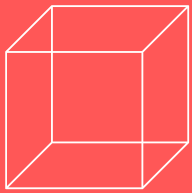




NEW DESTINY
FAMILY SUCCESS CENTERS, INC.
A Family Gathering Place

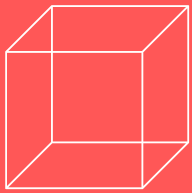
FY 2021-22

Annual Report



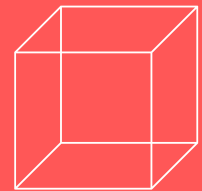
OUR MISSION

New Destiny Family Success Center's mission is to cultivate healthy families in support of positive child and adult development.



OUR VISION

Our vision is a community of thriving families, engaged in a network of caring support and bountiful resources.



OUR PURPOSE

- Enrich the lives of children and youth by strengthening families and neighborhoods.
- Develop networks of family strengthening services to prevent child abuse and neglect.
- Provide integrated, locally based services that are family and youth focused and culturally responsive.
- Strengthen connections with families, between families, and to the community

WHO WE ARE

New Destiny Family Success Centers serves as a "one-stop" shop that provides wrap-around resources and supports for families before they find themselves in crisis.

We offer services to families and youth by bringing together concerned community residents, leaders, community and government agencies to address problems that threaten the safety and stability of families and the community.

9

PROGRAM SITES

3969

EVENT ATTENDEES

1744

REFERRALS

AGENCY MILESTONE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2021-2022

Fathers Advance Initiative

Established The Fathers Advance, "GO F.A.R.-Fathers Advancing and Reconnecting" initiative as a free program to encourage Dads & Father figures to be the best version of themselves.



Paterson Advancing Health Literacy Project

Partnered with Paterson's Division of Health to launch the Paterson Advancing Health Literacy Project where we distributed 1,100+ educational questionnaires. The project's goal is to share scientific and factual information about COVID-19.

COVID-19

Community of Caring: The Paterson Doula Cooperative

The Paterson Doula Cooperative, a collaboration between New Destiny Family Success Center, St. Joseph's Health and the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey, is a new initiative which will expand access to doula care and provide free community doula training, to Paterson residents.



Early Literacy Summer Reading for Youth 4-8

Partnered with the Early Literacy initiative hosted by Paterson Reads to establish the Rising Readers Summer Literacy Project at the Senator Lautenberg School 6

FAMILY SUCCESS CENTER HIGHLIGHTS



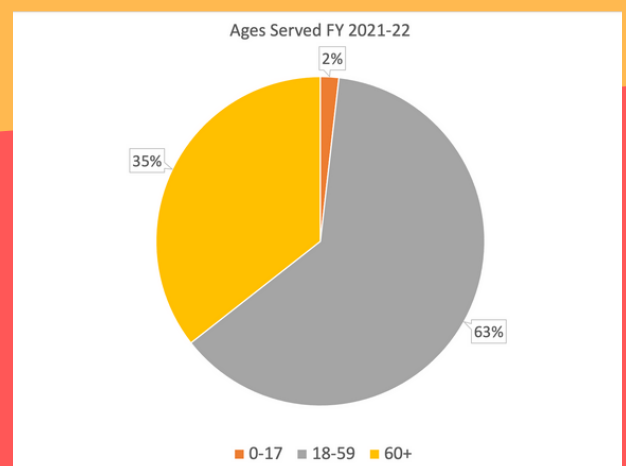
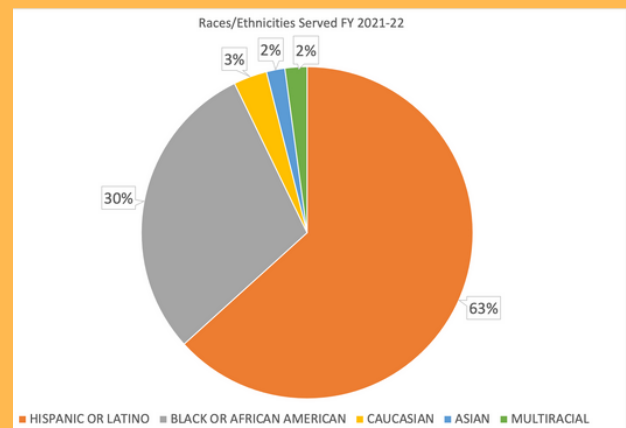
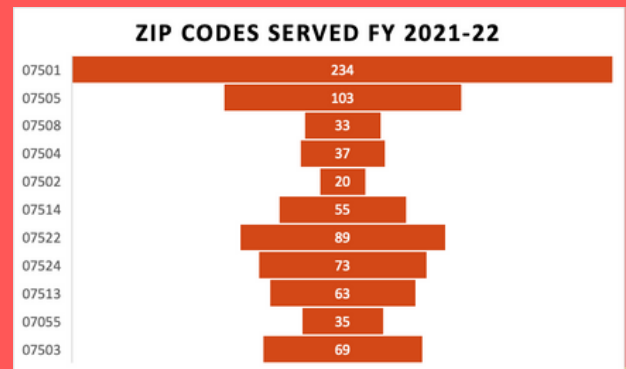
The following data summarizes service needs and requests delivered through New Destiny's Family Success Center programs and activities.

