

CORA'S

# Continuum of Care

A CLOSER  
LOOK



CORA SERVICES 2019 COMMUNITY REPORT







## From our Board of Directors

**Thanks very much for all you have done to support CORA Services throughout 2019!**

I have been a proud member of CORA's Board of Directors since 2013 and I can say with certainty that this agency prides itself on connecting the dots for families with care and compassion. In my opinion, what makes CORA especially unique is our holistic approach and diversity of quality professional services.

While *Children ARE the Heart of the Matter* at CORA, each child's needs are assessed and addressed within the context of their family or support system. Mission-driven counselors, educators, psychologists and therapists of many types, work collaboratively to embrace our client families, providing excellent well-rounded resolutions to complicated situations. I have experienced firsthand the excellent services CORA provides and trust their staff immensely with my own children.

At every stage of life, CORA offers supports that help to remove obstacles and allow for development and productivity. From parenting classes and early childhood education, to academic support and counseling, to behavioral assessment, case management, mental health treatment, and much more — CORA aims to help families survive and thrive regardless of the challenges they are facing.

Consider taking the next step in your involvement with **CORA — An agency dedicated to helping children and families experience success at every angle.**

Sincerely,  
**Dr. Michael Clark**



### 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## WE CARE ABOUT CORA

The following list recognizes individuals and organizations that made gifts during CORA's 2019 fiscal year.

The Alliance of Community Service Providers  
Jan Ambrose  
American Heritage Federal Credit Union  
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Bryan Carter  
Thyil Chacko



Above: The Clark Family. Right: Dr. Michael Clark, Dr. Paul Haughton and Rusty Fitzgerald

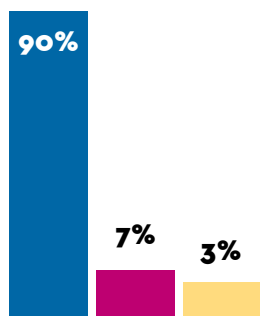
- GET INVOLVED—  
JOIN A CORA COMMITTEE!**
- Finance
  - Governance
  - Institutional Advancement
  - Program Advancement
  - Events: Champions for Children, Golf and Seussville



You do not need to be on the board to serve on a committee, but committee participation is expected of potential board members.

# Financials

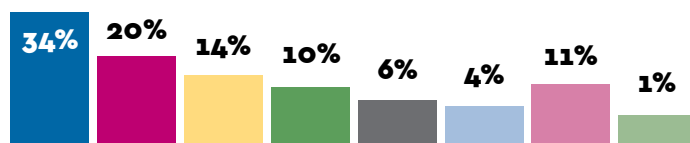
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019



## REVENUE

<b>Grants &amp; Contracts</b>	\$18,669,775
<b>Fees &amp; Services</b>	\$1,350,074
<b>Contributions, Special Events &amp; Other</b>	\$688,026

**TOTAL**  
\$20,707,875



## EXPENSES

<b>Auxiliary School Services</b>	\$7,093,906
<b>Nonpublic School Services</b>	\$4,026,995
<b>Counseling, Prevention &amp; Intervention Services</b>	\$2,871,355

<b>Early Childhood Services</b>	\$2,045,989
<b>Out of School Time</b>	\$1,165,953
<b>Building Maintenance &amp; Services</b>	\$802,417

<b>Management &amp; General</b>	\$2,317,920
<b>Promotional &amp; Fundraising</b>	\$252,141

**TOTAL**  
\$20,576,676

**Operating Surplus**  
\$ 131,199



David Channing  
Mark Chesses  
Kristen Cissne  
Claffen Associates Architects + Planners  
Michael Clark, M.D.  
Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech  
Anne Cliver  
Comstar Technologies  
Nora Cooper

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Patty Faix  
Mary Ellen Fala  
Maria and Rohan Fernando  
First Nonprofit Group





# The Early Years

Children are the  
Heart of the Matter

## PARENTING

CORA's **Lifeline** Program, started by Sister Nora Dennehy, has evolved to do much more than provide support to young mothers to be. In addition to offering help to pregnant and parenting adolescent and young adult mothers and fathers, Lifeline now offers many different educational opportunities for parents, families and the community.

