancy—or can turn that child around, so he or she can create a successful, productive, happy and healthy life. For millions of young people, Children’s Aid has been there for the turnaround.

Today’s economic climate brings special challenges for Children’s Aid, and the agency itself is at a critical juncture. We face a perfect storm of reduced government spending on social services, decreased donor and foundation giving, diminished reserves and, at the same time, increased demand on our services. For us, business goes up when the economy goes down.

To weather this storm, we must continue our tireless pursuit of innovation to help New York City’s poorest, most vulnerable children and families. The programs that are successful, proven institutions today—such as community schools and the teen pregnancy prevention program, medical foster care and juvenile justice—were on the cutting edge of social innovation when they were created. They were funded with private money, which allowed us to take necessary bold steps, evaluate results and communicate outcomes so others could learn from our model.

We must maintain sufficient unrestricted private resources despite the financial climate so we may continue to be creative and effective every day in improving the lives of poor kids. We must continue to be incensed that there are so many teens in the juvenile justice system, that children go without basic health care, that the teen pregnancy rate continues to be untenable. There is an enormous social cost for not intervening at critical junctures in children’s lives.

Richard Buery, our new CEO, knows these costs. He grew up in one of the city’s most impoverished neighborhoods. He went to Harvard, got a law degree from Yale, and decided to return to his East New York neighborhood to start Groundwork, Inc., which works to better the lives of people living in Brooklyn’s public housing projects. At age 37, Richard is a man whose entire career has been fueled by energy and a willingness to hear new ideas and try out novel concepts. As I retire, I know he is just the leader that The Children’s Aid Society needs at this critical moment: an innovative thinker who is bold, entrepreneurial and a strong voice for the poor children and families of this city.

C. Warren Moses
Chief Executive Officer
MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

Childhood is a time of hope and promise, discovery and dreams. But for far too many of New York City’s most impoverished young people, childhood is marred by barriers, denial and hopelessness. Illness goes untreated and leads to chronic school absence. Teen pregnancy derails the future. Dreams dead end at the street corner.

The Children’s Aid Society’s comprehensive, integrated services make the difference in the lives of poor children, bridging the gap between what they have and what they need to thrive. We reach these children and families at critical moments—when a place to go, a person to talk to, or a connection to community could mean the difference between making it and not making it. We help by creating healthy and wholesome nurturing communities within which families can grow and thrive. For kids who have fallen through the cracks, we provide foster care, preventive services, juvenile justice and domestic violence programs.

Last year, Children’s Aid served 150,000 children and their families at more than 45 locations throughout the city. With services that span lives from the prenatal months to early adulthood years, The Children’s Aid Society supports children’s emotional and physical health, eliminates barriers to education and offers enrichment opportunities so children can learn to the fullest; we develop individual strengths and leadership potential so children can create the life of their dreams.

Health and Well-Being: A child who cannot see the blackboard cannot learn. A teen who grows up without healthy relationships cannot create her own. A young person in a violent home has scars that cannot heal on their own.

Our integrated services for children ensure that young people and their families have the supports they need to get and stay healthy—physically, psychologically and socially. We
Health and Well-Being

- 81,000 medical, dental and mental health service visits were made by 14,000 student patients in Children’s Aid Society community school and center-based clinics.
- 642 foster care children were provided with safe homes.
- The Go!Kids program taught 1,028 pre-school children lessons about healthy eating and exercise.
- Family Wellness, our domestic violence prevention program, provided direct services, including group or individual counseling, education, advocacy and referrals, to 690 individuals.

make care accessible by bringing medical, dental, mental health and counseling services, as well as facilitated public health insurance enrollment, to their neighborhoods via their community schools and community centers.

As children transition into adolescence and through their teen years, Children’s Aid’s programs grow with them to meet their changing needs; in addition to medical and dental care and mental health services, age-appropriate pregnancy prevention, family planning and teen-oriented healthy relationship training are added. Knitted together by committed peer and adult role models, the Children’s Aid web of support helps vulnerable young people make good, healthy choices as they move towards independence.

In July, our innovative domestic violence support services program, Family Wellness, received a grant from the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development, to allow it to expand in Washington Heights, East Harlem and Central Harlem. At the core of this program, and all Children’s Aid programs, is the need to foster healthy relationships—between friends or romantic partners, within families and out in the wider community. This creates a strong foundation young people can build on throughout their lives.

