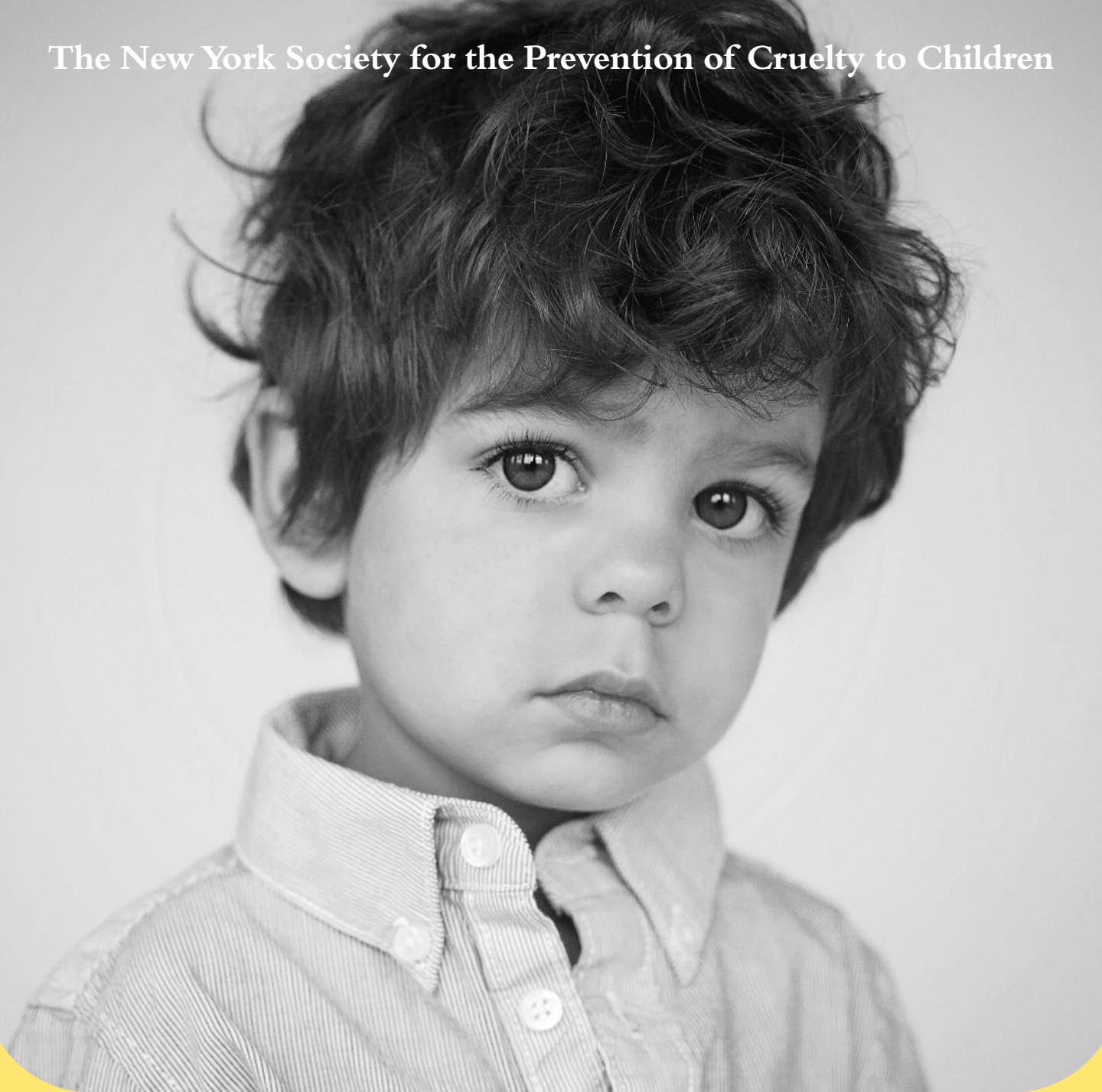


# The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children



ANNUAL REPORT 2016



*Founded in 1875 – The First Child Protection Agency in the World*

Founded in 1875, The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (The NYSPCC) was the first child protection agency in the world. Throughout its 141 year history, The NYSPCC has met the urgent needs of New York City's most vulnerable children through the development of new and innovative programs. It is with this same spirit of innovation, concern and compassion for the City's children that The NYSPCC seeks to meet the challenges that lie ahead. ●

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# Our Mission

As the world's first child protection agency, The NYSPCC responds to the complex needs of abused and neglected children, and those involved in their care, by providing best practice counseling, legal, and educational services. Through research, communications and training initiatives, we work to expand these programs to prevent abuse and help more children heal.



## HOW WE PREVENT THE ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF CHILDREN:

### *Mental Health Services*

- Provide court-ordered supervised visitation services to children and their families in a safe and supportive setting.
- Counsel children who have endured the trauma of child abuse or neglect.
- Provide crisis debriefing services to child welfare agencies to help staff during times of stress, grief and loss.



### *Legal Services*

- Advocate for legislative and judicial action that protects children and strengthens families.
- Provide training and counsel for staff in preparation for court testimony.



### *Educational Services*

- Educate professionals about child abuse and neglect identification and reporting.
- Provide sexual abuse prevention workshops to children in New York City schools.
- Promote healthy parenting through counseling and education.
- Train professionals on The NYSPCC's best practice models.

## WHAT MAKES THE NYSPCC UNIQUE:

- **The first** child protection agency in the world—over 140 years of **trailblazing** in child protection and abuse prevention services.
- Excellent ongoing **relationships** with social service providers and the court systems in New York City.
- **Flexibility**—as an independent non-profit—to develop and implement enhanced levels of service to children and families.
- **Warm, caring, and dedicated** professionals.



Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to let you know that with your support The NYSPCC expanded its impact in 2016. Our prevention and treatment programs helped 5,730 children and 4,478 parents, caregivers, and child welfare professionals. This is the largest number of individuals the agency has ever reached in a single year.

Special events held in 2016 helped us make new friends and raised over one million dollars, which provided the support necessary for The NYSPCC's ability to reach more children.

- In February, guests who attended the Family Benefit enjoyed a brunch at Azalea and a matinee performance of *School of Rock*.
- In April, The NYSPCC held its Spring Luncheon at the Pierre Hotel. The event featured a very special guest speaker, actress Drew Barrymore. She delivered a heartfelt speech and shined a bright spotlight on the importance of protecting children from abuse and neglect. In a show of solidarity, One World Trade Center illuminated its spire in blue to commemorate National Child Abuse Prevention Month on April 12, 2016, the same day as our luncheon.
- In May, The NYSPCC's Junior Committee hosted their annual Spring Benefit. Over 150 of the city's brightest young professionals enjoyed cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, music and a silent auction at Tao Downtown.
- In November, Kimberly Guilfoyle hosted the Food & Wine Gala at the Metropolitan Club. A big thanks to Kimberly; our guest speaker Adam Rapoport, Editor in Chief of *Bon Appétit*; Chef Michael Anthony of Gramercy Tavern and Untitled; and the agency's many friends who supported the event and made it the most successful Gala ever.