87 group sessions were provided in 2019 to middle school and high school youth as well as adults on many topics including:

- ▶ Safe Dates — An anti-violence teen dating program
- ▶ The Nurturing Parenting Curriculum
- ▶ Teen Life Skills
- ▶ Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

87  
Group  
Sessions

## EARLY INTERVENTION

CORA provides Early Intervention services for preschoolers experiencing delays reaching appropriate developmental milestones. In collaboration with Elwyn's Early Learning Services program, CORA delivers services to children with Individualized Education Program (IEP) which are designed to provide quality early learning experiences for children ages 3-5.

12 Early Intervention therapists helped 300 children with more than 450 services in special instruction, speech and language therapy, and occupational therapy, in 25 Early Childhood Education Centers across the city of Philadelphia. During the summer, CORA's Early Intervention Team hosted over 30 children per week for thematic therapy workshops. CORA also opened its doors to build a stronger partnership with Elwyn by creating work space for its Early Intervention team in our administrative building at 8540 Verree Road.

12 early  
intervention  
therapists helped  
**300**  
children



## Early Years Fox Chase needs a new playground!

Physical activity is a **MUST** for growing children. Outdoor equipment helps kids develop gross motor and imaginative play skills. **How can you help?**  
[coraservices.org/donations](http://coraservices.org/donations)



## LITERACY HAPPENS

In 2019, CORA offered two 6-week long Early Literacy Workshops for children ages 1-5. Hosted by Eric J. Smith, MA, CCC-SLP/L, and his team, families participated in workshops designed to help parents and other caregivers help their youngsters learn and love to read. Each session featured a lesson about how families can use literacy activities to support their child's development by incorporating literacy into everyday routines in meaningful ways.



## YESTERDAY

- ▲ In 1983, CORA opened its flagship quality Early Childhood Education Center, Early Years Fox Chase, serving children 2 1/2-5.

More than 3,500 children started their lifelong journey of learning in one of CORA's Early Years programs!



## TODAY

- ▲ CORA currently owns and operates two Early Years Programs, the original one in Northeast Philadelphia, and one on the campus of La Salle University. Both locations are Keystone STAR 4 sites with full and part time opportunities as well as before and after care. Early Years La Salle offers free spots for qualifying families through Pre-K Counts!



## TOMORROW

- ▲ In 2020, CORA Services will open its 3rd and largest Early Childhood Program. Early Years Huntingdon Mills, located at 2137 East Huntingdon Street, will serve children ages 2-5 and will eventually be equipped to serve children on the autism spectrum in a unique classroom inclusion model.

## DONORS

Rita and Rusty Fitzgerald  
Forst Foundation  
Fox Rothschild LLP  
Fraternal Order of Police Michael Lutz, Lodge # 5 Philadelphia  
Joanee Friel  
Friends Hospital  
G.J. Rossi and Sons  
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Dave Gartenberg  
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George Washington High School Class of 1974  
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David and Cindy Gruber  
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Cecilia Hanas  
Lisa Hancock-Rehrig

James and Julie Harron  
Health Partner Plans  
Mike Heinen  
Craig Hendrick  
Eileen Himes  
Larry Holman  
Holy Family University



# The Elementary Years

## FAMILY ADVOCATE

CORA's Clinical team provides a therapeutic environment where clients can explore and address a variety of mental health, behavioral health, and family-related issues. School aged children ages 5-18 and their parents receive support, encouragement, and guidance by skilled clinicians.

*CORA provides related services to Charter Schools in PA and NJ, employing 12 Occupational Therapists, 26 Speech Therapists, 1 Physical Therapist and 15 Psychologists.*



## TRUANCY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION SERVICES (TIPS)

CORA's TIPS team collaborates with Philadelphia's Department of Human Services, School District, Family Court, and the Police Department to increase school attendance and reduce truancy.

Since PA's amendment of The Truancy Law, Cora has implemented a comprehensive approach to identify and address attendance issues as early with credible intervention techniques.

### ACT 138 Prevention Pilot



## DONORS

Siobhan Ideishi  
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Iron Hill Brewery, LLC  
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James Martin Company, Inc  
Jeanes/Temple Hospital  
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Stacy Leonard

Kerry Leraris  
Allen Lewis  
Warren Lindley  
Blanche Lipschultz  
Little Flower Catholic High School  
for Girls  
John Logan  
Edward Lowitz  
Jessica MacKay  
Patricia Maguire  
John Mapes

90

support  
staff

▲ In 1975, when CORA first began serving non-public school students, they had to come to us. Sr. Charity was determined to serve students where they were, so she put trailers in the parking lots of 45 Archdiocesan schools.

