



ANNUAL REPORT  
2018

CHILD CARE RESOURCES OF ROCKLAND, INC.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE



THE CCRR BOARD OF DIRECTORS, as volunteers, completed one of the most challenging tasks a board has to manage – finding the next leader of the organization. Thanks to each of those Directors, particularly the Search Committee members, the task was completed with wisdom, time, talent, and treasure.

I would say that among the amazing accomplishments in 2018, the searching for and hiring of Vicki Caramante as the new Executive Director was at the top of the list. Staff members and board members were thoughtful, questioning, sharing, and wise in this cooperative process. However, all the while, CCRR did not stand still during this transition. All the critical work we are known for was developed, maintained, and completed with integrity, joy, and passion.

We appreciate the cooperation with our funders to meet the development of all children. We are forever grateful for the trust parents place in us to help with their very important planning for their children's early learning experiences. The collaborations with early learning programs provides CCRR with the opportunity to learn from and share professional collegiality. Staff members are excited to provide information and understanding about our industry to local, state and federal elected and appointed officials. Plus, it is a pleasure to work with our business partners through the Rockland Economic Development Corporation and the county business leaders.

I have found great satisfaction in this work and know that Vicki and the entire staff and board of CCRR will feel the same. I pray that we can all live up to this anonymous writer, "Children's needs must come first – it's a moral imperative. The way that we care for children is a barometer of how their precious lives are measured and valued."

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jane Brown".

Jane Brown  
Executive Director, 2004-2018

CHILD CARE RESOURCES OF ROCKLAND accomplished so much in 2018, as you will read throughout this Annual Report. Board and staff alike worked diligently and with care to meet the needs of children



and their families and the needs of our child care programs. Referrals, parent workshops, professional development, and advocacy are broad descriptions of the agency's work, all of which progressed with the spectre of change on the horizon. CCRR's long-serving and beloved Executive Director, Jane Brown, would exit at the end of the year. Many wondered – what's next?

Being hired to step into the role of Executive Director is a prodigious honor, meaningful to me because of the esteem with which CCRR is viewed not only in Rockland but in the state and in the nation. Jane, the staff, and the Board have and continue to mentor and support me. Words cannot express how appreciative I am.

As CCRR enters its 45<sup>th</sup> year, much work still needs to be done to ensure children have access to safe, affordable, developmentally appropriate early care and education; to ensure our early care workforce receives the professional development, respect, and wages they deserve; and to engage all stakeholders – providers, parents, businesses, legislators, and community partners – to communicate, advocate for, and enact smart, effective child care and family-friendly policies. I thank Jane and the directors before her for laying the foundation for my tenure. With an eye to the past, I look forward to 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Vicki Caramante".

Victoria Caramante  
Executive Director



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me. — Fred Rogers*

It has been a distinct honor to have served as the Board President of Child Care Resources of Rockland this past year. I am privileged to work with a group of highly dedicated and passionate board members who are tireless in their efforts to ensure that all children in Rockland County have access to the services and learning environments they need to truly grow and succeed.

This past year the agency underwent a major change in leadership with the retirement of Jane Brown. Executive Director Vicki Caramante and our diligent staff members continue to provide exceptional services to children, families, and child care programs in Rockland County.

The board and staff could not do this work without the support of the community. Thank you for being our friend along the path of seeing life through the eyes of children. Thank you for donating your time, treasure and talent to this cause. Thank you for believing that the early years are learning years and that we have to make them count!

With gratitude,

*Phyllis Tucker*

Phyllis Tucker, Board President

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### BOARD PRESIDENT

Phyllis Tucker

Ira Steinberg

Ann Taylor

Phyllis Tucker

### PAST PRESIDENT

Chris Jensen

### BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Christine Cahill

### VICE PRESIDENT

Steve Fromson

### FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

John Lagana

### SECRETARY

Donna Perreca

### AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Steve Fromson

### TREASURER

John Gregory

### LONG RANGE PLANNING CHAIR

Phyllis Tucker

### DIRECTORS

Christine Cahill

Kathleen Cuneo

Nancy Cutler

Una Diffley

Victoria Frelow

Steve Fromson

John Gregory

Jan Jason

Christopher Jensen

John Lagana

Anne Nissen

Donna Perreca

Scott Salotto

Nycole Smith

### FUND DEVELOPMENT CHAIR

John Gregory

### BOARD DEVELOPMENT CHAIR

Victoria Caramante

### MARKETING/PUBLIC

### RELATIONS CHAIR

Victoria Frelow

### PROGRAMS CHAIR

Jan Jason



**“** Child Care Resources of Rockland is an incredible agency that has a long-standing commitment to championing our children and families. Their advocacy and essential services have made such a difference to so many in Rockland.

