



Annual Report 2024

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Presidents' Letter

As an organization whose mission is focused on infants, young children, pre-natal through five and their families, we are so happy to be celebrating our official 10th birthday with you all today.

Being 10 means we are still growing, but are bigger, stronger, taller, and wiser than we were. Being 10 means we have a stable foundation underneath our feet, with solid relationships to cherish, and are eager to make more. Being ten means our sense of equity and justice for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, families, and the professionals that work with them is developing rapidly, all while our voice is strengthening. Being 10 means looking back to where we have been and looking forward to all that is to come.

We want to take a moment to acknowledge and give gratitude to our board members:

- Candida Cucharó, MSW, MBA, Co-Chair
- Sarah Fitzgibbons, LMHC, MT-BC, IMH-E®, Co-Chair
- Stephanie David, JD, MPH, IMH-E®, Secretary
- Robert G. Frawley, MA, Treasurer
- Evelyn J. Blanck, LCSW
- Andre Eaton, LMSW, MDiv
- Richard Honigman, MD
- Rochelle Macer, LCSW-R, ACSW, IMH-E®
- Esther Piper, MS ED, IMH-E®
- Susan Rabinowicz, DPT, PhD
- Constantina Spiropoulos, MD

There has been wonderful growth and change this past year for NYS-AIMH Staff: Samantha Colson, ED; Judy Frolish, Administrative Manager; Colleen Russo, Project Coordinator; Krystal Bertrand, Endorsement Coordinator

We also have many dedicated Consultants who work for NYS-AIMH providing Reflective Consultation, Training and Technical Assistance.

We want also to acknowledge and give thanks to all of the NYS-AIMH volunteers this past year, specifically our team of Endorsement Application Reviewers. These reviewers volunteer countless hours to ensure applications submitted for Endorsement are reviewed with care and fidelity, always holding infants, young children, and their families in mind.

Our partnerships with systems and organizations across the state and nation are always holding the baby in mind with us and we are grateful for their work alongside us.

And lastly, our NYS-AIMH Members and Champions. Thank you for being in partnership with us.

with gratitude,
Candy Cucharó & Sarah Fitzgibbons



Board of Directors



Sarah Fitzgibbons
Ed.D, LMHC, MT-BC, IMHM -C®
Co-President



Candida Cucharó
MSW, MBA
Co-President



Stephanie David
JD, MPH, IMH-E®
Secretary



Robert G. Frawley
MA, IMH-E®
Treasurer



Evelyn Blanck
LCSW
Board Member



Andre Eaton
MSW, MDiv
Board Member



Richard Honigman
MD, FAAP
Board Member



Esther Piper
M.A. ED, IMH-E®
Board Member



Rochelle Macer
LCSW-R, ACSW, IMHM-P®
Board Member



Susan Rabinowicz
PT, DPT, MS, PhD
Board Member



Constantina Spiropoulos
MD, FAAP
Board Member

Our Board of Directors includes leaders in the field of Infant Mental Health in New York State, with extensive background in a diverse range of professional settings including clinical, home visiting, child care, education, pediatrics, research and policy development.

We salute their commitment to the IECMH field and their hours of dedicated service to NYS-AIMH.

Leaders with a desire to assist in our goals are welcome to submit their credentials for nomination to the Board.

Welcome to our New Executive Director



In March of 2024, we welcomed Samantha Colson, MSW, MS, IMH-E® as our new Executive Director. Samantha has designed her career within the framework of Servant Leadership. As a Servant-Leader first, she naturally ensures that other people's highest priority needs are being served. Samantha holds both a Master's in Social Work and Strategic Leadership from Roberts Wesleyan University. During her professional journey, she has focused on her passion for promoting positive mental health and wellbeing across the lifespan. Samantha has extensive experience in crisis response, suicide prevention, trauma-informed care, infant mental health, and planning. She is a mom of four growing young men and a cat mama. She loves traveling and taking much needed naps.