▲ Today in our School Services Department, CORA Provides the Philadelphia Archdiocesan and other private grade schools and high schools with: 27 Counselors, 35 Educators, 13 Psychologists and 15 Speech Therapists.

▲ “Grow With Us” is the theme of The CORA Training Center, which was established in response to staff requests for advanced training on how to best support today’s students, as the environments in which they are learning and growing continue to evolve. 685 attendees participated in CORA professional development sessions in the 2018–2019 school year.

YESTERDAY

TODAY

TOMORROW



## Goal

IMPROVE SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE

30

Back to School  
Nights

## Action

CORA staff teamed up with the attendance team of 12 Northeast Philadelphia area public schools and attended 30 Back to School nights in the fall to educate families on school and city attendance policies.

ADVOCATE FOR  
FAMILIES IN REGIONAL  
TRUANCY COURT

485

SAIP  
Conferences

TIPS (Truancy Intervention and Prevention Services) team members participated in 485 SAIP (School Attendance Improvement Plan) conferences!

DIVERT FAMILIES FROM  
ENTERING FORMAL CHILD  
WELFARE SERVICES

\$10k

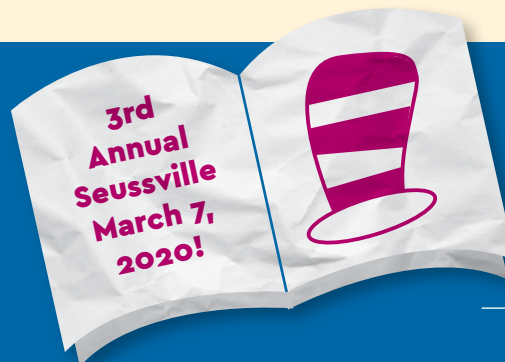
in assistance

CORA assisted eligible families in emergency situations with rent, utilities, food, clothing, school supplies and beds totaling more than \$10,000.

## Seussville At CORA

is an annual family engagement event focused on the fun and importance of early literacy. CORA also offers early literacy workshops for families with young children that provide books and resources.

Consider a \$1,000 Literacy Sponsorship!





# The Middle School Years



## 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR SAP PROGRAM:

CORA's SAP Assessment services are available to students in grades K-12 in select schools throughout Philadelphia. CORA works with Philadelphia public, charter, and non-public schools across 31 zip codes and received over 1,400 referrals during the 2018-2019 school year.

## SAP-STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

CORA's SAP Program began in 1989 and included behavioral health assessments, consultation and referral assistance for students experiencing obstacles or barriers to learning. SAP services expanded in the 2018-2019 school year to include case management support which further assists students and families with accessing recommended services. Case Managers also assisted students/families with benefits assistance and accessing community resources.



This year YouthCOR provided after school and summer programming in the following areas: 19114, 19116, 19115, 19132, 19149, 19111, 19124

## DONORS

Christine and Justin Matulewicz  
Jerry McCaffrey  
Melissa McCullough  
Christopher McDemus  
Robert McElhenney  
Donald and Mary McGettigan  
Mary Kay McGettigan  
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Joe Parson  
Penn Jersey Paper  
Pennsylvania Pipe Trades  
Association  
Nancy Peter  
Peter R. Johnson & Company, Inc.



# From Camp CORA to YouthCOR



YESTERDAY

- ▲ In the 80's and 90's, CORA ran a large summer camp on 3 acres of land with many outdoor activities including archery and swimming. In the summer of 2018, there was a CAMP CORA Reunion where former campers and counselors shared stories about the old camp days and that pesky groundhog!



- ▲ YouthCOR, our DHS funded summer programming is offered at a variety of partner school sites. 21st Century Community Learning Center and United Way Impact funding has enabled enhanced services at some sites such as family engagement activities and increased STEAM capabilities, helping keep students school ready all summer long.

**1,001**  
children  
participated  
in YouthCOR  
Summer Camps

TODAY



- ▲ CORA's commitment to serving children with mercy and zeal has not changed, but our out-of-school-time options have evolved and spread out to meet families where they are. Our recent additions include — St. Martin de Porres and J.H. Brown Elementary Schools.

