



Foundation for Child Development (Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City) records

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Rockefeller Archive Center

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical/Historical note	3
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	6
Controlled Access Headings	6
Other Finding Aids	6
Collection Inventory	7
Administration	7
Administration - Board of Directors Meetings	7

Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Association for the Aid of Crippled Children
Creator:	Foundation for Child Development
Title:	Foundation for Child Development (Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City) records
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Date [bulk]:	bulk
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Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation note

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[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical/Historical note

The Foundation for Child Development had its origins in the Guild for the Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City (the Guild), an organization whose mission was to "care for the physical, social, domestic, educational, economic, and spiritual conditions of these unfortunates." It became the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children (AACC) in 1908, when it was established in New York City as a voluntary agency that sought to teach and aid disabled children who were victims of polio.

In the early twentieth century, physically disabled children were often homebound with no access to formal education. Mabel Irving Jones, a concerned citizen and advocate for these youngsters, provided the impetus behind the creation and eventual incorporation of an agency operating under the auspices of the New York City Children's Aid Society. By 1904 nearly 120 disabled school-aged children were attending school outside of the home; in 1906, Public School 104 of the New York City Board of Education operated the first public school class for crippled children. The Guild sought to treat those children neglected by hospitals and clinics and the "hundreds of chronic cases of crippled children

whom these charities do not and cannot reach." The Guild cooperated with churches and other social services organizations including St. John's Guild, the Henrietta Industrial School, and the Hartley House Settlement, to teach children outside of the home, provide a luncheon meal, and return them to their homes. The Guild's second Annual Report in 1898 indicated that this is the "first systematic effort ever made in New York City to give the crippled children out of institutions a helpful education."

Separated from the Children's Aid Society in 1908, the AACC was supported entirely by contributions and employed a staff of ten, led by trained nurses. In addition to providing transportation to school and health clinics and braces and other therapeutic devices, the AACC also established physical rehabilitation facilities. By 1940, over 30,000 children had benefited from these services, including children with cerebral palsy and other disorders of fetal and neonatal origin.

The organization's early focus on the needs of a stranded school-aged population firmly defined its legacy. In later years, similar enterprises supported direct-care and research to benefit adult rehabilitation. The AACC joined with New York University-Bellevue Hospital to establish the Children's Division of the Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, today known as the Rusk Institute. During World War II, their pioneering work helped to rehabilitate injured soldiers.

In 1972 the Association changed its name to the Foundation for Child Development (FCD) to reflect its role as a grant-making organization and in particular its evolved focus on child development. Included within its mission were goals of preventing child poverty and promoting the economic stability of families.

The Foundation for Child Development is a national private philanthropy dedicated to the principle that all families should have the social and material resources to raise their children to be healthy, educated, and productive members of their communities. The Foundation seeks to understand children, particularly the disadvantaged, and to promote their well-being. They believe that families, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and government at all levels share complementary responsibilities in the critical task of raising new generations.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Types of records include: meeting minutes.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

As received.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Conditions Governing Access note

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Existence and Location of Originals

Microfilm Reel 1 is a copy obtained by the Rockefeller Archive Center from the University of Minnesota.

The original Board of Managers's Minutes and Secretary's Book of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City for the years 1904-1915, 1919-1920, 1931-1933, was microfilmed by the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities in 1965.

Requests for copies of the microfilm should be directed to the University of Minnesota.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Related materials may be found in:

The Foundation for Child Development records (RAC); the Leonard Mayo papers, at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; the New York City Board of Education records, at Teachers College, Columbia University; and in the Russell Sage Foundation records (RAC); the Social Science Research Council records (RAC); and the William T. Grant Foundation records (RAC).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Public policy
- Public health
- Philanthropy
- Social service
- New York (N.Y.)
- Medical care
- Philanthropy -- United States
- Charitable uses, trusts, and foundations
- Child development
- Charities

Other Finding Aids

FA019 Foundation for Child Development records

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Administration, 1904-1915, 1919-1920, 1931-1933 (bulk)

Arrangement note

This material is predominantly arranged chronologically.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements note

The archival material has been reformatted and the original records are not available. User copies of the microfilm are available for scholarly access.