Children, Youth & Adult Participants	Number
Special Events	1202
Parent/Child Activities	312
Parent Workshops	259
Adult Education	141
Life Skills Training	127
Nutrition Education	70

Life Skills Training includes: English as a Second Language, financial literacy, employment-related courses, healthy lifestyle and cooking classes, etc.

Special Events include: Black History Month, Mother's Day Brunch, Ice Cream Social, International Women's Day, etc.

Youth Engagement includes: Summer reading program, arts & crafts program, youth nutrition classes, movie night, etc.



SENATOR FRANK LAUTENBERG FULL SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL



"A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, services, supports and opportunities leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities." (The Coalition of Community Schools)

1,042

Parent & Community
Participants

Most popular events in this category were the Strengthening Families Healing Fair and the Fathers Reconnecting Event, both held at School #6.

Most popular events in this category were the Luminary event, Pumpkin Patch event, and toy distribution.

2,920

Youth Participants



MOBILE SENIOR SUCCESS CENTER

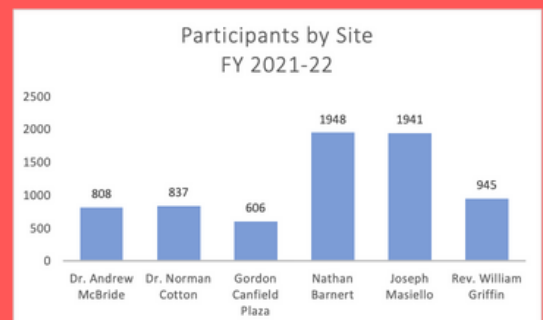


New Destiny utilizes the philosophies, values and beliefs of the Family Success Center Practice model to develop and implement programming centered around the needs of senior families residing in six public housing senior sites. Key components include implementation of the "protective factors" offered through holistic programming focused on social/emotional health, enrichment and community engagement

The number of participants across all sites increased significantly this year. We served 533 unique individual residents. Based on duplicated attendance records, there was a 243% increase from last year's total of 2,910 duplicated registrants in 2021 compared to 7,085 duplicated registrants in 2022.



Senior Family Engagement	# of Participants
Referral & Aid	727
Workshops	591
Events	612
Wellness Calls	1767
CSFP Food Distribution	3388



7,085

Total Duplicated
Participants

MATERNAL AND CHILD ENGAGEMENT



New Destiny provides outreach, education, screening/referral, and case management using a strength-based approach to promote maternal well-being and healthy infant birth to one year old outcomes for child-bearing age, women 15-44. The Passaic County Healthy Start Project is a partnership between the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health funded by the Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation.


<i>Maternal and Child Engagement</i>	<i>SUM of Participants</i>
Case Managed Families	57
Community Health Screenings	56
Education and Information	330
Service and Referrals	82
Successful Contacts	481

<i>Maternal and Child Donations</i>	<i>SUM of Participants</i>
Diapers	278
Formula	54
Total:	610
Wipes	278
Grand Total	1220

<i>Workshop/Events</i>	<i>SUM of # of Participants</i>
Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors	12
Bunny Baskets	19
Children's Clothing Shoppe	47
Christmas Shoppe	28
Grab and Go	42
Milestone Baby Shower	8
New Beginnings Celebration	13
Newborn Baby Shower	5
The Nursing Lounge	30
Grand Total	204



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT AND DONATIONS



Volunteers and donations support families we serve on a daily basis. Every year families receive backpacks, turkeys, clothing, gifts and more. New Destiny FSC serves the community by addressing their needs, thanks to the support of our volunteers and donors.

