

Annual Report

2009



“Child Care Resource Service strives to support families, child care providers, students and communities in their commitment to provide high quality child care to all children and to make it accessible and affordable. We offer assistance and education as they work to develop excellence as advocates and professionals for children.”

Serving Champaign, Douglas, Iroquois, Macon, Piatt, and Vermilion Counties
in east- central Illinois

From the Directors

CCRS is funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and is located on the University of Illinois campus. We are part of the Department of Human and Community Development in Bevier Hall. CCRS serves six counties including Champaign, Douglas, Iroquois, Macon, Piatt, and Vermilion. We employ just over 30 staff in several departments including Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Parent Counseling, Training, Outreach, Resource Development, Research and Administration. In addition, we have 2 liaisons, 2 nurses, and several students. Our services include assisting parents and providers with the processing of CCAP paperwork, helping parents locate and select quality child care, guiding providers through a quality rating process, setting up and delivering trainings and workshops, reaching out to the community with information about childcare and childhood issues, and working with providers and parents on health care related topics. We at CCRS feel it's vitally important that we continue to let parents, providers, community members, and legislatures know about the importance of quality child care and how parents need affordable child care options. If this work is important to you, we ask that you continue to contact your legislator and let them know. To find out whom your specific legislator is go to www.actforchildren.org.

Data and Research

A variety of our data is confidential and some requests for data, such as for direct mailing purposes, are not granted. In addition, our data is not available for commercial use or as a referral tool for use by another agency. However, agencies, schools, child care providers, college students, grant writers, and other nonprofit organizations frequently use information from our databases to enhance their publications or services. Statewide administrative data are used every two years for the *Market Rate Survey of Illinois Child Care*. These analyses, contracted by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), are currently being conducted. Every other year we conduct, for IDHS, the *Illinois Salary and Staffing Survey of Licensed Child Care Facilities*. We continue to collect primary data and to archive administrative data that will inform researchers, planners, and policy makers on the state of child care in Illinois. In 2009, we had a total of 33 requests for data and 28 were approved.



Parent Counselors

In 2009, staff served 1,743 families: a total of 2,736 children. Ninety-two percent (92%) of parents who responded to a survey said they would use this service again or recommend it to a friend. The majority of people requesting child care were looking for full-time week-day child care during typical business hours. Eighty-four percent (84%) of families who called for referrals had incomes 60% and below the state median income. Seven percent (7%) were teen parents. Eighty-seven percent (87%) of callers were seeking care for employment reasons. Nineteen percent (19%) were seeking care for training and education reasons.

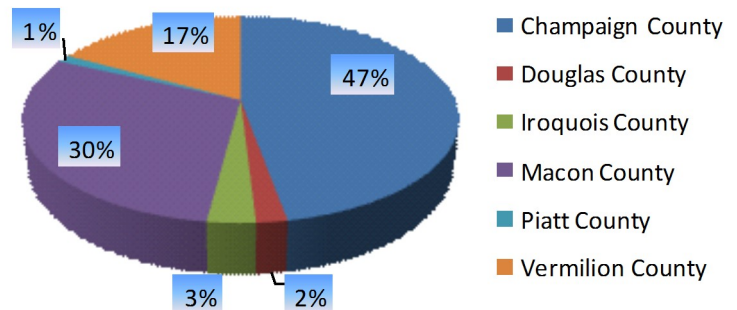
Outreach

Staff share information about our agency's services at community fairs, employer benefit days, agency-sponsored events, carnivals, fiestas, conferences, school open houses, public booths, career days, and even in parades. They look for opportunities to offer information to those in our area who may be eligible or in need of services. In fiscal year 2009, outreach staff made 30 presentations with just over 9,000 participants. Over 22,000 materials were also shared with our communities.

Child Care Assistance Program: CCAP

The State of Illinois helps income-eligible families pay for child care services needed to work or go to school, training, and other work-related activities. During Fiscal Year 2009, the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), paid a portion of the child care costs for an average 3,802 clients per month. CCAP staff answered 42,014 telephone calls and welcomed 2,070 clients, 2,158 providers, and 788 drop-off walk-ins for a total of 5,016 customers over the course of the year. An average of 38% of the child care assistance payments that we processed were to license-exempt programs, 62% were to licensed programs.

