



**CCAC promotes and nurtures
early learning communities where
families and children thrive**

**CHILD CARE ACTION COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009**



Our Programs

Child Care Resource & Referral

2836 parents were assisted in locating quality licensed child care in Thurston, Mason, Grays Harbor, Pacific & Lewis counties with telephone, email and online referrals. Child Care Referral Specialists responded to 4718 technical assistance calls from providers in all five counties.

Professional Development & Consultation

1373 providers participated in over 600 hours of professional development across all five counties. Professional development is available in classrooms, online, as an onsite in-service and as one-on-one consultation, including intensive social and emotional coaching where child care providers learn new skills for working with challenging behaviors. Over 300 providers participated in the Building Bridges to Higher Education program for college credit. 132 providers and Head Start and ECEAP staff attended the 9 month Child Development Associate Certificate Training.

Army Child Care In Your Neighborhood

Four child care centers and four child care homes are enrolled and serving 101 military families' children. Each child care facility has a Quality Improvement Plan to meet military standards, including national accreditation and ongoing professional development. Enhanced referrals to high-quality centers or homes were provided to 236 military families.

Keystone Crisis Nursery & Homeless Child Care

2100 hours of child care were provided for 143 children at 15 trained Crisis Nursery sites. 125 families received referrals to community resources to help them develop a social support network. Additionally, 36 homeless families were connected with 364 days of free child care.

Raising A Reader

1150 children are getting school ready and learning to love reading by sharing books with their parents. Child care providers and parents learned about early brain development and early reading.

Safe Kids Coalition

With the support of Medic One, Safe Kids sold over 1,000 low-cost helmets. The Child Passenger Safety Team checked over 350 car seats.

Child Care Inclusion

A monthly series and 16 hours of consultation were presented regarding inclusion of children with special needs. 30 enhanced referrals were made for parents seeking child care to accommodate a child with special needs.

Nurse Consultation

CCAC partnered with the Thurston County Health Department to deliver Nurse Consultation to child care facilities providing infant child care.

Parent, Friend & Family Outreach

Two community cafes engaged over 30 parents. CCAC presented Block Fest events to 2072 parents and children for the Thurston Early Childhood Coalition. CCAC also partnered with TECC in providing a Brain Fest train the trainer event and producing a brain facts brochure for parents.

Dear Child Care Action Council Supporters,


It is good news our nation's new president made his support of early childhood education clear. However, Washington State is facing devastating funding cuts as a result of the down turn in our economy. We are grateful to the early learning advocates for continuing to work collaboratively, to keep as much government support as possible for children. Despite these challenges, CCAC remains resilient. The past year has been one of considerable growth. Our creative, dedicated staff and board continue to achieve remarkable results through innovation, strategic thinking and community engagement.

CCAC embarked on the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Accreditation process strengthening our agency policies, infrastructure and non-profit governance. We completed a new strategic plan and redefined our mission and vision statements. Programmatically CCAC also excelled. We demonstrated very positive outcomes as a pilot for Social Emotional Consultation; sustained and expanded our very popular Raising A Reader program; started a new online Child Development Associate Program; continued to collaborate with local Community Colleges to provide credit bearing ECE classes; and were selected to participate in a statewide pilot to develop a comprehensive professional development academy for child care providers. CCAC's quality improvement program with the Army has exceeded expectations by substantially improving quality. We are also developing Play & Learn groups and Parent Cafes for friend and family caregivers. Keystone Crisis Nursery continues to fill a critical niche preventing child abuse and neglect. CCAC is working with Early Learning Coalitions in each of the five counties and is engaged in numerous projects responding to identified needs for families with young children.

CCAC was honored this past year to be selected as one of the top three nonprofit agencies in Thurston County by the Economic Development Council.

We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support from the community that enhances our ability to continue to serve families and children.

Thank you,



Annie Cubberly,
Executive Director



Jon Tunheim,
Board President



Your Investment Pays Off

CCAC is proud to provide a range of services for families with young children and the people who care for them. We could not do it without generous support from our partners, funders and caring individuals in our communities. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve families and to our donors for making it possible. Below are just two examples of our positive impact in the community.

Raising A Reader helps children get ready for kindergarten

This year CCAC again partnered with ESD 113 Head Start and ECEAP to provide the Raising A Reader program to all Head Start and ECEAP children in Thurston and Mason Counties, and to several child care centers and homes serving low income children.

Raising A Reader is very important to these sites and addresses a major national concern. Statistics show one in three children enter kindergarten lacking basic pre-reading skills, which seriously impacts their chances of being successful. This is important because success in kindergarten has proven to be a key factor in determining high school graduation and life-long success. Evaluation of Raising A Reader in Head Start sites showed children who participate in the program test at least twice as high as the national Head Start norm for book knowledge and story comprehension. This past year, CCAC added Raising A Reader to Head Start classrooms in Lewis County. Cindy Dykstra, preschool teacher at the Boisford preschool says, "Raising A Reader is a big hit! Children are excited to get a new bag each week and parents enjoy the variety of books, feeling that they would never have read them otherwise."

