

Alternatives For Children



www.alternativesforchildren.org

SEPTEMBER 2015

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN DIX HILLS
PARTNERS WITH LONG ISLAND HEAD START



Alternatives For Children is proud to announce, that in collaboration with Long Island Head Start, beginning this September we will be providing Early Head Start for infants and toddlers, along with Head Start for preschoolers at our Dix Hills location.

With our years of Early Childhood experience, we have long understood the importance of providing a loving, safe, and stimulating environment for young children. What has made us the perfect fit with Head Start and its mission, is that we recognize the importance of emotional attachments with parents and loving teachers, and that these delicate formative months and years can shape a child's view of the world.

Alternatives For Children is positioned to comply with all Head Start Program Performance Standards, and must meet vigorous health and safety regulations. These standards provide the framework for all Head Start Services and create a standardized definition of quality to ensure the highest level of accountability.



We are pleased, that in line with our own mission, Head Start places great emphasis on parent involvement and focuses on the family as a whole. Head Start is not just for children. It is a family-centered program that recognizes parents as a child's first teachers and the principal influence in their child's development. Parents are encouraged to become active partners in their child's learning. Parent education, family support and social services are designed to support and empower Head Start families, helping them to identify and achieve personal family goals.

L.I. Child and Family Development Services, Inc., better known as Long Island Head Start, is a private not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide a comprehensive learning environment to children respectful of their cultures and to assist families in reaching self-sufficiency through the combined efforts of parents, community, and staff.

Long Island Head Start/Early Start operates on the premise that all children benefit from a comprehensive interdisciplinary program and strong families, and that families carry the primary responsibility for the growth and development of their children. Therefore, in addition to its early child development program, Head Start reinforces parenting skills and assists parents in becoming self-sufficient.



Early Head Start

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN DIX HILLS
NEW 12:1:2 CLASS



Good news for Alternatives For Children Dix Hills! We have just been approved by the New York State Education Department to begin the school year in September with a new 12:1:2 integrated classroom option. In the 12 months since our relocation from Melville to our new Dix Hills location, we have experienced increasing demand for preschool special education and related services programming. *The word is out to school districts straddling the Nassau-Suffolk border that our long history of serving children with special needs and their families and our new centrally located home is providing crucial services for those children most in need.* We are excited for the students and families that will benefit from this new classroom setting.

Beginning our 27th Year and Still Growing

Mission Statement

To provide the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and typically developing peers. Education, medical, pediatric rehabilitation, and support services are integrated to ensure the comprehensive needs of the child and family are met.

14 Research Way
East Setauket, NY 11733
631-331-6400
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services
Universal Pre-K
Administrative Office

1116 Main Road
Aquebogue, NY 11931
631-722-2170
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
Early Intervention Services
Universal Pre-K

600 South Service Road
Dix Hills, NY 11746
631-271-0777
Preschool Programs
Child Day Care
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Southampton, NY 11968
631-283-3272
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Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year, we know the children entrusted to our care will flourish and develop under the guidance of our experienced and nurturing staff.

As our organization celebrates its 27th year, we are proud that we have never lost sight of our mission, and yet we continue to evolve and change.

We are extremely excited about the new ventures at our Dix Hills location with regard to our Early Head Start and Head Start partnerships, our new child day care program along with our newly approved integrated option for children with special needs.

At our East Setauket location our program was just awarded a 5 Star Active rating from Quality Stars NY, demonstrating our excellence and achievement.

In addition to growing our programs we have welcomed a new member to our Board of Trustees, Anjali Jamdar, Vice President of Executive Recruiting at CA Technologies. We have every expectation that Ms. Jamdar will bring her knowledge and expertise to our organization.

The only negative that I have to share with you is that programs like ours that provide comprehensive, quality services for children with special needs have had NO rate increase in 6 years. This coming year will be our 7th year with no increase if our Governor does not support the recommendations of the NYS Education Department, which has concurrent support of both the Senate and the Assembly. Not for profits are continually being asked to do more with less. Here at Alternatives For Children our mission is to provide those comprehensive, quality programs to help each child reach his or her potential. We expect to be accountable for governmental reimbursement, we also need to be able to have the funding that allows us to do what we do best! I will keep you informed of this ongoing situation, as we may need the help of you, our supporters, parents, and staff to reach out to NYS government officials on our behalf to effect change.

