



Child Care Resource

2007/2008 Annual Report



Congratulations!

The **Williston Children's Center** received national recognition with accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). *Parents Magazine* called NAEYC accreditation the "gold standard of approval" since only 8% of child care centers nationwide achieve this level of accreditation. The recognition of quality followed a six-month process of documentation and portfolio development by the Williston Children's Center, led by Program Director Andrea Viets.

Bringing Food to Hungry Children Since 1985

People are often surprised to learn that Child Care Resource has addressed childhood hunger since 1985. Last year, CCR made possible 25,525 nutritious meals for 750 children each month in local home-based child care programs! Children consume 75% of their daily food intake during a full day in child care and healthy food choices encourage the development of healthy eating habits.

The Child Care Food Program is broader than the School Lunch Program because of the time children spend in care. It can include funding for breakfast, lunch, snacks, and even dinner to participating providers who serve meals. Each year Child Care Resource administers about \$325,000 in federal meal dollars for home-based early care and education programs in Chittenden County. Food Program staff help and encourage providers through nutrition education, site visits and assistance with menu planning.

More Meals for More Children

In 2008, Child Care Resource began a new initiative to bring more federal dollars to Chittenden County and more meals to children in early care and education programs. We learned that only a few center-based early care and education programs in Chittenden County receive federal dollars to provide meals for hungry children.

Working with the Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, CCR offered to help reduce the two major obstacles to participation: administrative time required, and the cost of providing meals. As the umbrella agency, CCR will expand its food program by creating a Child Care Food Network, with the following goals:

- Encourage more centers to participate in the federal program by assisting with the required paperwork.
- Help centers reduce food costs by developing a bulk-buying and distribution system.

With the help of a special grant from United Way, the new program is being set up for the current school year. The Child Care Food Network's goal is to bring at least \$150,000 in new federal dollars into our community to help feed hungry children in 2009.

Photos - above left: Josey McDonald's child care is one of ten programs that received fresh fruits and vegetables every week June-September, thanks to CCR's Food To Grow On program.

right: Anna Graham, Director of Child Nutrition Programs, sorts and packs weekly CSA farm shares for delivery. Shares were purchased from the student-run Common Ground farm at UVM.

*Each month
CCR's Food
Program makes
possible 25,525
nutritious meals
for 750 children
in Chittenden
County!*



Child Care Resource Mission Statement

We commit to strengthening the well-being, development and education of children in Chittenden County by providing consultation, education and resources to families and professionals who care for and educate our children, businesses and communities.



CCR Board of Directors

Ellen Drolette
President

Joan Lenes
Past President

Sue Cobb
Secretary

Bob Robinson
Treasurer

Karen Gray
Member at Large

Laura McClure

Mary Anne Sjoblom

Holly Moriglioni

David Brace

Mike Stuart

Mary Meredith



Elizabeth Meyer
Executive Director

Kathie Mercia
Director, Subsidy,
Resource & Referral

Meghan Flanders
Professional
Development Coordinator

Andrea Viets
Director, Williston
Children's Center

Anna Graham
Director, Food Programs

Sharon Halnon
Director,
Consultation Team

Candelin Wahl
Director of Development

Compassion and Partnership

Middle income Vermonters are faced with the challenges of paying for heat, the commute to work, child care and the rising cost of basic needs -- food and medical care. The media reports that wages aren't keeping up with inflation, and every day job layoffs are in the paper. At Child Care Resource, we see first-hand the struggles of families trying to make ends meet, and the almost impossible situations of low-income families who were struggling before the economy took a downturn.



Child care providers in turn are feeling the strain. More families are relying on decreased state assistance to pay for child care, and that assistance is not enough to keep providers stable and in business. Providers play an important role in supporting families under stress. Often, the stress becomes overwhelming and providers close, destabilizing families further.

While Child Care Resource can't change the state of the economy, we are working hard to do what we can to help families and providers get through another day, week, or year. We extend our hand in partnership and compassion, and do what we can to make the future better for families. In all of our efforts, children's well-being, development, and education are the top priorities.

In this Annual Report you will learn about new CCR efforts: expanding the child care food program to reach more hungry children and helping family child care providers improve quality in their pre-k programs. Your support of Child Care Resource is an investment in the future, and we are so grateful for it. ☀

Ellen M. Drolette

Ellen M. Drolette
President, Board of Directors



Our Preschool Initiative: Family Home Providers

Child Care Resource has been breaking new ground in supporting the participation of home-based family child care programs in Vermont's preschool initiative. Here's the progress to date:

2007 - Vermont legislature passed landmark early care and education legislation (Act 62).