Education Without Barriers: Education is the key factor in creating opportunity for the next generation. To reliably lift people out of intractable poverty, schools must eliminate the many barriers to learning for the poorest and most vulnerable, and ensure that children are physically, emotionally and socially prepared to develop, grow and learn.

Our community schools do this. They are public school partnerships between local boards of education and community-based organizations that combine the highest quality
Education Without Barriers

- 3,200 children were enrolled in after-school programs in Children’s Aid Society community schools, in activities ranging from academics to sports.
- The Children’s Aid Society-Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, which employs an above-the-waist approach, served 1,400 young people in five public schools across New York City.
- 400 parents from Children’s Aid’s five community schools in Washington Heights/Inwood participated in the Ercilia Pepin Parent Leadership Institute.

Educational practices with a wide range of vital in-house health and social services. The Children’s Aid Society operates 21 community schools in partnership with the New York City Department of Education.

Initiated in 1992, this work has won national recognition and is vigorously supported by the Obama Administration. An increasingly popular method of school reform, community schools are responsive to a neighborhood’s social, political and cultural needs—they are true centers of neighborhood life. Open early mornings, afternoons, evenings, weekends and summers, the community school is more than simply a place where children attend classes. Students can receive medical and dental care or speak to a counselor, right in the school, perhaps solving problems that may be hindering their ability to learn. They can stay after school for enrichment, additional learning opportunities, recreation or classes in the arts. Their parents can obtain help in enrolling in public health insurance, take ESL or GED classes, talk to a counselor or learn how to help their children learn.

Thousands of cities in many nations are increasingly converting their public schools to community schools and seeing positive academic and social results.

Leadership Development: When Terrance was 15 and hanging out on a corner in Harlem, a Children’s Aid staff member approached him and asked him if he wanted a job. Terrance followed our staffer and became an early graduate of the Hope Leadership Academy, with plans to go to college and get a master’s degree. He delivers workshops to his peers and urges them to take control of their lives.

The Children’s Aid Society fosters leadership and self-determination across all of our programs: community schools, juvenile justice programs, after-school, teen pregnancy
prevention. While the programs might seem on the surface to have different goals, our programs succeed by showing young people the possibilities available to them—in the world and within themselves.

True to its name, Children’s Aid’s Hope Leadership Academy helps teens become peer leaders and trainers in many ways, on many topics, including everything from dating violence to financial literacy. In community schools and centers, youth leadership councils—leadership development programs for middle and high school students—tackle issues including environmental problems and the impact of advertising on obesity. The members develop academic skills as well as peer and community leadership.

“One of the things I’ve learned,” says Dr. Michael Carrera, who directs the Children’s Aid Society Carrera Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, “is that we don’t prevent teen pregnancy, teens do. What we do is create a climate that allows good things to happen. When teens believe good things can happen in their lives, they reduce the risk on their own.” The program was recently found to meet Top Tier Evidence of Effectiveness by the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy.

Across our programs we witness daily the difference between youth who see no future and those who are in charge of their own destinies. As Tersance says, “Once I came to Hope, I became my own man. I tell all my friends, ‘You’re your own person.’ I can’t tell anyone how to lead their life, but I’m always putting a word in.”

Join us in making the difference: When you contribute to The Children’s Aid Society, you make the difference between a child reaching a dead end and a child reaching for the stars.

Leadership Development
- 180 students in elementary through high school organized 30 Youth Councils across The Children’s Aid Society, focusing on service, leadership development and advocacy.
- 1,050 youth completed the Hope Leadership Academy.
- Children’s Aid provided re-entry services to approximately 200 youth transitioning back from the juvenile justice system.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
‘I don’t care’ and striving towards a productive future
LETTER FROM THE TREASURER

Fiscal Year 2008–09 was a challenging year. Donations decreased by eight percent. In large measure, this was the result of a reduction in bequests, included in donation income, after an historic high in FY 2007–08. Despite the downturn almost all of our donors honored their commitments to our FY 2008–09 programs. Donations from individuals actually rose, although multi-year pledges from some foundations and corporations declined.

Spending rose 2.5% in FY 2008–09. The need for foster care and adoption services grew, underlining the correlation between tough times and increased incidents of child abuse. Other core services such as domestic violence prevention, low-cost health and after-school services, and safe havens for teens remained in demand. Unfortunately, spending reductions of $2.2 million in FY 2008–09 were required to make up for some of the decline in donations. Administration bore most of the cuts, but some programs were reduced in size as well.

