

The Trajectory of Early Education & **Childcare and Family Homelessness** in New York City: 1960s-Today

1965: Head Start launches as a summer program across the United States as part of President Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" set of programs.68 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is signed.

> 1966: Congress funds Head Start to provide part-day instruction during the school

1971: Mayor John Lindsay

establishes the Agency for

Child Development (ACD).

responsible for planning

and regulating daycare

centers and Head Start.

1981: Callahan v. Carey grants a right to shelter for all single men in New York City.69

1971-1975: ACD grows to provide funds to over 400 daycare centers throughout New York City, with many having the autonomy to decide whether only to

1983: McCain v. Koch is filed to determine whether homeless families with children have the right to shelter. A preliminary ruling is issued in 1986.70

> 1986: Koch administration announces Project Giant Step, an initiative to provide early education to all four-year-olds in New York City.71 Service-rich, non-congregate transitional shelters for families with children known as "Tier IIs" begin to open.

serve low-income families.

1974–1975: Updates to federal stipulations around childcare funding required that davcare centers only serve low-income families that met criteria demonstrating need. Fiscal crises in the mid-1970s led the City to shutter many daycare centers.

> 1985: Mayor Edward Koch establishes a Commission on Early Childhood Education to evaluate the feasibility of and make recommendations on universal pre-K services across New York City.

> > 1987: McKinney Homeless Assistance Act is signed. The act is renamed McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act in 2000.

> > > **1990:** *Project Giant Step* is discontinued

under Mayor David Dinkins, with certain classrooms integrated into SuperStart.

Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) is signed; Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) is replaced by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

> 1997: New York State introduces its universal pre-K program, with classes beginning in the 1998–1999 school year and phased in over the next four school years.72

1996: Personal Responsibility and Work

2008: SuperStart is discontinued. Homebase, the zip-code based homelessness prevention program, opens city-wide.

2022: Mayor Eric Adams declares a state of emergency in October as the City struggles to find enough shelter space for asylum-seeking newcomers. The administration halts plans to expand 3-K for All.

2021: De Blasio administration promises expansion of 3-K for All by September 2023. "Cluster site" program ends. Right to Counsel extended to all incomeeligible tenants facing eviction in every zip code.

2014: Mayor Bill de Blasio launches Pre-K for All.

2012: Mayor Michael Bloomberg launches EarlyLearn NYC, operated under the Administration for Children's Services (NYC ACS).

2011: New York State cuts funding to Advantage rental subsidy with no replacement.

2020: COVID-19 pandemic; beginning of New York State's eviction moratorium (in effect through January 2022); NYC schools go remote through June 2020; students either learn remotely or in hybrid fashion for SY 2020-2021.

2018-2019:

EarlyLearn NYC programs shift to management by NYC DOE.74

2004: Prevention Assistance Temporary Housing Center (PATH) family intake center opens in the South Bronx, replacing boroughbased Emergency Assistance Units.

2002: No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) is signed.

2000: "Cluster site" shelter program begins under Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, intended as a temporary initiative.73

> 2023: Launch of MyCity portal, with an initial spotlight on access to childcare services.

2015: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is signed, replacing the No Child Left Behind Act

2017: 3-K for All launches as part of de Blasio's "Equity and Excellence for All" agenda. The New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE) designates specific high-need school districts for guaranteed seats for all eligible three-year-olds. Announcement of EarlyLearn NYC's move from NYC ACS to NYC DOE.

2018: A series of different rental subsidies launched under de Blasio are consolidated into City Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement (CityFHEPS).

> 2023: The City announces that it is working with a consulting firm to reevaluate where 3-K seats are located and redistribute according to where the need is unmet.

2023: City Council and Mayor Adams reach handshake agreement to convert 1,900 vacant, school-day early childhood education seats into extended day seats for working families.

2019: De Blasio

and NYC Council

initiative for pay

parity between

certified teachers

at NYCEECs and

NYC DOE first-year

administration

announce

teachers.

For more on the history of family homelessness in NYC, see ICPH's report: Family Homelessness in New York City: What the Adams Administration Can Learn from Previous Mayoralties.

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