“Walking into the Cooke Center Academy was a breathtaking experience. It was nurturing while at the same time encouraging independence in students in ways we never would have thought of before.”

— Cooke Center Academy Parent

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Year Ended June 30, 2010

REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Fees</td>
<td>$12,978,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation &amp; Training Fees</td>
<td>923,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Special Events</td>
<td>1,981,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,882,874</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Services &amp; Programs</td>
<td>$12,963,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>1,350,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>361,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,674,742</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCES OF REVENUE

- Education Fees: 82%
- Consultation and Training Fees: 6%
- Contributions and Special Events: 12%

EXPENSES

- Education Programs: 88%
- Administration: 9%
- Fundraising: 3%

The Cooke Center is incredibly grateful for the generous support of our long-term leadership grantors, including:

- The Moody’s Foundation
- The Starr Foundation
- The Bernard F. & Alva B. Gimbel Foundation
- The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
- The Joseph LeRoy and Ann C. Warner Fund, Inc.
Dear Friends:

In this annual report, we salute the dedicated staff that makes Cooke “unique among schools”. Throughout our various school programs, the common thread is the experience, talent and love our teachers bring to the classroom each and every day.

The growth that has occurred since Cooke opened its doors to the first classroom of seven students in 1987 is nothing short of miraculous. This kind of growth can only take place when the board, parents, and faculty regularly ask themselves, “What do our children need from us today?”

As we move toward our 25th anniversary, we are asking the Cooke community to help us answer that very question. Over the coming months, Cooke’s core constituents—board members, senior leadership, faculty, parents, and supporters—will gather in groups to participate in a strategic process of reflection and planning.

Throughout the strategic planning process, the values at the heart of Cooke will continue to guide all that we do. We remain committed to parent engagement, inclusive opportunities, diversity, and instruction that builds upon the strengths and interests of our students. With all of us working together, Cooke will continue to foster independence through education for many years to come.

As always, we are so grateful to our generous friends and supporters. It is thanks to your support that Cooke is here some 25 years later, reflecting on our past successes and preparing for a better future for our kids.

With our heartfelt thanks,

Kenneth I. Wirfel, Esq.
Chairman

Michael Termini, PsyD
President
Cooke’s Preschool offers special education and therapeutic services to children aged 3-5 in Head Start and preschool programs throughout the city. Cooke’s signature “Collaboration for Inclusion” program takes this one step further, training teachers to prepare all children for kindergarten and beyond. Through long-term coaching directly in the classroom, we help teachers create language-rich environments and help children develop the learning and social skills they need for a lifetime of academic achievement.

Cooke Preschool providers are highly trained, experienced educators. In addition to their work in the classroom, they share what they know with hundreds of parents and teachers every year through on-site trainings and workshops in a myriad of preschool specialities.
Cooke Program Supervisor **Dr. Joselyn Fine** coordinates early childhood special needs programming at the nationally-recognized Harlem Children’s Zone. “The Cooke Center provides a spectrum of services to HCZ, including identification of children with delays, parent workshops and staff consultations. We also oversee assessments, which help determine whether youngsters are school-ready.”

“I could not have asked for better services for my son. I knew if he went to a regular Head Start he would not get the one-on-one attention he receives from the Cooke staff.”

— West Harlem Head Start Parent
Bindia Patel is a Level 2 teacher, whose students are exploring the theme of “Problem Solving” this year. “It’s such an exciting new time in the children’s development,” she says. “In Level 2 we can see such a shift towards greater independence.”

Having previously taught Level 1 for four years, Ms. Patel sees first-hand the great strides her students are making. “I’ve been working with one student, for instance, for three years,” she says. “When she first arrived at Cooke, she couldn’t use her words. She has worked so hard—she is speaking in full sentences now, and she’s made so much progress, we’ve placed her into the 2nd grade general ed math class!”
Students at the Cooke Lower School know there’s a lot in store for them when they walk into their classrooms every day. Whether participating in Reader’s Theater, solving a math problem, or taking a trip on a double-decker bus to the Studio Museum in Harlem, they know their day will be chock-full of exciting experiences.

