



HRA’s Executive Deputy Commissioner of Child Support Enforcement Wins Lifetime Membership Award from the National Child Support Enforcement Association

In recognition of her dedication and service to New York City children and their families, Frances Pardus-Abbadessa, HRA’s Executive Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), was recently presented with a Lifetime Membership Award from the National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA).

“Fran is well known in the child support community for her willingness to innovate and incorporate evidence-based practices that increase consistent payment of child support,” said Commissioner Vicki Turetsky of the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. “Her leadership in increasing community engagement is a model for other jurisdictions around the country. I admire Fran’s work, and appreciate her holistic approach to the program. The award is well-deserved!”



OCSE Executive Deputy Commissioner Frances Pardus-Abbadessa (2nd from left) with fellow honorees and child support leaders at the NCSEA event

“I feel honored to have received such an award from NCSEA, which has done so much to help drive child support toward the family-focused programs that are coming to define our work” said Pardus-Abbadessa. “I also feel that this award is less for me personally than it is a way of recognizing the tremendous work done by OCSE staff. It’s their dedication, insight, and consistent attention to the needs of the families we serve that have made it possible for us to move our program so far forward in such a short time.”

Child Support is a key program in the fight against child poverty, and serves both custodial and noncustodial parents, in addition to their children. In 2015, OCSE collected \$757 million in child support on behalf of approximately 190,000 children. The program passes 92% of the money it collects directly to families, with only some funds retained from clients who also receive Cash Assistance.

OCSE programs also help noncustodial parents manage their child support payments in the event of a job loss or other event affecting their income, and help them reduce and pay off child support debt owed to the government. If noncustodial parents are unemployed or underemployed, the Support

Through Employment Program (STEP), operated by HRA and the agency's employment vendors, can help them find a job.

The National Child Support Enforcement Association serves child support professionals, agencies, and partners with professional development, communications, public awareness and advocacy. It aims to assist child support professionals in their efforts to ensure children receive the financial, medical and emotional support of both parents.