43

Volunteers

8,095

Hours served

13

Christmas and Thanksgiving
Donors

632

Families Served

\$26,252

Total Donations FY 2021-22

\$26,470

Total Donations FY 2020-21

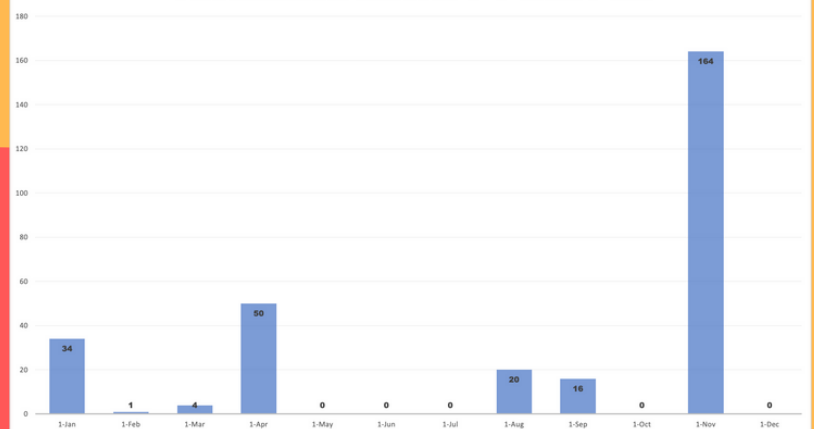
NEW DESTINY FSC COVID-19 RESPONSE



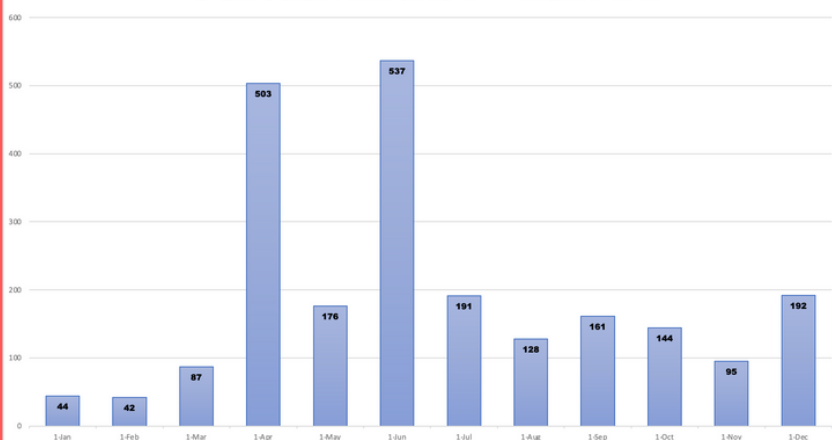
New Destiny FSC has brought awareness of COVID-19 resources, testing and vaccination sites/Mobile testing, and information to the most vulnerable population in the City of Paterson and surrounding areas. Three Community Health Workers are on site assisting community members with vaccination scheduling, testing, PPE distribution, and educational materials. Methods used to disseminate information include: Social Media, Zoom, wellness calls, tabling, and canvassing. New Destiny also participated in the Paterson Advancing Health Literacy project through the Paterson Division of Health. Out of 9 participating organizations, New Destiny collected almost 50% of the total surveys completed.

As the emphasis has shifted from vaccination to boosters to recovery, the COVID-19 team has accommodated the needs of the community to reach the most individuals. The shift is reflected in the vaccination data.

Vaccination Efforts FY 2021-22



Outreach Efforts FY 2021-22



NDFSC Community Health Workers have been getting out into the community to spread awareness for COVID-19 resources like vaccinations, boosters, PCR and rapid tests, as well as hand sanitizers and masks.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE



As of October 2018, New Destiny Family Success Center became the only affiliate in Passaic County for the Affordable Housing Alliance to process PAGE applications. In January 2021, the PAGE program transitioned to PAGE 3, which is now open to low and moderate income households. Families are now able to apply for low income energy assistance (LIHEAP) and PAGE 3 at the same time. **Income guidelines from LIHEAP/USF increased significantly to provide more assistance.**

