At Ramapo for Children we believe that all young people want the same things: to learn, to feel valued for who they are, and to experience success. For 99 years, through direct-service programs, training, and professional development, Ramapo has helped adults create learning environments and inclusive communities that enable young people to celebrate strengths and thrive. The Ramapo Approach provides adults with a collection of strategies and techniques that meet children’s needs, promote positive behavior, and foster social and emotional skill development.
DEAR FRIENDS,
This year’s annual report is not about the challenges of COVID-19, but rather, a proud celebration of how Ramapo for Children spent the past year adapting, responding, and staying strong on behalf of the educators, caregivers, vulnerable young people and families who have needed us more than ever.

For many educators and children, the pandemic has caused or exacerbated trauma. By April of 2020, Ramapo moved all of our coaching and consultations online, adapted our content to the needs of circumstances, and helped make sure that thousands of overtaxed educators were equipped to support their students through this difficult moment.

In Rhinebeck, while our residential camp was unable to operate, we leveraged our campus and facilities to provide expanded childcare, day camp, and remote learning support to local families. We worked with a network of partners to provide overnight retreats to families from the city, desperate to escape the confines of their apartments and let their children swim and play outside, even for a few days. We hired dozens of young teenagers through the summer youth employment program to help repaint and repair buildings, work with young people, and spend the summer engaged and outdoors.

As you read through this annual report, we hope it will highlight the value of relationships, the power of community, and the critical importance of addressing changing needs—values that guide all of Ramapo’s work with young people and the institutions that serve them.

And as always, we need to thank the myriad of partners and supporters whose advocacy and generosity was more important in the last year than ever before. During a time of crisis for so many, our Ramapo community stepped up and made sure we had the resources we needed. We are deeply, deeply appreciative.

JON SELIB
Board President
ADAM WEISS
Chief Executive Officer
When COVID-19 first hit, there were many essential workers, many of them in health services, who needed safe, reliable childcare. As essential workers ourselves, we knew how important this issue was, so we partnered with local school districts and obtained a waiver to expand our program from ages 18 months to 5 years to also serve children 6 to 11 years old. Our early learning center was filled with engaging and creative activities, academic support for older children, and hours of outdoor fun. Once restrictions began to lift for the summer, caregivers couldn’t return to work without childcare, and most other programs were closed. So, we opened our doors even wider and did everything possible to accommodate and support families in need and their schedules. During a time of tremendous stress, we were able to provide the opportunity for so many children to do what they should always be doing—learning, growing, thriving, and above all, feeling safe. I have never been prouder of our teachers and team!"

—Priscilla Gideon, Director, Northern Dutchess Day Care Center by Ramapo for Children
"The activities were wonderful—they allowed our children to experience summer in a natural way in one of the most difficult summers we have faced. Staff were cheerful, safe and knowledgeable and showed a real interest in our kids. The grounds were beautiful and well-maintained. Our children made good friends there and we hope to return next summer."

—Day Camp Family, 2020
SHORT-TERM INTENSIVE PROGRAMS WITH A LASTING IMPACT

“The importance of retreats last year, particularly Family Respite Retreats, was clear. Many families and group participants were coming from large cities where the pandemic had made outdoor activities and recreation almost impossible. One of my most heartwarming memories is of a family that went boating for the first time on our lake. It took a lot of patience, a lot of guidance, and a LOT of laughter, but they learned to navigate the boat and had an incredible time together. It meant a lot to me to be their facilitator and see them cherishing every moment they got to spend here.”