*I am honored to stand in support of Child Care Resources of Rockland and look forward to working together to ensure that all children in New York State have quality early education and child care.* **”**

- NEW YORK STATE SENATOR JAMES SKOUFIS

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is a contract agency of the County of Rockland, the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, the NYS Department of Health, the NYS Education Department, and the United Way of Rockland County. Additional funding for Special Needs Services is provided by Family Support Services, and the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. We are also supported by our member base.

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is NYS Best Practices Certified and Quality Assurance Certified by Child Care Aware® of America demonstrating the competence in the field of Child Care Resource and Referral.

## OUR STAFF

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jane Brown, 26 years; Vicki Caramante, 1 year

### DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Gerd Schubert, 16 years

**Finance Coordinator:** Kathleen Siuro, 18 years

### DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY

**ENHANCEMENT SERVICES** Debbie Silver, 23 years

**Quality Enhancement Specialists:**

Rachel Ambroziak, 4 years; David Del Campo, 19 years;

Bonnie Parsekian, 4 years; Maria Rivas, 20 years

**Infant Toddler Quality Enhancement Specialist:**

Jenny Spampinato, 1 year

**CDA Coordinator and Special Needs Coordinator:**

Ellen Mitchell, 21 years

### DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM STANDARDS AND SUPPORT

**SERVICES** Elaine Trotta, 24 years

**Standards and Support Specialists:** Jim Callahan, 10 years;

Teresa Ortega, 12 years; Edna Saravia, 14 years;

**Standards and Support Coordinator,** Priscilla Blanco, 5 years

**Registrars:** Jim Callahan, Edna Saravia, Priscilla Blanco

**CACFP Coordinator:** Teresa Ortega

**Registered Nurse:** Kristin Saunders, 8 years

**Legally Exempt Enrollment Coordinator:** Ines Ortiz, 33 years

### DIRECTOR OF FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND OPERATIONS

**SERVICES** Karen Ross, 22 years

**Resource & Referral Coordinator:** Christina Espindola, 4 years

**Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator:** Lisa Kreisel, 5 years

**PreKindergarten Coordinator:** Jenine Valentino, 12 years



“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each individual is the team.” – Phil Jackson



2018 Board/Staff Retreat

## OUR MISSION

**To promote, support and enhance the healthy development of all children by:**

**Providing** resource and referral services for families seeking accessible, affordable, quality early childhood and school age care and education;

**Offering** training, support and resources to the early care and education workforce as well as public and private schools;

**Connecting** with business leaders and public officials to emphasize the value of quality child care to the economic vitality of Rockland County;

**Advocating** for increased investment in quality child care and education;

**Collaborating** with strategic partners to enhance our collective abilities to address the needs of the community now and in the future.

## OUR VISION

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. (CCRR) believes all children deserve quality child care and early education. By supporting our children from birth through the school years, we build an essential foundation for our families, schools, businesses, and communities. CCRR is recognized as the leading resource for quality child care and early education services, providing leadership, guidance, and information for our community, partners, business leaders, and elected representatives.



## 2018-2020 OUR STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

- 1) Increase the agency's income/funding (over 2017-2019) levels for:
  - a. resource and referral service;
  - b. training and technical assistance;
  - c. support and resources to the early care and education workforce as well as public and private schools;
  - d. advocacy for increased investment in quality child care and education at the local, state and national levels
- 2) Promote CCRR's mission and vision by connecting with parents, providers, community agencies, business leaders and public officials to emphasize the value of quality child care to the economic vitality of Rockland County
- 3) Address the needs of the community now and in the future by identifying needed services, which includes underserved populations; develop strategies to provide these services; plan for implementation of programs to meet those needs
- 4) Identify and provide opportunities for staff growth and development
- 5) Identify and provide opportunities for Board growth and development
- 6) Recruit and hire executive director



## HISTORY



Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. was founded in 1974 as the Day Care and Child Development Council of Rockland by Phyllis Helbraun, a lifelong champion of issues affecting women, children, and families, with a grant from The National Council of Jewish Women, Rockland Section. Its mission was to advocate for better child care funding,

higher standards, and improved program development. In the 45 years since, CCRR has engaged providers, families, legislators, and businesses to promote, support, and enhance the healthy development of all children.