One World Trade Center lit blue in honor of The NYSPCC's work to protect children.

Some of The NYSPCC's greatest assets are the men and women of our Board of Directors and Children's Council, who offer their unlimited commitment and compassion. By raising awareness and introducing their friends and colleagues to The NYSPCC, they share our message and grow support for the agency. In 2016, we were honored to welcome Chef Emma Bengtsson to our Children's Council and Rosario "Russ" Coniglio as the newest member of our Board of Directors. They became involved with The NYSPCC in the fall of 2015, and quickly proved themselves to be strong advocates for the protection of children. Their dedication will help us to foster The NYSPCC's impact.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank our staff and our many friends and supporters for investing your time, talent and resources in The NYSPCC. You help us build the hopes of vulnerable children and families and ensure that they are given the protection and care they deserve.

With appreciation for your partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Stack".

David R. Stack  
President  
Board of Directors



Dear Friends of The NYSPCC,

The NYSPCC believes that all children deserve to grow up in supportive and loving homes, free from abuse, neglect and violence. With so many tragic stories in the news, your support is more meaningful than ever. Thanks to you, The NYSPCC is able to partner with parents, child welfare professionals, legislators and other organizations to strengthen efforts on a larger scale to protect children and ensure that they are safe, nurtured and thriving.

In 2016, The NYSPCC's clinical team ramped up our long standing efforts to support the Administration for Children's Services child protective service (CPS) workers by providing crisis debriefing counseling, following incidents of child fatality, violence in the field, and other tragic events. The sessions helped 483 CPS workers manage secondary traumatic stress and develop coping strategies to ensure their continued ability to serve children effectively. Our staff also conducted 28 trainings for 962 child welfare professionals, training them how to manage the stress they encounter regularly in the field.

While it is the job of child protective staff to protect children from abuse and neglect, we cannot expect them to tackle this tremendous problem alone. Everyone must be involved and share the responsibility of keeping children safe. This is why The NYSPCC expanded its media outreach to inform the public about identifying the signs of child abuse and neglect and how to make a report if they believe a child is at risk. We also conducted advocacy efforts to educate legislators and strengthen child protection laws. In 2016, we focused on amending the New York State Education Law to require private schools to report to law enforcement any suspected child abuse of students by school employees. Current law only requires this of public schools, leaving approximately 475,000 children at 2,000 private schools at risk.

In our commitment to improving the child welfare field, The NYSPCC also helps other non-profits and professionals to replicate our best practices and program models. Due to the overwhelming success of The NYSPCC's child sexual abuse prevention program, Safe Touches, Athens-based ELIZA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children invited us to partner with them to adapt Safe Touches for schools in the country of Greece, where 1 in 5 children are victims of sexual abuse. The NYSPCC was also asked by Penn State to help them develop a school-based initiative that will bring Safe Touches workshops to children throughout Pennsylvania. We are proud to collaborate with ELIZA and Penn State and ensure that more children are protected from sexual abuse.

Warm regards,

Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D.

*Executive Director*

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# THE NYSPCC IN THE NEWS

The NYSPCC continues to expand its visibility, and its message that child abuse is preventable, through media appearances throughout the year, but particularly during National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. The NYSPCC's Executive Director, Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., is regularly contacted as an expert on the prevention of child abuse and neglect and domestic violence, as well as on issues related to child safety. Dr. Pulido has conducted interviews on television and radio, and has been interviewed or written articles for various print and online publications. The following are local and national media highlights of 2016:

## *Online*

- Dr. Pulido is a featured blogger on [HuffingtonPost.com](http://HuffingtonPost.com), contributing the following posts in 2016:
  - “Protect Children in Private Schools from Child Sexual Abuse”
  - “Exploring Why Offenders View Internet Child Pornography”
  - “Preventing Child Abuse Fatalities: Support the Life-Saving Work of Child Protective Services”
  - “The Orlando Nightclub Shooting: How to Talk To Your Child About Terrorism”
  - “Child Injury Deaths: They Are Preventable!”
  - “School’s In ---- Keep Danger Out!”
  - “Investigating Sex Crimes Against Children: Private Entities Cannot Police Themselves!”
- Dr. Pulido was interviewed for the [newyork.cbslocal.com](http://newyork.cbslocal.com) article “Bill Would Require Private School Officials To Report Sexual Abuse,” regarding new legislation that would make it mandatory for private schools to report sexual abuse.
- Dr. Pulido wrote “On Supporting Child Protective Service Workers” an article for [NYNmedia.com](http://NYNmedia.com).
- Dr. Pulido’s presentation at Penn State’s Maltreatment Solutions Network was featured in the [News.psu.edu](http://News.psu.edu) article “Trauma in schools focus of fifth annual Network conference”



## *Print*

- The **Horace Mann Record** featured the agency in the newsletter article “NYSPCC tackles sexual abuse, recognition with freshmen.”
- The **New York Daily News** published three articles about Dr. Pulido’s advocacy on a new legislation requiring private and religious schools to report child abuse and neglect:
  - “New York lawmakers have few excuses with myths debunked about child sex abuse legal reform”
  - “Child sex-abuse law reform would save kids in the future”
  - “NY Assemblyman pushes bill for all schools to report sexual abuse”

## *Radio*

- Dr. Pulido was interviewed by Stephanie Colombini on **CBS Local**, about the bill requiring public school officials to report sexual abuse.
- Dr. Pulido spoke about toxic stress in children on the podcast, **Sound Medicine**.
- NYSPCC’s Director of Government Relations & Administrations, Stephen P. Forrester, Esq., was interviewed by Deb Gordan on **CBS Local**, regarding ACS and the tragic fatality of Zymere Perkins.

## *Television*

- On September 28, 2016, Dr. Pulido was interviewed on **WCBS Channel 2 News** about the Zymere Perkins child fatality case.

