

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2020-21

---

# Family Connection

OF EASTON



*Our Mission:* Family Connection is the family center for the Easton Area School District. We are a catalyst for change within families, schools and communities. Through a team approach that includes families, EASD and community organizations, we improve academic performance, the quality of life and the strength of our community

*Our Vision:* Creating a compassionate community where all children and families have the opportunity to achieve academic and personal success



purposity



723 Coal St., Easton, PA 18042  
[servac@eastonsd.org](mailto:servac@eastonsd.org)



United Way of the  
Greater Lehigh Valley  
[UnitedWayGLV.org](http://UnitedWayGLV.org)



---

## AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

---

In an unprecedented year, we were proud to sustain services, even if they were executed a little differently. We are grateful for our funders, who showed flexibility and found new ways to assist us through the pandemic. Many people ask how they can support the work we do:

- Make a donation through our website at [familyconnectionofeaston.org](http://familyconnectionofeaston.org)
- Purchase items for our pantries using our *Amazon Wish List*
- Use the *Purposity App* to make a wish come true for a local family
- Lead a donation drive at your office or in your neighborhood
- Encourage others to learn more about us
- Follow us on Facebook & Instagram @familyconnectpa

Just a few examples of generous donations from the school year include: Summer Fun Bags for students from New Creations Church, a truck-load full of food from Faith Community Church & Convoy of Hope, student virtual learning tools from Palmer Township Kiwanis and a special fundraiser featuring a Star Wars themed burger special at Two Rivers Brewing Company!

Our 3rd Stuff the Bus drive over Thanksgiving was our largest yet! 2020 sponsors/site locations included: Access Networks, Crayola Experience, Danny Cohen, Easton Wine Project, Fanatics, Fidelity Bank, Forks Township Parks & Recreation, Fulton Bank, GBB & Co., KingSpry, Kudu Creative, Lower Nazareth Target, Piscitello Home Center, St. Luke's Anderson & Easton Campuses and Teamsters Local 773.

Once again our Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community was virtual this year. Thanks to you, we raised a grand total of \$16,659! Not only is this an increase over last year, but our supporters helped to place us 8<sup>th</sup> in total funds raised out of 199 participating organizations! Thanks to our sponsors —PLATINUM: Jeannie Kreeger State Farm, Wawa Foundation; GOLD: Crayola, Daniel Polanski, Esq., Lafayette College, Mearhoff Insurance Agency, Palmer Township Athletic Association, ShopRite; SILVER: Fulton Bank, GBB & Co. CPAs, Julie Bator, Sheetz; BRONZE: Ashton Funeral Home, Bank Street Creamery, CYF Employees, IRCO Community Federal Credit Union, Strunk Funeral Home, Univest Insurance. We are always in awe of the amount of support from EASD staff and families we receive for this event! Special thanks to our volunteer from Crayola who led art-themed craft night fundraisers for all seven EASD elementary schools on Zoom.

From a business perspective, the agency began re-energizing our brand, starting with our new logo. Website changes will also be forthcoming. We also are in the midst of crafting our 2022-25 Strategic Plan and diversifying our long-term savings plans. We stay involved in the community by sitting on councils and boards including the EASD Diversity Alliance, the Northampton County CYF Fatality/Near Fatality Review Board, the Lafayette College Landis Center Advisory Council and the LV Food Policy Council, just to name a few.



---

## FAMILY SUPPORT & CASE MANAGEMENT

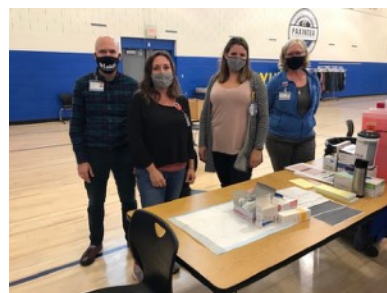
---

Family Support Staff are community resource liaisons who serve as advocates for parents & families in the district. Staff assist any EASD family in need by helping them to find & utilize community services, offer support, connect to basic needs and develop & monitor family goal plans. The goal is to identify needs while at the prevention level, improve levels of school engagement & self-sufficiency and remove barriers to family & student success.

In 2020-21, the Family Support team received 487 new referrals from EASD staff. With the move to hybrid learning, staff conducted outreach to families to ensure they had WiFi access at home. The holidays saw assistance to over 300 families with toys and food. Staff partnered with Project Hope to provide free, weekly dinners from local restaurants throughout the Spring.