—MATTHEW MONTERO, RAMAYEAR

MEETING THE NEED

Social and emotional learning

RETREATS
FROM AUGUST to the following July, there is a constant chant ‘Camp Ramapo’ from my son, Rafael, who has been going to camp for ten years. This past summer, we took part in a special 3-day family retreat, as regular camp was closed due to the pandemic. We were able to bond with family and staff and take part in different skill-building activities. There was always a well-tailored schedule to give parents alone time and quality bonding time with their kids. It is always a great time at Ramapo. Looking forward to Camp Ramapo 2021!" –BARBARA STERN, Camper Parent
“RAMAPO’S ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOMS are different from traditional school. Students who have struggled to overcome obstacles have the opportunity to be 100% themselves and, with the support of caring staff, have the space to express what they are feeling so they can grow and flourish. I have watched students who have found it challenging to build and maintain relationships learn how to identify when they have gone off-track, repair relationships, and even take newer students under their wing to help them learn to be part of the community. Our program was able to run when many others weren’t, and it made a difference for the young people to continue to be in a safe place with peers and staff who are committed to their success.”

–NAHJEE COOK, Supervisor of Alternative Classrooms and Campus Culture
"RAMAPO’S EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST and the Staff Assistant Experience (SAE) program provided workshops that prepared me for, and gave me the opportunity to practice, the job interview process. An interview that the Employment Specialist connected me to led to a great internship that turned into a full-time job. I also had the opportunity to develop my skills assisting various members of the Ramapo administrative staff. I just started a new job in a new city, and I know I got it thanks to the interview and work experience I gained in the SAE program at Ramapo.” – DANIEL S., SAE graduate now employed at a medical center as a scheduler
“Restorative justice provides a foundation for strong relationships and strong supportive learning environments. Much of that support and strong relationships were severed over the last year. Trauma-informed restorative schools are designed to get everyone (teachers, staff, students, admin, families) through these trying times...At Ramapo for Children, we have had the honor to see first-hand how restorative justice initiatives currently taking place in the middle schools in all 5 boroughs have already helped those school communities reintegrate into hybrid learning as they reenter schools.” —Carly McCollow, Ramapo’s Director of Resilience and Trauma-Informed Initiatives
THE NATIONAL SCHOOL CLIMATE CENTER AT RAMAPO’S Comprehensive School Climate Inventory supported the holistic growth and development of students who have historically been among the most vulnerable and excluded. This is especially critical during this time when social isolation is a greater issue for all students.”—ANDREA CAHN, Vice President, Unified Champion Schools, Special Olympics North America
SUPPORTING ALL THE ADULTS IN A CHILD’S LIFE

“RAMAPO has conducted training for the Youth Development Community of Practice since its launch in 2017. Ramapo trainers have deep content knowledge, an understanding of the workforce in the youth development field, and expertise to take content knowledge and integrate it with practice. I think Ramapo and YDI [the Youth Development Institute] teaming up is a collaboration that will help to strengthen the field of youth development and make more resources available to practitioners.”

–ELAINE JOHNSON, Director Community of Practice, Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth & Families

MEETING THE NEED
Youth, families, out-of-school-time providers, early childhood centers

REMOTE WORKSHOPS
“THIS HAS BEEN AN EXTRAORDINARY YEAR for parents and caregivers of children with disabilities. Many of us have embraced the roles of service coordinator, paraprofessional, social skills instructor, counselor and tutor as our children navigated unpredictable school schedules without access to many structures and supports that anchored them in the past. Ensuring adequate supports for parents and caregivers has become critical to helping our children develop resilience, maintain mental health and navigate the challenges of living through a pandemic.” –LISA, NYC public school parent

“THERE IS MORE NEED to be able to support parents and caregivers in this time and acknowledge that their contributions are new. They have gone from being the parent to being the teacher and the chef and an OT specialist and more. I remind them to recognize this in the hustle and bustle of life. I say, ‘Wow, look at you, look at the job you are doing.’ Nobody ever tells parents, ‘great job.’ We share strategies with parents to find time for themselves and to connect with their children and other caregivers and influences in their children’s lives.” –EVELYN ALVAREZ, Senior Director of Parent Engagement and Early Childhood
FY2020 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES: FOUR-YEAR SUMMARY

REVENUE AND EXPENSES: FOUR-YEAR SUMMARY

FISCAL 2020 OPERATING REVENUE ANALYSIS

FISCAL 2020 OPERATING EXPENSE ANALYSIS

91% OF EXPENSES GO DIRECTLY TO PROGRAMS.