\$289.64

Average Electric Energy Grant

\$215.27

Average Gas Energy Grant

217

Total approved
applications

\$109,565.05

Total grant money
distributed

SUCCESS STORIES

All year round, New Destiny Family Success Centers, Inc. partners with various organizations to better serve our families. As they say, “it takes a village”! Collaboration has always been part of the New Destiny FSC culture. During the pandemic it became a heightened priority. Passaic County CASA for Children has been one of the partners that collaborated with New Destiny FSC to impact many families in the city of Paterson. Today, they continue to struggle throughout the COVID pandemic due to job loss, mental health, inflation, and more. Passaic County CASA provided twenty of our families with monthly diapers, wipes, and formula for an entire year! These items were donated monthly! A month supply, which provided financial relief. One box of name brand diapers costs \$58.99, and a pack of wipes \$1.78. Moreover, a container of formula is \$17.99. All these items add up to a total of \$78.76 a month. If we multiply that by 12 months, each family received \$945 in donations. When you are in financial need this assistance goes a long way! Our families were so grateful to receive this aid for their babies. It meant less stress and worry. Trying to find formula has been a hassle in the United States due to the recent shortage. Any help for these families meant the world. According to Bare Necessities, “1 in 3 families in the USA have a diaper need. 6– 12 diapers are needed per day for infants/toddlers at an average cost of \$100 per month. Diapers and toiletries are not covered under safety net programs such as SNAP (food stamps) or WIC (woman, infants, and children).” We are thankful for this partnership. Due to lack of funding, this program has ended. They are now focusing their resources on other endeavors. As we continue to serve over 2,000 families in our community, we strive to maintain partnerships, increase collaboration, and find innovative programs that can help our community members overcome current challenges. Without partners and ongoing collaboration, our work is impossible. New Destiny FSC is proud to work hand-in hand with other community-based organizations to continue to influence the lives of families positively.

One of our AmeriCorps Service Members, Christina Cheek, loading up donated diapers in support of our distribution efforts.



SUCCESS STORIES

Becoming a United States citizen can be a challenge for many immigrants that come from all over the world. This summer of 2022 we have the wonderful story of a Peruvian immigrant living in Woodland Park who arrived in the late 2000s with her daughter in search of a brighter future. Ms. S's journey to the United States was not easy, as she faced several difficulties and challenges. One of the numerous difficulties she experienced was the language barrier; her inability to communicate in English made it hard for her to get a job. Her determination and tenacity to provide her family with a better life pushed her forward throughout the years. She eventually came upon our organization, New Destiny Family Success Center, where she learned about our programs, activities, and the other services we offer. Ms. S came into our office in the fall of 2021, seeking assistance with the naturalization process. A member of the New Destiny FSC team was more than willing to assist her with the application process. She provided all the required documents and was able to begin the application right away. She was terrified and anxious, since she had gone to many agencies, and no one could assist her without charging her an exorbitant fee. She was relieved when she discovered that the service was free! On May 27th, 2022, Ms. S contacted our New Destiny staff member who had assisted her to inform her that she had officially become a naturalized citizen of the United States of America. Ms. S was extremely thankful for the support and assistance she received throughout her case. New Destiny Family Success Center continues to serve individuals and families by providing a variety of services to help them feel at ease and will supporting them in achieving their goals. We congratulations Ms. S, on officially becoming a naturalized citizen of the United States of America! Our New Destiny doors will always be open for individuals who want to be helped, succeed, and achieve their goals. New Destiny FSC continues to make an impact in the lives of our community members.

Ms. S, pictured here in our office with MSSC Program Coordinator Yrina Riveros and Family Partner Supervisor Anny Alonzo, after hearing the news of obtaining US Citizenship.



SUCCESS STORIES

In the month of April each year, New Destiny FSC commemorates Family Strengthening Month in a special way!! This year, the agency organized a “Family Strengthening Month Healing Fair”, where families came together and enjoyed a day of healing and fun. Why did we choose the theme of “healing”? Having lived through the pandemic these past two years, many families were negatively impacted financially, mentally, and spiritually. We decided we wanted to bring a celebration of joy while also encouraging families with a rich array of community resources. A total of 151 adults and 165 children enjoyed free food, ice cream, popcorn, games, music, and so much more!! When the idea was presented to our community partners, they immediately jumped on board bringing resources and free gifts for our children and families. Boxes of food were given to families in need by one of our partners. Vendors were available with a diverse mix of community resources and information including a mobile vaccine unit on site for anyone interested in getting vaccinated. Some of the feedback we received from the volunteers, families and interns that assisted at the event were, “It was so good to see children smiling, families bonding, and the passion with which all staff, volunteers and vendors served the community;” “One of my favorite events,” “It was an event well done, organized, all families had an activity to do, it was perfect.” One of our community partners stated that he not been in an event like this before.” As part of our “strengthening families” event, some of the protective factors addressed included: social connections, concrete support in times of need (as evidenced by our collaborators who attended), social and emotional competence of children. Vendors provided tools for parenting and child development. Activities such as Zumba, and the bouncy house for the children allowed them to release stress and have fun. Overall, our goal was and is that families leave these types of events with a sense of hope knowing that there is support in their community even when challenging times arise. We want them to know that NDFSC and its partners will be there to strengthen and support them.

Three of our child participants with balloon animals and face paint, enjoying the festivities of the day!

