



Child Care Resource

Leading our community in making early care & education work!

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Annual Report
Fiscal Year
2010 - 2011

STRENGTHENING EARLY LEARNING: FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The very first day that Pine Forest Children's Center (PFCC) started their food program, staff reported that children were calmer, happier, and overall, the morning was better. "It's been a huge success across the board – everyone benefits!" said Wendy LaChappelle, Director of PFCC.

Meals at PFCC are made possible through Child Care Resource, which is the local sponsor of the federal Child Care Food Program (CCFP). PFCC is one of 96 child care programs in Chittenden County that received support for serving meals to children in their care during the 2010-2011 fiscal year. In total, over 1200 children benefited from about 400,000 CCFP supported meals this past year.

Children who spend a full day in child care (9-10 hours) consume three quarters of their daily food intake, all while in the child care setting. About one quarter of these children come from homes that may struggle to put food on the table. The CCFP provides partial reimbursement for the cost of meals that meet high federal nutritional standards, and also provides nutrition education for the child care programs that plan and serve the meals.

In 2009, PFCC began offering breakfast and snack. LaChappelle and her staff find that the



The Child Care Food Program ensures that children in child care receive the nourishment they need to feel good, learn, and grow.



benefit of providing meals to the children in their care, greatly outweighs the additional work involved in maintaining the program. Before joining the CCFP, the staff often observed the poor food choices packed in lunch boxes coming from home. This was especially concerning for those children who were chronically hungry, and came from food insecure families. To ensure that children had enough to eat that day, PFCC often supplemented meals.

Since joining the CCFP, every day the children receive healthy meals and are excited about trying new foods. Teachers report that children are better able to focus, play for extended periods of time, and are generally happier. Parents report lower grocery bills and appreciate not having the pressure to pack food each morning. The benefits are so great, that PFCC will be adding lunch to their menu this fall. ■ PHOTOS COURTESY OF PFCC



“ A child in a preschool room said to a child in his group, 'Try it, you just might like it. I like it. It's really good!' The other child tried a bite, but you know if mom, dad, or teacher had said, 'Try it!', the answer likely would have been, 'NO!' ”



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STRIVING TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN ARE DEVELOPING TO THEIR FULLEST POTENTIAL

Child Care Financial Assistance Program

We help low-income families receive financial assistance to make it easier to afford the child care they need.

- ⇒ 1,308 Income eligible cases
- ⇒ 264 Specialized child care cases

Child Care Referrals

We help parents work through the emotional and practical aspects of finding child care.

- ⇒ 2,270 Total searches
- ⇒ 1,220 On-line searches
- ⇒ 1,068 By phone

Professional Development

We help fuel the child care workforce with knowledge and new ideas, through a wide range of professional in-service learning opportunities.

- ⇒ 9,591 Participant hours
- ⇒ 910 Attendees
- ⇒ 571 Hours of training

Children's Integrated Services Child Care Team

We make early care and education work, by providing professional consultation and coaching for program staff, families, and especially children with special needs.

- ⇒ 890 Contacts
- ⇒ 161 Specialized Child Care Programs
- ⇒ 116 Programs

Outreach

We increase the exchange of current and reliable information about early care and education.

- ⇒ 6,800 Children birth through age 12 are in regulated care
- ⇒ 331 Regulated programs
- ⇒ 5% Vacancy rate
- ⇒ 26% Recognized for quality



A SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS: FISCAL YEAR 2010 TO 2011



Child Care Food Program

We ensure that children in child care receive the nourishment they need to feel good, learn, and grow, by supporting providers in serving healthy meals to children in their care.

- ⇒ \$413,000 For child care providers
- ⇒ 400,000 Meals
- ⇒ 1,200+ Children
- ⇒ 80 Registered homes
- ⇒ 16 Licensed centers



Family Child Care Preschool Partnership

We support family child care programs in providing high quality pre-kindergarten education so that children can grow from birth to age five in a familiar and nurturing environment.

- ⇒ 22 Children
- ⇒ 8 Family child care providers
- ⇒ 1 Consulting teacher



Williston Children's Center

Our NAEYC accredited child care program serves children birth through age five. WCC is an early learning partner for publicly funded pre-kindergarten education. In addition, WCC is a CCR site for child care provider and community education.

- ⇒ 32 Children
- ⇒ 10 Teachers
- ⇒ Unlimited Hugs
- ⇒ 23 Families
- ⇒ 2 Interns



The Toy Van

We inspire children's learning through play by delivering high quality toys, equipment, and materials to child care programs throughout Chittenden County.

- ⇒ 400+ Bi-monthly visits
- ⇒ 72 Participating child care providers



CREATING CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS FOR COMMUNITIES:

Growing Kids South Burlington



John Everitt, Former South Burlington Schools Superintendent, & judge of the Play Dough Cake Off competition, carefully looks over the stiff, sticky, squishy competition.