Consistent with Board spending guidelines, our operating deficit was covered by withdrawals from our reserves.

As absolute and relative measures of wealth decline, concern heightens that “life line” programs could disappear over the next few years. Donations enable Children’s Aid to remain adept and to deliver help when and where it is needed most. For FY 2009–10, our Board voted to provide an additional $1.1 million from reserves, beyond our usual spending, to insure that the most needed services remain in place. Nevertheless, significant challenges loom in the years ahead.

We extend our deepest thanks to those who made our work possible despite serious economic hardships. For over 150 years we have seen donors, large and small, rise above “trying times” to insure that children and families most in need are protected and empowered. With this continued support in FY 2009–10, Children’s Aid will reach 150,000 children and families in need.

Virginia M. Sermier
Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Expenses for the Year Ending (in thousands) (1)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>June 30, 2009</th>
<th>June 30, 2008</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preliminary</td>
<td>Audited</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adoption and Foster Care</td>
<td>$24,421</td>
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<td>Children’s Centers</td>
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<td>Counseling and Home-Based Services</td>
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<td>Health Services</td>
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<td>Camps</td>
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<td>Community Schools</td>
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<td>Stern Adolescent Sexuality Training Center</td>
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<td>6,166</td>
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<td>Management and General Administration</td>
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<td>6,502</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development / Fundraising</td>
<td>3,255</td>
<td>2,794</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>$110,876</td>
<td>$108,156</td>
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Operating Income for the Year Ending (in thousands)  

<table>
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<th>June 30, 2009</th>
<th>June 30, 2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preliminary</td>
<td>Audited</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted and Unrestricted Income (2)</td>
<td>$18,996</td>
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<td>Public and Government Support</td>
<td>66,056</td>
<td>64,494</td>
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<td>Fees and Other Income</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>$95,052</td>
<td>$94,918</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus / (Deficit)</td>
<td>$15,824</td>
<td>$(13,238)</td>
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</table>

(1) Operating expenses exclude capital purchases of $293,000 in FY 2009 and $3.1 million in FY 2008. World Trade Center-related expenses are excluded from FY 2008, the last year of the program. Net assets (including final audit) are $233 million and include restricted and unrestricted reserves, endowment funds, Society-owned buildings and other miscellaneous assets. Depreciation expenses are included.

(2) Includes pledge income.
NON-CASH GIFTS

Children’s Aid’s holiday parties, back-to-school drive, special events and children’s outings wouldn’t be the same without the generous gifts of goods and services provided by our supporters. Our heartfelt thanks go to the following companies and individuals for their kindness.

Ritz and Richard Edelman
Euphonia Fitness Club
Emmett & Young, LLP
The Fairmount Chateau
Fashion Group International
Daiane Finn
Figgy Pudding
Food and Beverage Association of America
Food Network
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MKS Matched, Inc.
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National Basketball Association
The National Board of Review of Motion Pictures
NBA Today Show
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The New York Knicks/Boomers
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B. Smith’s Restaurant
Quentin Ball
Ballot Academy East
Diane Barbata
BBG-BBOA
Jordan Belzner
Mark Bittman
Blake & Todd Restaurant
Bloomberg L.P.
Borroughs Chrysler Jeep
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Brainstorm, USA
Broadfield Properties
Buckingham Capital Partners
Callison-Riems Systems Corporation
Calypso St. Barth, Inc.
Captivate Network
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IN MEMORIAM

Jean L. Stern, 1928–2009 The Board of Trustees and staff of The Children’s Aid Society are deeply saddened by the March 3rd passing of Jean L. Stern, who served the agency and its youth over 12 years as Trustee.

Her relationship with Children’s Aid began in 1990, when she and her husband Robert became generous donors, giving personally and through the Edna F. Blum Foundation and the Ilma F. Kern Foundation. In memory of their son, Jean and Robert established the Wick Stern Memorial Fund, to support youth who have overcome obstacles and seek higher education as a goal for a brighter future. They also established the Jean L. and Robert A. Stern Foundation; in her memory, her husband and family established the Jean L. Stern Memorial Scholarship, to be given each year to a student who overcomes obstacles, and performs service and shows compassion for others. The first Jean L. Stern Memorial Scholarship was given at the June 11th E.C.C.E.L. graduation ceremony.

