



2021 - 2022

Annual Report





Our Vision

Serving the community from the cradle to career/college. Promoting healthy and meaningful lifestyles leading to a joyful and comfortable life. Believing “hope is within reach” for all.



Our Mission

To provide resources for the evolving needs of our community’s children and families. By meeting their needs today, assisting them to reach their goals of tomorrow and partnering with them to live productive life.

Our History

- Incorporated in 1965 as a private non-profit organization with 501(C)(3) (Tax-Exempt) IRS status
- Started as a six-week summer Head Start pilot program in 1965, served twelve (12) needy pre-schoolers
- Moved from the campus of East Stroudsburg University to St. John's Church in Stroudsburg, increasing enrollment to 30 children.
- Upon establishing Pocono Services for Families and Children, the program moved to the basement of the East Stroudsburg Methodist Church, increasing enrollment to 75 children.
- In 1992, an additional center was established in Gilbert, increasing enrollment to 100 children.
- In 1998, more than \$750,000 was raised and the funds were used to purchase the Flick Building in East Stroudsburg for housing five classrooms to serve more than 100 children.
- A Pre-K Counts Classroom was established in J M Hill Elementary School in 2008.
- Several Head Start classrooms were opened at Resica and Middle Smithfield Elementary Schools in 2010.
- A Head Start class was established at Clear Run Elementary in 2013.
- Opening of The Mountain Center facility in 2016 to fulfill a promise to bring great change to our community. This educational and community services center, housed in a 100,000 square foot building, is located in the most underserved area of the county.
- Merged with Monroe County Employment Service, Inc. (YES) in 2019 to fulfill a promise to close a gap in PSFC serving youths.

Today, PSFC programs are a year-round operation, benefiting more than 900 youths from programs such as preschool, infant/toddlers, school-age (kindergarten through the sixth grade), and Youth Empowerment Services (YES) (from sixth grade through 24 years old).

PSFC is striving to make greater impact on our children's future through education, career exploration, internship, and leadership.

Message from Kristi Hammond



The past two years have been nothing short of challenging! 2021 started out in the midst of COVID with classroom closures, continued curriculum modifications, and challenges with implementing virtual learning. Despite these struggles, PSFC continued to support our families and children with meals, tablets, and other necessities to encourage a positive outlook through the hardship of health and wellness, job security, and childcare concerns.

In September of 2021, PSFC opened doors to in-person learning, allowing our parents to return to work and gain a sense of normalcy. Our Early Head Start, Head Start, and School Age programs were in high demand with an expectation of full enrollment but faced many staffing challenges. Luckily, we are resourceful and set a plan in place to meet the ever-evolving needs of our families and our staff; between The Mountain Center and East Stroudsburg Center, we enrolled over 300 children!

Since January, we saw a big shift in staffing. Our agency promoted 3 staff to director positions, welcomed a new Executive Director and Fiscal Officer, and have hired several new Lead Teachers and Assistant Teachers. Working for this agency is rewarding, especially when you see the smiling faces of children every day, and to know that you are making a difference in their lives.

PSFC has so many more things to celebrate! In May, we renamed The Mountain Center Head Start Center entrance to *Sanofi Family & Community Engagement Service* in recognition of their generous sponsorships of over \$1 Million dollars over the past 30 years. In April, we honored St. Luke's Family Medicine by participating in the ribbon-cutting event at our Mountain Center location. We were thrilled to bring back Stuff the Bus event with WSBG and received over 1,500 donations for our children and families. In May, we kicked off the summer with our Annual Golf Event hosted by Pinecrest Lake Golf and Country Club that brought \$20k in donations and sponsorships to support our children.

We are dedicated to our community and thank you for taking the time to read about our programs and their achievements.

"As a lifeline for our children and families in need, PSFC depends on the generosity of people like you; people who make a difference."

Sincerely,
Kristi Hammond
Executive Director

2021– 2022 PSFC Award Recipients

Brianna Smith Youth Participation Award: BRIANNA SMITH

Brianna Smith was a 17-year-old youth participant of PSFC Youth Empowerment Services. She worked her first job for Summer Youth employment at TMC. She shadowed her grandmother Rosemary in keeping our facility beautiful, she covered the front desk on both sides, and was always looking to help with any project you had. Brianna's outgoing and friendly personality helped a peer who was going through domestic problems at home. The way she was you would have never known the battle she was fighting herself. Brianna never wearied, and always showed up with the best attitude to fulfill her hope for a better future. It is with deep sadness that Brianna passed away this past September 2022, from her challenging battle with Cancer. She showed us the attitude, passion, and drive to always give your best effort to overcome challenges for success.



