

Saint Joseph Parenting Center

Strengthening Families Through
Parenting Education



2020 YEAR IN REVIEW



sjpcenter.org

Dear Friends of Saint Joseph Parenting Center,

As you know, 2020 was a year like no other, with COVID-19 dramatically changing the world with little notice or time to prepare for the countless disruptions to our lives and the upheaval the pandemic caused across our community.

Yet, what could have been a stumbling block eventually turned into our stepping stone. Yes, we faced many challenges as well as great external pressures and restrictions, dimming the light at the end of the tunnel for a period of time. But these difficulties did not dilute our determination to support the families in Fairfield County who rely on our services and support. In response, we quickly pivoted our in-person case management work to phone-based services and our parenting education classes to virtual sessions on Zoom. While this might not have been ideal, it enabled us to serve just as many parents in 2020 as we did in the year before the pandemic. Given the circumstances, we should all be proud of this accomplishment.

In 2020, we also applied for a major multi-year federal grant and we were awarded \$3.3 million over five years to bolster our Fatherhood Program. This funding will go toward helping the fathers in our care to become more understanding of their special role in the family, master tools for patience and boundary setting, care for their own mental and physical wellbeing.

Despite the many inconveniences, obstacles, and changes resulting from COVID-19, we closed 2020 fiscally stronger than budgeted. So much of that, of course, is the result of your continued faith in SJPC's mission as demonstrated by the generosity of your time and treasure.

As we head into our next phase of growth – which includes the recent opening of a second parenting education center in Danbury – we invite you to consider a special year-end donation that will better position SJPC to ensure that future generations of children can live, grow and thrive in a healthy home and community.

With grateful appreciation,




Rhonda R. Neal
Executive Director, SJPC

Did you know that there were over 1,600 children in Fairfield County reported as abused, neglected, or uncared for in 2020?*

Saint Joseph Parenting Center provides free parenting education and support to strengthen families and help protect children at risk for child abuse and neglect.

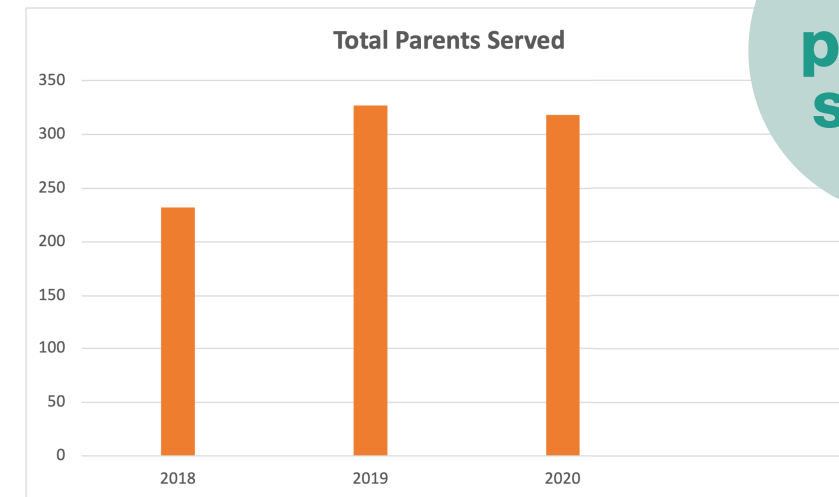
SJPC programs help to ensure that our parents receive the skills and support needed to create healthier homes. All classes are offered in English and in Spanish.

- **General Parenting Classes** – A curated 28-class curriculum that focuses on the essential parenting knowledge and life skills needed to parent positively.
- **Dads are the Difference Program** – A 30-class curriculum designed exclusively for dads that emphasizes the unique and complex role of a father.
- **Women's Circle Support Group** – An additional empowerment support group for mothers run in collaboration with the Rowan Center, a sexual assault resource agency serving lower Fairfield County.
- **Case Management** – On-going support for parents including counseling, connections to community resources, and ongoing advocacy in order to support and empower them to become the best individuals and parents they can be.