Throughout its existence, CCRR has promoted and increased the number of early care and school age care programs. Focusing on children birth through age 8, we strive to support the essential foundations families and children need for learning readiness.

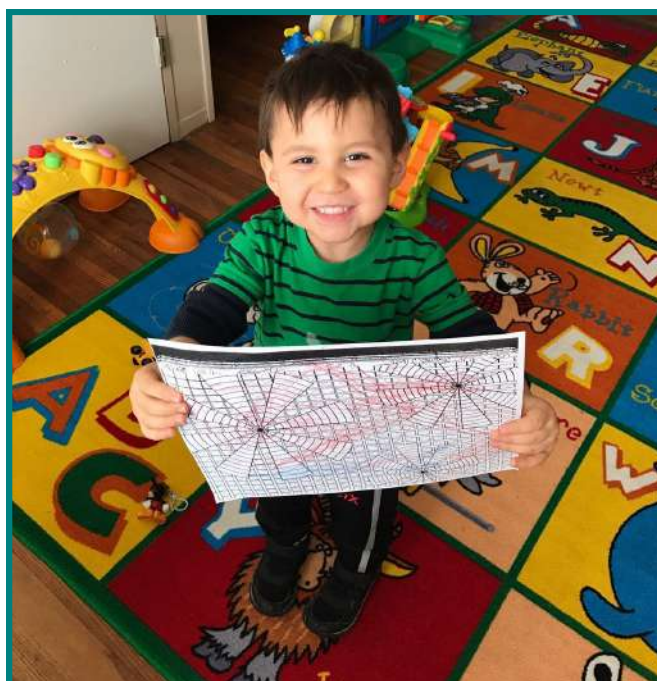
In 1997, the agency's name was changed to Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. (CCRR) to better reflect our programs and services, solidifying our position as the prominent source of child care resource and referral information for families. We are contracted by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services as the licensing agent for family child care and school age care programs, as a child care resource and referral agency, as the Legally Exempt Enrollment Agency, and to provide Child Care Health Services.

Following on our mission to ensure the healthy development of all children, CCRR works with scores of partners to support children and their families. From our pre-natal network to our regional Infant/Toddler network, to administering state-funded UPK and Full-Day PreK, to the School Age Care network, CCRR ensures the needs of children are addressed. We administer the Child and Adult Care Food Program for providers and have contracted with federal, state, and local governments to ensure children have access to healthy food and nutrition.

Working with families, CCRR offers respite and support services for families of children with special needs who need child care and partner with the United Way of Rockland to administer a unique child care tuition scholarship program.

From establishing a Child Development Associate (CDA) Program to developing myriad professional development opportunities, CCRR supports providers as lifelong learners and to improve on the delivery of curriculum. Working with our partners in the state, we ensure providers and their staff receive the required and additional training in the areas of health and safety; child development; child care; child abuse; program management; family and community relationships; and so much more. With funding from the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities, we offer specialized professional development which provides training and technical assistance to programs willing to commit to intensive examination of their environment, programming, and practices to improve the retention of children with special needs, especially those who exhibit challenging behaviors.

**TODAY,** Child Care Resources of Rockland celebrates 45 years of service and employs a staff of 22 dedicated individuals. We remain firm in our commitment to build capacity, improve quality, and facilitate access to early care and education services through advocacy and action.



## ADVOCACY

Letters, phone calls, and office visits are on-going efforts in our quest to educate the community about policy and funding on behalf of children, families, and the child care workforce. The Annual Children's Legislative Forum explores policy affecting children and families; 2018's presentation: *Protective Factors: The Need for Resources for Young Children*.