Lynn Flaisig, coordinator for Mason and Thurston Head Start says, "Parents and children love the program because it's not just books - it encourages parent bonding with their children. Children leave school proudly clutching the red bags, anxious to have their parents read the enclosed books with them. Teachers love Raising A Reader because they receive brain development training, which makes them excited about early literacy." Teachers also enjoy incorporating the books into classroom story time, as they allow children to choose and talk about their favorite books. CCAC is proud to use Raising A Reader to put books in homes and classrooms, and smiles on faces.

Keystone Crisis Nursery offers help to struggling families

Parenting is a challenge for any family, but when a crisis happens and there is not an adequate family support network young children are at risk. Keystone Crisis Nursery continues to support families by offering child care during these difficult times. For example, this year CCAC was able to help a family with young children after a traumatic event resulted in criminal charges and court action. This mother needed time to attend court hearings and to access counseling for herself and her children. One of the Crisis Nursery sites was ready and willing to open their hearts by caring for the children.

Early Learning Coalitions

CCAC is actively involved in Early Learning Coalitions across all of our five counties. Each county formed a group of stakeholders and together determine the goals and activities to meet the identified needs of their community. The Foundation for Early learning provided start up funds for each of the coalitions and Thrive by Five funded projects in Lewis and Thurston Counties. CCAC provides infrastructure and resources to the locally driven coalitions where and when needed.

The Thurston Early Childhood Coalition

This mature coalition developed a strategic plan and a business plan around their current goal of building community awareness about the importance of early learning. The Coalition contracted with CCAC to manage Block Fest, an interactive math science exhibit engaging parents and children. The coalition is also spearheading Brain Fest community training on early brain development. The coalition serves as an important network for those working in the field of early learning.

Lewis County Eye on Early Learning

Partnering with CCAC, the coalition provided Raising A Reader to 243 children. CCAC also presented workshops to child care providers on understanding the culture of poverty and working with families affected by substance abuse. CCAC and the Coalition are improving early literacy and kindergarten readiness by giving away books, information and other resources, in both English and Spanish, at a local Chehalis grocery store.

The Grays Harbor Early Learning Coalition

The Grays Harbor Early Learning Coalition applied for its first grant this year. Building off previous work, the coalition is planning Community Cafes to bring providers and community members together to discuss early learning gaps and opportunities.

The Mason County Early Learning Coalition

Under the leadership of Kim Clint at Mason Matters, the coalition is partnering with CCAC to hold needs assessment community meetings to determine what resources should be developed to help children be healthy & ready to learn.

Pacific County Early Learning Coalition

Pacific County Early Learning Coalition is transitioning off a Gates Grant that allowed them to do a variety of innovative activities with families with young children. The Coalition is in the process of determining what services they can sustain and what they want to provide in the future. They are currently working on planning for a summer family fun event to engage parents.

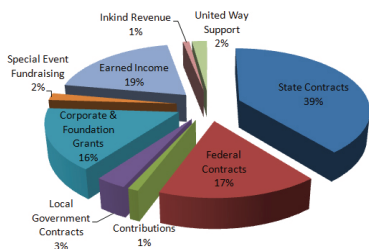


Financial Information, Fiscal Year 2008 July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

Revenue

State Contracts	\$331,174
Federal	\$140,796
Contributions	\$9,376
Local Government Contracts	\$27,047
Corporate & Foundation Grants	\$134,204
Special Event Fundraising	\$15,677
Earned Income	\$161,164
Inkind Revenue	\$7,909
United Way Support	\$18,438

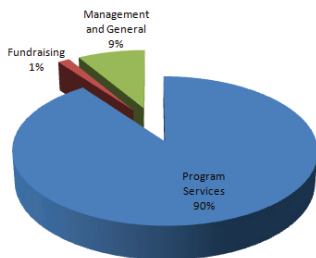
Total revenue **\$845,785**



Expenses

Program Services	\$655,187
Fundraising	\$11,022
Management and General	\$62,012

Total expenses **\$728,221**



Audited financial statements, as prepared by Aiken & Sanders, Inc., PS, are available on request.

Warm Hearts Soup Bowl Fundraiser

In 2009, Child Care Action Council held its first Warm Hearts fundraiser in support of our Raising A Reader Program. Guests enjoyed a soup lunch served in bowls made by children from Head Start classrooms and child care centers participating in Raising A Reader.



We sincerely thank our event sponsors—

Olympia Federal Savings, Painted Plate, Joyce Gillie and Judy & Peter Witt—and the more than 75 community members who attended. Together we raised \$7,000, which brought Raising A Reader to 140 children in our community.



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If you would like to invest in the future and learn more about the Child Care Action Council, contact us:

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Our Supporters

The Child Care Action Council is grateful to our generous friends. Together we have helped thousands of children and their families. From all of us at CCAC, our sincere thanks.

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