As always, on behalf of the children, I thank you for your support of our mission.



ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN
ON-GOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

 *It's all about learning.*



We have a good news! Alternatives For Children in conjunction with Teq - an innovative learning company is providing professional development online training in which teachers and therapists will gain broad knowledge and skills in educational technology to utilize for their students.

The training covers technology and its educational uses and applications for I-Pad and Smartboard for preschoolers. Training sessions are fully online and staff can attend and earn credit during live scheduled sessions or through archived course material.

Staff will need to commit to at least 5 hours of training a month or total of 30 hours for 6 months accumulated (outside of work). They also must be willing to share any knowledge that they have learned with other staff members that can be used in our school setting. This is surely a win-win opportunity!

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN EAST SETAUKET CHILD DAY CARE CENTER
EARNS QUALITY STARS NY ACTIVE 5 STAR RATING



Congratulations to Dorothy Creegan, East Setauket Early Childhood Coordinator, and her dedicated and hard-working staff for attaining a **5 Star Active rating from Quality Stars NY!** The Day Care program and integrated classrooms have been rigorously examined in terms of the quality of the **learning environment**, which is the curriculum and activities that the children will be engaged in; the **qualifications and experience of the teachers**; the **management and leadership** of the program; and, finally, **family engagement**, how well informed parents and caregivers are about the program and their child's progress.



EXCELLENCE

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN DIX HILLS
SILVER AWARD FOR CADETTE TROOP 783 OF CANDLEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

It all began with a simple letter . . .

Last year, Girl Scout Cadette Troop 783 from Candlewood Middle School, under the guidance of Troop Leader Maribeth Kramer, was focused on earning their Silver Award, the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette can earn. The Silver Award project is to be planned around identifying a need in the community and showing that even though the girls are just 12-13 years old, they can make a real impact in the world they live in. Maribeth, a resident of the Half Hollow Hills School District, had heard that we had moved into the former Chestnut Hill Elementary School and she and the girls decided to make Alternatives For Children and welcoming us to the neighborhood their project.

The girls proposal was to design and build a puppet theater, which could be used by the Speech and Occupational Therapists for skill development, or even for the children and teachers as a play opportunity.

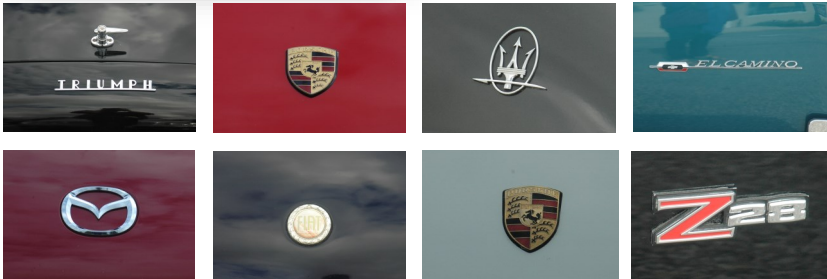
The children, faculty and staff at Alternatives For Children are so grateful to have been the recipient of this wonderful puppet theater. Mr. William Ulrich Jr., Industrial Technology Teacher at Candlewood Middle School in the Half Hollow Hills School District was instrumental in helping the girls design and execute the puppet theater. Maribeth Kramer and the adult leaders of Troop 783 deserve so much credit for teaching the girls understanding and acceptance of all people through this project. It wasn't just about the puppet theater for the girls. It was working with other Girl Scout Troops making puppets that they donated; it was going out in the community to solicit donations of some really awesome puppets; it was coming to school and playing "make believe" and putting on puppet shows with and for the children. It was magical - these girls are just like the Blue Fairy in Pinocchio - they made puppets come alive!



19TH ANNUAL CLASSIC & SPORTS CAR RALLY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015



This year's Rally should prove to be even more exciting than last year's. For those of you new to the Rally, it is a timed, "fun" rally – one in which your odometer, speedometer and your ability to follow devious clues are paramount. The Rally begins with a light breakfast at Alternatives For Children Southampton. Then our drivers and navigators will traverse the beautiful East End of Long Island, ending with a Lunch and Awards Ceremony at Oakland's Restaurant directly on Shinnecock Bay in Hampton Bays.



