



Our Vision

"The GEC is dedicated to providing exceptional support and services that will enable children and adults to lead respected and fulfilling lives in their community."

Building



Brighter



Futures



ADMINISTRATION

PAUL CASSONE

Executive Director/CEO

MICHAEL FRANKEWICH

Associate Executive Director/COO

ANNETTE SCHOEN

Chief Financial Officer

JOSEPH RILEY

Assistant Executive Director of Quality Assurance & Corporate Compliance

DR. ALICE GUERCIO

Assistant Executive Director of Children's Services

PATRICIA ROMANO

Assistant Executive Director of Day Services

CAROLINE MANSUETTO

Associate Director of Development

LAURA THOMPSON

Director of Residential Services

JUDITH KRAUT

Director of Human Resources

**THE GUILD FOR
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN, INC.**

260 - 68th STREET (Main Building)

BROOKLYN, NY 11220

(718) 833-6633 ~ Fax (718) 745-2374

www.gecbklyn.org

THE GUILD FOR
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN, INC.



**The Carrie Mastronardi
Early Childhood
Education Program**

1273 - 57th Street

Brooklyn, New York 11219

(718) 435-2554



Our Mission

"To help children and adults living with developmental disabilities lead dignified and satisfying lives, reaching their fullest potential and assisting families in every step of their journey"



Message From
DR. ALICE GUERCIO,
Assistant Executive Director
for Children's Services

The GEC's Carrie Mastronardi Early Childhood Education Program is a comprehensive clinical and educational program which meets the needs of Preschoolers with developmental delays or disabilities between the ages of 2.9 and 5 years. A fully certified staff provides training in English, Spanish and Chinese.

Children are referred to our Pre-School Program by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE), parents of graduates, hospital centers and pediatricians.

We act as advocates to obtain optimum related services and placement for our students. We assist parents with every phase of the transition to the Department of Education when children reach five years of age. Our teachers and therapists provide updated reports so that children will receive the services they require during their kindergarten year and beyond. The Program Director, our Educational Supervisor, Head Teacher and Classroom Teachers review all the updated material with parents to prepare them for the Committee on Special Education (CSE) Conferences to determine the services their child needs. Each child's classroom teacher participates in these conferences so that CSE members are fully informed about the individual needs of each child.

When children enter the Department of Education program, parents are invited to contact the Carrie Mastronardi Program Staff for assistance with any questions they have or problems they may encounter.

*For additional information you may contact me at
(718) 435-2554*

Our Program Goals

~Fostering and enhancing parent/child interaction, promoting secure attachment and positive modes of interaction.

~Providing an educational environment conducive to enhancement of self-esteem and sense of mastery and growth toward optimal potential.

~Stimulating sensori-motor, gross and fine motor coordination, cognitive and speech/language development and self-help skills.

~Providing support services for parents, including: individual and group counseling, family therapy and assistance with procurement of social services, community outreach, as well as, collaboration with other family support service agencies.

~Designing and ordering adaptive equipment, orthotics and splints for children who require it.

~Parent training workshops by our School Psychologist, Nurse, Social Workers and Speech Pathologists.

Classrooms are designed to meet the needs of individual children. Many of our classrooms provide one to one care for children with intensive needs.



The Carrie Mastronardi Early Childhood Center

Supplemental Funds Provide Additional Services

We receive supplemental funds for additional services through Sections 611 and 619 of the IDEA Grant which allows us to extend and increase our provision of: parent workshops, support groups and individual counseling to families, training for families and teachers in the newly developed State Education Department Guide "Preschool Special Education Learning Outcomes and Indicators for Kindergarten Participation".

ART & MUSIC THERAPY are excellent mediums which provide children with speech delays an alternate way to express themselves so that they can communicate their needs, wants, abilities and talents.

LENDING LIBRARY for parents and children enables us to provide developmentally appropriate books, videos and CDs in several languages.

STRUCTURED EXERCISE PROGRAM conducted by a Physical Education Teacher. The NYC Department of Health Code includes requirements for daily, guided, structured physical activities throughout the school day, to address the growing concerns regarding childhood obesity and related health risks.

NUTRITION PROGRAM which offers training to parents about healthy foods for their children. The amended Health Code also addresses provisions which updates requirements for nutritional standards and the monitoring of daily nutritional intake for all children. Our School Nurse and Nursing Assistant provide the necessary training. As part of this program, teachers and parents shop for healthy foods and prepare them for the children to eat during the school day.