Administration - Board of Directors Meetings, 1904-1915, 1919-1920, 1931-1933 (bulk)

Title/Description	Instances	
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - 'Secretary's Book', 1904-1914, 1919-1920, 1931-1933	reel 1	frame 1
Annual Meeting of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City, November 28, 1904	reel 1	frame 2
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, November 28, 1904	reel 1	frame 3
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, January 23, 1905	reel 1	frame 4
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, February 27, 1905	reel 1	frame 5
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, March 27, 1905	reel 1	frame 6
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, April 25, 1905	reel 1	frame 7
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, May 15, 1905	reel 1	frame 8
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Special Board of Managers' Meeting - Minutes, October 2, 1905	reel 1	frame 9
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, October 23, 1905	reel 1	frame 10
Annual Meeting of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City, November 27, 1905	reel 1	frame 11
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, November 27, 1905	reel 1	frame 12

Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, December 26, 1905	reel 1	frame 13
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, February 26, 1906	reel 1	frame 14
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, March 26, 1906	reel 1	frame 15
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, April 30, 1906	reel 1	frame 16
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, May 28, 1906	reel 1	frame 17
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, October 29, 1906	reel 1	frame 18
Annual Meeting of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City, November 24, 1906	reel 1	frame 19
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, November 24, 1906	reel 1	frame 20
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, January 7, 1907	reel 1	frame 21

Scope and Contents note

The year that is written on the page in 1906.

Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, January 27, 1907	reel 1	frame 22
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, February 25, 1907	reel 1	frame 23
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, March 25, 1907	reel 1	frame 24
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, c. April-August, 1907	reel 1	frame 25
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, September 15, 1907	reel 1	frame 26
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, October 28, 1907	reel 1	frame 27
Annual Meeting of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City, November 25, 1907	reel 1	frame 28
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, November 25, 1907	reel 1	frame 29
Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, January 28, 1908	reel 1	frame 30

Scope and Contents note

A Board of Managers Meeting was called for February 24, 1908, but this meeting was not held.

Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, March 30, 1908	reel 1	frame 31
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Scope and Contents note

A Board of Managers Meeting was called for February 24, 1908, but this meeting was not held.

Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City - Board of Managers Meeting - Minutes, May 25, 1908	reel 1	frame 32
Special Meeting of the Board of Managers of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City, November 23, 1908	reel 1	frame 33
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, February 25, 1908	reel 1	frame 34
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Constitution, Amendments and By-Laws, undated	reel 1	frame 35
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, February 20, 1908	reel 1	frame 36
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, March 19, 1908	reel 1	frame 37
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, April 24, 1908	reel 1	frame 38
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, May 21, 1908	reel 1	frame 39
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, October 15, 1908	reel 1	frame 40
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, November 19, 1908	reel 1	frame 41
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Special Meeting, November 20, 1908	reel 1	frame 42
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, December 17, 1908	reel 1	frame 43
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, January 21, 1909	reel 1	frame 44
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, February 18, 1909	reel 1	frame 45
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, March 18, 1909	reel 1	frame 46

Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, April 15, 1909	reel 1	frame 47
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, May 20, 1909	reel 1	frame 48
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, October 21, 1909	reel 1	frame 49
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, November 18, 1909	reel 1	frame 50
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee - Minutes, December 1, 1910	reel 1	frame 51
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 6, 1908	reel 1	frame 52
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 5, 1908	reel 1	frame 53
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 2, 1908	reel 1	frame 54
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, May 12, 1908	reel 1	frame 55
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 8, 1908	reel 1	frame 56
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, November 5, 1908	reel 1	frame 57
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, November 5, 1908	reel 1	frame 58
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 3, 1908	reel 1	frame 59
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 6, 1909	reel 1	frame 60
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 4, 1909	reel 1	frame 61
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 4, 1909	reel 1	frame 62
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 1, 1909	reel 1	frame 63
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 6, 1909	reel 1	frame 64
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 15, 1909	reel 1	frame 65
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, November 4, 1909	reel 1	frame 66

Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, November 8, 1909	reel 1	frame 67
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 2, 1909	reel 1	frame 68
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 6, 1910	reel 1	frame 69
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 3, 1910	reel 1	frame 70
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 3, 1910	reel 1	frame 71
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, March 11, 1910	reel 1	frame 72
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 7, 1910	reel 1	frame 73
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 5, 1910	reel 1	frame 74
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, May 19, 1910	reel 1	frame 75
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 6, 1910	reel 1	frame 76
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, November 3, 1910	reel 1	frame 77
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, November 17, 1910	reel 1	frame 78
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 1, 1910	reel 1	frame 79
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 4, 1911	reel 1	frame 80
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, January 11, 1911	reel 1	frame 81
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 2, 1911	reel 1	frame 82
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 1, 1911	reel 1	frame 83
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 6, 1911	reel 1	frame 84
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 4, 1911	reel 1	frame 85
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 5, 1911	reel 1	frame 86

Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, November 2, 1911	reel 1	frame 87
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, December 7, 1911	reel 1	frame 88
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 7, 1911	reel 1	frame 89
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 4, 1912	reel 1	frame 90
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 2, 1912	reel 1	frame 91
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 7, 1912	reel 1	frame 92
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 4, 1912	reel 1	frame 93
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 2, 1912	reel 1	frame 94
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 3, 1912	reel 1	frame 95
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, November 7, 1912	reel 1	frame 96
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Special Meeting - Minutes, December 5, 1912	reel 1	frame 97
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 5, 1912	reel 1	frame 98
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 2, 1913	reel 1	frame 99
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 6, 1913	reel 1	frame 100
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 6, 1913	reel 1	frame 101
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 6, 1913	reel 1	frame 102
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 8, 1913	reel 1	frame 103
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 2, 1913	reel 1	frame 104
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, November 6, 1913	reel 1	frame 105
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 4, 1913	reel 1	frame 106

Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 8, 1914	reel 1	frame 107
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 5, 1914	reel 1	frame 108
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 5, 1914	reel 1	frame 109
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 9, 1914	reel 1	frame 110
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 14, 1914	reel 1	frame 111
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, October 8, 1914	reel 1	frame 112
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, December 9, 1914	reel 1	frame 113
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, January 13, 1915	reel 1	frame 114
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, February 10, 1915	reel 1	frame 115
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, March 8, 1915	reel 1	frame 116
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, April 14, 1915	reel 1	frame 117
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Board of Directors - Minutes, May 13, 1915	reel 1	frame 118
Correspondence Regarding the Merger of the Guild for Crippled Children of the Poor of New York City and the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children, October-November 1908	reel 1	frame 119
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Annual Meetings - Minutes, November 11, 1909	reel 1	frame 120
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Annual Meetings - Minutes, November 10, 1910	reel 1	frame 121
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Annual Meetings - Minutes, November 9, 1911	reel 1	frame 122
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Annual Meetings - Minutes, November 14, 1912	reel 1	frame 123
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Annual Meetings - Minutes, November 13, 1913	reel 1	frame 124
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Annual Meetings - Minutes, November 12, 1914	reel 1	frame 125
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Minutes of the Board of Directors, October 8, 1914	reel 1	frame 126

Correspondence Regarding the November 11, 1914 Association for the Aid of Crippled Children Board of Directors Meeting, undated	reel 1	frame 127
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Financial Documents, 1915 and 1919	reel 1	frame 128
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, February 11, 1919	reel 1	frame 129
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, March 17, 1919	reel 1	frame 130
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, April 9, 1919	reel 1	frame 131
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, May 13, 1919	reel 1	frame 132
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, June-October 1919	reel 1	frame 133
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, October 15, 1919	reel 1	frame 134
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, December 11, 1919	reel 1	frame 135
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, January 8, 1920	reel 1	frame 136
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, February 26, 1920	reel 1	frame 137
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, October 8, 1931	reel 1	frame 138
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, November 2, 1931	reel 1	frame 139
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, December 7, 1931	reel 1	frame 140
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, January 4, 1932	reel 1	frame 141
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, February 1, 1932	reel 1	frame 142
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, March 7, 1932	reel 1	frame 143
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, April 4, 1932	reel 1	frame 144
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, October 10, 1932	reel 1	frame 145
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, November 14, 1932	reel 1	frame 146

Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, December 4, 1932	reel 1	frame 147
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, January 9, 1933	reel 1	frame 148
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, February 6, 1933	reel 1	frame 149
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, March 6, 1933	reel 1	frame 150
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, April 3, 1933	reel 1	frame 151
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, May 1, 1933	reel 1	frame 152
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - No Meeting, October 1933	reel 1	frame 153
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, November 6, 1933	reel 1	frame 154
Association for the Aid of Crippled Children - Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, December 4, 1933	reel 1	frame 155

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)