Staff hosted monthly parenting groups via Zoom. Guest speakers included school principals, guidance counselors, nurses and food services.

In addition, Family Connection co-chairs the EASD Wellness Council and works to set district-wide goals and initiatives for improved health outcomes for students and staff. Dental kits were distributed to Paxinosa, Cheston and March students this Winter. Staff partnered with St. Luke's to offer a "Catch Up" immunization clinic at Paxinosa in the Fall. Funding for mindfulness, nutrition and yoga classes for Paxinosa staff was secured!



---

## BACKPACK PALS

---

As it was at the end of last school year, COVID restrictions for 2020-21 meant that parents were unable to enter and shop in our school-based pantries. We therefore continued distributing Family Food Bags with inventory from our pantries and donations from the community. Food bags were available to any EASD family and were ready for pick up every two weeks at Paxinosa and Cheston Elementary Schools and the Easton Area Middle School and High School. Bags were also on 'standby' in grade-level and guidance offices at the Middle School and High School so staff had ready access to food as they needed it for students.

Family Food Bags could include any of the following items: Cereal, Pancake Mix, Beans (dried or canned), Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Crackers, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Raisins, Snack Bars, Applesauce, Soup, Macaroni & Cheese, Instant Potatoes, Stuffing, Rice, Noodles, Canned Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Boxed Pasta, Tuna Fish, Canned Chicken, and Prepared Meal Kits.

Over 500 food and toiletry bags were distributed last year! Backpack Pals could not run without our generous partners who regularly contribute items! Thank you to the following 2020-21 partners: Arndt's Lutheran Church, College Hill Preschool & Church, Cops N'Kids, EAHS Enrichment Students, EAMS Students, First UCC, Forks Community Church, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Greater Easton Development Partnership, Green Pond United Methodist Church, Grocery Outlet of Easton, Kelly Huth, New Creations UCC, Palmer Moravian Church, Revival Fire Ministries, River of God Fellowship, Sally Kraft, St. Anthony of Padua Parish, St. John's Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Whitsons Food Services.



---

## THE PARENTCHILD+ PROGRAM

---

The ParentChild+ Program (PC+) helps children & families build social, emotional & literacy skills in preparation for school success & emphasizes that parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Our Home Visitors provide direct service to children aged 20 months-4 years old, role modeling developmentally appropriate lessons and activities alongside the parent. Goals of the program are to reach families where they live, build trust, promote parent-child interaction and facilitate community connections. Families receive books and educational toys at no cost to build their own home libraries.

This year, 36 families were served in PC+. And what a memorable year it was! We began our free home visiting program in October and provided two personalized home visits per week, 30 minutes a visit. Most of our families began the year with in-person home visits. However, as Covid cases increased in Easton, we pivoted by delivering those two visits a week via FaceTime, Google Meet, or other virtual formats. Home visiting staff provided a no-contact, front porch drop off of program materials each week (a free book or educational toy plus crafts and more). Our parents embraced the program in a new way, as they led their children in virtual home visits, with their home visitor's help and encouragement. In addition we were able to provide weary, isolated parents and kids with fun and connection every week during this uncertain year.

With the help of local partners, we were able to distribute many additional items:

- New winter pajamas & gift book from the EAHS National Honor Society and Key Club students
- Hot holiday dinners from Easton Taco & Rotisserie
- Many holiday gifts and toiletries from Stuff the Bus donations
- Turkey dinners from Cornerstone Church
- 4 bags of specially packed grocery foods
- Dental kits for every child
- Summer learning bags packed with Melissa & Doug items, outdoor fun toys and more

We held both our Holiday party and our year-end graduation ceremony, via Zoom with excellent attendance. And for the first time, we held a 6-week Book & Play Club this summer at a local playground. Staff read books, and led children in crafts and chalk drawing. Every child got a free copy of the weekly book. Parents and children were able to make important social connections with each other after having been home much of the year.



---

## TRANSITION INITIATIVE

---

Our Transition work has now expanded! Kindergarten Connection, a Family Connection program since 2009, continues its focus on transition and school readiness for students from PreK or home to Kindergarten. Staff work closely with approximately 30 local Pre-Ks in an effort to connect children & families to EASD and provide a smooth transition into formal schooling. In addition, we are now also beginning to partner with EASD to create a focused elementary to middle school transition into our initiative.