## *Event Coverage*

- The NYSPCC’s Various Events were covered by **The New York Times**, **Fox News Channel’s ‘The Five,’ Daily Mail**, and **People**.
- **New York Social Diary**, [Hamptons.com](http://Hamptons.com), **Average Socialite**, **Socially Superlative**, **Avenue Magazine**, and [BlackTieMagazine.com](http://BlackTieMagazine.com) also featured our events. ●

# THE TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM

Abuse, neglect and other traumatic experiences put children at risk of developing emotional and mental health conditions, such as anxiety, depression, anger, aggression, and post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as addictive and self-injurious behaviors. For those children who also live in poverty and the foster care system, symptoms often go untreated because their families cannot access the therapeutic services they need to recover. When unaddressed, trauma symptoms can affect children's emotional, social, academic and even physical development, which can persist into adulthood. This is why The NYSPCC delivers therapeutic services, free of charge, to help children recover from abuse and other traumatic events, giving them a better start to life.

## OUTCOMES:

In 2016, the following program outcomes were achieved for children who were enrolled for a minimum of 3 months:

1. 95% of children demonstrated an improvement in at least one of their baseline symptoms.
2. 72% of children increased their use of adaptive coping skills.
3. 72% of the children increased their healthy interpersonal communication skills.

## CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY COMMENTS:

- *“The clinicians listen to you, answer any of your questions, and are very helpful.”*
- *“My child and I can share our own thoughts and feelings without prejudice or intimidation.”*
- *“My clinician always makes me feel really comfortable and I can share anything I want with her.”*

Children typically participate in the program for 8-12 months, but services are provided for as long as they need to recover. Because The NYSPCC does not rely on health insurance to cover costs, our clinicians have the freedom to determine the frequency and duration of treatment based on the child's needs as opposed to the mandates of health insurance companies. As a result, we are distinguished among trauma therapy providers, producing excellent outcomes and effectively helping children heal from abuse. Our child-focused approach includes:

**Individual Therapy:** NYSPCC clinicians provide child-centered, Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Talk, art, and play techniques are used to teach children how to identify and manage their emotions and impulses, understand and develop helpful thinking patterns, strengthen coping skills and process traumatic events.

**Family Therapy:** The NYSPCC strongly encourages parents and other caregivers to become part of the therapeutic process. We do not treat children in isolation. We help caregivers understand trauma symptoms and how to support their child's recovery. Research repeatedly demonstrates that children who experience trauma have better outcomes when they have at least one trusted and reliable parental figure to support them.

**Collateral Sessions:** What makes our Trauma Recovery Program unique is how we collaborate with other system responders involved in our client's lives. The NYSPCC clinicians are in regular contact with foster care and ACS caseworkers, school counselors and teachers, or any other provider in the child's life. With the majority of our youth in foster care, clinicians attend permanency planning meetings, family team conference meetings and placement preservation meetings. Our consistent communication with multiple system responders ensures that the mental health needs of our young clients are understood and met in all aspects of their lives, not just in the therapy room.

In 2016, The Trauma Recovery Program provided counseling to 92 children during 763 individual therapy sessions. Clinicians conducted 496 family therapy sessions and held 502 meetings with caregivers, family members (aunts, uncles, grandparents, and siblings) and with professionals (teachers, social workers, guidance counselors and foster care caseworkers). ●

# Rachel

By the time Rachel\* came to The NYSPCC at the age of nine, she had been sexually abused by several adults in her life and was living in foster care. Because of these experiences, Rachel had significantly impaired social skills and was primarily communicating through grunting, screaming and violent outbursts. On the rare occasion that she did speak, Rachel switched between English, her family's native language, and her own made up language. The girl also acted out aggressively with teachers and students, damaged school property and engaged in inappropriate sexual behaviors, which led to her being expelled from school. The girl saw several therapists who were not able to help her, and as a result, Rachel was admitted to a psychiatric hospital, where she was placed in a ward for very aggressive patients. While there, she was regularly given injections and placed in restraints, which further traumatized her and exacerbated her symptoms. Her turning point finally came when she was referred to The NYSPCC.

*“The work The NYSPCC Trauma Recovery Program has done with Rachel was beyond my wildest expectations. Sessions are conducted in a soothing manner that makes her feel safe. Their techniques work. I am grateful for the time Rachel spends at The NYSPCC and the spectacular results they achieved.”*

*~ Rachel's guardian, Julia*

Recognizing that Rachel felt safer communicating in non-verbal ways, The NYSPCC's Trauma Recovery Program team assigned her to a clinician who specializes in dance and movement therapy. Due to the severity of Rachel's needs, the clinician scheduled the girl for two therapeutic sessions a week. During Rachel's first few visits at The NYSPCC, Rachel was encouraged to express her feelings through movements and art. Rachel stomped her feet on mats, hit rubber balls, and scribbled furiously, while her clinician mimicked these actions

to let the girl know that even without words, she was being heard. The clinician also counseled Rachel's guardian, Julia,\* helping her understand how to support the girl's recovery.

After several weeks, the girl cautiously began to trust her clinician and slowly started verbalizing more during therapeutic sessions. She even began smiling, laughing and on occasion, singing. Her behavior at home also slowly started to improve. Julia reported that Rachel is better able to control her emotions—she has stopped screaming, her aggressive behaviors have decreased, and the sexual behaviors have stopped completely. Rachel also recently told Julia, “I like (my clinician)—she listens to me,” which reflects the safety she feels at The NYSPCC and the trusting therapeutic relationship she developed.

The clinician recently expressed her surprise at the rapid progress Rachel is making. “Because (Rachel's) trauma is so complex, and because she saw numerous doctors before us who were unable to help, we didn't expect there would be much progress so quickly. But she's a resilient girl, and we're so proud of her.” ●

*\*Names are changed to protect the identities of children and families.*



# THERAPEUTIC SUPERVISED VISITATION PROGRAM

The NYSPCC'S Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Program works with parents who cannot have unsupervised access to their children due to a history of child neglect, physical or sexual abuse, domestic violence, substance abuse, or mental illness. The NYSPCC has provided supervised visitation services for over 25 years to vulnerable New York City families and accepts referrals of families in disputed custody and visitation cases or families with children in foster care.

## OUTCOMES:

1. 87% of visiting/non-custodial parents increased quality time with their child(ren).
2. 95% of visiting/non-custodial parents reported an increase in knowledge and understanding of parenting skills and techniques.
3. 86% of parents who had at least 12 visits with their child(ren), increased their independent use of positive parenting skills.

## CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY COMMENTS:

- *“Everyone was respectful and helpful. Everyone I met was empathetic to me and my situation; as a mother fighting for custody, that was a tremendous encouragement.”*
- *“I like that as a parent I can have peace of mind for my child and the visit is safe for us both.”*
- *“My child felt safe and comfortable in getting to know her dad.”*

Children deserve and need a meaningful relationship with both of their parents whenever possible. The constancy of the parent-child relationship is central to a child's sense of security, self-esteem, and healthy development. Sadly, the lack of accessible therapeutic supervised visitation services in New York City is a major obstacle to low-income, high-risk families in need of clinical services to help restore these critical parent-child relationships in a safe and secure environment.