Child Care Assistance Paid Per County



Types of Programs Paid

- Centers 36%
- Family Child Care Homes 37%
- Relative Care 22%
- Friend Care 4%



Average Rates

The average rates (shown below) for our six-County region are broken down by county and type of care. Family Child Care homes (FCC) and Centers (all other types of care on our database) are listed as average full-time weekly rates:

| | Infant | | Preschool | | School Age | |
|------------------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|
| | FCC | Center | FCC | Center | FCC | Center |
| Champaign County | \$117 | 198 | 109 | 157 | 83 | 119 |
| Douglas County | \$98 | N/A | 96 | N/A | 73 | N/A |
| Iroquois County | \$86 | 94 | 81 | 85 | 66 | N/A |
| Macon County | \$109 | 148 | 104 | 118 | 98 | 96 |
| Piatt County | \$106 | 175 | 101 | 157 | 82 | 118 |
| Vermilion County | \$95 | 137 | 90 | 107 | 75 | 91 |

Type of Care

The chart on the right shows total child care facilities and capacities broken down by city, county and type of care: Family Child Care (FCC) Homes and Centers. Centers includes: Preschool programs, School-Age programs, Park/Recreation programs, Head Start programs, and Preschool For All programs.

| | FCC | | Center | |
|------------------|-------|----------|--------|----------|
| | Total | Capacity | Total | Capacity |
| Champaign County | 344 | 2,835 | 110 | 9,408 |
| Douglas County | 41 | 316 | 6 | 238 |
| Iroquois County | 50 | 384 | 13 | 462 |
| Macon County | 58 | 491 | 37 | 3,176 |
| Piatt County | 27 | 225 | 7 | 231 |

Training Services

Our training department collaborates with child care associations in our six counties to meet the training needs of child care providers about training, education, and technical assistance.

| | Trainings Complete | Hours Complete | Participant Hours |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Workshops | 146 | 304 | 6,626 |
| Self Studies | 59 | 118 | 118 |
| Series Sessions | 51 | 167 | 3,024 |
| Total | 256 | 589 | 9,768 |

Nurse Consultants

These staff members collaborate with Healthy Child Care America, health care professionals, child care providers and families in a partnership to improve the health and well-being of children in child care settings. The primary purpose of the Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) program is to build strong connections between child health experts and child care providers to support healthy child care environments and ultimately healthy outcomes for children in care. In fiscal year 2009, our CCNCs provided the following services:

Outreach Activities 10

Consultations 319

Training Participants 903

Technical Assistance 977

Materials Distributed 6,018

Networking Activities 124

Educational Sessions 81

Training Hours Offered 81.5

Quality Rating System

The Quality Counts: Quality Rating System (QRS) assists Illinois child care programs in providing quality care for children and their families. This is a voluntary program available to license-exempt family child care providers, licensed family/group home child care providers, and licensed centers. Providers must serve children participating in the IDHS Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). Technical assistance, training, and supports are offered to all types of providers. The system offers progressive levels which providers can achieve depending on the type of care they provide. Specific quality criteria must be met to achieve a specific level. Once a child care provider has met the required criteria for that level, they will be recognized for their achievement and will receive a quality add-on rate to the CCAP standard daily rate. In Fiscal year 2009, 255 providers took steps to obtaining this level of quality.



CCRS Staff

Directors: Dr. Angela Wiley, Ph.D. & Brenda Eastham

Office Manager: Mindy Reiter

Research Coordinator: Dr. Philip Garnier, Ph.D.

Resource Development: Dottie Squire (Coordinator), Kathy Martin

Training: Lou Anne Burton (Coord.), Jackie Farber, Jenny Garinger

Child Care Assistance Program: Barb, Lisa, and Chad (Coordinators), Jenny, Alice, Ashley, Whitney, Angela, Richelle, Milagros, Carla, Darrin, Craig, Valerie, Tina, Marc, Tia, Anna, Megan

Parent Counseling: Cheri Adams (Coord.), Lou Anne, Jackie, Laura, Milagros, Kathy, Dottie, Tina, Ashley, Jenny

Media Specialist: Donna Olson-Armstrong

Quality Counts Kathy Martin

Data Specialist: Laura Herriott

Liaison: Diana Shipley, Mary Ellen Wilken

Nurse Consultant: Carol Carlton, Sandy Heffern



Grants and Funds

Quality Counts is a community education program for parents and child care providers focusing on the issues of quality child care. In order to help child care providers enhance the literacy aspects of their programs, a key indicator of quality child care, CCRS regularly visits providers and offers literacy materials. In fiscal year 2009, we brought the Quality Counts van on 731 program visits, and to 124 license-exempt child care providers throughout our six counties.