In-person transition events could not be held for the 2020-21 school year. Therefore, our Program Coordinator created two websites: one for PreK partners, children and families and another as a professional development hub for educators. Our Ready Rovers PreK Site featured activities and resources for families to do at home or for centers to use on site. EASD principals volunteered their time for story read-a-louds. In addition, a link to EASD's Kindergarten Registration information was prominently featured on the homepage.

Six Professional Development sessions were created based on feedback from educators on topics of interest. Sessions included: Autism Spectrum Disorders: Building Success in the Mainstream Classroom; PreK PRESO on learning apps, programs and tools for online learning; Understanding the Impact of Trauma; Differentiation in Curriculum; Kindergarten Readiness Q&A; and Physical Therapy, Early Intervention. A total of 40-45 educators (duplicated) attended the live sessions! The second transition website site held recordings of all of these educator dialogues that could be watched at any time, if participants were not able to attend the live session.

Two Zoom luncheons were held for PreK Directors and EASD Principals and Administration to discuss transition efforts, registration and other happenings/concerns at both levels.

We provided readiness bags to all children at all 7 elementary schools attending their respective school's summer camp for rising K students and any summer enrichment programming happening in each building for current EASD students.

Partnerships to begin the expansion to middle school transition were made this year. Our Rover Camp for rising 6th grade students was a huge success! Nearly 200 students attended the enrichment week and toured the school, met teachers and fellow students from all elementary schools and participated in STEAM activities!



---

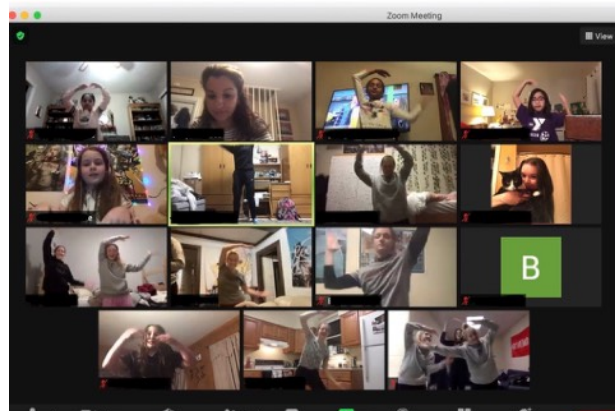
## AFTER SCHOOL LEARNING CLUBS

---

After-School Learning Clubs are offered at two elementary schools in EASD—the Paxinosa After-School Learners Club (PALs) and the Cheston Cougars Learning Club (CCLC). The programs run for 16 weeks throughout the school year. Sadly, due to COVID restrictions, we were unable to hold in-person programming for the 2020-21 school year. Our staff created a virtual drop-in program for students. Luckily, our trained volunteer tutors from Lafayette College and EAHS were still ready and willing to assist in this new format! Elementary school students from Paxinosa, Cheston, March, Tracy and Palmer Schools logged into Zoom to meet with tutors for academic assistance or general mentoring. One night was a special at-home dance party!

Our first Summer enrichment program was held for 4 weeks in July at Paxinosa. Operating in partnership with EASD teachers, a total of 50 students received academic lessons, enrichment activities and character education. Character building lessons included 'Working Together,' 'Unique You,' 'Making Friends' and 'Showing Kindness' and included activities such as canvas painting, friendship bracelets and group problem solving.

Fun activities included tie-dye, carnival games, painting, making birdhouses to give back to the community, life-size board games, water balloons and outdoor play.



---

## OUR SUPPORTERS

---

Aja Ernst  
Alechia Wright  
Alison Gill  
Alison Hawkins  
Amanda Douty  
American Bank  
American Legion (Lester Pfeffer)  
Amit Aggarwal  
Amy Fretz  
Amy Pacheco  
Amy Rader  
Andrea Fisher  
Andrea Voight  
Andrew Crespo  
Anette Legath  
Angela Lytwyn  
Angelo & Ann Serva  
Anonymous Donors  
Anthony Viglianti  
April Religioso  
Ashley Richardson  
Ashley Smith  
Ashton Funeral Home  
Aticha Jamison  
Bank Street Creamery  
Becky Kaine  
Bethlehem Business Forms  
Beverly Klein  
Biana Price  
Bobbi Jo Powell  
Bonnie Loomis-Koch  
Bridgette Hughes  
Britney Rush  
Bryan Wells  
Caitlin Linsenmann  
Candi Kruse  
Candice Cron  
Capital Planning Services Corp  
Carina Schaffer  
Carly Egberts  
Carmella Mattes  
Carol Morris  
Carolyn & James Mitch  
Carolyn Meral