- ▲ Our programs are growing and **WE'RE HIRING!** Do you know anyone interested in working with children after school? Visit [coraservices.org](http://coraservices.org) and click on careers to see all available positions!

TOMORROW



**Sponsor A  
Workstation**

## Promote your business and support 7th and 8th graders!

CORA's Career Development Resource Center engages nearly 3,500 students each school year. CDRC staff help students critically evaluate how their interests and skills connect to a career path. Students enjoy hands-on work experiences at self-guided workstations — some virtual and some functioning career-related activity stations.



## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Occupational Therapist, Laura Pietropola, along with Temple OT students, provided bi-monthly pet therapy services to students in the Multiple Disabilities Support classrooms and Life Skills classrooms at Simon Gratz Mastery Charter High School. The pet therapy program provided opportunities for students to engage in positive social interactions, demonstrate appropriate self-regulation abilities, and promote social-emotional learning. These skills were tracked through data analysis to provide therapists with concrete evidence of each student's progression.



# The High School Years

## INTENSIVE PREVENTION SERVICES (IPS)

IPS is an early intervention program for youth ages 10 to 17 years old who exhibit at-risk behaviors. CORA takes a comprehensive approach, offering individual, group and family counseling complemented by group activities and case management. During the summer months, CORA hosted weekly enrichment activities to keep youth active.

## PAYING IT FORWARD

Mariame Sissoko, a senior at Central High School, started a student organization called Stressed Out Students to initiate an ongoing conversation with her peers about teens and mental health. Mariame and her classmates, lead by teacher and advisor, Traci Albuck, sold exam week care packages and donated the money to CORA.



Left: The **Peer Helper Award** was established to reward exceptional 8th-grade students for their participation in CORA's Peer Helper Program, which fosters leadership and enables students to mentor younger children and serve as positive role models. During her 2019 graduation ceremony from St. Christopher's School, Paige Thompson was awarded this honor and \$1,000 toward her Villa Joseph Marie tuition.



## Monthly donations make a huge impact!

CORA is addressing substance use and abuse with children, adolescents and adults, through education, early intervention, counseling, treatment and recovery supports. Your monthly gift could cover the cost of a counseling session for a teen or a family member struggling to support them.

Enroll here: [coraservices.org/donations](https://coraservices.org/donations)





## YESTERDAY

- ▲ In the late 90's and early 2000's, CORA's Neumann center was a community center in the Frankford section of Philadelphia that helped adolescents attain their GED while receiving drug and alcohol treatment and teen/young adult parenting supports.

- ▲ In late 2019, Governor Tom Wolf and presidential hopeful Michael Bloomberg visited CORA's partner, The Bridge Way School, PA's first Recovery High School, to discuss the importance of substance abuse treatment programs for adolescents. To support high school students suffering from addiction, CORA offers support groups, case management and life skills. In the summer of 2018, CORA and The Bridge Way launched an Alternative Peer Group providing support and sober activities for teens.

## TODAY



- ▲ CORA is investigating the formulation of a Family Navigation System within our agency: a call-in, walk-in and online concierge service, where any family can obtain an assessment for their child and be referred to appropriate care. With CORA's signature *care and compassion*, we hope to better assist families as they navigate systems supporting a child's educational, behavioral health or mental health needs.

## TOMORROW



## DONORS

Philadelphia Council of AFL CIO  
Plumbers and Pipefitters LU 354  
Plumbers Union Local 690  
Thomas Queer  
Lisa Radecke  
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Sandmeyer Steel Company  
Santander  
Sherry Scena  
Mike and Roseann Schell  
Amelia Schoettle  
Thomas Schrank  
Catherine Schuld

5



# Adult Programs & Services

## SPEECH FELLOWSHIPS

*CORA provides internship and fellowship opportunities for a range of professions.*

CORA offers a well-structured, strongly mentored clinical fellowship experience in Speech and Language Services, with the intention of providing a positive start to your professional practice and a rewarding career in school-based speech and language services. CORA is able to provide professional support while adhering to ASHA's guidelines for obtaining the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC's). CORA Clinical Speech Fellows have the opportunity to work in one of three diverse populations of nonpublic schools in Early Intervention sites, and charter schools throughout the city of Philadelphia and Camden.

## MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING AND TREATMENT SERVICES

CORA Therapists work with children, adolescents and adults experiencing a variety of stressors including anxiety, ADHD, adjustment to separation/divorce/other loss, relationship issues, depression and mood disorders.

CORA also provides PA licensed, outpatient Substance Use Treatment, Substance Use Intervention Counseling as well as Peer Recovery Support and Case Management Services.

**450**  
mental health  
clients/families

Includes IPS,  
Family Advocate,  
and Private Services

Includes intervention,  
case management,  
and drug/alcohol  
treatment

**448**  
D/A clients/  
families

## DONORS

AnnMarie Schultz  
Madeline Seiger  
Trevor Seuffer  
Shanahan Charitable Foundation  
Karen Sharkey  
Michael and Rosanne Schell  
Roslyn Shoket  
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Claire Steinberg  
Todd and Lisa Steinberg  
Tanya Steinberg

Patricia Stoerle  
Stressed Out Students Club -  
Central High School  
The Becker Vanguard Group  
The Henderson Group  
The Wedge Medical Center, Inc  
Rita Timoney  
United Association Local Union  
524  
United Way  
Univest Bank



# Champions for Children

CORA's Champion Awards recognize extraordinary individuals and organizations who have been instrumental in creating a brighter future for children and families in the Philadelphia region.

Aleasha Lewis, 2018 graduate of Mercy Career and Technical High School was recognized as a **CORA's Classroom Champion**. After receiving support from CORA's lifeline program as a young mother, Aleasha worked to connect other young mothers to available resources.



## Champions for Children, December 2018

Corporate Champion: John Kane, Plumbers Union  
Local 690 Civic Champion: Sister Donna Shallo, IHM



## YESTERDAY

- ▲ The first CORA golf outing took place in 2008 at Melrose Country Club. In 2016, the outing moved to the Philmont Country Club to accommodate 200+ golfers and some special supporters.



## TODAY

- ▲ CORA hosted the 11th Annual CORA for KIDS Golf Classic at the Philadelphia Cricket Club in the summer of 2019 netting more than \$65K for our children and families.



## TOMORROW

- ▲ We hope to see you on June 1, 2020, at the Cricket Club!
- Will your company sponsor a foursome?**

VIST Bank  
Waddell and Reed  
Stephanie Watkins  
Rena Weizer Weiss  
Joseph Yanchis



## CORA's Holiday Drive

Each year we ask staff to identify children and families who could use a little extra love at Christmas time. Each gift of \$50 allows CORA to support an additional family with a holiday gift card. **Sponsor a family!**

# 48 Years and Counting

With your partnership, CORA continues to enrich and expand our programming to help individuals, children, families, neighborhoods and schools with unmet needs. **I am sincerely grateful to the entire CORA community for all you do to help our agency carry on the important work of Sr. Charity Kohl and the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.** I am humbled each day by your contributions, dedication and service. We have a responsibility to use best practices and serve to the best of our ability, bridging gaps where services don't yet exist, and I do not take that responsibility lightly. I share your passion for supporting families and strengthening the community with creativity and zeal.

**Please consider furthering your connection with CORA —**  
We truly are an agency meeting unmet needs and welcome collaboration in providing innovative services to our children and families!

**AnnMarie Schultz, President & CEO**





# Thanks to Our 2019 CORA Community Partners!

NFP  
Plumbers Local 690  
Univest  
LEHB  
Iron Hill



CORA is grateful to our 2019 **CARING COMMUNITY PARTNERS!** These generous supporters showed their commitment to CORA's children and families by becoming yearlong sponsors. Caring Community Partnerships begin at \$5,000. Inquire today about becoming a 2020 partner!





## CORA'S MISSION

Rooted in a tradition of  
**CARE AND COMPASSION**,  
CORA Services assists children, youth  
and families experiencing academic,  
emotional and social challenges.

# Save the Dates



**03.07.20**

Seussville at CORA

**06.01.20**

GOLF for KIDS Classic  
at The Philadelphia  
Cricket Club

## CONNECT WITH US

Text the word "CORA" to the number 42828.  
215.342.7660 | 215.701.2776 | Email: [caring@coraservices.org](mailto:caring@coraservices.org)

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 CORA Services

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