Outstanding Former Head Start Parent: JEANNIE WAYLAND

Jeannie Wayland's love for Head Start began as a child in a local Program in New Jersey back in 1984. Eventually, she relocated to the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania where she continue her journey as a parent in Head Start from 2003– 2005. While a parent she learned more and more about the services of Head Start as she engaged in home visits and classroom socializations. She attended parent meetings and became more involved in community events and associations. Her infectious humor put smiles on many faces and she developed passion for working with children and families. She volunteered often in our Program and then began pursuit of an education in Early Childhood and Social Work.



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Champion for Children Award: PETER ALASTY– YES PROGRAM

Peter Alasty does so much for the children of Monroe County through the YES Program. He gives an element of caring found in very few people. He Boosts a child's self esteem by giving them praise and responsibilities they can handle, all while challenging them. He is always there to help anyone that comes through the doors of the Mountain Center. In 2007, Peter launched Project Success; a unique program open to all our county's youth, with a goal to prepare our future professionals for college or career. This program started its journey by serving only 11 students to now serving over 150 students each year! Peter recognized the need, created a plan, developed goals, and achieved greatness in his service to our youth.



Eugenia S. Eden Award: DOROTHY BORDEN

Dorothy Borden (waiting for write up)



Program Overview

Head Start promotes the school readiness of young children from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development. By providing family-centered services for low-income families with children, these programs are designed to promote the children's development, and to enable their parents to fulfill their parental roles while moving toward self-sufficiency.

Early Head Start provides similar services as preschool Head Start programs, but they are tailored for the unique needs of infants and toddlers through safe and developmentally enriching caregiving.

School Age specializes in the care of grade school children up to the 6th grade. They provide before and after care, as well as care for the children when school is not in session. Similar to the Early Head Start and Head Start program, they subscribe to the philosophy of developmentally enriching caregiving. The result-oriented objective is that every child participant be able to read and write third grade materials by third grade.

The Child Well Being System (CWBS) monitors the social and emotional climate of all the children in the program. They also provide support and coaching to staff in and out of the classroom when there are behavioral concerns. When families are in crisis, the CWBS can provide support or guidance with their children or with mental /developmental/behavioral health needs.

Family Advocacy act as an integral part of the system that interface between the families and the classrooms. They set up goals and family partnerships with families and alleviate any concerns or questions the guardians may have for their children. They also assist families in meeting their own personal goals and achieving self-sufficiency across a wide variety of domains, such as housing stability, continued education, and financial security.



Our programs 2021-2022 accomplishments ...

All our programs

Number of applications processed- **693**

Number of applications on the wait list- **183**

Number of ESC/TMC funded enrollment- **314**

Number of Self Pay/ CCIS enrollment: **78**

% of our 0-5YO living below 100% of federal poverty served at both locations- **90%**