Rather than eliminating contact between a non-custodial parent and child, the Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Program keeps children safe while restoring healthy and appropriate parent-child relationships through supervised visitation, parenting skills workshops, individual parent coaching sessions, and, when needed, mental health assistance for children with a history of family violence. Supervised visitation is intended to be a temporary remedy with most parents moving toward less restrictive or unsupervised visits with their child whenever possible. When that happens, The NYSPCC provides a neutral place for the safe transfer of children when there are restrictions placed on the contact between parents.

The NYSPCC'S Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Program is the largest in New York City, and the only one with services offered free of charge, in English and Spanish, seven days and three evenings per week. The NYSPCC is frequently asked to train other public and private service providers around the country on its program model, and has published *The NYSPCC Professionals' Handbook—Supervised Visitation Services for High-Risk Families* to promote best practices and facilitate program replication.

In 2016, 115 families, involving 177 at-risk children and 232 parents/caregivers, were able to strengthen their relationships through their participation in the Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Program. The NYSPCC supervised a total of 656 visits between non-custodial parents and their children, and monitored 302 supervised transfers. In 2016, 800 parent coaching sessions were held with non-custodial parents and 287 coaching sessions were held with custodial parents.

Furthermore, 11 parenting skills education workshops were held in English and one in Spanish—for a total of 160 parent education sessions. Eighty-nine non-custodial parents learned about stress management techniques, phases of child development, and strategies that promote child health and safety, skills that are designed to be directly utilized in the supervised visits with their children. ●

# Marta

Marta\* loved her children intensely, but mental health conditions of anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder, made her feel constantly overwhelmed. Because parenting was a tremendous struggle, she was prone to violent outbursts and hit her children—Aria, Owen and Nikki.\* Eventually, they were placed in a foster home, and for the next two years, Marta was only allowed to spend time with her children at a community agency that offered supervised visits. Sadly, she was unable to control her emotions during these visits. She would get physically aggressive with her oldest daughter and curse at the children and the visit supervisor. The agency realized the family needed more specialized care and referred them to The NYSPCC's Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Program.

When they began visiting The NYSPCC, Marta appeared defeated and was easily triggered emotionally, taking any negative comment her children made as a personal attack. She found it difficult to put her children's needs ahead of her own. Marta also refused to communicate with Abby, the children's foster mother, and instead said unkind things about her in front of the children. Because Abby had been caring for the children for over two years, she loved them as though they were her own and started the process to legally adopt them. Both women were feeling very threatened about the possibility of losing the children and their emotional stress was having a negative impact on the children.

Their NYSPCC clinician focused on increasing positive communication between Marta and Abby, helping them to understand that putting the children in the middle of their conflict was having a negative impact on their well-being. For Marta, our clinician helped her recognize the importance of allowing her children to express both negative and positive feelings with her. Our clinician also helped to normalize Marta's frustrations about the system not being on her side, as well as to normalize Marta's fear that she might lose her children, despite being a "better mother" to them. With Abby, our clinician encouraged her to observe and recognize Marta's improved behavior and the deep connection she had with her children. As a result, Abby stopped saying the children were better off with her and made an effort to get along with Marta. Both women began to acknowledge the important place each of them had in the children's lives and that despite what the judge rules and where the children end up, it would be healthy for the children to maintain connection with both of them.

Due to the therapeutic intervention they received at The NYSPCC, Abby and Marta started working together to do what is best for the children instead of focusing on their own wants and needs. As a result, the children felt safe to express their love for both women and the freedom to enjoy these family visits. ●

*\*Names are changed to protect the identities of children and families.*

# SAFE TOUCHES: PERSONAL SAFETY TRAINING FOR CHILDREN

The NYSPCC's Safe Touches: Personal Safety Training for Children program is the largest child sexual abuse prevention workshop in New York City's public schools specifically designed for children in kindergarten through third grade.

## OUTCOMES:

The NYSPCC distributed satisfaction surveys to teachers of the classrooms where the Safe Touches workshop was presented. During the 2015-2016 school year:

- 94% of teachers found the presenters very effective at facilitating the workshop.
- 92% of teachers found the presenters very effective in engaging the children to participate.
- 89% of teachers agreed that the presenters answered children's questions in a developmentally appropriate way.

## TEACHER SURVEY COMMENTS:

- *"Great job addressing the sensitive material and students questions."*
- *"Students were very engaged. It was very informative."*
- *"The puppets help kids understand real life situations."*



*The NYSPCC staff pictured with staff from the ELIZA Society.*

Child sexual abuse is a chronic, under-reported crime in the United States and throughout the world. It occurs in all socioeconomic and educational levels and across all racial and cultural groups. Victims of child sexual abuse experience a myriad of physical and mental health problems that often persist through adulthood. In order to help prevent abuse, young children need to be taught about their bodies and feelings and how to distinguish safe from not-safe touches.

Since 2007, The NYSPCC's Safe Touches workshops have taught more than 20,000 children in New York City how to protect themselves from sexual abuse. It is a 45 minute, interactive workshop presented in school classrooms to children in K-3rd grade. At the start of the workshop, The NYSPCC's specially trained clinicians use large posters of children wearing bathing suits to help students identify which parts of the body are private. Then, using child-friendly and culturally ambiguous puppets, the clinicians act out scenarios that teach children to understand the difference between safe and not safe touches. The students play an active role by offering suggestions to the puppets about actions they can take to keep their bodies safe and to whom they can go for help if they have been in a not safe situation.

In 2016, The NYSPCC provided 238 Safe Touches workshops serving 5,116 children. Each student who attends a Safe Touches workshop receives an activity book called, We Can Keep Our Bodies Safe! Children are encouraged to complete the activities at home with a parent or other caregiver. The activities reinforce lessons from the workshop. The workbooks are available in both English and Spanish. The NYSPCC's clinicians are also available to answer any questions from students or teachers. If a child makes a statement or asks a question that warrants follow-up and questioning, our clinicians will work with the school guidance counselor and ask to speak with the child privately to ensure the child's safety needs are being met. The NYSPCC will be able to serve as a therapy referral source if additional support services are needed.

During the year, The NYSPCC also conducted 9 workshops that educated 110 parents on how to identify the signs and symptoms of child sexual abuse, and steps to take if they think their child has been abused.