Teachers and therapists work together to design classroom lessons that can be reinforced on the playground, in the lunchroom, and out in the community. Using research-based programs, a multisensory approach to instruction, and focusing on students’ strengths and interests, Cooke has developed a modified curriculum following New York State standards in core subject areas. Speech, occupational and physical therapists deliver services in a variety of contexts throughout the day, while counselors help students develop self-confidence and decision-making skills. Parents appreciate the ongoing communication from teachers about their children’s progress and how they can help reinforce learning at home.

“When we sat in on one of the classrooms in the Lower School, I was really impressed with the language and math centers that group kids by ability. The students are the same ages, but in different places academically, and they all receive individual attention. We thought it was just perfect.”

— Cooke Center Lower School Parent

Assistant Teacher Katty Vargas helping students integrate technology into their studies.
At the Cooke Center Middle School, an individualized schedule means that students are moving towards even greater independence. As they move from one class to another, they are working on becoming more flexible in their routines and transitions. Like middle schoolers everywhere, they are becoming increasingly aware of their place in the community and this year the Middle School theme challenges them to ask “How Can We Make a Difference?” Homerooms have a service learning component and in math and science, students are asked to identify a community problem and create practical solutions to help solve it.

“Cooke teachers make your child feel wanted. They have such patience, and they’re just really into your kid. They care about parents, too, which we appreciate.”
— Cooke Center Middle School Parent

Occupational Therapist Catherine Miranda demonstrating a proper pencil grip.

Cooke Center middle schoolers taking part in the weekly Arts and Movement program. The students pictured above are practicing yoga and having a go on the bongos during a percussion class with Mr. Fitz.
Rachel Munz is a Middle School Head Teacher who has come up through the ranks, beginning her career as an Assistant Teacher. “Cooke works non-stop for kids. Our students come with so many learning styles, and we have to continually adapt the curriculum and plan lessons so that we can reach every single one. But that takes a lot of training, so Cooke brings in experts and uses the talent we’ve got right here.” An important goal at present is collaborative planning so that students receive instruction and therapy in as seamless a manner as possible. “It’s a tough challenge,” says Ms. Munz, “but Cooke gives us what we need to make it happen. As a teacher, I really feel that Cooke is a place where I can grow.”

“I see big changes in my daughter since she’s been at Cooke. She was so frustrated at her old school. Now she comes through the door, changes out of her uniform, and starts on her homework all by herself.”

— Cooke Center Middle School Parent
As the Cooke Center Academy’s Community Transition Coordinator, Jillian Ma serves as an important link between the Academy and the city. Responsible for helping students develop the tools they need for success, she takes them through the résumé, job-hunting and interview processes, and helps them with their time management skills. Ms. Ma also reaches out to dozens of community partners, seeking internship opportunities that provide valuable real-world experience.

“My daughter feels at home at Cooke—she’s never felt that way at any other school.”

— Cooke Center Academy Parent
The Cooke Center Academy curriculum is aligned with a traditional high school model, with varying levels of modification individually tailored to the needs of our students.

In addition to attending classes, students at the Cooke Center Academy practice important living skills, explore jobs of interest, and learn to travel on buses, subways, and through bustling city streets. An important part of the Academy’s transition curriculum is the requirement that students participate in community service as well as internships in corporate offices, small businesses, restaurants, parks, child care centers and healthcare and cultural institutions around New York City.

Of course, it would not be a high school without all of the activities that create community. Throughout the year, students enjoy participating in athletics, yearbook, a talent show, spring musical, art, student government and school dances.

Cooke’s SKILLS Program (“Skills and Knowledge for Independent Living and Learning”) gives older students through the age of 21 the opportunity to fine-tune their transition plan, continue their studies and find jobs that meet their interests. A large part of the program is exploring all of the resources in the city that students can participate in as independent young adults. One such activity is participation in a state-wide self-advocacy coalition for persons with developmental disabilities.
Driven by Cooke’s mission to support inclusive educational programs for students with special needs, the Institute provides literacy, math and special education consulting services to inner-city charter, Catholic and independent schools, Head Starts and preschool programs. Through our consulting work, Cooke seeks to build teachers’ capacity to use a range of data in creating the best plans for their students. Cooke approaches all of the educators we serve with a collegial respect, offering opportunities for professional growth that build on what they already know.

For our corporate partners, the Institute’s ACCESS Project provides lunchtime workshops on current child development topics. Presenters are experts in child development, with years of experience working with children in various settings and age groups.

“With the help of our Cooke Center literacy consultant, we raised our English Language Arts test scores by 28 percentage points!”