% of families who meet program eligibility requirements- **100%**

Total children and families served- **379**

School Readiness

of children moving on to Kindergarten- **66**

of referrals to community resources- **167**

of children supported with child care subsidized payments- **11**

Parent Engagement

of families who developed and individual goal plan- **329**

of parenting education workshops- **7 offered- 150 participants**

of home visits, in person and virtual- **572**

of families whom a need was identified and received referral services.- **329**

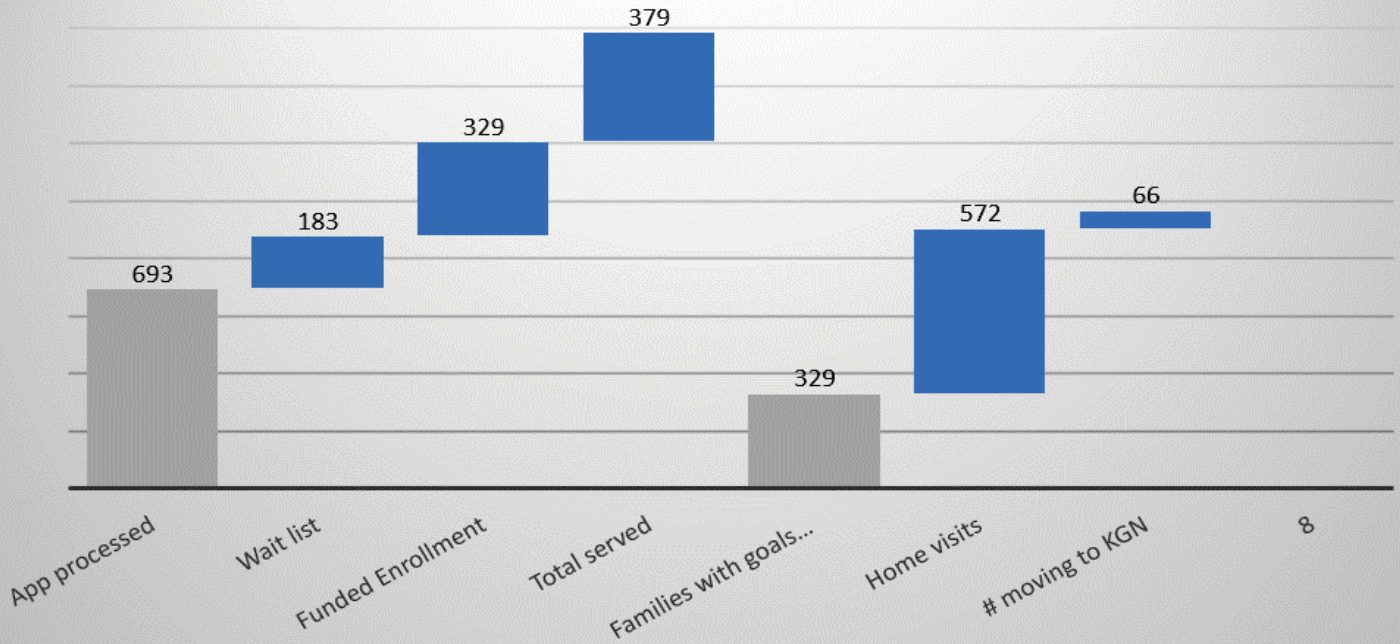
Children receiving Well Care

% of children receiving physical- **100%**

% of children receiving Dental- **100%**



2021 - 2022 Program Outcomes



YES Program Overview

YES has been serving youths aged 12 to 24 years old in Monroe County for the past 45 years and will continue its services, under PSFC for generations to come. YES projects include:

Summer Youth Employment Program “SYEP”: SYEP designed to provide local youth with work experience to gain basic elements of employability & employment skills for the business world.

Project Success: a yearlong program, designed to provide direction in career, leadership, employability, communication, problem-solving and decision making. It presents the self-sufficiency tools needed by youth ages 12 through 24, empowering them to take an active role in securing their future career goals by exploring career choices, choosing the right career, gaining experience in their chosen field, and ultimately assisting youth to follow the steps to achieve their career goals.

Career Exploration and Educational Summer Camp : is a 5-week, 5-College Course camp for 12- to 15-year-olds, held at the Mountain Center where participants got a glimpse in introductory college courses in the fields of Healthcare, STEM, Information Technology, Leadership and Art of Broadcasting. Participants will also have the opportunity for job training workshops on topics such as: Employability Skills, Resume Writing and Interview Practice, Leadership and Teambuilding

Spirit Girls / Healthy Young Adults: Spirit Girls was created in a partnership with Lehigh Valley Health Network, and Healthy Young Adults was developed with St. Luke's. Both programs encourage healthy lifestyles and promote self-esteem (among youth 12 to 17 years of age), while teaching age-appropriate topics by physicians, nurses, clinical and professional personnel

Project Discovery: is a collaborative initiative of YES, Workforce Investment, and PA CareerLink of Monroe County. It is a career planning and career exploration resource that provides all the tools and resources for charting youth career path by choice, not chance. It is highly engaging, fun, and works perfectly on any computer, tablet, or smart phone, making job shadowing a uniquely digital experience!