With support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, The NYSPCC worked in collaboration with the Athens-based ELIZA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to adapt our child sexual abuse prevention program, Safe Touches, for the Greek education system. The NYSPCC trained ELIZA staff on how to implement the program and facilitate Safe Touches workshops. ELIZA launched Safe Touches in Athens schools in May 2016 and will expand the program over the next two years, bringing the empowering lessons of Safe Touches to children throughout Greece. Child sexual abuse is a pervasive and underreported crime in Greece, just as it is in the United States. ●

# CRISIS DEBRIEFING SERVICES

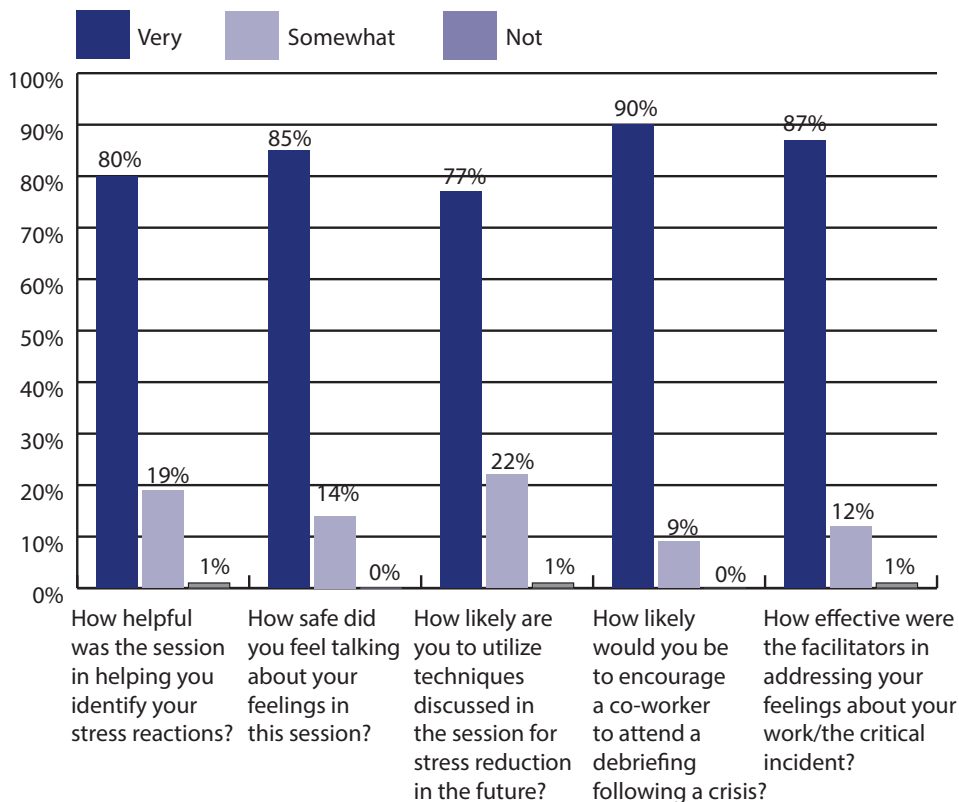
Since 2006, The NYSPCC has provided crisis debriefing services to the New York City Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) child protective service workers following traumatic events such as child fatalities, violence in the field, or handling horrific cases of child physical and sexual abuse. As first responders to child abuse and neglect reports, these workers need resources that enable them to strengthen their personal coping skills and ability to manage the excessive stress they feel as a result of their demanding and difficult profession. The NYSPCC also provides crisis debriefing services for Safe Horizon employees. Safe Horizon’s mission is to provide support, prevent violence, and promote justice for victims of crime and abuse, their families and communities.

The Restoring Resiliency Response protocol, developed by Executive Director, Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., is applied in crisis debriefing sessions that include an integration of education, emotional expression, and cognitive restructuring. Providing a safe space for everyone to voice feelings about loss, stress and anxiety is important for team building and setting up needed support systems instrumental in returning staff to previous levels of functioning. If needed, The NYSPCC’s staff meets individually with child protective services staff members following group debriefing sessions and provides referrals for short- or long-term therapy.

## OUTCOMES:

- 90% of participants would encourage a co-worker to attend a debriefing following a crisis.
- 85% of participants felt safe talking about their feelings during the session.
- 77% of participants are likely to utilize the techniques discussed in the session for stress reduction in the future.

## PARTICIPANTS’ RESPONSE ON CRISIS DEBRIEFING



(continued on page 11)

# CRISIS DEBRIEFING SERVICES

## CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY COMMENTS:

- *“I really enjoyed this session and found it to be very helpful. I felt very safe and comfortable to speak freely. I’ve also learned some new techniques that I plan to apply to my self-care routine.”*
- *“It was a good feeling participating in this open exercise with my colleagues. It was rejuvenating and enlightening.”*
- *“The session perfectly met my needs. Dr. Pulido was thoughtful, kind, and caring. I was offered tools that I can use in my everyday life and I have begun with a new practice. Also, I was reminded that I am important in the work that I do—and have done for four decades. Nice and helpful reminder.”*

*(continued from page 10)*

In 2016, The NYSPCC provided 84 crisis debriefing sessions to 483 individuals in total, including 66 crisis debriefing sessions to 380 ACS staff members; 11 crisis debriefing sessions to 49 Safe Horizons staff members; 1 crisis debriefing session to 30 Department of Homeless Services staff members; 1 crisis debriefing session to 10 Department of Social Services staff members; and 5 crisis debriefing sessions to 14 staff members of other agencies. Feedback from debriefing session participants indicates an appreciative and positive response from attendees. ●



# THE NYSPCC TRAINING INSTITUTE

In response to continuous requests for training from other child welfare agencies, schools, and community groups, The NYSPCC launched its Training Institute in 2012. The NYSPCC's Training Institute serves three different constituencies: professionals in the child welfare arena, community organizations and parent groups, and corporate entities interested in providing educational seminars for their employees. Lectures are tailored to meet the specific needs of the audience. The NYSPCC's clinical staff are considered experts in the area of child protection, and consequently are in high demand.

In 2015, the Training Institute became recognized by The New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of Continuing Education for licensed social workers. The NYSPCC offers a variety of continuing education courses for social workers to support professional development and lifelong learning. Through this program, The NYSPCC is expanding our influence in the field by sharing knowledge and teaching best practices in the areas of trauma informed care, secondary traumatic stress, program evaluation, and child abuse prevention and treatment.

In 2016, The NYSPCC served more than 3,400 professionals from across the country, including 1,485 practitioners through in-person presentations, 423 through online training courses, and 1,568 through lectures and trainings.

## TRAINING FOR CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONALS

The NYSPCC's staff gives presentations at conferences and publishes articles in academic and professional journals to help advance the knowledgebase of practitioners and researchers across the country working to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.

