

# Manhattan Community Services

曼哈頓社區服務

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Manhattan Community Center  
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## August 2020 Newsletter

### Greetings from CPC Manhattan Community Services (MCS)!

Since New York State went on PAUSE in mid-March, CPC Manhattan Community Center is temporarily closed. But our commitment to the community members remains the same. We continue to serve and support our members remotely through telecommunication, video conferencing, online training, share resources and up-to-date information.

- To ensure our community members had the translations of critical information in real time, twice-daily news briefs were shared on AM1480/AM1240 radio in Cantonese and Mandarin.
- Jessica Chen, Deputy Network Director of Early Childhood Learning & Wellness Services (ECLW) is



featured in CPC's Essential Workers Campaign. While medical personnel treat the COVID-19 in our hospitals, other human service providers and essential workers are ensuring New Yorkers have the resources they need to remain safe and to have the opportunities to thrive. CPC's Essential Workers Campaign highlights and honors essential workers who are supporting a strong recovery for those who too often overlooked, underrepresented, or underinvested in. Jessica Chen supports hundreds of NYC family child care services in delivering high-quality,

linguistically and culturally accessible early child care programming. For the full interview, please go to: [www.cpc-nyc.org/news/2820/essential-worker-highlight-jessica-chen-eclw-provider-service-coordinator](http://www.cpc-nyc.org/news/2820/essential-worker-highlight-jessica-chen-eclw-provider-service-coordinator)

- Asian Family Services staff follow up on cases from the Administration for Children's Services through teleconference to ensure parents and children are not socially isolated or living in fear, and their needs and issues are addressed.
- Multi-Social Services (MSS) staff continue to work tirelessly during and after the normal business hours to assist community members through phone calls and WeChat. Since the temporarily closing of our Community Centers, 430 SNAP applications submitted online with over 300 families receiving SNAP benefits, and 240 individuals enrolled in unemployment insurance.

- CPC Family Child Care (FCC) Networks assist families in applying for subsidized child care and help parents find high-quality in-network family child care providers. FCC Network staff received over 200 inquires/referrals from families interested in CPC FCC providers in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens for their children aged 6-weeks to 3 years old. The staff helped those in needs to fill out the application, collect required documents, and submit the application to NYC Department of Education.



- Community Health Services (CHS) reached 600 youth through their 26 virtual online workshops in the month of August while working with the SYEP Summer Bridge Program, the Youth Opportunity Hub, Flushing International High School and Queens IRA residents. The CHS team has adapted their in-person workshops into online workshops by providing the services via Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and other platforms. The team also utilized Discord (software) to communicate with youth and team members. Some of the educational workshops delivered were Managing College Finances, Mental Health Awareness, Healthy Relationships, Body Image presentations, Career Exploration, Resume Building, HIV 101, and Voting Engagement.



Relationships, Body Image presentations, Career Exploration, Resume Building, HIV 101, and Voting Engagement.

Choosing colleges based on finances		
CUNY	SUNY	PRIVATE
<b>Pro</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAFSA might help to cover college tuition</li> <li>Book Fund</li> <li>Money back</li> <li>Lower tuition rates</li> <li>Has SEEK, ASAP and the Excelsior Scholarship</li> </ul> <b>Con</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expensive city food</li> <li>Less things are provided for you</li> <li>Less merit aid</li> <li>City expenses</li> </ul>	<b>Pro</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has EOP, that covers most costs (<a href="https://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/eop/#eligibility">https://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/eop/#eligibility</a>)</li> <li>Moving away from home</li> </ul> <b>Con</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuition</li> <li>Room and Board</li> <li>Student fees</li> <li>Harder to find jobs</li> </ul>	<b>Pro</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private aid based on need and/or merit-based aid</li> <li>HEOP (Higher Education Opportunity Program) provides scholarship</li> </ul> <b>Con</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Room and board /Apartment hunting</li> <li>On campus healthcare charges</li> <li>Student activities fees</li> <li>Out of state costs</li> <li>Increase of tuition every year</li> </ul>

**Activity: Agree/Disagree**

Thumbs Up (Agree) or Down (Disagree)  
Comment Agree or Disagree

1. You can tell by looking that a person is healthy and not infected with HIV.
2. It is very difficult to ask a sexual partner to use a condom.
3. People don't like using condoms.
4. People don't need to worry about getting HIV when they know their sexual partner very well.

- 26 licensed family child care providers received certification on completing ECLW virtual 30-hour cohort training in Spanish. The first Spanish training session took place on July 11<sup>th</sup> and concluded on August 8<sup>th</sup>. The training courses are designed to help fulfill the requirements for provider's license renewal and the training series is funded through a Professional Development Grant from the United Federation of Teachers (UFT).
- Under the new initiative of Infant Toddler Mental Health (ITMH) Project of ECLW, Amy Eng, ITMH Consultant and Program Supervisor, has been providing ongoing support for child care providers and caregivers; focused on their mental health needs, and support for challenging behaviors

from their students by providing resiliency interaction trainings and self-care. Amy also provided support to a parent who struggled with caring for her child with special needs and provided her with additional resources on how to help the child at home.

- 2,020 New York City child care programs are approved for New York Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive and Temporary Operating Assistance Grants (CARES II) through New York State’s allocation of the Federal CARES Act. CARES II is to assist child care programs that were closed due COVID-19 to reopen and restructure to serve families returning to workplace. Collectively, 2.5 million awarded for NYC’s approved child care programs for one-time grants for reopening/restructuring materials, activities, and supplies. And 24.5 million awarded for reopening and expansion temporary operating assistance. As a founding member of the New York City Child Care Resource and Referral (NYC CCR&R) Consortium, CPC ECLW along with the NYC CCR&R Consortium partner agencies are tasked to the distribution of these awards.

### About CPC

Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC) is the nation’s largest Asian American social services organization. Founded in 1965, CPC promotes the social and economic empowerment of Chinese American, immigrant, and low-income communities of New York City.

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For more information and updates, please visit [www.cpc-nyc.org](http://www.cpc-nyc.org)