Program-Related Fees $3,821,280
Individual Contributions 940,058
Foundation Contributions 1,647,845
Other Grants 1,462,747
Fundraising Events, Net 165,113
TOTAL $8,037,043

Investment Return, Net $103,676
Capital Contributions 41,200

Program 91% $7,884,207
Administration & Development 9% 824,830
TOTAL $8,709,037

Depreciation $650,000
Interest 52,873
A SELECTION OF RAMAPO’S PARTNERS WHO CREATED ENVIRONMENTS THAT SUPPORT SUCCESS IN 2020

New York City Public Schools
The Alexander Macomb School (X232)
Anning S. Pratt IS (R027)
The Boerum Hill School for International Studies (K497)
Bronx Early College Academy for Teaching and Learning (X324)
The Bronx School of Young Leaders (X331)
Bronx Studio School for Writers and Artists (X269)
Bronxdale High School (X508)
Brooklyn School for Music and Theater (K548)
Business Technology Early College High School (Q315)
Catherine and Count Basie College High School (Q315)
City Polytechnical High School of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology (K674)
Clara Barton High School (K600)
City Polytechnical High School (X524)
Elijah G. Stroud School (K316)
Elm Tree Elementary School (Q211)
Essex Street Academy (M294)
Fannie Lou Hamer Middle School (X286)
Flushing High School (Q460)
Fordham Leadership Academy (X438)
Franklin Delano Roosevelt High School (K505)
Gotham Professional Arts Academy (K594)
Hamilton Grange Middle School (M209)
Harvest Collegiate High School (M534)
Hawtree Creek Middle School (Q297)
High School for Law and Public Service (M467)
High School for Media and Communications (M463)
High School for Teaching and the Professions (X433)
International High School for Health Science (Q236)
International School for Liberal Arts (X342)
IS 318 Eugenio Maria De Hostos (K318)
JFK Educational Campus (M167)
John Ericsson Middle School (K126)
KAPPA III (X316)
Lehman Educational Campus (M280)
MECA (M280)
Millennium Brooklyn High School (K684)
Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies (X297)
Mott Hall V (X242)
MS 298 Academy for Public Relations (X298)
New Heights Middle School (K722)
New Millennium Bronx Academy of the Arts (X328)
New Pathways Middle School (X594)
New York City Lab Middle School for Collaborative Studies (M312)
North Bronx School of Empowerment (X287)
PS 112 (M112)
PS 114 (X114)
PS 12 Lewis and Clark School (X012)
PS 133 Fred R. Moore Academy (M333)
PS 168X (X168)
PS 206 Jose Celso Barbosa (M206)
PS 21 Philip H. Sheridan (X021)
PS 212 (Q212)
PS 214 (X214)
PS 25 Bilingual School (X025)
PS 277 (X277)
PS 289K (X289)
PS 340 (X340)
PS 369 (K369)
PS 43 Jonas Bronck (X043)
PS 73 Bronx (X073)
PS 96 (M096)
PS138X The Samuel Randall School (X138)
Queens High School for Information, Research and Technology (Q302)
Red Hook Neighborhood School (K575)
Robert A. Van Wyck Middle School (Q217)
Satellite Academy High School (M570)
The School by the Sea (Q043)
School for Human Rights (K531)
Spring Creek Community School (K422)
Tompkins Square Middle School (M839)
The Upper Academy (K382)
Walton Educational Campus (M570)

NEW YORK CITY PRIVATE SCHOOLS
Bnos Malka Academy
Horizons at Saint David’s School
Lavelle School for the Blind
Preschool of the Arts
Roosevelt Children’s Center
Village Child Development Center
Village Learning Place
William O’Connor School
Yeshiva Har Torah