Carolyn Serva  
Catharine Blair  
Charlene Symia  
Charles Turner  
Cheryl Spadt  
Cheston ES Faculty & Staff  
Children's Trust Fund  
Chirstopher Luczkowiak  
Christiane Tomik  
Christina Roberts  
Christine Braxmeier  
Christine Nicholas  
Christine Steigerwalt  
Claire Fopeano  
Clarissa Norrell  
Colette Gerstenberg  
College Hill Presbyterian Church  
Concetta Hynes  
Corporate Environments  
Courtney Van Gorder  
Craig Hill  
Crayola LLC  
Children's Trust Fund  
Curtis Buie  
Cynthia Sadowsky  
Dana Filter  
Daniel A. Polanski  
Daniel Cohen  
Daniel Gonzalez  
Daniel Polanski  
Danielle Ringhoff  
Danielle Thatcher  
David Baum  
David Biggs  
David Doncses  
David Matthews  
Dawn Blackton  
Deanna Baurkot  
Deb Bohr  
Deb Gibbs  
Deb Kelleman  
Deirdre Hakimi  
Denny & Karen Brown  
Diana Larkin

Dollar General Literacy Fdn  
Dominic Serva  
Don Shinton  
Donald B & Dorothy L Stabler Fdn  
Donegal Insurance Group  
Donna Lawson  
Donna Tonkin  
EAHS Faculty & Staff  
EAHS Lacrosse Booster Club  
EAMS Faculty & Staff  
EASD  
Easton Area Council PTA  
Easton Boys Basketball Team & Boosters  
Easton Football Boosters  
Easton Rotary Service Fdn  
Elizabeth Brill  
Ellen Manchester  
Elyse Costello  
Emily Camac  
Eric Tate  
Eric Westerbrook  
Erie Insurance  
Erika Maciula  
Evangeline Eddy  
Evelyn Manos  
Federico Santos  
Fidelity Bank  
First Presbyterian Church  
Forks ES Faculty & Staff  
Frank & Lynn Kutch  
Frank & Tina Castrovinci  
Freda Fries  
Fulton Bank  
Gabby Strunk  
Gabrielle Genegrasso  
Gamesys  
Gary Guzzi  
GGB & Company  
Gemella McNally  
Giant Bags 4 My Cause  
Ginger Happe  
Glenda Beck  
Grace Kelley  
Grace Smith

Green Pond United Methodist  
Church  
Gregg Scavron  
Gregory Kuklinski  
Hadiyah Crosswell  
Heather Maczko  
Heidi Burch  
Holly Janneck  
Howard McGinn  
IRCO Comm Fed Credit Union  
IronPigs Charities  
J Stacey Ely  
Jack & Marla Kinney  
James & Melinda Chase  
James Bedeaux  
James Brown  
Jamie Joseph  
Janelle Howey  
Janet Barry  
Jean Embardino  
Jeanette Leggett  
Jeannie Kreeger State Farm  
Jeffrey & Kathy Carlton  
Jeffrey Crosson  
Jeffrey Heagele  
Jeffrey Young  
Jen Martellucci  
Jenna Mooney  
Jenna Winchenbach  
Jennifer Brunetti  
Jennifer Goodyear  
Jennifer Kaltreider  
Jennifer Taiana  
Jennifer Weikel  
Jennifer Wessner  
Jessica Diaz  
Jillian Wagner  
Joan Lichtenwalner  
John Bator  
John Gregor  
John Repasch  
John Squarcia  
John Williamson  
Jorge Torres  
Joshua Miller  
Joshua Rea  
Joyce Arrizza  
Judith Koch

Judy Spengler  
Julie Bator & Liz Fox  
Julie Lloyd  
JustBorn  
Kalli Cole  
Karen Fagan  
Karen Kelly  
Karen Pasquel  
Karli Israel  
Kate & Brian Geren  
Kate Sames  
Kathy Kariofillis  
Katie Frawley  
Katie Gould  
Keela Vincent  
Kelli Blake  
Kelly & Elton Buss  
Kelly Corpora  
Kelly Gubich  
Kelly Keegan  
Kendra Durrah  
Kenneth & Sharon Kochey  
Kevin Dolan  
Kim Gutekunst  
Kim Pane  
Kim Ritter  
Kim Stofanak  
Kimberly Fritchman  
Kimberly Gutekunst  
Kimberly Young  
KingSpry  
Kiwanis Foundation of Easton  
Kristen Edwards  
Kristen Fritz  
Kristi Clements  
Kristin Cooper  
Kristina Lomax  
Kyle Yanders  
Kyle Yeakel  
Lafayette College  
Laura Rauhut  
Laura Warren  
Lauren Weiser  
Laurie Belote  
Laurie Infantino  
Laurie Shoemaker  
Lenore Daul