2020 AT A GLANCE

Program Impact



318
parents
served



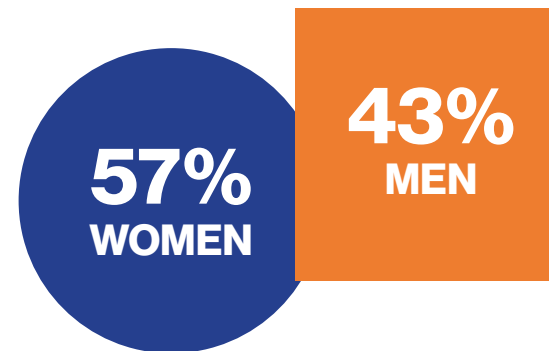
100% classes
transitioned to a virtual
platform mid-year

Supported the wellbeing of **477 children**

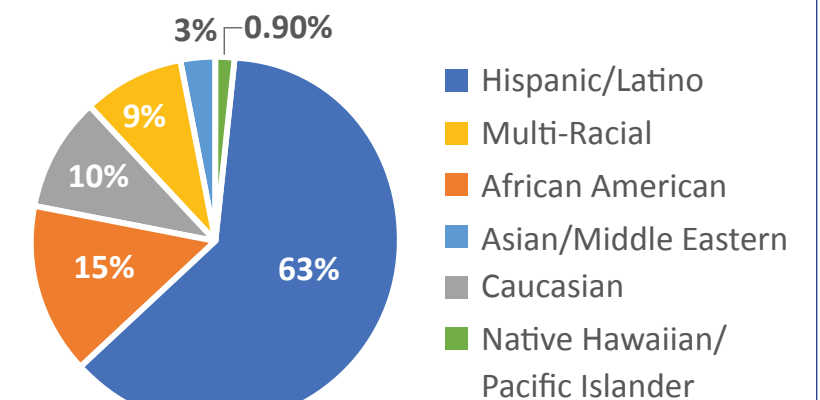
280 classes held
166 in English & 114 in Spanish

Who We Serve

GENDER:



Demographics



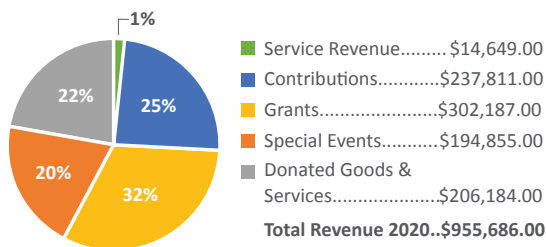
89% of our parents fell below the federal poverty line

54% of our parents have been involved with the CT Department of Children and Families

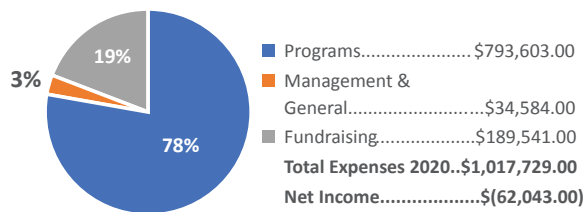
* State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families
Number of Accepted Reports and Allegations to DCF State Fiscal Year: 2020

FINANCIALS

Total Revenue 2020



Total Expenses 2020



VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

211 volunteers donated over **1,700** hours

“Each time that I facilitate a session with SJPC parents, I am honoring the Center’s mission that every child deserves to live free of abuse and neglect. By taking the time to support some of my most vulnerable neighbors, I am able to actively participate in making my community better. SJPC is, ‘community in action.’ The Center reminds me that in a world full of negative distractions, what really matters is staying humble and kind.”

—Maryellen Estrada, MA, LADC
Supervising Program Director
Alternative in the Community, Stamford

DONORS

Thank you donors in helping SJPC raise over \$560,000 in foundations/grants, major gifts, and fundraising/donations. Your generosity during tenuous times ensured parents received the necessary support and tools to continue developing their parenting skills. Your faith in us is encouraging and rewarding. As we educate more parents, it is our hope that you will continue to be by our side.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

These are exciting times at SJPC. Building on our 10-plus years of success strengthening families in the greater Stamford area, we are opening a new Center in Danbury.

The need has never been greater in Fairfield County, and the recent federal recognition we received for our Dads Program has propelled us to take this leap forward.

This growth is only possible due to the support we have received from individuals like you. We value the trust that you place in us, and we will pay it forward with the families that we serve.



Gerard Sweeney
SJPC Chair

Rhonda Neal
President
Executive Director

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Murray

