

Hudson Guild: Head Start

July 2022 – June 2023



www.hudsonguild.org



Hudson Guild



Hudson Guild Official



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About Us

We are a multi-service community agency serving those who live, work, or go to school in Chelsea, with a focus on those in need.

Our Mission

To create and sustain a strong, effective community that acknowledges and responds to the potential, achievements and interdependence of its diverse members.

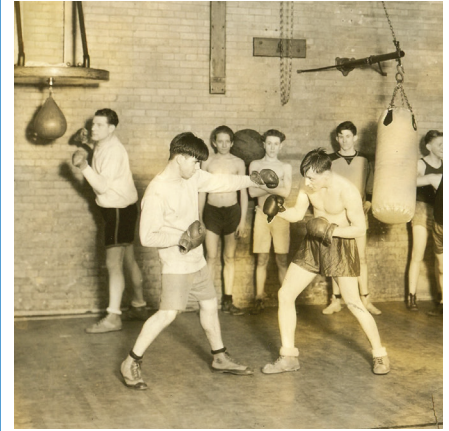
Rooted in and primarily focused on the Chelsea neighborhood, we seek to empower all individuals and families to achieve their highest potential, while maintaining a priority focus on those in economic need.



Our Story



In 1895, Dr. John Lovejoy Elliott, a young man inspired by the growing settlement house movement, moved to the tough, working-class neighborhood of Chelsea.



There, he met and encouraged a group of young, rowdy boys to take their fighting off the streets and organize into a boxing club called the “Hurly Burlies.”



These groups merged in 1897 to become the Hudson Guild, which provided a platform for neighbors to organize and improve living conditions.



Over the next few years, Dr. Elliott established numerous programs for boys and girls, working women, and families.

COVID-19 Effects

In the **2020-2021** and **2021-2022** school years, we found that our students' levels of performance in academic skills decreased while levels of challenging behaviors increased relative to pre-pandemic school years.

We significantly enhanced our staff capacity-building efforts to address these needs. For example, we hired a dedicated **Education Specialist** to provide Practice-Based Coaching and tailored professional development to this strategy. To address challenging behaviors, we partnered with **Connecting the Dots** to provide staff with coaching and training in a function-based approach to positive behavior support.

As a result of these efforts, we obtained measurable improvement in our classroom environmental quality scores and we now see upwards trends in student achievement closer to pre-pandemic outcomes.

Income & Expenses

Hudson Guild's Head Start program is supported by **\$1,915,656** in Federal Head Start funding, and **\$478,915** in private grants and contributions, for a total of **\$2,394,571**.

The budget covers expenses for nearly **42** full time employees for a full 12-month program year. Total personnel costs, including fringe, are projected to total **\$1,709,044**.

Additional budget items include:

- **\$19,019** In Training and Technical Assistance
- **\$2,550** in travel for employees to attend regional and national Head Start and early childhood education conferences and training programs
- **\$45,332** for maintenance, classroom and office supplies
- **\$156,217** for administrative cost which includes time spent on administrative activities and expenses such as Fiscal & Audit fees and insurance costs
- **\$481,428** in other costs such as rent, repairs and maintenance, and utilities

Financial Audit:
During our most recent
independent financial audit, no
material findings were noted.



Children Served

- We served **295** children and their families.
- **100%** of enrolled children received medical and dental exams.
- **83%** of our Pre-K students are moving on to kindergarten performing at or above expectations.
- **48%** of enrolled children were homeless upon enrollment.
- **50%** of enrolled families spoke Spanish or a language other than English at home.
- **69%** of our enrolled families identified as being of Hispanic or Latino origin.



Family Engagement

Family engagement activities that occurred from July 2022-June 2023:

Families Involved in Programming

Health Services Advisory Committee
Policy Council
Self-Assessment Team & School Readiness Committee

Home-to-School Connection

Family Orientation
Warmth Drive (Coat Giveaway)
Parent-Teacher Conferences
Kindergarten Transition
Classroom Meetings

Family Education Workshops

Pedestrian Safety
Nutrition Series (e.g., Easy Healthy Recipes)
Mental Health Series (e.g., Coping Through the Holidays)
Child Development
Self-Care for Caregivers
Positive Parenting Strategies

Community Events

Back to School Bash (backpack & school supplies giveaways)
Fall Harvest Celebration
Community Haunted House
Community Thanksgiving
Turkey & Pie Giveaways
Christmas Day Family Meal

Preparing Children for Kindergarten and Beyond

Perhaps the most important outcome of Hudson Guild's holistic approach is our preparation of children and families for the transition to Kindergarten. Our **School Readiness Plan** is reflective of the needs and expectations of local families, who provide key input into setting learning goals for children in a variety of ways. The program exposes children to social, emotional, cultural, and academic experiences that will enhance their ability to function as active members of multiple communities. The resources, tools and structures employed to meet this goal are developed by listening to families and adapting programming to meet their needs. Our programming blends culturally relevant, developmentally appropriate theory evidence-based practices to engage and better prepare our families and children for kindergarten.

For families of rising Kindergarten students, the program year focuses on developing school readiness skills and achieving developmental milestones. Parents and caregivers receive assistance in applying to kindergarten.

Families with children who have special needs receive additional transition support. Our **Health and Disabilities Coordinator** and other program staff participate in meetings and follow-up assessments with the **Committee on Preschool Special Education** to discuss appropriate program placements for kindergarten students with special needs, including specialized settings or mainstream placement.

The children's progress is due in large part to the partnership between the Service Providers (Social Workers, Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapists) and Hudson Guild ECE staff working together, following IEP directives, and progressing on goals leading to an improvement in the child's developmental results. Our staff works with all of our families to ensure continuity of services in the new neighborhoods and help make sure that those going to specialized centers receive all the necessary support and services to achieve IEP goals.



Preparing Children for Kindergarten and Beyond

Specific school readiness goals for school year 2023/24 include the following:

- 1. Approaches to Learning:** Children will manage their emotions and actions with increasing independence.
- 2. Social-Emotional Development:** Children will express a broad range of emotions, recognize these emotions in self and others, and express care and concern towards others.
- 3. Language & Literacy:** Children will demonstrate early reading comprehension skills, demonstrating their ability to recall/retell a story, and answer questions about a text of increasing complexity.
- 4. Cognitive & General Knowledge:** Children will show foundational math skills by learning to rote count, count or make a group of objects, compare quantities, and connect numerals to quantities.
- 5. Physical Development & Health:** Children will show increasing strength and coordination of fine motor movement over time to effectively manipulate objects and interact with others.