

Contact Us

For more information, or to make a referral to The Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development, contact:

Intake Coordinator
Georgianne Stokes, MS Certified School Psychologist
4010 Dyre Avenue
Bronx, NY 10466
Tel: (718) 515-3000
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Or

Assistant Executive Director
Joan DiBlasi, Ph.D.
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*...Because every child
deserves a childhood.*

Executive Director/CEO

James McGuirk, Ph.D.
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**Astor Services for Children & Families:
Bronx Community-Based Behavioral
Health and Prevention Services**
750 Tilden Street
Bronx, NY 10467-6099
Return Service Requested



ASTOR
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES
**Bronx Community-Based
Behavioral Health and
Prevention Services**

The Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development



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About the Center

The Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development is not only a preschool approved by the New York State Education Department, but also a licensed NYS Department of Mental Health Children's Day Treatment Program. The center was named for Lawrence F. Hickey, who was instrumental in acquiring the Little Red School House from the City of New York and was a dedicated supporter of Astor and our mission. Mr. Hickey was on the Board of Directors from 1981 until 2004, and a benefactor of Astor. The program was named the [Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development](#) in his honor on September 24, 1991.

We serve children ages 2-9 years to kindergarten, focusing on children with behavioral and emotional needs. The Center's NYS Education Department Classification is a twelve month, five-hour day in a center-based, self-contained classroom with a classroom ratio of 8:1:2.

Our program accepts referrals from the Board of Education, Early Intervention Programs, and pediatricians. Referrals are also accepted from Head Start and other day care and preschool programs. The Center is an approved evaluation site, providing comprehensive assessments for children referred to us. The Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development helps families obtain the educational and clinical services their children need.

Our Goals

By providing a preschool special education program and supportive clinical services, we aim to:

- Improve the social and emotional functioning of each child.
- Develop and enhance school readiness skills.
- Support the child within the family and community.
- Provide parenting support and skills training.

To achieve these goals, we follow the renowned research-based High Scope Curriculum within the structure of a behavior management program. Throughout the day, clinical services are incorporated on an individual and group basis. Speech therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy are provided during the school day.

Intake Procedure

Each child will receive a multi-disciplinary evaluation at no cost to the family. All families meet with a school psychologist, a special educator and a social worker to assess the strengths and needs of the child and family. Speech, occupation therapy and physical therapy evaluation are also included.



Family Support

Family Support Services include parent counseling, parent skills training and weekly support and advocacy group meetings. An interdisciplinary team of educational and clinical staff provide children with a highly structured and intensive therapeutic milieu.

Evidence-Based Services with Unique Interventions

- High Scope Approach to Early Child Development
- Field Trips: Extended Learning Opportunities Outside the Classroom
- Parent/Child Interaction Therapy
- Behavior Management Techniques/Token System
- Teacher/Child Interaction Therapy
- Weekly Evening Parent Support Group Meetings
- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention

"Of all injuries children suffer, none are as painful as the crushing of their spirit."

- *Dr. David Crenshaw, Retired Clinical Director of Astor Services for Children & Families and member of the Board of Directors*

A Tradition of Excellence...

Astor Services for Children & Families, as it has since 1953, promotes the well-being of children, adolescents and their families through a range of programs that prevent and treat emotional problems and facilitate healthy development. Now serving over 6,000 children and families annually, Astor's current range of services to families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx include: Residential Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Family Care, Early Childhood Programs, and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services.

