

## Profile of ABCD at Holley ~ Grace's Place

Agri-Business Child Development (ABCD), founded in 1946, is committed to providing the highest quality early childhood education and social services to farm worker and other eligible families across New York State. Children, 8 weeks old through school age, benefit from the culturally and linguistically diverse programming recognized nationally as a hallmark of Agri-Business Child Development.

Agri-Business Child Development has provided services to the agricultural community in Orleans County and Western Monroe County since 1972. Initially, ABCD purchased child care services for the children of agricultural workers from local child care centers. In 1991, ABCD opened its own facility, Orleans ABCD, in Albion. In 2006, funding from the New York State Housing Finance Agency enabled ABCD to respond to the increased need for services in the area by replacing the Orleans Center with a larger facility in Holley.

ABCD at Holley ~ Grace's Place is named in honor of Grace Holzwarth. Grace's generous spirit, optimistic nature, and sheer determination enhanced the lives of countless children and families. Both as Regional Coordinator and later as Director of Development for ABCD, Grace worked tirelessly to ensure the provision of high quality child care services for farm working families.

Currently, Orleans County and Western Monroe County are top producing counties in New York State for apples, corn, cabbage, onions, potatoes, and wheat. Other major crops include: cucumbers, melons, peaches, cherries, squash, and strawberries.

**Services Provided:** As a provider of Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, Agri-Business Child Development ensures that each child receives comprehensive educational, health and social services. ABCD at Holley is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

**Children Served:** Children of eligible families aged six weeks to compulsory school age.

**Number of Children Receiving Services on an Annual Basis:** 120 +/- on average in 4 infant, 3 toddler and 2 pre-school classrooms.

**Hours of Operation:** 8-12 hours a day, 5 days a week.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility requirements for local agricultural workers, as well as, the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start program include household income, children(s) age(s) and employment status. The center utilizes a system of points, in accordance with the Head Start Performance Standards, to ensure that the neediest of the eligible families receive services.

**Transportation:** Given the rural location of families served and the lack of public transportation, busing is provided for infants, toddlers and preschoolers to and from the center on DOT inspected school buses. Educational activities are provided while children are in transit.

**Staff Possess Special Skills and Knowledge:** Staff meet State and Federal mandated educational requirements. Teaching staff reflect the culture and linguistic diversity of the children served.

**Geographic Areas Served:** Areas of highest eligible farm worker family concentrations in Orleans County and Western Monroe County.

For additional information, please contact:

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