### 2018 PUBLIC POLICY AGENDAS

#### ROCKLAND CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY NETWORK (RCAN) TOP PRIORITIES

##### 1. Pre and Perinatal Mood Disorders

Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network: 914-922-2240  
Nyack Hospital's Prenatal Center: 845-348-2550

##### 2. Early Intervention

Rockland County Department of Health: 845-364-2032

**3. Parent-Child Home Program:** Rockland 21st Century Collaborative for Children and Youth: 845-627-5437

##### 4. Child Care and Prekindergarten

Child Care Resources of Rockland: 845-425-0009

**5. Parent Child Interactive Therapy:** Rockland County Department of Mental Health: 845-364-2275

**6. Partnership for Safe Youth:** BOCES: 845-405-4180

### Winning Beginning NY: (State)

**Increase Access to Child Care:** 1. Use economic development funds to expand access to quality child care for low income families that cannot afford child care in order to remove barriers to broad workforce participation, support worker productivity, and bolster the local child care industry; 2. Create a dedicated fund that will allow local governments that have exhausted their child care funding allocations to apply for the dedicated funds to serve all eligible low-income working families; 3. Expand the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit.

**Pre-Kindergarten:** Invest at least \$150 million to ensure children outside of New York City have access to quality full-day programs, to include: \$125 million to expand access to pre-K full-day and part-day for both three- and four-year-olds, and \$25 million in supplemental funding to enhance quality and eliminate barriers to expansion, as districts expand pre-K. Protect and build on the state's current \$822 million investment in Pre-K.

**Early Intervention:** We urge the State to begin restoring reimbursement rates by increasing the current rates by at least 5% this year. Restoring these rates is necessary to ensure that children can receive high-quality EI services at the time when intervention is most effective.

October 2018 Round Table discussion led by Congresswoman Nita Lowey on the importance of federal investments in child care and early childhood education.





**We are dedicated** to advocating for high quality child care and early learning experiences for all of New York's children and families.



## 2018 Legislative Meetings

Senator David Carlucci

Assembly Member Karl Brabenec

Assembly Member Ellen Jaffee

Assembly Member / Senator-Elect James Skoufis

Assembly Member Ken Zebrowski (above)

Recognized by the NYS Assembly (left)

Participated in Congresswoman Lowey's Round

Table Discussion on Child Care (page 7)

## Annual Children's Legislative Forum

The 2018 Annual Children's Legislative Forum, sponsored by the Rockland Children's Advocacy Network (RCAN) and Rockland Community College, took place on Friday, March 2, 2018. Its theme was *Protective Factors: The Enormous Need for Resources for Young Children*.

RCAN is a coalition of citizens, students, and public and private organizations providing an independent voice for the children and youth of Rockland County. CCRR is the convener for RCAN's 16 member organizations.



Andre Eaton, Parent-Child Home Program  
Director of New York Programs



Viviana Zepeda, PCHP Home Visitor, and Miriam Avila, PCHP Coordinator,  
North Rockland Central School District



## FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND OPERATIONS SERVICES

The Family, Community, and Operations Services Department provides administrative support for 22 staff members and the Board of Directors, managing a wide range of administrative tasks, such as client services, data management, communications, and marketing.

The department informed and engaged families and the greater community via our website and increased connections through social networks where we update and post child care related news daily. In December 2018, we opened an Instagram account; throughout the year our social media followers increased (917 Facebook followers, 1077 Twitter followers, 467 LinkedIn followers, and 135 Instagram followers).

We will continue to expand our social networking initiatives and seek innovative ways to conduct outreach using online tools in the coming year. The department is responsible for all of Child Care Resources of Rockland's marketing, public relations, and fundraising efforts.



## Community Outreach

Through this department, staff and Board members participate in community events, meeting face to face with people in the communities we serve. These outreach opportunities also help families learn firsthand the various resources available to them in Rockland County.

In May, we produced our first video which premiered at our Annual Meeting. Using the original footage, we later created three short videos to communicate specific, targeted messages: *Quality Child Care Matters*; *Child Care and the Bottom Line*; and *Looking for Child Care?* These videos were distributed to families, child care professionals, businesses, elected officials, and the community at large via email marketing and social media channels.

We look for opportunities in the community to increase awareness of our programs and services. Over the course of the year, Board and staff members represented the agency through their participation in seven local events, totaling 26 hours of visibility in the community. All of Child Care Resources of Rockland's ambassadors were English-speaking; six were also able to communicate in Spanish, and one in German.



“CCRR is the backbone for child equality. The staff's dedication and contributions are the fabric of educational excellence found throughout the County of Rockland. With an emphasis on quality child care and early education services always being foremost, CCRR equips providers (like me) with the tools necessary to expose children to a world full of educational adventure. Through professional development trainings that promote, but are not limited to, the use of music and movement, and the love of literacy and scientific exploration, CCRR paves the way to help educate providers, parents, and the community on best practices.”