In 2016, The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) invited The NYSPCC to provide training to child protective services (CPS) staff throughout the state, helping them to manage the secondary traumatic stress they experience after working on cases involving child fatalities and other tragic incidents. Dr. Pulido has conducted training sessions with CPS staff in Orange County, Nassau County, Sullivan County, Rockland County and Westchester County. The four hour session has been well received. We're pleased to provide this service to those charged with protecting our State's children.

### 2016 Presentations

- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director presented *2000 CPS Workers Speak: Evaluating Crisis Debriefing After Child Fatality and Other Critical Incidents* at the San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment and at the Federal Children's Bureau 20th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect.

*(continued on page 13)*



# THE NYSPCC TRAINING INSTITUTE

*(continued from page 12)*



- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director presented *Taking Care of your Team: Combatting Secondary Traumatic Stress* at the New York State Office of Children and Family Services–Sullivan County Department of Social Services and the Westchester Institute for Human Development.
- Kathy Lotsos, LCSW, presented *Sexual Abuse Prevention Education for Parents* at PS 46Q.
- Kathy Lotsos, LCSW, Annie Costello, Jacqueline Holloway, and Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., presented *Safe Touches: Train the Trainer for ELIZA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children* in Athens, Greece.
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, and Paige Hamilton O’Conner, LMHC, presented *Resiliency, Wellness, and Self-Care for first Responders to Child and Family Trauma* at Administration for Children’s Services(ACS)—Office of Clinical Practice, Policy, and Support.
- Xuan Tran Walsh, LCSW, and Kathy Lotsos, LCSW, presented *Using a Trauma Informed, Social Justice Framework in Supervised Visitation* at The Supervised Visitation Network Annual Conference in San Diego, California.
- Kathy Lotsos, LCSW, presented *Utilizing a Trauma-Informed Approach to Social Service Delivery* at the New York State Office of Children and Family Services–Sullivan County Department of Social Services.
- Paige Hamilton O’Conner, LMHC, presented *The NYSPCC Crisis Debriefing Program* at The Conference Panel Discussion at The New York Center for Children, *New Developments in Secondary Trauma: Supporting Professionals who work with traumatized children.*
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, presented *Taking Care of Your MultiDisciplinary Team: Combatting Secondary Traumatic Stress and Child Protective Service Workers Speak: Utilizing Crisis Debriefing* at the 24th Annual APSAC Colloquium.
- Jacqueline Holloway presented “*The Most Difficult Cases: Effective Use of a Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Model in a Front Line Setting*” at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, presented *Restoring Resiliency to Responders to Child Trauma and Terrorism* at the Voice of September 11th—New York Symposium.
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director and Dwayne Brown, MSW, presented *Wellness Matters: Managing Stress and Promoting Self-Care* at the Administration for Children’s Services (ACS)—Office of Clinical Practice, Policy, and Support.
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, presented *CPS Crisis Debriefing: Resiliency Reinforcement during Times of High Stress* at the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

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# THE NYSPCC TRAINING INSTITUTE

*(continued from page 13)*

- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, presented “*Safe Touches*” *Creating a School Community to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse* at Penn State’s Child Maltreatment Solutions Network’s Annual.
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, presented *Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Education* at Barclays.
- Kathy Lotsos, LCSW, presented *Combatting Secondary Traumatic Stress* at the Annual Foundling Professional Conference.
- Dwayne Brown, MSW, presented *Resiliency, Wellness, and Self-Care for first Responders to Child and Family Trauma* at the Administration for Children’s Services(ACS)—Office of Clinical Practice, Policy, and Support.
- Mary L. Pulido, PH.D., Executive Director, presented *Strategies and Tactics for Critical Incident Stress Management* at The Nassau County Police Department.

## IDENTIFYING AND REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

A crucial component of the Training Institute is to educate professionals who come into contact with children in the course of their everyday activities on how to identify and assist children who are abused or neglected. The NYSPCC provides a New York State Department of Education approved course, “Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect,” to mandated reporters, in addition to the general public, on issues surrounding maltreated children. Mandated child abuse and neglect reporters, such as law enforcement officials, teachers, social workers, doctors and nurses, learn to recognize signs and symptoms of maltreatment and how to appropriately report it, as well as understand their legal obligations as mandated reporters. To assist in this public education effort, The NYSPCC developed and published *The NYSPCC Professionals’ Handbook: Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect*.

Since the program’s inception in 1990, The NYSPCC has trained over 53,000 individuals regarding their legal responsibilities as mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. In 2016, staff members made 24 presentations to 1,485 professionals and concerned citizens in New York City. In addition to these onsite training sessions, 423 people utilized The NYSPCC’s web-based training course.

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# THE NYSPCC TRAINING INSTITUTE

*(continued from page 14)*

## **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY REVIEW AND TRAINING FOR SCHOOLS**

High-profile stories in the news have emphasized the prevalence of the horrific, underreported crime of child sexual abuse in schools. The strength of The NYSPCC's Safe Touches program, combined with The NYSPCC's long-standing reputation as a leader in the field of child abuse prevention, has resulted in The NYSPCC developing a range of child protection, education, and administrative review services for New York City public, private, and charter schools, including:

- age-appropriate child sexual abuse prevention training for students in grades K-12;
- child abuse identification and reporting procedures training for faculty and staff;
- reviewing schools' current policies and procedures regarding child protective issues and making recommendations for amendments or additions that would strengthen these policies; and
- educational lectures and workshops for parents and caregivers on issues related to child safety.

In 2016, The NYSPCC signed a contract with the NYC Administration for Children's Services to provide 24 training sessions to providers in their Early Childhood Care and Education Division. These sessions will cover child abuse identification and reporting and child sexual abuse prevention.

The NYSPCC continued its work with Horace Mann and other private schools, conducting trainings for both the faculty and the students.

## **PREPARING FUTURE LEADERS**

The NYSPCC partners with Columbia University School of Social Work, New York University, Fordham University, the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, and Adelphi College by providing internship opportunities for students in Master's-level social work and mental health counseling programs. Through hands-on experience, and guided by talented and seasoned NYSPCC clinicians, students obtain valuable knowledge and experience that will prepare them for future employment in the social welfare field. Educating students about the child abuse protection and prevention field is a part of The NYSPCC's mission and is imperative for the continuation of valuable and highly needed social services. During the 2016-2017 academic year, The NYSPCC trained five interns. ●



# RESEARCH

The NYSPCC maintains an active research program dedicated to implementing and testing innovative approaches to preventing and treating child abuse and neglect. Our diverse research activities are designed to help build the evidence base for effective services and programs, and meaningfully contribute to the existing literature base. NYSPCC programs—which include trauma recovery and supervised visitation services, child sexual abuse prevention, and crisis debriefing—are tailored to our unique client needs, yet infused with scientifically validated treatments and frameworks. In this way, we can bring evidenced based models into a real-world, front line setting, and test the effectiveness of these augmented models; a strategy increasingly advocated by field experts, funding agencies, and policy makers.

