

Youth & Family Development Division

The **FOCUS** Youth and Family Development Programs provide quality educational services for children before, and after school, and during the summer months as well as one-on-one counseling sessions for families and children. Parenting workshops and referral services are also available to those families that require temporary or permanent assistance such as housing. The objective of the division is to provide youth & families with enriching experiences that broaden their perspectives, improve their socialization, and enhance their skills to improve their overall quality of life.

Youth Programs

After-School – At Risk Mentoring Program

After-school services are provided at Sussex Avenue School for students' ages 8 to 15 years. The program is geared to help at-risk youth who lack a relationship with a caring and responsible adult to form an association with a volunteer mentor.



For information contact: Dorine Francis at 973-624-2528 Ext. 144 or e-mail dfrancis@focus411.org.

Summer Enrichment - Project Shadow



This is a five-week summer program designed to provide enrichment opportunities for youth ages 13 to 16 years. **For information contact:** Piedad Vasquez at (973)624-2528 ext. 125 or e-mail at pvasquez@focus411.org.

21st Century Community Learning Centers

FOCUS 21st CCLC operates at Sussex Avenue School, Broadway Elementary School and the Maria L. Varisco Rogers Charter School and 13th Avenue School in Newark by educating the children with the skills necessary to meet the New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards.



Maria L. Varisco Rogers Charter School: Jamaar Winborne at 973-624-2528 Ext. 130 or e-mail jwinborne@focus411.org.

Broadway Elementary School: Daniella Sofianakos at 973-624-2528 Ext. 105 or e-mail dsofianakos@focus411.org.

Sussex Avenue School: Dorine Francis at 973-624-2528 Ext. 144 or e-mail dfrancis@focus411.org.

13th Avenue School: Iya Green at 973-624-2528 Ext. 132 or e-mail iyagreen@focus411.org.

FOCUS Supplemental Educational Services Program



The SES tutoring program is designed to provide additional academic instruction at a number of k-8 schools within the City of Newark, to increase the achievement of low income students in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematic and Reading. The program is aligned with the NJCCCS. **For information contact:** Daniella Sofianakos at 973-624-2528 ext. 105 or e-mail at dsofianakos@focus411.org.

FOCUS Hispanic Young Driver Safety Program

As a long term commitment to raise awareness among youth of the long and short-term risks of choosing to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs, **FOCUS** Peer Leadership Teams will conduct an educational awareness campaign conveying "Don't Drink and Drive" message. **For information contact:** Awilda Perez at 973-624-2528 ext. 114 or e-mail at aperez@focus411.org.



Family Programs

FOCUS Family Success Center



Is one of eleven Newark-based Family Success Centers, providing a comprehensive family support system for families residing in Newark with emphasis on the Central Ward. **For information contact:** Awilda Perez at 973-624-2528 ext. 114 or e-mail at aperez@focus411.org.

Emergency Assistance

Limited temporary assistance is given to individuals facing an emergency or crisis. Individuals who qualify receive food vouchers, food packages, rent, and/or utility assistance. **For information contact:** Yamilet Torres at (973)624-2528 ext. 133, or e-mail at ytorres@focus411.org.

FOCUS Mission

Provide community leadership by developing a variety of health and human development initiatives which advance the community toward self-sufficiency, growth, empowerment, and a better quality of life.



FOCUS
Hispanic Center for Community Development, Inc.



441-443 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973.624.2528 Fax:973.624.6450
E-mail: Info@focus411.org
Website: www.focus411.org

Human Services Division

FOCUS Human Services Division provides an array of services to residents of Essex and Hudson Counties. The services include adult basic education, employment & training, senior's, emergency assistance, nutrition programs, and adult protective services. The objective of the division is to provide members of our community the tools necessary for empowerment, growth, and self-sufficiency.

Education Programs

FOCUS/Essex County College Extension Center

This transition program offers bilingual students with a High School Diploma or General Equivalent Diploma (GED) the opportunity to complete college credit preparatory courses prior to entering the main campus.