Treasurer's Report

2024 Breakdown of Expenses

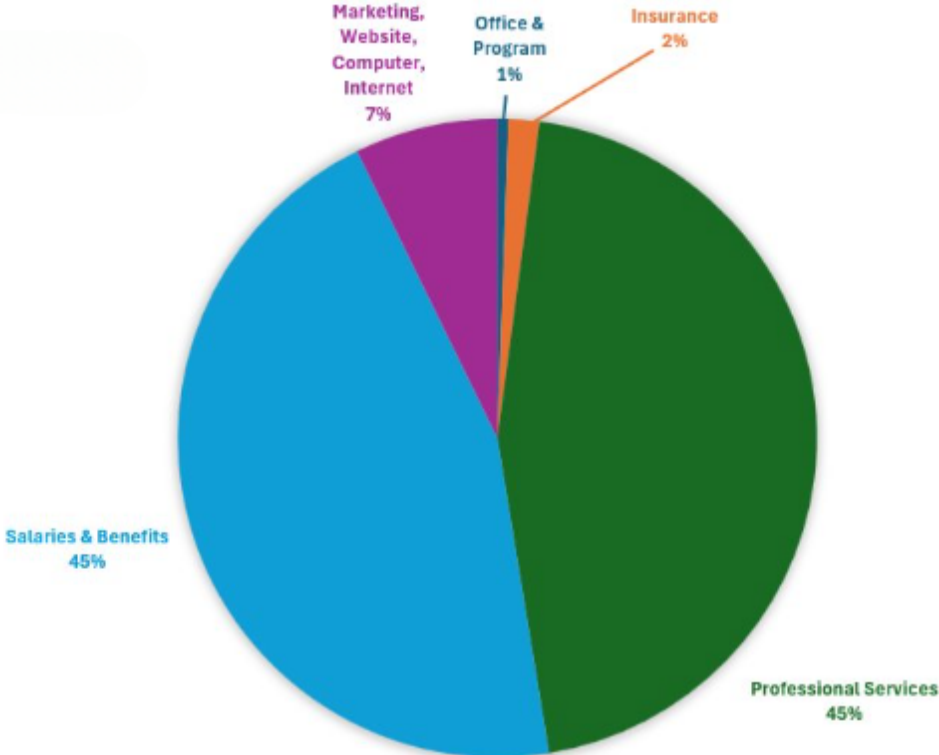
Salaries & Benefits: \$155,290

Professional Services: \$155,055

Insurance: \$5,343

Office & Program: \$1,901

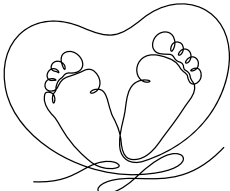
Marketing, Website,
Computer & Internet: \$24,759



2024 Revenue Total \$274,535

Thank you

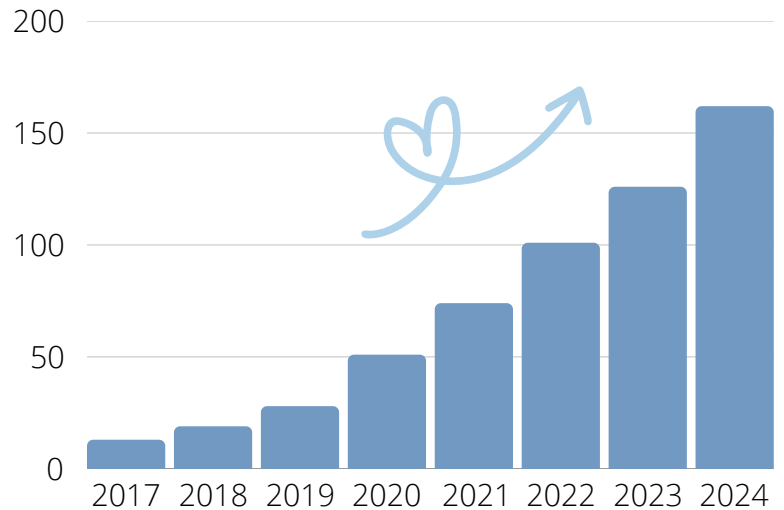
In 2024, two significant gifts were received, which enabled NYS-AIMH to make major upgrades to our technology format. The generosity of the Stella and Charles Guttman Foundation and the Gristmill Foundation has enabled us to upgrade to the Microsoft 365 platform, which offers enhanced security and functionality.