The Research and Evaluation Department continues to actively seek professional and academic collaborators locally, nationally, and internationally, to increase the validity of our program evaluations, and expand the impact of our work. The NYSPCC thus functions, in part, as an idea and implementation incubator, from which productive program expansion roll-outs are generated. Successful partnerships and evaluations have been pursued with the Kings County Integrated Domestic Violence Court, the Administration for Children’s Services, and Little Flower Foster Care.

2016 was an exciting year for the Research and Evaluation Department. Jacqueline Holloway, our Director of Research and Evaluation, was selected to present her submission, “The Most Difficult Cases: Effective Use of a Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Model in a Front Line Setting” at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Additionally, in 2016, The NYSPCC was awarded a grant of \$51,100 through the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) to support our new database overhaul, a new server, and 15 new computers /workstations for the NYSPCC Team.

The NYSPCC was awarded a prestigious research grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct a rigorous evaluation of its child sexual abuse prevention workshop, Safe Touches. The focus of this work was to determine workshop efficacy, and assess retention of concept knowledge and self-protective skills. The results showed statistically significant gains in knowledge of safety concepts by children who participated in The NYSPCC’s workshop compared to their peers who had not yet received the workshop. Knowledge gains were maintained at a one month follow up assessment. These positive findings contribute to the knowledge base of child sexual abuse prevention programs, expanding to a sample of racially and economically diverse children, and support our long-term goal of disseminating a validated Safe Touches program. These positive findings have been published in the American Journal of Public Health, a highly reputable, peer reviewed publication. This work is an exciting step forward in rigorously evaluating our child sexual abuse prevention workshop.

In 2006, Dr. Pulido was appointed by Mayor Bloomberg to serve on the New York City Child Fatality Review Advisory Team (CFRAT) where she served until 2015. The CFRAT was established to review all preventable deaths among New York City children ages one to 12 and to make recommendations for expanding the City’s child safety efforts. Over the past nine years, the CFRAT has expanded its scope, conducted research, and published reports on injury death among 13-17 year-olds, causes of death among infants under age one, motor vehicle and traffic accidents, residential fires, fatal unintentional injuries sustained in the home, and the socio-economic conditions, housing quality, and racial disparities in injury-related child deaths. The findings and recommendations of the CFRAT from 2007-2016 can be viewed on The NYSPCC’s website: [www.nyspcc.org](http://www.nyspcc.org). ●



As the first child protection agency in the United States, The NYSPCC maintains the most comprehensive and oldest set of records on child abuse and neglect cases and laws for maltreated children. The George Sim Johnston Archives, named in honor of a long-standing member of The NYSPCC's Board of Directors, contains a wealth of original and compiled material on the origins, history and development of the child protection movement from 1875 to the present day.

The Archival holdings include:

- Digital copies of NYSPCC cases from the organization's incorporation in 1875 to present day, including more than 650,000 files concerning over 2,000,000 children;
- Newspaper clippings of note concerning child protection issues, including 15 bound volumes regarding The NYSPCC's efforts regarding child labor as it pertains to children working in the theater, and the Titanic waif rescue and reunification story;
- Annual Reports of child protective statistics and case summaries;
- Historical Records: approximately 15 linear feet of documents in file folders dating from 1875; and
- Photographs (both prints and glass slides) of NYSPCC buildings and persons of historical importance to the agency, such as Elbridge T. Gerry, Henry Bergh, Etta Wheeler, and Mary Ellen (before and after her rescue, and later, with her children).

The NYSPCC has completed digitizing and preserving Archival holdings such as original case files, historic books, documents, and priceless artifacts. More people will now have access to the Archives and materials will be preserved for future generations. In the past decade, Archive photos, records, advice and consultation have been used in several feature length documen-

taries, short films, dissertations and books dealing with children's rights. The NYSPCC has also participated in three major museum exhibits: The New York Historical Society, The Museum of the City of New York and the Hoboken Historical Society. In each exhibit, The NYSPCC received a prominent position telling the story of The NYSPCC and its founding of the organized child protection movement. In 2016, the archivist responded to 29 total inquiries, 22 from private citizens and 7 from professional organizations such as the Historic Preservation Office of the NYC Dept. of Design & Construction and from the facilities manager of the former headquarters building of The Bronx County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. ●



*Etta Wheeler, a community volunteer, who helped catalyze the child protection movement through her concern and actions to rescue Mary Ellen, a young girl being abused by her adoptive parents in Manhattan's Hell's Kitchen neighborhood.*

**FINANCIAL POSITION SUMMARY**

Cash	\$	1,200,509
Investments at fair value		21,494,507
Other assets		<u>517,262</u>
<b><i>Total Assets</i></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u><u>23,212,278</u></u></b>
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$	253,864
Deferred revenue		5,000
Accrued pension benefits		<u>2,002,329</u>
<b><i>Total Liabilities</i></b>		<b><u><u>2,261,193</u></u></b>
Unrestricted		17,233,549
Temporarily restricted		30,000
Permanently restricted		<u>3,687,536</u>
<b><i>Total Net Assets</i></b>		<b><u><u>20,951,085</u></u></b>
<b><i>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</i></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u><u>23,212,278</u></u></b>

## FINANCIAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Contributions	
Foundations/Corporations	\$ 615,658
Other	237,334
Government contracts	118,427
Special events	996,078
Investment return—operating	1,052,808
Professional education fees	364,811
Other support and revenue	725
<b><i>Total Support and Revenue</i></b>	<b><u>3,385,841</u></b>
Supervised visitation	746,046
Trauma recovery	773,584
Training institute/advocacy	537,873
Research and evaluation	378,154
Archives	112,382
General administration	392,514
Special events	293,575
Fundraising	463,725
<b><i>Total Operating Expenses</i></b>	<b><u>3,697,853</u></b>
<b><i>Excess of Operating Expenses over Revenue</i></b>	<b><u>(312,012)</u></b>
Investment return—non-operating	(148,164)
Adjustment to accrued pension benefits	(303,441)
Decrease in temporarily restricted net assets	(25,000)
Decrease in permanently restricted net assets	(48,228)
Decrease for the year	(836,845)
Net Assets—Beginning of year	<u>21,787,930</u>
<b><i>Net Assets—End of year</i></b>	<b><u>\$ 20,951,085</u></b>

On Monday, November 14, 2016, The NYSPCC held its Food & Wine Gala at the Metropolitan Club in Manhattan. The event featured a one-of-a-kind menu designed by Chef Michael Anthony of Gramercy Tavern and Untitled. The Food and Wine Gala was hosted by Kimberly Guilfoyle, Fox News Anchor and Analyst, Co-Host of *The Five*, and member of The NYSPCC's Children's Council. Adam Rapoport, Editor-in-chief of *Bon Appétit* joined as our guest speaker.

