



# Early LIFE

## Early Childhood Education

---

High Quality UPK,  
Head Start, and Child Care



**Early LIFE**

Thriving Kids: Thriving Communities  
Growing, Learning, Achieving



## About Early LIFE

In 2012, the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) awarded Lutheran Social Services of New York the opportunity to revitalize existing early childhood education centers, open new centers, and expand a network of home-based child care. Today, our network of teachers provides quality early learning and child care opportunities to nurture a child's social, emotional and educational needs, while partnering with parents to build a strong foundation for families.

Early care and education is so essential to a child's success in life. Our classrooms are rich with music, art and technology, and along with our exceptional teachers, we help children begin on a positive path to kindergarten.

To build on our unprecedented success, the Early LIFE program continues to maintain special relationships with families who enrich our programs and strengthen community bonds.



"It takes a village to raise a child."

— African Proverb

## Early Childhood Development

Between the ages of 2 and 5, children are eager to learn. Research has shown that this is the most important time in a child's development. During this time, the brain and body form connections essential for future learning and healthy physical growth.

- ACS-contracted and approved
- 6 weeks to 5 years old
- Nurturing environment
- Fosters socialization and cognitive development
- Helps build healthy families
- Promotes school readiness



## Approved Curriculum

Early learning at our centers and in our home-based programs is fun, engaging and age-appropriate. We teach children the skills they need as they take their first steps toward preschool and kindergarten. Our teachers use The Creative Curriculum to incorporate a wide range of teaching strategies, including child-initiated learning and teacher-directed approaches to best respond to children's learning styles, strengths and interests. By working with our diverse community of families, and our neighborhood partners, The Creative Curriculum helps our teachers to integrate learning in literacy, math, science, social studies, art and technology, in an environment that invites children to observe, be active, make choices and experiment.

## Toddler Care

We care for children in our toddler program in nurturing, responsive, caring environments that inspire trust, creativity, curiosity and self-confidence.

## Preschoolers

Early LIFE Centers offer Head Start, Child Care and Universal PreKindergarten in a center-based environment for children 2-, 3- and 4-years-old.



## Enrollment

Families interested in free or low-cost child care should apply by contacting our enrollment staff to discuss availability, program requirements and their child's needs. We encourage parents to visit our programs and any one of our Family Child Care registration locations in order to choose the best care available. Once a specific Early LIFE program is chosen, you will need to apply and submit the required documentation.

Families may be eligible for free or low-cost child care based on their family's income and reason for requiring child care. Financial eligibility is determined by a family's gross income, with consideration of family size.

### To enroll, bring the following documentation:

- Proof of your child's birth—one required (birth certificate, baptism record, alien registration card)
- Two proofs of residency (e.g., utility bill, rental lease)
- Proof of income (e.g., pay stub, W2 form)
- Public assistance and/or Medicaid card (if applicable)

### Eligibility for Child Care:

- Parents who are working or enrolled in an approved training or educational program (for 20 hours or more per week)
- Families receiving services from either ACS or the Human Resources Administration (HRA)





Thriving Kids: Thriving Communities  
Growing, Learning, Achieving

## Family Child Care Network (FCC)

At Early LIFE, we work with registered family child care providers who educate and nurture children 6 weeks to 4 years of age, in a home-based environment.

Early LIFE provides quality family and group child care in all five boroughs.

### For families:

- Affordable, quality child care
- Nurturing, safe environment
- Highly-trained professionals
- Home Visitor monitoring
- Developmental screening
- Family Planning
- Referrals for family services





### **Family Child Care Office Locations**

888 Westchester Ave, Bronx, NY 10459

718.450.3556 or 646.790.6444

1175 Gates Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11221

718.443.4500





# Early LIFE Center Locations

## Brooklyn

265 Marcus Garvey Blvd  
btwn. Quincy St & Lexington Ave  
347.689.8303

1175 Gates Ave\*  
btwn. Bushwick & Evergreen Ave  
718.443.4500

## Manhattan

1947 Park Ave  
btwn. E 131<sup>st</sup> & E 132<sup>nd</sup> St  
212.933.1815

510-516 West 145<sup>th</sup> St  
btwn. Amsterdam Ave & Broadway  
646.449.0814

110 West 146<sup>th</sup> St  
btwn. Adam Clayton Powell Jr  
& Malcom X Blvd  
646.478.7949

218 West 147<sup>th</sup> St  
btwn. Frederick Douglas &  
Adam Clayton Powell Jr Blvd  
646.360.4093

## Bronx

80 East 181<sup>st</sup> St  
btwn. Walton & Morris Ave  
347.297.2900

200 West Tremont Ave  
btwn. Phelan Place & Loring Place S  
917.962.4344

888 Westchester Ave\*  
btwn. Rev. James A Polite Ave  
& Hewitt Place  
718.450.3556

2125 Watson Ave  
btwn. Olmstead & Castle Hill Ave  
718.943.0580



\*Office locations for  
our Family Child Care  
Network program at  
these Early LIFE Centers

For more information, please contact:

**Early LIFE**

Ph: 212.870.1100 | Fx: 212.870.1101

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday to Friday

8AM — 6PM

**Early-LIFE.org**

Lutheran Social Services of New York

475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1244

New York, NY 10115

**LSSNY.org**

OUR MISSION

“Called by God, we encourage people to reach their full potential.”



Early LIFE is a program of Lutheran Social Services of New York's family of services.