Which Car will take home the People's Choice Award

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN
SPECIAL PROJECTS THROUGH THE YEARS



There are so many ways in which you can have a meaningful impact on the children at Alternatives For Children. In addition to our annual fundraisers, the Annual Golf Outing, the Classic & Sports Car Rally, and our Annual Campaign, Alternatives For Children is always looking to raise funds to support our Special Projects.

Our Sound Garden, playgrounds, educational technology, and so many of the "extras" that support our children everyday – are a direct result of your generosity and the financial support of our many friends, sponsors and donors.



then 2006
Building a Sound Garden
now 2015



then 2001
the Way we Play
now 2015



Visit our website today
click the DONATE button
to learn more about
Making a Difference
in the life of a child with special needs
www.alternatives4children.org/make-a-difference.html

Thank you for your generosity & support!

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN 19TH ANNUAL CLASSIC & SPORTS CAR RALLY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2015

Sponsorship Opportunities

\$5,000 Monaco Sponsor - Event Sponsor

(\$4,600 tax deductible)
Prominent recognition of company as sponsor at lunch reception
Company name and logo on souvenir T-shirts
Premier listing in event program
Display Car and/or promotional materials at Finish Line
Eight tickets to the Day's Events including driving in the Rally

\$2,500 Indianapolis Sponsor - Reception Sponsor

(\$2,300 tax deductible)
Prominent recognition of company as sponsor at lunch reception
Company name and logo on souvenir T-shirts
Acknowledgement in event program
Display Car and/or promotional materials at Finish Line
Four tickets to the Day's Events including driving in the Rally

\$1,500 Daytona Sponsor - Raffle Sponsor

(\$1,400 tax deductible)
Company name on souvenir T-shirts
Acknowledgment in event program
Display Car and/or promotional materials at Finish Line
Two tickets to the Day's Events including driving in the Rally

\$1,000 Lime Rock Sponsor - Dealer Showcase

(\$900 tax deductible)
Company name on souvenir T-shirts
Acknowledgment in event program
Display Car and/or promotional materials at Finish Line
Two tickets to the lunch reception

\$500 Watkins Glen Sponsor - Awards Sponsor

(\$400 tax deductible)
Company banner or acknowledgment at awards table
Acknowledgment in event program
Two tickets to the lunch reception

\$300 Bridgehampton Sponsor - Breakfast/Checkpoint Sponsor

(\$250 tax deductible)
Signage at either starting line breakfast or checkpoint
Acknowledgment in event program
One ticket to the lunch reception

\$100 Starting Line Sign

(\$100 tax deductible)

Starting Line

Alternatives For Children Southampton

168 Hill Street Southampton, NY 11968 631-722-2170

Finish Line

Oakland's Restaurant & Marina

365 Dune Road, Hampton Bays NY 11946 631-728-6900

Registration & Breakfast 9:15 am

Start: 10:00 am SHARP!

Return Registration/Sponsorship/Raffle Ticket Request to
Alternatives for Children

14 Research Way East Setauket, NY 11733
register online until September 30th at
www.alternativesforchildren.org/road-rally

Sponsorship Level

_____ Monaco Sponsor - \$5,000
_____ Indianapolis Sponsor - \$2,500
_____ Daytona Sponsor - \$1,500
_____ Lime Rock Sponsor - \$1,000
_____ Watkins Glen Sponsor - \$500
_____ Bridgehampton Sponsor - \$300
_____ Starting Line Sponsor - \$100

TOTAL SPONSORSHIP \$ _____

Enter a Car

_____ \$99 Car Club Registration by September 30th
(full price after 9/30)
_____ \$135 by September 15th
_____ \$150 after September 15th
_____ \$175 day of event

Car Make _____ Model _____

Year _____

Member of Car Club? If yes, which one _____

TOTAL CAR REGISTRATION \$ _____

PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKET

_____ I would like to purchase _____ @ \$100 each
Grand Prize - \$5,000
Second Prize - Navy Blue Coach Bag
Third Prize - Samsung Galaxy Tablet
Fourth Prize - 32" Seiki Television

TOTAL RAFFLE TICKET PURCHASE \$ _____

AWARDS LUNCHEON TICKET

_____ I would like to attend the reception ONLY
at \$50 per person

TOTAL AWARDS LUNCH RECEPTION \$ _____

DONATION

_____ I can't attend, but would like to support Alternatives
For Children with a tax deductible donation of \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Method of Payment _____

