

Profile of ABCD at New Paltz

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 Ulster County's agricultural community since 1967. In the early 1980s, several community organizations and volunteers collaborated to create a permanent home for this critical program. ABCD at New Paltz, located on Route 32 North in New Paltz, New York, has been providing services since 1983.

Currently, Ulster County is one of the top 10 producing counties in New York State for apples, corn and tomatoes. Other major crops include: cucumbers, green beans, peaches, pears, pumpkins, strawberries and assorted flowers.

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 New Paltz 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: 84 +/- on average in 2 infant, 2 toddler and 2 pre-school classrooms.

Hours of Operation: 8-10 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, employment status, and child(ren)'s age(s). The center utilizes a system of points, in accordance with the Head Start Performance Standards, to ensure that the neediest of 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 must meet State and Federal mandated educational requirements. Teaching staff reflect the culture and linguistic diversity of the children served. The majority of ABCD at New Paltz staff is bi-lingual.

Geographic Areas Served: Areas of the highest concentration of eligible farm worker families in Ulster County.

For additional information, please contact:

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