2008 - CCR identified local needs and worked closely with the Vermont Preschool Collaborative Project and a number of home-based programs to develop a pilot project, starting up in the current school year.

2009 - The pilot project will demonstrate how full-day home-based programs can provide quality preschool education to meet or exceed the Vermont Early Learning Standards. The results will provide school districts throughout Vermont with important information for broader preschool education plans.

Child Care Resource is grateful to South Burlington School Superintendent John Everitt for supporting and co-chairing this project, and to Fran Williams of the Chittenden South Supervisory Union for her support and participation. ☀



Poorer Than Poor

by Elizabeth Meyer, Executive Director

Child care tuition assistance is a piece of the economic puzzle that protects many children from hunger and homelessness. Child Care Resource awards child care tuition assistance to 1,300 financially-challenged families each year. Without our help, these parents could not make ends meet.

All too often, CCR can't help families enough or at all because of the current state guidelines for tuition assistance eligibility. A Vermont family must be poorer than poor to qualify for the maximum amount of child care tuition assistance (subsidy). For example, a single parent with two children cannot earn more than \$14,000 to qualify, while the federal poverty level for this family is \$17,600. The recommended livable wage¹ for this family is \$54,288. Until last spring, the Vermont income eligibility guidelines for child care tuition assistance had not been increased since 1999.

During the last legislative session the Vermont legislature took a step toward increasing support for low income working families. As a result of hard work by a statewide coalition of advocates including CCR and frustrated parents, they allocated over \$800,000 and raised the child care assistance income eligibility to the year 2000 levels. In spite of that effort, families continue to struggle.

How can you help? Please pay attention to the next legislative session. Support efforts to increase the income eligibility guidelines for tuition assistance. Contact your state legislators by phone, email, postcard or letter to encourage them to vote for Vermont's neediest children. Our actions can help stabilize Vermont's current workforce and strengthen the future of its children. ☀

¹State of Vermont Joint Fiscal Office (2008).

A livable wage is the hourly wage or annual income sufficient to meet an individual or family's basic needs plus all applicable federal and state taxes. The basic needs budgets estimate what it costs to live in Vermont for six different Vermont urban and rural family sizes. Therefore, there is no one livable wage number. These figures are intended to be a guide for compensation based on how much it costs to meet basic needs in our state.



2007-2008 Financial Resources*

Revenue

Federal and State.....	820,394
CCFP Provider Reimbursement.....	323,055
Child Care Tuition.....	256,995
Training & Referral Fees.....	135,687
Corporate, Foundation & Fundraising.....	91,381
Other.....	43,012

Total Revenue	1,670,524
----------------------	------------------

Expenses

Referrals, Subsidy, Direct Services.....	1,208,574
Child Care Center.....	278,564
Administration & Fundraising.....	188,601

Total Expenses	1,675,739
-----------------------	------------------

Net Contribution to Reserves	(5,216)
-------------------------------------	----------------

*Audit of FY 2007-2008 Financials still in process at time of publication.



“It is important that the care a child receives during the first five years of life be of high quality, because 90% of brain development occurs during those years.”

