

**Full-Service Community Schools Program (FSCS)
Project Abstract**

Applicant Name: The Children’s Aid Society (aka, Children’s Aid)

Project Title: Children’s Aid Bronx Full-Service Community Schools Program

Absolute Priority the Project Addresses: (select all that apply) (Please note: You must select 1 or 2 and 3 or 4 or 5)

- Absolute Priority 1 – Title IA Schoolwide Program Eligibility
- Absolute Priority 2 – Title IA Schoolwide Eligibility and Rural Districts – Small and Rural or Rural and Low-Income
- Absolute Priority 3 – Capacity Building and Development Grants
- Absolute Priority 4 – Multi-Local Educational Agency Grants
- Absolute Priority 5 – FSCS State Scaling Grants

Competitive Preference and Invitational Priorities the Project Addresses: (select all that apply)

- Competitive Preference Priority 1—Meeting Student Social, Emotional, and Academic Needs
- Competitive Preference Priority 2—Strengthening Cross-Agency Coordination and Community Engagement to Advance Systemic Change
- Invitational Priority—Supporting Effective Transition Practices, Continuity of Services and Supports, and Aligned Instruction for Students from Preschool and Other Early Childhood Settings into Kindergarten and from Kindergarten into the Early Grades (K–3).

Total number local educational agencies (LEAs) to be served by the project: 1

Total number of schools to be served by the project: 2

Total estimated number of students to be served by the project: 429

Brief description of proposed project, including project activities: Children’s Aid (CA) is one of the oldest and most established non-profit organizations in the country and has supported low-income communities across New York City (NYC) for more than 150 years. In support of Fairmont Neighborhood School (Fairmont) and Samara Community School (Samara), two low-performing schools in the South Bronx section of New York City, CA has formed a Consortium of schools and service providers that will work together to support student academic achievement and meet their social, emotional, physical and mental health needs and the needs of their families. Students at Fairmont and Samara need support. The South Bronx is consistently ranked as the poorest community in New York State and one the poorest in the United States. 94% of students at Fairmont and 98% at Samara are economically disadvantaged and many are newcomers to the country. 56% of students at Fairmont are chronically absent, as are 32% of those at Samara, and academic performance is extremely low. But the schools have strengths that include dedicated principals and high levels of family trust that will make their transformation into full-service community schools successful. To build on these strengths our proposed FSCS program will provide academic support through teacher residencies provided by Lehman College; preschool literacy enrichment through program partner Jumpstart; preschool and 5th grade transition support to help students through those

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challenging times; attendance support and mentoring through social work interns from Lehman College; a full time Licensed Master Social Worker to provide case management and support student and family social-emotional needs; the implementation of Multi-tiered System of Supports, an extensive social-emotional learning (SEL) platform of services through RethinkEd; the implementation of a violence awareness project; an enriched afterschool program with additional academic and SEL supports as well engaging new activities such as tennis, biking and the arts; the establishment of a food pantry accessible to families of both schools; linkages with two local health centers; a full-time Parent Engagement Coordinator and expanded family engagement activities. These services will be coordinated by two full-time Community School Directors and managed by a Stakeholder Board that will include family and community representatives.

Summary of project objectives and expected outcomes: The CA FSCS program is specifically designed to increase student academic proficiency in Grades K-5; improve preschool academic performance and prepare students for the transition to kindergarten; improve the transition from elementary to middle school; improve SEL skills; decrease chronic absenteeism; lessen behavioral and disciplinary incidents; improve students' feelings of safety and attachment to their schools; expose students and families to new ideas and opportunities; increase family engagement in their child's learning and grow family leadership skills; improve the health of students and their families and promote cross-agency collaboration.

Proposed location(s) of implementation (e.g., city, town, county, State(s)): Bronx, New York

List all LEAs that will be partnering with this project, including rural designation under the Small Rural School Achievement (SRSA) program or the Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) program if applicable:
New York City Public Schools

List all non-LEA organizations partnering with this project: P.S. 314 Fairmont Neighborhood School, P.S. 458 Samara Community School, NYC Department of Education's Office of Community Schools, Lehman College, Montefiore Medical Center, Jumpstart for Young Children, RethinkEd, Food Bank for New York City, Bike New York, New York Junior Tennis and Learning (NYJTL) Cary Leeds Center, Sweet Water Dance & Yoga, and Bronx River Art Center.