College Yes

The C-Yes Program is a national initiative aimed at assisting Adult Secondary Education (ASE) Programs such as FOCUS; improve the college readiness of out-of-school young adults between the ages of 18 – 24 who are interested in attending a post-secondary learning institution. Support services will be available to students.

English as a Second Language

Entry-level ESL instruction courses are offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings to adults residing in Essex and West Hudson County area.

Integrated English Civics Education

This program allows immigrants and other limited English proficient speakers the opportunity to improve their English literacy skills while learning about U.S. history and system of government.

Building Services 32B-J Thomas Shortman Training Fund

The 32B-J Thomas Short man Training Fund provides English as a Second Language (ESL) training classes for its members on Saturdays from 1pm– 5pm at FOCUS' headquarters. **For information contact:** Ana M. Chavarria at (973)624-2528 ext. 119 or e-mail at amchavarria@focus411.org.

Employment & Training Programs

Project AWAKE



The Attaining Work and Acquiring Knowledge and Experience Project (AWAKE) provide a comprehensive array of services. It has been designed to provide Post-TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) clients with workplace competencies that will enable them to become economically self-sufficient. **For information contact:** Alexandra Torres at (973)624-2528 ext. 115 or e-mail at atorres@focus411.org.

Job Search (TANF)*

Provides clients who are either English or limited English proficient with job readiness skills preparation, personal skills assessment, and resume building. The training program is conducted in both English and Spanish. **For information contact:** Ana M. Chavarria at (973)624-2528 ext. 119 or e-mail at amchavarria@focus411.org.

Welfare-to-Work Programs

Life Skills/Job Readiness (GA/ABAWD/FS)*

Provides individuals with the job readiness skills necessary for them to secure and retain meaningful employment. Job Readiness includes resume building, interviewing strategies and personal responsibility. **For information contact:** Ana M. Chavarria at (973)624-2528 ext. 119 or e-mail at amchavarria@focus411.org.



Low Literacy (TANF)*

The Low Literacy activity is designed for those clients with low literacy levels (4th grade or lower). Clients will receive stand-alone remedial classroom instruction in the areas of reading, writing, language and basic mathematics. **For information contact:** Jean Van Steenberghe, Instructor at (973)624-2528 ext. 128 or e-mail at jvansteeberghe@focus411.org.

ESL/AWEP (TANF)* & ESL (FS/GA/ABAWD)*



These courses are designed for those individuals whose primary language is not English. The goal is to assist those individuals who are literate but are limited English proficient to develop the English literacy skills necessary to obtain and retain employment. **For information contact:** Fanny Karpyn, Instructor at (973) 624-2528 ext. 148 or e-mail at fkarpyn@focus411.org.

Employment Services

The emphasis is placed on referring individuals who are prepared to enter the employment market. Referrals are made in accordance with the individual's educational background, work experience, and technical skills. **For information contact:** Jean Van Steenberghe, Instructor at (973)624-2528 ext. 128 or e-mail at jvansteeberghe@focus411.org.

Employment services are available to clients enrolled in in-house programs only.

*GA - General Assistance

*ABAWD - Abled Body Adults without Dependents

*ANF- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

*AWEP - Attaining Work Experience Program

*FS - Food Stamp

Social Services Programs

Adult Protective Services

APS is responsible for investigating abuse, neglect, and exploitation of adults who are elderly or have disabilities. **For information contact:** 1-866-903-6287 or e-mail at amray@focus411.org.

Seniors Programs

Hispanic Seniors Program



A comprehensive array of services is offered in our headquarters in a friendly cultural environment to help improve a senior's overall quality of life. Some of the services are: Congregate Meals, Case Management, and Meals-on-Wheels. **For information contact:** Noelia Nazario at (973)624-2528 ext. 142 or e-mail at nnazario@focus411.org.

Suburban Essex Congregate Nutrition (SECN)

The goal of this program is to promote better health among older adults through improved nutrition and education. There are seven sites that are located throughout Essex County. **For information contact:** Jackie J. Jones at (973)624-2528 ext. 141 or e-mail at jjones@focus411.org.