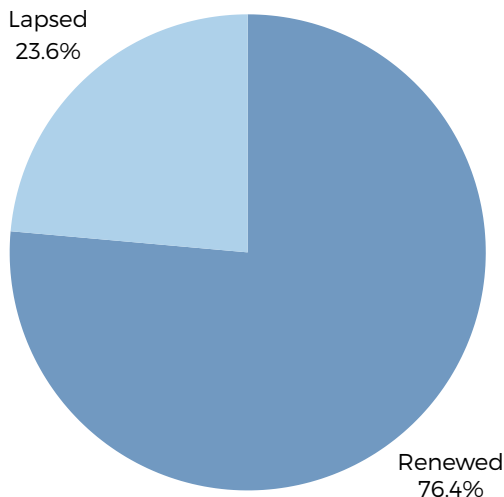
Endorsement

Total Active Endorsements

We ended 2024 with a total of **162 earned Endorsements**, a 29% increase from 2023 (126 active Endorsements). At the close of 2024, there were **87 active applications** in progress and pursuing Endorsement.



Endorsement Renewals



With annual renewals concluding with the end of 2024, **81 of the 106 Endorsements due for renewal were successfully renewed.**

Starting January 1, 2025, we are transitioning to a three-year renewal cycle for the Competency Guidelines for Endorsement in Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (MI-AIMH, Copyright 2024). **The next round of renewals is due on December 31, 2027.**

Building Reflective Supervision /Consultation Capacity

33%
RSC Providers

NYS-AIMH issued **41 Endorsement credentials capturing the expertise of RSC.** Of the 108 NYS-AIMH members endorsed, 33% are distinguished providers of RSC. This significant portion of endorsed professionals are equipped to offer RSC, which can help sustain and develop the IECMH workforce.

Reflective Supervision



A multi-year grant from the NYS Office of Children and Families, created a special partnership with *Healthy Families New York* to provide reflective supervision services to their home visiting staff. This partnership has created monthly group sessions for 24 programs.

**Office of
Children and
Family Services**



Reflective Practice is at the heart of working with and caring for infants, young children and their families. This practice invites caregivers and professionals to look back, look out and look within to increase the understanding of our self and of others.

This program will continue through June 30, 2025.



Training



In 2024, a total of 2,522 students completed Modules 1 or 2 of the E-Learning courses. We are encouraged to see this training being used by so many early childhood educators!

Many of these students are staff at NYC child care programs and eligible for a group rate. NYS Professional Development EIP scholarships are also being used to assist staff with the enrollment costs.



As part of the OCFS Healthy Families grant, seventy one (71) staff completed the full IECMH Basics Course in 2024. This signature course is now taught by specially trained consultants who follow an updated syllabus.