_____ Check Enclosed/Credit Card type _____

Credit Card # _____

exp date _____

Name as it appears on card _____

Card Holders Signature _____

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN THANKS OUR 2015 GOLF OUTING SPONSORS & DONORS

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Mark Senders

HOLE SPONSOR
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Fred Bryant

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Sean, Emma & Molly Russell

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Victor Nelson

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REGISTRATION SPONSOR \$1,500

Horan Construction Corp.
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Michael Russell

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Robert Gennari

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Tina VanVort Esq.

Global Sales Concepts
Frank A. Perlman

UGH, Inc.
Chuck DiCola

SPECIAL THANKS
TO OUR SILENT AUCTION AND
BASKET RAFFLE DONORS

Dr. Gwen Gnadt

Huntington Crescent Club

Maritime Music

Joe Buzzetta - Competition BMW

Patricia Risi

Lisa Conza

Samantha Drew Interiors

Dr. & Mrs. Fred Mendelsohn

Nicole LaRocco

AFC Staff & Families

The Children Thank You!

THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE

Thanks To Our . . .

Golf Outing Committee Co-Chairs

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Golf Outing Committee

Mr. James Buzzetta

Competition Automotive Group

Dr. Gwen Gnadt

Eye Vision Associates

Mr. Michael E. Russell

Russell Wealth Management Group

Alternatives For Children

Dr. Marie E. Ficano

Patricia Coderre

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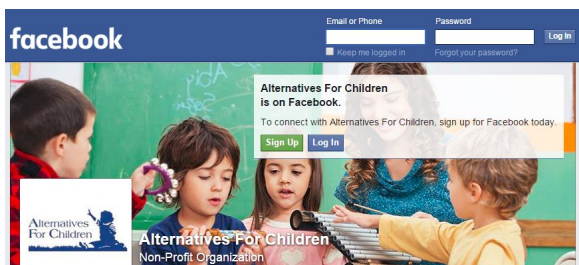
Ingrid Trouvé



Make Sure to Join us Next Year!
Watch the Mail for a
SAVE THE DATE!

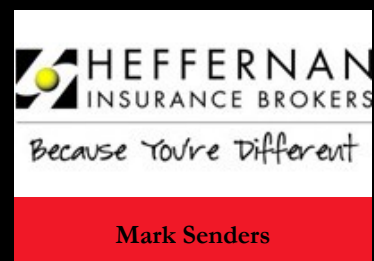


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child development info & happenings & events
<https://www.facebook.com/AlternativesForChildren>



 Like us on Facebook

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Thank You
to our
Affinity Members
for their
constant support



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Providing the highest quality special and regular education programs and services to children with disabilities and their typically developing peers.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CHILDREN A CHILD DAY CARE PARENT TESTIMONIAL

*Thank
You*

Both of my children started at Alternatives For Children slightly over a year ago (toddler program and pre-school). Not only are they both thriving academically, but they equally love their teachers and school. The small class sizes ensure that each student gets the attention they need. I love the academics and environment in which my children are enveloped each day.

Yes, it is expensive, but it is so worth it! If they were in a traditional daycare setting, not only would their class sizes be larger, but they would not receive such a well-rounded education. Here, (with the toddler through play), they learn math, reading, writing, science but also music (with both your traditional indoor music room as well as an outdoor music garden), art, drama (role play), PE (outdoor playground), sensory room, computer lab and more. The programs that many daycare centers offer pale in comparison.

The teachers, administration, school nurse and facilities personnel are all approachable and loved by the children. In their own special way, they are engaged in the children and are enriching the lives of these students. There is an overall nurturing and accepting feeling. They are committed and creative and the education has been phenomenal.

Academics is important, but also important is knowing my children are cared for in a manner that this helicopter Mom deems fit. When you entrust your child into the care of another person, it's like leaving your heart unattended at an amusement park. Whether your child is ill, hurt or just having an off day, everyone, and I mean everyone, is so nurturing. And because of this, my children have learned empathy. They have remarkable social skills. They are charismatic, have great self-esteem and are resilient. I credit the amazing personnel at AFC for this.