The 2020 pandemic arrived like a whirlwind, bringing with it devastation and inequities difficult to watch. The year was filled with struggles and frustration, but our prevention team faced these challenges head on and made sure that no clients went hungry or without basic needs. Families anxious with remote learning received help and emotional support was provided to both children and parents struggling with isolations and related pandemic difficulties.

It is with optimism that we now embrace 2021 and look forward to continuing the essential services we provide, meeting in person and continuing to make a difference to individuals and communities.

Donna Teichner, LCSW
Assistant Vice President Prevention & Family Support, FCA

Hempstead Prevention Coalition

Introducing Youth Summer Summit!

**Vision:** To create a safer, healthier Hempstead.
Mission: To produce communicators and effective youth influencers throughout the Village of Hempstead by providing the language, tools and skills needed to become prevention minded, civically engaged and socially conscious.

Look for more updates to come as we prepare for the launch of this exciting new youth initiative!

SNUM- Gun Violence Prevention

June is Gun Violence Awareness month!

On January 21, 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a high school student from the south side of Chicago, marched in President Obama’s second inaugural parade. One week later, Hadiya was shot and killed on a playground in Chicago.

Soon after this tragedy, Hadiya’s childhood friends decided to commemorate her life by wearing orange, the color hunters wear in the woods to protect themselves and others. Wear Orange originated on June 2, 2015—what would have been Hadiya’s 18th birthday.

On June 4, 2021 in the Incorporated Village of Hempstead FCA SNUM (GUNS spelled backwards) wore orange and joined other Anti- Gun Violence organizations for a community event to honor victims and survivors of gun violence.

In 2020, SNUM provided 71 mediations to individuals at high risk of gun violence.

FCA would like to thank Stop & Shop for generously donating $10,000 in support of FCA’s SNUM gun violence reduction program. The donation was made in memory of Ray Wishropp, the West Hempstead Grocery Manager, who was tragically killed by gun violence in April.

“We are gratified to lend our support to the Family and Children’s Association’s effort to...
protect Long Islanders by reducing the number of illegal guns in our communities and our streets,” said Diane Hicks, Regional Vice President for Stop & Shop stores on Long Island.

“We are grateful for this donation, which we will use to extend our violence prevention efforts in the communities and neighborhoods surrounding the West Hempstead store. We thank Stop & Shop for this support as we work together to make our communities healthier and safer,” said Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds, President & CEO, FCA.

Learn more about FCA’s SNUG program!

Family Support

Our Family Support Program, funded by NCDSS helps families whose children are at risk of foster care placement.

We often depend on the thoughtfulness of community members and organizations to supplement our program’s needs, their generosity and kindness always appreciated. The youth group, Social Action/Social Justice Committee of Temple B'nai Torah, in Wantagh supports our programs and created “Birthday in a Box” for the children in our Prevention and Family Support team. Kids from ages 3-18 were able to benefit from this thoughtful donation.

Project Independence

FCA’s Project Independence program embraced celebrating Pride month at our Hempstead, Learning Center site.

Youth participants wore their “pride” attire and shared what "pride" meant to them.

Those with the most “prideful” ensembles won Amazon gift cards. All attendees participated in outdoor activities, board games, and a group tie dye activity.

A great time was had by all!
Lynn Vanderhall Nursery Co-Op

Congratulations to FCA's Immigrant Resource Center Nursery Co-Op graduates and all of our 2020-2021 participants!

We appreciate all who came out to honor the graduates and attend the year-end celebration where we recognized those children moving up to Head Start, Pre-K and Kindergarten.

Thank you to all who have supported the Nursery and our adorable children during such a challenging year.

*Funded by the Mother Cabrini Foundation

FCA Honors Local Scholars

From nursery school graduation to high school and college, we celebrated students of all ages this month.

On June 24, FCA hosted the 36th Annual Mission Moment Scholarship Fund Breakfast Reception. Students, donors, local community leaders and FCA board members, administration and staff were all in attendance. Over 40 scholarships were given, totaling more than $110,000 to assist these youth scholars as they continue to pursue their academic goals. Special guests included former New York Jet, Erik Coleman, Dr. Isma Chaudhry and Village Justice Brianna A. Vaughan.

We would like to thank all those who made this event possible. Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients!
June is Pride Month!

As pride month comes to a close, FCA looks back at all the wonderful events that took part over the last few weeks in celebration of the LGBTQIA+ community!

We are proud to have joined Nassau County Executive Laura Curran as well as other community leaders and organizations in raising awareness during Pride Month,
Our Prevention & Family Support team invites you to learn more about what we do and to support our life-saving programs, especially during these unprecedented times.

Learn More  Donate

Follow us on social media to keep up to date on FCA news & events!

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