The Ultimate Play Dough Cake Off was a *first* for the South Burlington community. That evening, former South Burlington Schools Superintendent John Everitt, joined parents, children, teachers, and community members, in shaping a rainbow of play dough into the ultimate play dough cake. When we asked him to reflect on the event, Everitt said,

“ Every connection families make with each other is a step towards a more sustainable community. The Play Dough Cake Off provided South Burlington families with a most enjoyable connection. ”

The Ultimate Play Dough Cake Off was a celebration of the creation of Growing Kids South Burlington which arose from another *first*. The 2008-2009 school year represented the first time the percentage of South Burlington school children from low-income families, had grown high enough to qualify the District for federal education funding designated for low-income children. Even though, according to the Vermont Department of Education, South Burlington outperformed many areas of the state and county in regards to children’s kindergarten readiness, school administrators were concerned that 34% of South Burlington children entered kindergarten not ready to learn.

Everitt knew that the early years were the key for a child’s future success, and decided to find out how South Burlington could do a better job in sup-

porting parents with young children, so that children would enter school eager to learn and ready to participate. Everitt partnered with Child Care Resource to develop a plan.

Two years later, Growing Kids South Burlington was created to support the South Burlington Community in achieving the following five goals:

- All children age birth through five enrolled in early care and education programs, are enrolled in programs with high levels of quality recognition
- All children entering kindergarten will have participated in a high quality pre-kindergarten education in the 2 years prior to entering kindergarten
- Kindergarten teachers will be well prepared to meet the needs of children entering kindergarten
- South Burlington will offer families with young children a wide range of child and family related services, along with recreational opportunities needed to make South Burlington a great place to raise a child
- All South Burlington families will be well-informed about the services and opportunities, and are actively engaged regardless of socio-economic status or special needs

Child Care Resource continues to partner with the South Burlington School District to implement a broad range of community building strategies to achieve these goals. ■

HELPING FAMILIES & PROVIDERS MAKE CONNECTIONS:

A message from our President



Looking back over the past year, CCR has come through a time of great uncertainty. A year ago we were facing a significant shift in state policy. After more than 25 years of commitment to a statewide system of community-based child care resource and referral services, the State of Vermont planned to centralize services as a way to address diminished state resources. The first service to be fully centralized would be eligibility determination for the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP). It was a sad and anxious time for CCR staff and our community.

As we moved into the winter, State leadership changed, and that changed everything. The newly appointed Secretary of Human Services, Doug Racine, and Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families, Dave Yacovone, decided to re-evaluate the old administration's centralization plans. They designated a committee to define and compare service model options using objective data and stakeholder input. The results of the analysis and stakeholder opinions from all over the state, were presented to them in April, and in May Commissioner Yacovone sent us the following message:

“ After much analysis and reflection, Secretary Racine and I feel that it is in the best interest of families and child care providers who serve families, to maintain the current practice of determining eligibility determination for CCFAP benefits in the community. ”

Unfortunately, the decision did not change the financial constraints faced by the Agency of Human Services. Child Care Resource along with agencies across the state, agreed to deliver this service in FY 2012 for twenty percent less funds than was provided by the department to support those services in FY 2011.

As the President of the Board of Child Care Resource, I firmly believe that CCR's essential child care support services keep families working and child care providers in business. Community-based agencies like ours throughout Vermont, are the one-stop shop for child care needs. We continue to work hard to serve Chittenden County families, and we need our community's support now more than ever. We appreciate generosity of the individuals, businesses, foundations, and public grantors that have supported our mission this last year.

Sincerely,

Mary Meredith, Board President



“ I like knowing I can walk into Child Care Resource and speak to someone directly, and have my questions answered by my case worker. I like being treated as a person, not a number. ”
~DCF Stakeholder Input, Spring 2011

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FY 2010-2011

REVENUE

-Federal & State.....	\$914,322
-CCFP Provider Reimbursement.....	407,590
-Child Care Center Tuition.....	323,123
-Training & Referral Fees.....	79,607
-Corporate, Foundations, & Fundraising.....	106,100
-Investment Income.....	6,798
-Other.....	18,549
TOTAL REVENUE.....	\$1,856,089

EXPENSES

-Child Nutrition Program.....	\$515,925
-Referral & Subsidy.....	410,342
-Training, Resources, & Child Care Development.....	835,351
-Administration & General.....	37,570
-Fundraising.....	51,551
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$1,850,739
NET INCOME.....	\$5,350



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What we hear about our services...

We understand the challenge parents face finding child care. Our partnership with Child Care Resource is one way we try to help our employees address this critical need. CCR has helped hundreds of our employees over the last 10 years.
~Local Employer

We interviewed 3 places before we met a provider you referred. My husband and I had a sigh of relief when we saw her home, talked with her, and saw her references- there were 2 on the list we already knew. I phoned one of them and she gushed, and called her 'family.' My husband and I feel comforted in leaving our son with her. She is so great, THANK YOU!!!!
~ Referral Client

The consultant has exceeded our expectations in every way. She has given us information, followed up regularly, checked in with parents, and has been a wonderful support for teachers, children, & myself as the Director. ~Provider who used our consultation services

Child Care Resource Extends a Most Sincere **THANK YOU** to Our 2010-2011 Fiscal Year Donors



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CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN HONOR OF

In honor of Deborah Johnson, In honor of David Baker, In honor of Elizabeth Meyer, In honor of Ellen Meyer, In honor of Ryan Kanat ■