

variety

CHILD LEARNING CENTER



ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 2022

ABOUT US

VCLC provides programs and services for young children, ages birth to seven, with learning, language, social and behavior challenges, including Autism, and support services for their families. Early Intervention (EI, for children under 3 years), the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE, for children 3-5 years), and the Committee on Special Education (CSE, for children over 5 years) are for children who have or are suspected of having a developmental delay or disability and are eligible based on New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) or New York State Education Department (NYSED) guidelines. Nassau County Department of Health/ Suffolk County Department of Health (NCDOH/SCDOH) for EI and local school districts for CPSE and CSE must refer children for evaluations and/or services. Type of services, frequency, duration, location, and provider are determined by the municipality for EI and the school district for CPSE and CSE. Families have no out-of-pocket expenses but are responsible for fees/costs associated with childcare. All therapists and teachers are licensed and/or certified according to NYSDOH and NYSED regulations.

MISSION

We are a variety of families coming together in a loving, diverse, and safe community, learning, and growing along the early childhood journey.

Variety Child Learning Center:

- Promotes the development, education, and inclusion into the community of children with or at risk of disabilities
- Increases the capabilities of families whose children have or are at risk of disabilities and reduce the stresses on those families
- Initiates improvements in the delivery of services to children and their families
- Provides training and technical assistance to early childhood personnel
- Promotes programs, research, attitudes, policies, and collaborations that improve child development and family life

VISION

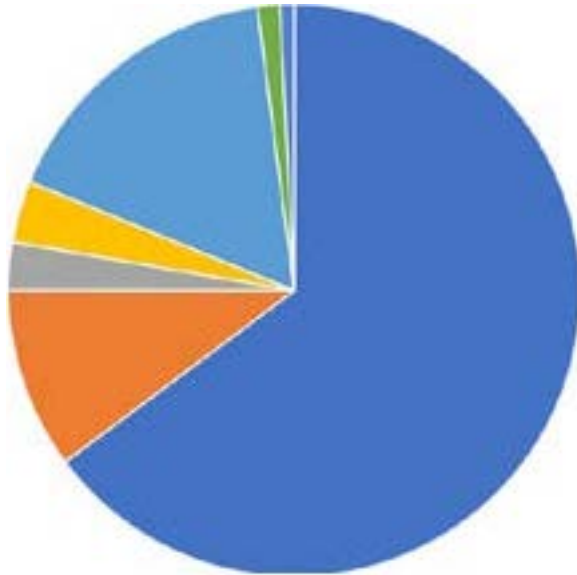
VCLC is committed to providing high quality programs for young children with disabilities and their families that focus on the educational, social-emotional, and physical growth of the children, and home/school collaboration. We believe that all children are capable of learning. Our programs respect each child's individuality. Staff is responsible for developing relationships with each child. Decisions about programs and interventions must be based on the needs of the children. Always ask "Whose needs are being met?"

MOTTO

"Helping children become the best that they can be."

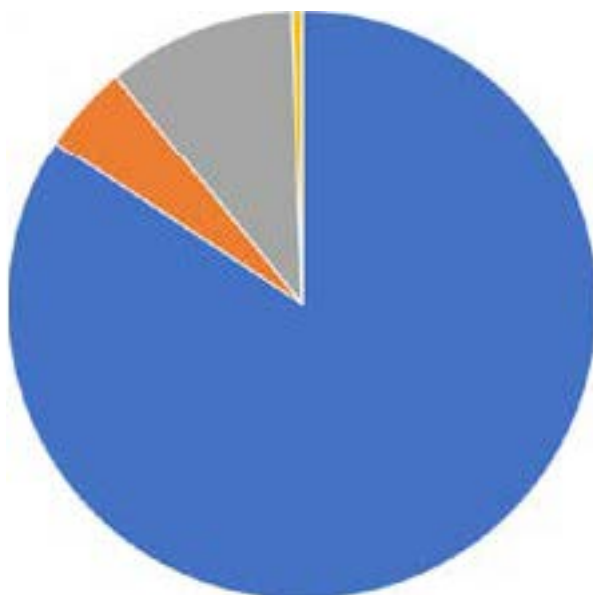
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2021-2022 Revenue: \$21,680,787



- Preschool: 66.71%
- School Age: 10.53%
- Early Intervention: 2.79%
- Other Program Fees: 3.58%
- Grants and PPP Forgiveness: 17.23%
- Contributions & Special Events: 1.29%
- Other Non-Operating Revenue: 0.84%

2021-2022 Expenses: \$19,767,444



- Education: 84.24%
- Other Programs: 4.89%
- Management and General: 10.31%
- Fundraising: 0.55%

The 2021-2022 fiscal year was filled with both its successes and challenges. Our collaboration with a local school district and their Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) program highlighted our continued growth and efforts to expand the services which Variety provides to young children with and without disabilities. Additional classes opened in this collaboration included preschool inclusionary classes servicing children with and without disabilities and UPK only classes.

Our childcare program reopened with full enrollment after two years of declines created by the COVID pandemic. For the first time in several years, a waiting list was created in several of the age categories. Challenges still remained as the cost of providing this service, in terms of staffing and operating expenses, continued to increase. Variety applied and was awarded funds through a New York State Stabilization Grant subsidizing these costs in addition to supporting other preschool/school age classes still recovering from the effects of the pandemic.

One of the most difficult issues FYE 6/30/2022 was staffing. The challenge facing the educational industry country wide regarding the shortage of candidates, in addition to the struggle of competing with the salaries and benefits offered by the surrounding districts, has greatly impacted our capacity to hire staff. The lack of appropriate staffing limited the numbers of children that we were able to accommodate in our classrooms while the number of referrals from Districts for children requiring programs and services increased drastically throughout the year. We continue to develop innovative ways to attract and hire staff as we move forward.

In the height of the COVID pandemic, Variety applied for and received PPP funds of approximately 2.6 million dollars to help maintain staff, subsidize the costs of COVID related supplies, etc. Variety was granted forgiveness in the fall of 2021 for all of the funds received.

During the year, Variety's Board generously released funds to pay off the remaining mortgage at the Syosset site. Plans are underway to kickoff a capital campaign in the near future to renovate and upgrade the building, including classrooms, children's bathrooms, offices, HVAC systems, etc. We are looking forward to sharing these plans in the forthcoming year. Securing our schools has been a top priority. We received a grant from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) which will enable us to add cameras and door access systems to our buildings. The project will be completed by August, 2022. In addition, a security guard has been added to each site for additional protection. A generous contribution and other grant funds were utilized towards creating another playground at our Levittown site, including the appropriate surfacing and shade. We look forward to adding equipment to this new playground in the near future.

We want to thank our wonderful Board, amazing staff, and all of our donors who have supported our efforts throughout the year. Without you, Variety would not be able to continue to provide the exceptional level of services to the hundreds of children and families who walk through our doors each year.