Though interested in a variety of youth development programs, E.C.C.E.L. (Educational Excellence Creating Empowered Leaders) was one of her favorites because of its commitment to helping youth prepare for higher education and their lives beyond. Not only did she and her husband create scholarships for youth, but in 2006 an annual luncheon was created to honor the Wick Stern scholarship recipients and to allow Jean and Robert to engage directly with the teens they were helping. Jean’s involvement and her personal caring and ready affection for all made her a favorite among the youth.

Jean and her husband also supported a number of programs and locations, including the agency’s mental health services, Alvin Alley summer dance camp and Child Sight. She was a leader among Trustees, serving on a number of program advisory committees.

Jean was a warm, vital part of The Children’s Aid Society. The Board sends its thoughts and sympathy to Robert Stern, her husband of more than 60 years, their sons Robert and Peter, and the entire family.

TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES AND KEY STAFF

I am extremely grateful for all the valuable leadership provided by the Board of Trustees of The Children’s Aid Society, the Advisory Council and Associates Council. I would also like to extend my utmost thanks to the staff of The Children’s Aid Society—those named here and those whose names space limitations would not allow—for their tireless, caring work on behalf of the children and families of New York.

—Angela Diaz, M.D., M.P.H., President

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**Retired to Advisory Council
October 2008

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James H. Langford
Director, Quality Control and Improvement
Angelika C. Murray-Pennington
General Counsel

Administrative Executive Staff
Janet Sellwood
Director, Human Resources
Josie D. Attaro
Director, Employee Relations
Gary Davest
Chief Engineer
Douglas Marino
Business Manager
WHERE WE WORK

COUNSELING & HOME-BASED/FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION SERVICES

Bronx
1. Bronx Family Center
155 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10460
718.959.3400
2. Early Childhood Center
716.624.2100
3. Next Generation Center
Bronx Foster Care Annex
155 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10460
718.959.4461
4. PINS (Persons In Need of Supervision) Program
Bronx Unit
375 East 14th Street, 2nd floor
Bronx, NY 10455
718.796.7351

Brooklyn
1. LINC (Lasting Investments in Neighborhood Connections) Site
175 Remsen Street, 7th floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201
718.623.8900

Manhattan
1. Carmel Hill Project
63 West 13th Street, Suite 2W
New York, NY 10011
212.423.5826
2. LINC (Lasting Investments in Neighborhood Connections) at Dunlevy Milbank Center
13-14 West 118th Street
New York, NY 10026
212.595.1716
3. Dunlevy Milbank Center
208 Dunlevy Avenue at 119th Street
New York, NY 10026
212.595.1716
4. PINS (Persons In Need of Supervision) Program
Brooklyn Unit
175 Remsen Street, 7th floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201
718.623.8900

CITIES & COMMUNITIES

New York
1. New York City: Harlem, Washington Heights, South Bronx, and Central Brooklyn
2. New York City: Manhattan
3. New York City: Queens
4. New York City: Brooklyn
5. New York City: Staten Island

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Bronx
23. C.S. 45 Francisco Oller/I.S. 109 The Environmental Science, Mathematics and Technology School
7200 Cammerer Park East
Bronx, NY 10469
212.884.2993

Westchester
30. Wagon Road Camp
431 Quaker Road
Chappaqua, NY 10514
914.238.4261

COMMUNITY CENTER

Manhattan
31. Drew Hamilton Learning Center
2672 Frederick Douglass Blvd.
121514th Street
New York, NY 10025
212.808.9570

COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

Notice of non-discrimination: No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity available at The Children’s Aid Society on the basis of race, sex, religion, creed, political belief, age, marital status, national origin, language, and/or disability, socio-economic status, height, weight, or familial status, or disability.

OUR NETWORK OF SERVICES

The Children’s Aid Society has always worked in the communities in New York City where the need is the greatest. As times and neighborhoods change, we extend our efforts to those areas most affected by poverty. Today the majority of our work is done in Harlem, Washington Heights, the South Bronx and Central Brooklyn. Our broad range of services includes:

• After-School and Weekend
• Arts
• Early Childhood
• Family Support
• Foster Care & Adoption Services
• Health and Counseling
• Juvenile Justice
• Legal Advocacy
• Sports and Recreation
• Youth Development

30. * Each campus houses three schools.
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