Leo Paul & Laurie Jackson  
Leona Gruber Charitable Trust  
Linda Arra  
Linda Rapp  
Linda Serva  
Lisa & James Shupp  
Lisa Bedoya  
Lisa Curry  
Lisa Fontana  
Lisa Infantino  
Lisa Nowacoski  
Lisa Walter  
Lisette Orlena  
Lorena Canela  
Lorraine Serva  
Lourdes DelRosario  
LV Community Foundation  
COVID-19 Response Fund  
Lynn Hardy  
Lyssa Gagnon  
Madeleine Baio  
Marc DeLeon  
March ES Faculty & Staff  
Maria Wolf  
Marie Miller  
Marissa McFadden  
Mark Grossbauer  
Marla & Jack Kinney  
Marsha & Ronald Plantone  
Marsha Roche  
Mary Heck  
Mary Lukas  
Matthew Tomik  
Mearhoff Insurance Agency  
Meg Sayago  
Meghan Schurz  
Melinda Mason  
Melissa DiGioia  
Melissa Drennan  
Melissa Mulligan  
Melissa Sonnenblick  
Melissa Sundahl  
Melissa Toma  
Michele Dolgos  
Michele Leibensperger  
Michelle Lorish  
Michelle Manning  
Mishal Afzal

Monica Pompan  
Nadia Benslimane  
Nancy English  
Nancy Smith  
Nancy Walters  
Natalie Huber  
New Creations Church  
Nicole Cornell  
Nicole Niosi  
Nicole Ricker  
Nicole Rinaldo  
Nina Olieman  
Nisha Makwana  
Nora Walters  
Northampton County CYF  
Northampton Co. CYF  
Employees  
Palmer ES Faculty & Staff  
Palmer Township Athletic Assoc  
Patricia Brekne  
Patricia Darcy  
Paul Barclay  
Paul Cinoa  
Paul Narsavage  
Paxinosa ES Faculty & Staff  
Peter Fox  
PNC Foundation  
Power Stairs Lifts Simply  
Building Inc  
Preethy Jayant  
Priya Dedania  
R. Kline Ashton/Arlene Ashton &  
Family  
Randolph Mahl  
Reagle Insurance  
Rema Netz  
RemingtonTrolli  
Renee Althouse  
Rev. & Mrs. Richard Gardner  
Rich Siegfried  
Richard Cummings  
Robert & Jeanne Young  
Robert Moran  
Robin Kelchner  
Ron Brubaker  
Rosie Plimpton  
Ruby Sabri  
Ruth Vincent  
Ryan Fields

Ryan Hawkins  
Sandra Ferraro  
Sandra Morrisette  
Sarah Casciole  
Sarah Poynton  
Sarah Ringhoff  
Sarah Walzer  
Sarah Wascura  
Sean Killen  
Shannon Barber  
Sharon Ashton  
Shawnee ES Faculty & Staff  
Sheetz  
Sheetz Inc  
Shelly Price  
ShopRite Hunterdon County  
St. John's Church Morgan Hill  
St. Paul's Social Ministry  
Stacy Stergio  
Stephanie Bell  
Steven & Carolyn Moyer  
Stop & Shop Community Pgm  
Strunk Funeral Home  
Sugantha Srinivasan  
Susan Bruggink  
Susan Conly  
Susan Costenbader  
Susan Hammerstone  
Susan Hartranft-Bittinger  
Susan Spaziani & John  
Williamson  
Susan Zambas  
Susanne Llewelyn  
Suzanne Zito  
Sylvia Perkin Charitable Trust  
Tammy Hetzel  
Tara Negron  
Teresa Sayago  
Theresa Ryan  
Thomas McDonald  
Tiffany Theadford  
Tina Fogel  
ToniAnn Falcone  
Tony & Joyce Santay  
Tracy ES Faculty & Staff  
Tracy Piazza  
Tricia Meyer  
Two Rivers Brewing Co