— Principal Ann Marie McGoldrick
Cooke Center supporters gathered at La Venue in Chelsea last April for the 2010 spring gala, *Food for Thought*, honoring Chef David and Karen Waltuck of Chanterelle Restaurant. The Waltucks are parents of Cooke Center Academy student, Jacob, and have been extraordinarily generous to our students over the years.

Guests feasted on savory and sweet treats from some of New York City’s most beloved chefs. The *Food for Thought* event was such a tremendous success that another tasting is planned for May 2011.

Cooke would like to especially thank our leadership donors Loeb & Loeb LLP, the Estate of Ulryk Eichbaum and Morgan Stanley for generously supporting this inaugural event.

Thank you to all the generous and talented chefs who made this evening a success:

**David Waltuck**  
Honoree, Chanterelle Restaurant

**Julian Alonzo**  
Brasserie 8 ½

**Franklin Becker**  
Abe & Arthur’s

**Ed Brown**  
Eighty One

**David Bouley**  
Bouley Restaurants

**Maneet Chauhan**  
At Vermilion

**Patricia Clark**  
Patricia Clark Catering

**Alexis Colantonio**  
Natural Gourmet Kitchen

**Karen DeMasco**  
Locanda Verde

**Ricky Estrellado**  
Nobu New York

**Robb Garceau**  
Hudson Yards Catering

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Palo Santo

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Hill Country

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Le Cirque

**Michael Laiskonis**  
Le Bernardin

**Anita Lo**  
Annisa

**Michael Lomonaco**  
Porter House New York

**Anne-Marie Noonan**  
Bryant Park Grill

**Laurie Pauker**  
Lush Candy

**Bill Telepan**  
Telepan

Wine pairings were provided by Evening Land Vineyards, Parlay Wine, San Polino Winery, Southern Wine and Spirits and Loca Linda wine from Clo Wine Bar, along with Master Sommelier, Roger Dagorn of Porter House New York.
The following list acknowledges with sincere gratitude those individuals, foundations and corporations that contributed to the Cooke Center annual fund, attended the spring benefit or made a program grant during the period from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. We thank all of our longtime supporters and welcome new contributors to the Cooke family.

*Indicates a Road to Independence Campaign gift received in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

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Every effort has been made to ensure that all of our annual fund and program grant supporters are included in this list and the names and categories are correct. Regrettably, errors do occasionally occur and we appreciate your bringing them to our attention.
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Cooke School Sites
Cooke at Ascension Lower School
Cooke at Blessed Sacrament Middle School
Cooke at Corpus Christi Lower School
Cooke at Our Lady of Pompeii Lower School
Cooke Center Academy High School
SKILLs Program—Waverly Place Campus
West Harlem Head Start

Learning Centers
Ascension School
Blessed Sacrament School
Our Lady Queen of Angels
St. Ann School

Consultation & Training Sites
Annunciation School
Ascension School
Blessed Sacrament School
Christ the King School (Bronx)
Harlem Link Charter School
Holy Cross School (Bronx)
Holy Family School (Bronx)
Holy Spirit School (Bronx)
Immaculate Conception School
—151st St. (Bronx)
Immaculate Conception School
—Gun Hill Rd. (Bronx)
Incarnation School
Mount Carmel/Holy Rosary School
Our Lady of Lourdes School
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School
Sacred Heart School (Bronx)
Santa Maria School (Bronx)
St. Athanasius School (Bronx)
St. Augustine School (Bronx)
St. Charles Borromeo School
St. John Vianney School (Bronx)
St. Jerome School (Bronx)
St. Joseph School—Bathgate (Bronx)
St. Luke School (Bronx)
St. Mark the Evangelist School
St. Nicholas of Tolentine School (Bronx)
St. Rose of Lima School
St. Thomas Aquinas School (Bronx)
Transfiguration School

Preschool Services
Acorn School
Brick Church
Brooklyn Kindergarten Society:
• Brevoort Children’s Center
• Cleveland Day Care
• Nat Azarow Day Care
• Sumner Children’s Center
• Tompkins Children’s Center
Chabad Early Learning Center
Children’s All Day School
City and Country School
Educational Alliance:
• 197 East Broadway
• Lillian Wald Day Care Center
• PS 15
• PS 64
• PS 142
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Jewish Community Project
Manhattan Day School
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