



Income



Resources



Expenses



Employment



Housing



Summary



**NYC.GOV/**

**ACCESSNYC**

**BENEFIT INFORMATION. ONE PLACE.**

Welcome - Bienvenido - 歡迎 - أهلا وسهلا - - Vyenveni - 환영합니다 - Добро пожаловать

## Did You Know?

Did you know that you can find the location of a program office based on your zip code?

ACCESS NYC will give you the address of the building, what floor the office is on, and a telephone number to call. You can also see a map of where the office is located as well as the subway stops that are nearby.

## Training Data

Since the formation of the Training and Outreach team in July of 2007 ACCESS NYC has conducted over 200 separate training sessions to City agencies, non-profits and CBOs. These training sessions have included participants from over 300 organizations and many organizations have requested trainings for multiple sites throughout the City. Over 6,700 people have attended an ACCESS NYC training.



## Introducing

**Kamal Bherwani**

Chief Information Officer for Health and Human Services and Executive Director of HHS-Connect

In December 2007, the City of New York published the “HHS-Connect Roadmap,” an ambitious strategic plan for integrated health and human services. In this roadmap, the HHS agencies have committed to the following unified vision: “To break information silos through the use of modernized technology and coordinated agency practices to more efficiently and effectively provide health and human services to New Yorkers.”

In January 2008, Kamal Bherwani was selected to be Chief Information Officer for Health and Human Services and Executive Director of HHS-Connect for the City of New York due to his rich experience leading transformative projects which assist organizations in achieving their highest goals. Under the guidance of an Executive Steering Committee comprised of the HHS Commissioners and the Deputy Mayor for HHS, Mr. Bherwani will oversee technology strategy and architecture within the HHS portfolio of agencies.

Mr. Bherwani’s career in technology spans over 20 years in the fields of public health, financial, housing, energy construction, and marketing. He has served as Chief Information Officer of

multi-billion dollar enterprises, both in the public and private sectors, and as a member of the Board (CEO, Chairman and Vice-Chairman levels) of non-profit, technology, and investment organizations.

Prior to joining the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Mr. Bherwani was the Chief Information Officer and Associate Commissioner for the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH). During his tenure as CIO for NYC DOHMH, Mr. Bherwani executed many successful IT strategies and initiatives that centralized IT infrastructure, introduced IT governance, significantly enhanced technology functionality agency-wide and improved the overall delivery of IT as a service.

Mr. Bherwani has a long history as an IT innovator, both by making investments in and managing a portfolio of technology companies in the private sector and advancing business objectives with strategic information technology initiatives as a CIO of three New York City agencies: DOHMH, the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and the Department of Design and Construction (DDC).

## Child Care and Head Start Programs

The Division of Child Care and Head Start oversees the federally funded Head Start grant for 76 community-based delegate Head Start agencies serving approximately 20,000 children and also administers more than 350 licensed Child Care programs, serving more than 100,000 children.

The Administration for Children's Services, the City's agency dedicated to serving children since 1996, is committed to ensuring that NYC's low-income young children have positive early experiences by participating in Child Care and Head Start services.

Both Child Care and Head Start programs offer a stable,

responsive and nurturing environment for young children. Qualified staffing provides developmentally appropriate early care and enriching educational experiences that build on the interests, strengths and abilities of each child. All programs are multilingual and include children and families from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Head Start is a comprehensive, child-centered, family-focused program that provides children between the ages of 3 and 5 and their families with health, nutrition, mental health services and an array of family support services.

Working parents can receive the support they need to nurture and provide for their children between the ages of 6 weeks through 12 years through subsidized Child Care programs such as community Child Care centers and licensed family child care.

Parents and caseworkers can visit [www.nyc.gov/accessnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/accessnyc) to screen their families and learn more about both programs. Parents can also call 311 for information about both programs in their communities. In addition, caseworkers may call 212/232-0966 to make a Head Start referral for a child and family who meet both the age and income eligibility requirements.

## ACCESS NYC Counselor Program

Need someone to walk you through the ACCESS NYC website and help you identify which benefits are right for you? ACCESS NYC counselors are ready to help you.

The Center of Economic Opportunity (CEO) has funded a pilot program of counselors who use ACCESS NYC to help New Yorkers screen for and connect to benefits. The ACCESS NYC counselors stand ready to support New Yorkers who may not have heard about this great resource and to assist those who might need a little help getting started. The counselors are there to provide 'one on one' time so that New Yorkers know about ACCESS NYC and can take action to apply for the benefits and programs that can help them to move ahead.

There are four ACCESS NYC counselors available to guide you through your visit to the Web site. They can help you get information, pre-screen for benefits, find office locations and identify what you need to apply for benefits.

Visit an ACCESS NYC counselor at any of the locations below and they will help you screen for benefits.

<p><b>Charles Morales</b> Catholic Charities Kennedy Center 34 West 134th Street New York, NY 10037 (212) 862-6401 ext 429</p>	<p><b>Sonia Vargas</b> Citizens Advice Bureau 1477 Townsend Avenue (on 172nd St.) Bronx, NY 10452 (718) 588-3836</p>
<p><b>Yarittzi Estevez</b> Groundwork 595 Sutter Ave Brooklyn NY 11207 (718) 346-2200</p>	<p><b>Yvette Padilla</b> Union Settlement 237 East 104 Street New York, NY 10029 (646) 672-5042</p>

Visit your ACCESS NYC counselor today. To learn more about ACCESS NYC visit:

[www.nyc.gov/accessnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/accessnyc)

### Contact ACCESS NYC for Free Training

Visit ACCESS NYC on the web at [www.nyc.gov/accessnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/accessnyc)

Call 311 with questions about using the program

E-mail Sabrina Smith-Sweeney ([ssmith-sweeney@hhsconnect.nyc.gov](mailto:ssmith-sweeney@hhsconnect.nyc.gov)) for information on trainings and help with adding a link to ACCESS NYC to your website