- DENISE FORSBERG  
OWNER, TIME IN CHILD CARE

## Respite Services for Families

As always, Child Care Resources of Rockland is committed to identifying families whose children have special needs or challenges. In addition to the many resource and referral services we offer, CCRR administers a respite program with funding from the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). Serving families of children from birth to 21 the respite program allows parents and caregivers time for self-care while their child(ren) are cared for in a quality educational setting. In 2018, 14 Rockland County families received respite funding.

We are fortunate to receive funding through the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities to provide respite services for eligible families with children with special needs. This funding allows families to have part of their child care costs paid in order to attend to tasks such as work, medical appointments, shopping, and other daily activities. Ninety-five children were assisted with child care and other special needs resources.

## United Way of Rockland County Community Impact Initiatives

Through the United Way of Rockland County, CCRR has been able to administer the Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program. Families whose income falls just below the child care subsidy eligibility requirements were able to apply for a scholarship to assist with child care tuition costs. Participation in this program contributes to a family's financial stability and provides an opportunity for parents to maintain employment or continue their

**“**As a single mother, child care tuition can take a toll on the household income. Some parents have to work two jobs to keep afloat. A family friend took care of my baby to help me make ends meet - then a friend mentioned the United Way Tuition Scholarship. Since being approved for the program, I have been able to enroll my daughter in an accredited child care program. My daughter has gained a lot; she knows the ABCs and is even counting to ten! I am forever grateful for this program and ecstatic that I am able to take part in it. The scholarship has helped me in a life changing way.**”**

- RECIPIENT OF THE UNITED WAY CHILD CARE  
TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

education. In turn, this program promotes workforce stabilization. This year, 15 children from 13 families received scholarships.

## Parent Education and Engagement

We provide free parent education seminars throughout the year. Recent topics: *Tears, Trauma, and Temperament*, *Off to a Good Start: What You Can Do to Strengthen Your Child's Social and Emotional Development*; *All About UPK and SFDPK for Parents*; *What a Creative Curriculum Looks Like and Why!*; and *Entering Kindergarten: A Milestone for Parents and Children*.



**283 PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED**  
**11 PARENT SEMINARS**

## Jane Brown Tuition Scholarship Fund

The Jane Brown Tuition Scholarship Fund, created in the Fall of 2018, was inspired in part by the United Way of Rockland County's Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program and as a legacy to Jane Brown. With an increasing number of working families who are struggling, CCRR is committed to growing the scholarship fund to provide all children with access to quality child care.

## Children's Champions Awards Celebration

On April 10, we held our 27th Annual Children's Champions Awards Celebration. Every year, we honor a group of individuals for their outstanding service in working with children and their families in Rockland County.



2019 HONOREES (L TO R): KAREN MARTINEZ (CDA RECIPIENT); ELYSE STOLLER REPRESENTING LARC YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIANS; JANET FENTON; ILEANA ECKERT; DONNA DORVIL, AND MARIA RODRIGUEZ VEGA.



## Referral Services

Our resource and referral services provide child care consulting to families in need of care. Our specialists inform parents of the types of care that are available and work with those parents to determine that which best meets their needs. Specialists create a packet of materials which includes those referrals, a guide to developmentally appropriate practices, safety checklists, and an assortment of information parents may need to help them make a quality child care choice.

In addition to working directly with Rockland County families, resource and referral staff members reach out to the business community to share information about the importance of quality child care for their employees.



**816 CHILDREN WERE REFERRED**  
TO FAMILY CHILD CARE, SCHOOL AGE  
CARE, EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION  
CENTERS, & SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS

## UPK and Statewide Full Day Pre-K

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) and Statewide Full Day Pre-K (SFDPK) are programs funded by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). UPK provides a free two-and-one-half hour preschool experience, five days a week for 180 days, and Statewide Full Day Pre-Kindergarten provides a free five-hour preschool experience five days a week for 180 days.



Pre-Kindergarten programs are specifically for children turning four years old by the first of December during the school year in which they are applying. UPK and SFDPK provide caring learning environments that support children as they develop the social, emotional, and behavioral skills needed to transition into kindergarten.