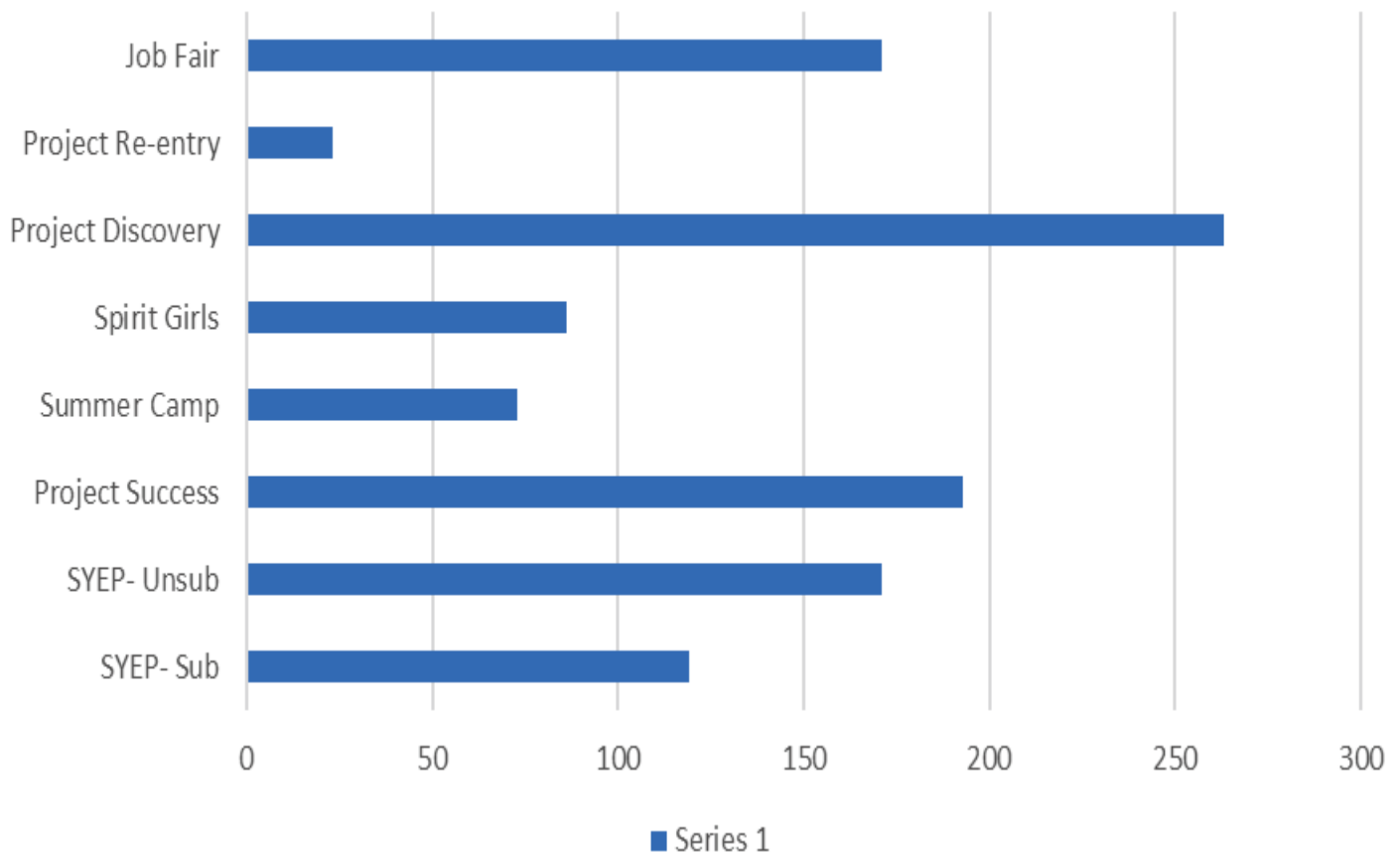
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Project Success Beyond/Re-Entry: is designed to help returning youths who are involved in the legal system, successfully “re-enter” society by training them in career explorations, education and skills needed to give them a “**Second Chance to the Right Path**”

Annual Youth Job Fair: By partnering with local employers (such as Camelback, Kalahari, Shawnee Inn, Cove Haven, Great Wolf, McDonalds, Burger King, Wendy’s, Shoprite, Price Chopper, and more), YES hosts an annual youth job fair every May since 2015, intended for high school and college students seeking summer employment. The goal is to fill summer seasonal positions with local youths ages 14 to 24.



Program Outcomes 2021-2022



Meet our Partners

One Stop! That Stops the Run Around:

Partner Organizations in The Mountain Center (TMC): These agencies have established residence in The Mountain Center, providing critical resources needed:

AARP/Senior Employment Services: 1,380 volunteers

Dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for older adults. AARP promotes positive social change and provides its members with information, advocacy, and services. Through AARP Foundation's SCSEP, job seekers can be placed in a wide variety of positions including daycare centers, senior centers, governmental agencies, schools, hospitals, libraries, and landscaping centers.

Big Brother Big Sisters of NEPA: 20 matches made To create, support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youths.