Proceeds from the Food & Wine Gala support The NYSPCC's Trauma Recovery Program which offers a specialized therapeutic counseling for children, ages 5-18, who have experienced physical or sexual abuse, neglect, or who have witnessed family violence.

Special thanks go to our Gala Dinner Co-Chairs: Russ Coniglio, Maarit and Tom Glocer, Joan Granlund, and David and Sarah Stack; Benefactors: Neil and Amanda Friedman, Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry, Jr., Penny Grant, MD, Valesca Guerrand-Hermés, and Karl and Deborah Norville. ●





1 KARL WELLNER, DEBORAH NORVILLE, DR. MARY PULIDO, HILARY ROSS AND SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WILBUR ROSS; 2 KARL WELLNER, DAVID STACK, CHEF MICHAEL ANTHONY AND ADAM RAPOPORT; 3 ANNE AND BOB ARNS; 4 KITTY GERRY, ELBRIDGE T. GERRY, JR., AND DR. MARY PULIDO; 5 GIGI STONE WOODS, DANIELLE YANCEY, KYLE NOLAN, KIMBERLY GUILFOYLE, CHERYL CASONE AND HEATHER CHILDERS; 6 TOM AND MAARIT GLOECER; 7 NEIL AND AMANDA FRIEDMAN; 8 DEBORAH NORVILLE, CHEF MICHAEL ANTHONY, AND RUSS CONIGLIO; 9 ADAM RAPOPORT, DEBORAH NORVILLE, FREDERICK ANDERSON, VALESCA GUERRAND-HERMÈS AND KIMBERLY GUILFOYLE



On Tuesday, April 12, 2016, during National Child Abuse Prevention Month, The NYSPCC held its Fifth Annual Spring Luncheon at the Pierre Hotel, featuring Guest Speaker, Drew Barrymore. The record-breaking afternoon raised over \$300,000 to support NYSPCC programs that work to prevent child abuse and help children to move forward and lead healthy, happy lives.

A big thanks to our Spring Luncheon Co-Chairs: Maarit Glocer, Joan Granlund, Valesca Guerrand-Hermès, Tania Higgins, Elizabeth Mayhew, and Connie Newberry; Vice-Chairs: Peggy Anderson, Russ Coniglio, and Penny Grant, MD; the Board of Directors and everyone who helped to make the afternoon a wonderful success! ●



**1** HOLLY KELLY, DR. MARY PULIDO, DREW BARRYMORE, LINCOLN FRANK, AND MOLLY FRANK; **2** HEIDI ENGLER AND JOAN GRANLUND; **3** RUSS CONIGLIO, DREW BARRYMORE, AND DR. PENNY GRANT; **4** ELIZABETH MAYHEW, CONNIE NEWBERRY, DREW BARRYMORE, VALESCA GUERRAND-HERMÈS, MAARIT GLOCER, AND TANIA HIGGINS





On Thursday, May 12, 2016, The NYSPCC's dedicated Junior Committee hosted its annual Spring Benefit at Tao Downtown. The Benefit featured signature cocktails, delicious food, and a silent auction, and raised essential funds for The NYSPCC's programs.

We are incredibly thankful to Kathy Van Ness and Golden Door, who underwrote a portion of the event. ●



**1** ALEXANDRA AND EDWARD SHAHEEN; **2** CHANI CHURCHILL, NICK OLSEN, ALEXANDRA SHAHEEN, AND LAUREN CAHILL; **3** ELIZABETH TOOTER, HUDSON BOVA, KATHY VAN NESS, AUDREY SEYBERT, AND JONATHAN KLEIN; **4** LINETTE SEMINO, BARBARA REGNA, MATT SEMINO, AND CHARLOTTE POMPI; **5** RUSS CONIGLIO, DR. MARY PULIDO, SUZANNE SCHALIN AND STEVE FORRESTER

Every year The NYSPCC hosts a holiday toy drive in which generous donors and corporate partners donate toys for the families we serve. We're thrilled to announce that in 2016, the NYSPCC held its most successful toy



drive and family holiday party ever. On December 19, 2016, we saw many happy smiles as the children and families enjoyed dinner, face painting, clown entertainment, arts and crafts and games. We capped off the night by sending them all home with gift bags filled to the brim with books, toys and gift cards.

The NYSPCC would like to thank our Junior Committee for underwriting the cost of the clowns. We would also like to acknowledge our volunteers—Julie Frani, Alexa Kennedy, Rachel McCain, Tashina Tantalos, and Rei Weintraub—and our toy drive donors, who helped to make this holiday event so joyous! ●

- Arch Insurance
- Colgate-Palmolive Co.
- Commerzbank
- Amanda Gilbert Dzurilla
- Tom Felice
- Hunter Fortney
- Gibney, Anthony & Flaherty, LLP
- Kappa Delta Sorority-Eta Iota Chapter
- Marvel
- Mattel
- MediaCom
- Modell's Sporting Goods
- Montessori School of Manhattan
- New York Hilton Midtown
- Pace University
- Paramount Hotel
- Per Scholas
- Pleasantville Senior Center
- Pratham USA
- Arturo Riddick
- Runway the Real Way
- SBG Publishing
- Sprinkles Cupcakes
- Laura Szamatulski
- Titmouse, Inc.

*"We really appreciate you thinking of all of our children. We were able to get everyone something, but your gifts made everyone's Christmas special. We've been playing the board games all week as a family. It was really nice with the snow this weekend. It gave the kids something to do. Thank you so much!"*

*~ Parent*

**FOUNDATIONS,  
CORPORATIONS AND  
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 42nd Street Development Corporation  
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New York City Administration for Children Services  
 New York State Office of Court Administration  
 New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance  
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 Solon E. Summerfield Foundation, Inc.  
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 Staff Management Group LLC  
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 The William Stamps Farish Fund  
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 Marta de Radzysinski

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## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Through the generous support of individuals, foundations, and corporations, The NYSPCC will continue its important work protecting and improving the lives of New York City's children. There are many ways you can help make a difference:

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To discuss the range of opportunities to support The NYSPCC, please contact Megan Santosusso, Director of Development and Communications, at (212) 233-5500 ext. 216 or [info@nyspcc.org](mailto:info@nyspcc.org).

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