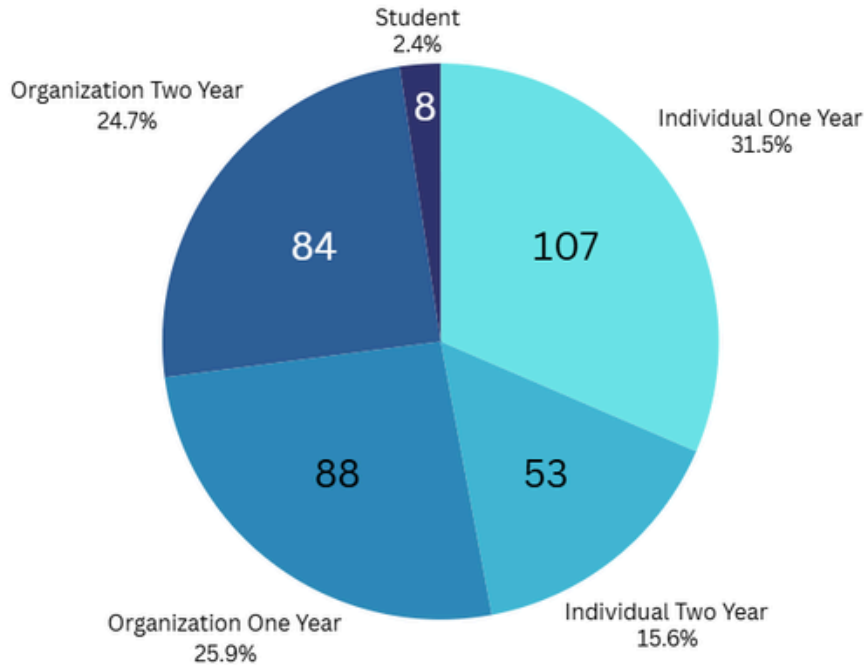


A special Breakfast for Babies event was organized by NYS-AIMH Board Member, Sue Rabinowicz. Sixty five (65) registrants attended the discussion on "The Harmful Effects of Climate Change and Air Pollution from Fossil Fuel Emissions on Children's Health" held on June 7, 2024. With increasing wild fires and other climate change factors impacting air quality, this subject will be a recurring area of study. A recording of the event is available online for NYS-AIMH members to view at no cost.

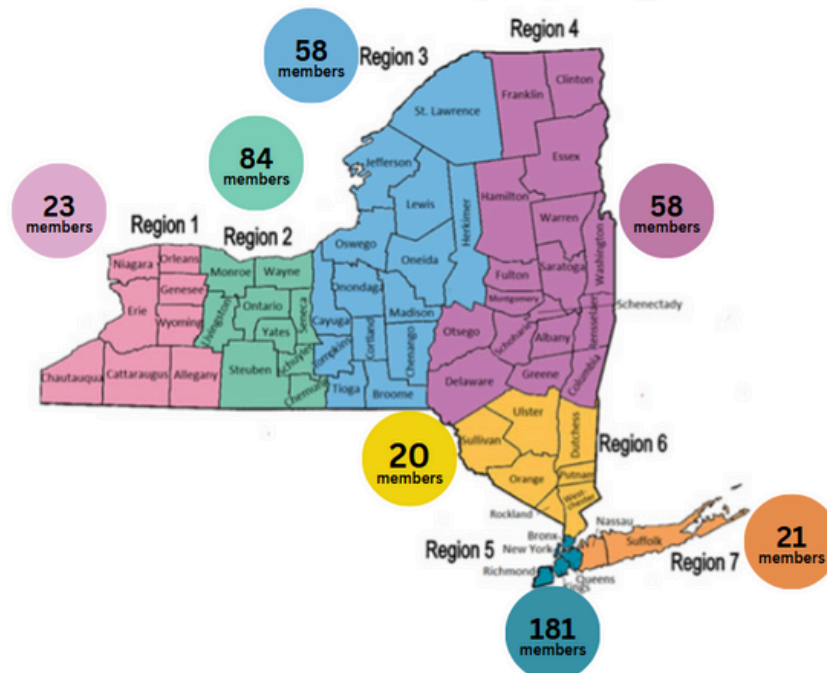
Membership

NYS-AIMH Membership grew by almost 10% in 2024 to a total of 340 members. The Organizational memberships continue to be a great value and employee benefit. We look forward to adding more discounts and benefits to memberships in the coming year.

Membership 2024



2024 Membership by Region



Thank you

Thank you to all our members for your continued support of our organization as we complete ten years together! The incredible talents and dedication of the early childhood workforce in all their capacities is the motivation for our continued advocacy and education!

As we enter our next decade of service, we sincerely thank those whose foresight and leadership in this organization created a foundation for our growth and impact.

Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement as the NYS-AIMH Board of Directors, staff and volunteers chart a path for the future.



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