Feeding Family Ministries, Inc.: 11,365 individuals serves

The Mission: God has called us to offer our lives in service to each other. One example of loving service to others is the care and feeding of the working poor and hungry. This is the ministry which we intend to provide without judgment or qualifications to those in need. We have an emergency food source for those struggling with hunger.

Habitat for Humanity: A nonprofit housing organization working in local communities across all 50 states and in more than 70 countries around the world. Habitat's vision is of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat works toward this vision by building and improving homes in partnership with individuals and families in need of a decent and affordable place to live.

Monroe County Area of Aging:

155 seniors

To strengthen family life, assist individuals in attaining or maintaining independence and self-care, and protect adults in danger of neglect, abuse or exploitation.

Monroe County Transit Authority: MCTA

(a.k.a. the Pocono Pony) is the public transit authority for Monroe County, PA. Services offered include provision of rural fixed route service as well as a paratransit program for the disabled and elderly.

PA State Rep. Maureen Madden Legislative Office:

7,473 constituents served

Represents the 115th Legislative District. Her office can answer questions and provide resources to constituents.

Read Across Monroe: An early literacy project to put books into the hands of children whose families struggle to afford or to have access to them. We collect, store, and distribute new and gently used children's books.



St. Luke's Family Medicine– Tobyhanna:

860 patients and 100 new served since May

Offers quick, convenient access to treat our community's urgent care needs. Individuals and families can choose a walk-in urgent care center or a doctor video visit to treat one of the many urgent care conditions that has listed at the center. This center will provide treatments to everyone, regardless of their income or insurance status.

Women / Infant / Children (WIC): 7,100 clients served

Maternal and Family Health Services. To safeguard the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating, and referrals to health care.

Women's Resources: To provide a safe and caring environment that encourages healing and empowerment for anyone whose life has been impacted by domestic and sexual violence. We strive to engage our community through awareness, advocacy, and prevention.

The Vision: To end domestic and sexual violence for all within our community.

Additional Partnering Programs:

Pocono 24/7 Dad Project

English as a Second Language

Citizenship Classes

Sew N Crafts

Weekly NA / AA Meetings



Thank you to all our supporters this past year!

A Bit of Bliss Therapy

All One Foundations & Charities

AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast

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George Barthelenghi

Beseckers

Michelle Bisbing

Patty Blasioli

Blue Ridge Communications

Dorothy Borden

Christina Brecht

Jean Brovero

Representative Rosemary Brown

Clear Mountain Wellness

Milton Cohen

Colonial IU 20

Pilar Cueva

Stephen Cunningham

Curnal Inc General Contracting & Rigging

Dwell Bodywork

Early Learning Resource Center– Reg. 12

Eastern Monroe Public Library/ Bookmobile

EF Possinger

ESSA Bank & Trust

Farmer's Basket

Fawn Makeup Studio and Spa

Feeding Families Ministry

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Isabel Flecha

Floods

Linda Flores

Lowes

Glen Brook Golf Course

Jimmy Gonzalez

Chris Grape-Garvey

Green Team Contracting, Inc.

Kenneth Gustafson

Kristi Hammond

Hampton Inn

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JTH

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Leddy Telecom Services

Timothy Lee

Margaret Lee

Rocco Lombardo

MAC Sign Systems

Robert Marchetti

Eric Mark

Optimist Club

Ronald & Judith Martinelli

Mattioli Foundation

Pat McCarrick

Ronald Meyer

Lance Meyerowich

Thank you to all our supporters this past year!

Jakeem Moore

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Mother Natures Way

Mountain View Vineyard Inc.

Ann O'Malley

Justin Ortiz

Carol Owens

Philly Pretzel Factory

PA CareerLink Monroe County

Pinecrest Lake Golf & Country Club

Pocono Area Lawnsapes

Pocono Chamber of Commerce

Pocono Cheesecake

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Michael & Yvonne P. Rispoli

Rotary Clubs of Monroe County

Rotary International

Dennis Rimmey

Rudy's Tavern

Sanofi

Seven Mountains Media/ 93.5SBG

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James Shea

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Siamsa Irish Pub

Diane & Dennis Silance

John Sobrinski

Strunk-Albert Engineering

St. Luke's University Health Network- Monroe

Sundance Networks Inc.

Super Heat

Texas Roadhouse

The Cure Café

The Estate of Jeanette Ritter

TimberRock Enterprises LLC

Train on Main

Vigon International

Stephen Wachowski

Rose Walsh

David & Audrey Wampole

Johanna Weaver

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