Linda K. Smith
Executive Director/NACCRRA





Child Care Resource

181 Commerce Street,
Williston, VT 05495

Check out our updated website!
www.childcareresource.org



Non-Profit
Org
US Postage
PAID
Williston VT
Permit No 21

Our sincere thanks to our 2007-2008 Donors

Individuals & Organizations

Anonymous
Jen Appleyard & Kelvin Chu
Arnold & Scangas Architects
Assurant
Bobbin Mill Building Company
David Bogdan
Leigh Bolender
Laurel Bongiorno
Ben & Anne Boshier
Deb Bouton & Dan Herman
Laura & Mark Butler
Rosalie Butts
Jerome & Michelle Cann
David & Joanne Clavelle
Marc & Patricia Clement
Jacqueline Coburn
Commerce Street Condominiums, LLC
Competitive Computing
Jeff & Ginny Couture
DEW Construction Corporation
John & Aida Dinklage
Sandra & John Dooley
Donald & April Drolette
Ellen Drolette
Edlund Company, Inc.
Engelberth Construction, Inc.
Ericson Group, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. David Erkson
Essex Hollow Playschool
Lewis & Sandra First
Edward & Joan Fitzpatrick
James & Barb Flint
Mark Furnari & Barb Pawluk
Bill & Paula Gile
Margery Gladston
Dale Goldhaber
Amy Golodetz & Greg Leech
Arnold & Virginia Golodetz
Mary T. Grace
Matt & Anna Grady
Anna Graham
Lee & Karen Gray
Jerry Greenfield & Elizabeth Skarie
Peter Gunther MD & Paulette Thabault
Michael Healy & Debra Blumberg
Jane Helmstetter
Joseph & Betsy Holsopple
Sally Howe
IBM Employees Directed Donations
J.A. Morrissey, Inc.
Elizabeth Jaffe & Roy Cutler
Mark Keller & Brenda Pitmon
Marie Kerbaugh
KeyBank
Kimball, Sherman, Ellis LLP
Kevin & Heather Kittell
Peter Kreisel
Fred "Chico" Lager & Yvette Pigeon
Sean & Maryanne Ledwith
Joan Lenes
Jim Libby
Tom & Anita Licata
Little Faces Child Care
David & Beth London
Maplehurst Florist
Laura McClure
Jo-Anne McDonough
Merchants Bank Foundation
The Meredith Family
Elizabeth Meyer & Carl Lorentson
Richard & Judith Meyer
Barbara & Angelo Mier
Mary Mitchell
Drew & Donna Nixon
North Country Federal Credit Union
John O'Neill & Susan J. Flynn
Paydata Payroll Services, Inc.

PBM Nutritionals, LLC.
Leigh Phillips & Bruce Beauregard
Robin Ploof
Meg Pond & Jim Rader
Doug Racine
Tom & Erika Reeves
Renaissance Information Systems
Rick & Mary Lee Ritter
Glenn Sigl
Mary Anne & Glenn Sjoblom
Heidi A. Smith
Vicky Smith & David Porteous
Kristy Kurt Spengler & Jeff Spengler
Pat Spielman-Morris Insurance Agency, Inc.
Brett Spilva & April Averill
Lisa Steele
Louise Thabault & John Leddy
Tom Moore Builder Inc.
Sue Trainor
VT State Employees Charitable Appeal
Karen Van Gilder
Vermont Sun Structures, Inc.
Candelin Wahl & George Thabault
Allen & Marti Webster
Stacy & Miro Weinberger
Douglas & Laurel Whitaker
David White & Associates, Inc.
Karen Yaggy

Grantors

Ceridian Corporation
Chittenden South Supervisory Union
Fletcher Allen Health Care
General Dynamics
HowardCenter
IBM Global Work/Life Fund
Rotary Club of South Burlington
State of VT-Child Dev. Div. of the Dept. for Children & Families
State of VT Dept. of Education
The Permanent Fund for the Well-Being of VT Children
Town of Jericho
Town of Shelburne
Town of Williston
Vermont Humanities Council
Vermont State Employees Association

In-Kind Donations

Laura & Mark Butler
Courtyard by Marriott, Burlington- Tafts Corners
Dorothy Alling Memorial Library
Ellen Drolette
Essex Police Department
Essex Technical Center
Paula Fenton
Arnold & Virginia Golodetz
KidSafe Collaborative
Mary Langevin
Microsoft Community Affairs
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont
Rebecca Raskin
Reprographics
RSVP of Chittenden County
Vermont Humanities Council
Vermont Department of Health
Vermont Public Television
VAEYC
VT Campaign To End Childhood Hunger
VT Dept. of Children & Families

Contributions made in Honor of:

Lou Ann Beninati
Ellen Drolette
Karina Ericson
Theresa McLeod
Elizabeth Meyer

A Lifeline for Families and Children

The phone rings almost constantly at Child Care Resource (CCR), and we never know who might need us on the other end of the line -- it could be a parent, a child care provider, or a concerned community member. CCR offers a lifeline to families and child care providers, and here are just two stories of clients who came to us for help last year:

- A deaf, widowed mother came to CCR. Her three year-old daughter had normal hearing, but her speech wasn't developing normally. Using a pen and paper to communicate with CCR staff, this mother shared her goal. "I want my daughter to have her own voice," she wrote. We worked closely with her to find a provider who had sign language skills and could give the child what the mother couldn't.
- For two years, a young single mother had been receiving child care tuition assistance through CCR. With child care in place, she was able to receive the training she needed to earn enough money to support her family's basic needs. After a year in training, and another year in an entry level job, she called CCR to thank us and to share her good news. She had been promoted at work, and would no longer need assistance paying for her child's care.

Parents want what is best for their children, yet all too often they feel alone and unsupported as they try to balance their work life with raising a family. Since 1984, we have helped match more than 30,000 families with child care programs that meet their needs, no matter how complex or unique. ☀