The Quality Counts Mini Grants funded \$254,895 to local child care providers who applied. CCRS received 118 requests and was able to fund 93 programs. The number of grants funded depended on the number of proposals received and the amount awarded to each. The awards were distributed equally proportionate across our six counties. Sixty-four (64) family child care providers and 29 centers were approved for funding. A total of \$341,766 was requested in 2009.

Professional Development Funds (PDF) and Accreditation Grants are designed to support individual pursuit of professional development in early care and education. Providers participating in educational events that meet grant guidelines can be reimbursed for their expenditures. Center program directors, center staff, family child care owners and staff, and child care associations are able to access these funds. In fiscal year 2009, CCRS distributed \$22,767 in 200 grants to individual providers and programs for workshops, tuition and on-site professional development opportunities. CCRS also administers a grant to enable providers to pursue program accreditation and various early childhood credentials. In fiscal year 2009, 24 grants were awarded for pursuit of credentialing and 9 grants were awarded for program accreditation.

Community Advisory Boards

Champaign and Douglas Counties

Tanya Arellano, Developmental Services Center
Cheri Burcham, UI Douglas County Extension
William Curry, Metcad
Molly Delaney, WILL AM-FM Television
Felicia Gooler, Family Developmental Services Center
Jill Moore, Early Learning
Bari Rothbaum, Friend of Children
Ruth Stauder, Playtime Coop Nursery
Jennifer Weidner, Douglas County Head Start
Marilee Wright, Mental Health Center of Champ. Cnty.

Krista Borberly, Cunningham Childrens Home
Jolie Carsten, Mental Health Center
Sandy Davin, Urbana School District, ASCCP
Amy Eckert, Star Publications/News-Gazette
Susan Hayes, Douglas County Health Department
Carole Murphy, Champaign County Public Health District
Cammy Seguin, UI Champaign County Extension
Linda Tortorelli, Autism Network
Mary Anne Wilson, Mental Health Center of Champ. Cnty.
Charmaine Young, Friend of Children

Macon and Piatt Counties

Sandra Allgood, Wee Folk
Leon Bolin, Department of Children and Family Services
Jolie Carsten, Mental Health Center of Champaign County
Debby Durbin, Macon County Health Department
Bob Flider, Illinois State Representative
Diane Friend, Decatur Day Care Center
Jeanne Helm, Richland Community College
Margie Malone, Discovery Depot Day Care/Easter Seals
Samir Patel, Physician
Jane Shade, Project Success
Janice Willoughby, Dewitt/Piatt County Health Department

Susan Anderson, Decatur Area Family Child Care
Lori Brown, Discovery Depot Day Care/Easter Seals
Ann Chambliss, Unit 61 At-Risk Pre-K
Mazie Eldridge, Wee Folk
Sue Fouts, Wee Folk II
Earleen Hartrich, Baby Talk
Alice Huebner, Richland Community College
Betty Mcfarland, Kairos School
Sherry Rocha, UI Extension Macon County Unit
Kathe Trusner, Dewitt-Piatt County Health Department
Linda Wolfe, Noah's Ark Christian Day Care

Iroquois and Vermilion Counties

Jolie Carsten, Mental Health Center of Champaign County
Gladys Davis, Laura Lee Fellowship House/DACC
Diondra Ellison, Center For Children Services
Nina Hubert, Iroquois Department Of Public Aid
Shirley Krall, Iroquois County Early Intervention
Cindy Montgomery, YFRC Early Learning Center
Vicky Oliver, Center for Children Services
Melissa Rome, Vermilion County Health Department

Becky Cline, Children At Risk
Sandy Eckersley, Luv-n-care Family Child Care
Jeanne Housholder, Vermilion County DPA
Maurita Keyser, Center For Children Services
Donita Mcgee, Danville Area Community College
Joan Mosher, Hoopston Head Start
Diane Rew, Danville District 118 Pre-K Program

University of Illinois Departmental Advisory Board

Christy Lleras, Assistant Professor
Ann Reisner, Associate Professor

Nancy McElwain, Assistant Professor
Angela Wiley, Associate Professor

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CCRS is a program of the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Department of Human and Community Development at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Illinois Extension.