NEW YORK CITY CHARTER SCHOOLS
Achievement First
AIM Charter High School I
AIM Charter High School II
Bedford Stuyvesant
New Beginnings Charter
Brilla College Prep
Charter School
Collaborative for Inclusive Education
Comp Sci High School
Democracy Prep Charter
High School
Dr. Richard Izquierdo Health & Science Charter School
Icahn Charter School 4
Internations Network
KIPP NYC
Metropolitan Lighthouse
Charter School
Mott Haven Academy
Charter School
New Heights Academy
Charter School
New Visions
Success Academy Charter Schools
Unity Prep Charter School
Zeta Charter Schools

NEW YORK CITY COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS
The 92nd Street Y
ADAPT
AHRC New York City
All Star Code
American Museum of Natural History
Asian Americans for Equality
Boys Club of New York
CAMBA
Catholic Charities
Center for Supportive Schools
Children Center of New York
Children’s Village Inwood House Division
City Year
Committee for Hispanic Children & Families
Commonpoint Queens
CUNY Explorers
CUNY MediaMakers
DREAM
DreamYard

Educational Alliance
Edwin Gould Services for Children & Families
Flatbush Development Corporation
Foundation for Jewish Camp
Global Kids
Go Project
Graham Windham
Guggenheim Museum
Haitian Americans United for Progress
HANAC
Hands in 4 Youth
Hats and Ladders
Hebrew Educational Society (HES)
Here to Here
Hetrick-Martin Institute
Highbridge Advisory Council
Homes for the Homeless
Hudson Guild
Kings Bay YM-YWA
Kingsbridge Heights Community Center
Manhattan Equal Opportunity Center
Manhattan Family Support Services Advisory Council
Math for America
MCC Theater
Millennium Development
Mosholu Montefiore Community Center
Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center (S.P.E.E.K.)
New Alternatives for Children
New York Edge
NIA Community Services
Educational Alliance
Edwin Gould Services for Children & Families
Flatbush Development Corporation
Foundation for Jewish Camp
Global Kids
Go Project
Graham Windham
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Mosholu Montefiore Community Center
Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center (S.P.E.E.K.)
New Alternatives for Children
New York Edge
NIA Community Services
Network
Park Avenue Synagogue
Partnership for After School Education (PASE)
Public Allies
Quality Stars NY
Rising Treetops at Oakhurst
Romeru
Row NY
SCAN
SCO Family of Services
Sesame Flyers
Sheltering Arms
The Shield Institute
Studio in a School
“It was so important for our guys to be able to be outside and see each other personally after our mentoring meetings had to go online. This partnership gave them the ability to integrate things they have learned through Brothers@ into a new environment.” – JESZACK, Brothers@
RAMAPO DEEPLY THANKS OUR SHINING STARS

You, our community of alumni, families, past and present staff, educators, trustees, and friends, make our work of building communities possible. Many thanks to the following individuals, families, foundations, and businesses, as well as those who chose to support Ramapo through gifts to UJA-Federation of New York and the United Way. Between November 1, 2019 and October 31, 2020, Ramapo’s budget of $8.4 million was met with the help of these 1,020 contributions. If you would like to make a gift to Ramapo, please contact us at 845.876.8409 or visit www.ramapoforchildren.org/support-us.

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THE SCHOOL CLIMATE LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION program addressed valuable resources to start a conversation about the five stages of a school climate improvement cycle in the school community. From the onset, that conversation begins with building racially and ethnically inclusive climate teams.... We have a tremendous opportunity to increase student outcomes and eliminate explicit and implicit inequities together in a safe and supportive learning environment.” —VINCENT HURST, Youth Development Manager, Urban Assembly
At the heart of our work is the conviction that all children seek the same things: to learn, feel valued, and experience success. Ramapo helps young people learn to align their behaviors with their aspirations.