Two Rivers Health & Wellness  
Foundation  
Univest Financial Corporation  
Univest Insurance  
Vanessa Piraino  
Varinder Kaur  
Vicki Rapp  
Victor Bedoya  
Victoria Alercia-Casella  
Waldman Family Charitable  
Trust  
Wawa Foundation  
Wells Fargo  
Wildrick Charitable Giving Fund  
William & Carolyn Austin  
William H. & Patti A. Lehr Fdn  
Zugheila Gallegos

## REVIEWED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Statements of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2021

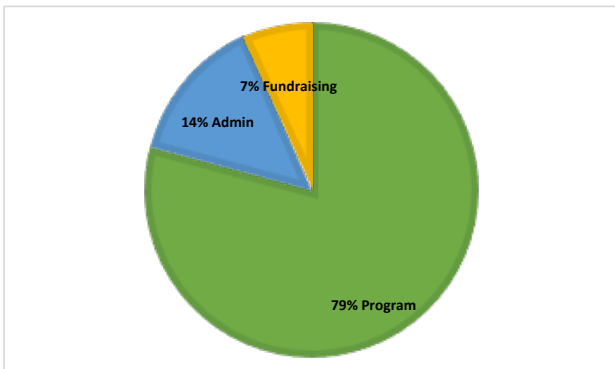
Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$630,316
Certificates of Deposit	\$283,676
Grants & Contracts Receivable	\$38,750
Equipment (Net of accumulated depreciation)	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$952,742</u></b>

Liabilities	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$6,565
Accrued Wages	\$1,733
Accrued Vacation	<u>\$7,799</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>\$16,097</u></b>

Net Assets	
Temporarily Restricted	\$87,520
Unrestricted	<u>\$849,125</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$936,645</u></b>

### Breakdown of Expenses

Program	\$419,974
Administration	\$75,437
Fundraising	<u>\$35,332</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$530,743</u></b>



### Statement of Activities

July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

Support and Revenue	
Grants and Contracts	\$526,451
In-Kind Contributions	\$32,457
Contributions	\$44,316
Special Events & Fundraisers	\$26,182
Interest	<u>\$3,436</u>
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b><u>\$632,842</u></b>

Expenses	
Salaries	\$340,264
Payroll Taxes	\$31,039
Employee Benefits	\$14,932
Advertising	\$7,153
Communications	\$20,818
Program Consulting Fees	\$6,800
Depreciation	\$0
Dues & Subscriptions	\$1,129
Insurance	\$5,006
Occupancy	\$29,707
Office Supplies	\$11,863
Printing	\$2,900
Equipment Usage	\$2,750
Professional Fees	\$11,006
Program Supplies	\$41,625
Professional Development	\$1,013
Travel	<u>\$2,738</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$530,743</u></b>

Change in Net Assets \$164,421

Net Assets, July 1 \$772,224

Net Assets, June 30 \$936,645

---

## AGENCY STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

---

### 2020-21 Staff

Carolyn Serva  
*Executive Director*

Nancy Arzoumanian  
*Associate Director*

Tiffany Theadford  
*Finance & Administration Coordinator*

Lisa Bedoya  
*Family Support Coordinator*

Deb Kelleman  
Lourdes DelRosario  
*Family Support Specialist*

Deb Maryott  
*Kindergarten Connection Coordinator*

Laurie Belote  
Becky Kaine  
Lisa Nowacoski  
Marcie Nunez  
*PC+ Home Visitors*

Rebecca Miller  
*Backpack Pals Coord/Admin Asst.*

Amy Pacheco  
*After School Program Coordinator*

Katelyn Crozier  
Bailee Kupper  
*After School Program Aides*

### Current Board of Directors

Sharon Ashton, President  
*Community Volunteer, Retired Chubb Insurance*

Paul Barclay, Vice President  
*Lafayette College*

Jeff Carlton, Treasurer  
*Self-Employed Consultant*

Karen Kelly, Secretary  
*Crayola*

Ryan Fields  
*KingSpry*

Mary Heck  
*Northampton County Children, Youth & Families*

Kerri Markert  
*EASD*

Jenna Mooney  
*St. Luke's Hospital*

Christine Nicholas  
*EASD*

Tracy Piazza  
*EASD*

Danielle Ringhoff  
*Northampton Community College*

Keela Vincent  
*Comcast*

Nora Walters  
*Jeannie Kreeger State Farm*