Again this past year, CCRR was contracted by seven school districts in the county to coordinate, administer, and oversee services for their Universal Pre-Kindergarten Programs: Clarkstown, Nanuet, North Rockland, Nyack, Pearl River, South Orangetown, and Suffern Central. There were 42 sites that provided a UPK experience to 767 children. In addition, we were contracted by four school districts in the county to coordinate, administer, and oversee all services for their SFDPK Programs: North Rockland, Nyack, South Orangetown, and Suffern Central. Ten sites provided a SFDPK experience to 75 children. Our Quality Enhancement Specialists worked with all the sites on a monthly basis to provide guidance, technical assistance, and support to enhance that experience.

Of particular note, the Suffern Central School District dedicated a portion of their Title 1 funds to provide an additional 46 students (beyond the District State allotment) a Pre-Kindergarten experience and 20 students received additional assistance under these funds. We coordinate, administer, and oversee all aspects of this program.

**“** The Pre-K process was a relatively easy process to go through, and absolutely worth it. Child Care Resources of Rockland handled all of the paperwork and notified us when my son was picked in the lottery for his Pre-K at Tall Pines, thus taking a huge weight off our shoulders and allowing him to enjoy and learn at school. My son has made huge strides being in Pre-K and is ready for Kindergarten in the fall! I would recommend Child Care Resources of Rockland's services to anyone with children. **”**

- LIZ SCHILLER  
PRE-K PARENT

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

Through a variety of funding systems we provided many opportunities for continued learning—1,274 early childhood professionals attended 218 training opportunities. Over 60 seminars were presented by CCRR staff to child care programs, school age care programs, and local libraries. We also made 620 on-site technical assistance visits to family child care homes, child care centers, and school age care programs.

CCRR trainers taught three Child Development Associate (CDA) courses, and five providers received their CDA certification, a nationally recognized credential. Training opportunities were also provided in collaboration with the Office of Children and Family Services, Rockland County, the State University of New York, the NYS Department of Health, NYS Education Department, the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities, and the Early Care and Learning Council.

Thanks to Assembly Member Ken Zebrowski, we were able to offer our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Childhood and School Age Care Conference at a reduced rate. This allowed 117 attendees to receive up to six hours of training each.



**“**Our CDA instructor from CCRR was very thorough and prepared us well for the CDA exam and for our field observation. CCRR cared about us as a whole class and as individuals. They have made this whole process fun and easy.**”**

- CAROL CORKER  
ENROLLED IN CCRR'S CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATE (CDA) COURSE



### The Pyramid Project

The Pyramid Project, developed by the Center for Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning, focuses on the foundational social and emotional development and school readiness of young children birth to age five. Since 2016, CCRR has provided the training to several early childhood programs through a grant to Rockland County from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). We worked with two child care sites to help fully implement the Pyramid Project. Our training and coaching to early childhood providers focused on building positive relationships, developing supportive and nurturing environments, teaching social skills, empathy and emotional vocabulary, and providing individualized supports when needed.

### Special Needs Services

CCRR annually receives funding from the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities to provide intensive training and on-site technical assistance to programs requesting additional help working with children who have special needs.

Programs received free seminars and unlimited access to our staff to assist in troubleshooting issues as they arose. Teachers from six programs attended a series of seminars about providing services for children with special needs.



**1,274 EARLY CHILDHOOD  
PROFESSIONALS ATTENDED  
218 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**



One hundred hours of classroom visits were provided to teachers who had concerns about an individual child's development and to assist programs in developing strategies to work with challenging behaviors. Information was also provided to parents on navigating the evaluation process.

## Rockland County Department of Health Projects

CCRR is proud to partner with the Rockland County Department of Health in two projects. As part of the Creating Breastfeeding Friendly Communities project, CCRR assisted ten child care sites to become approved *Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Programs*. Each site attended a *Breastfed Babies Welcome Here* workshop and participated in pre- and post-assessments of their breastfeeding space. They received technical assistance in developing policies and arranging their space to be breastfeeding friendly, sites receiving materials to set up a breastfeeding friendly environment. Finally, each site hosted a tour of their new breastfeeding friendly space and provided materials on the importance of breastfeeding.

We also partnered with the Rockland County Department of Health on the Sodium Reduction in Communities project. Participating sites attended the *Shake the Salt! Healthy Habits for Life* workshop, where they received an indoor herb garden kit and supplies to hold their own low sodium taste experiment with their class. They also attended the workshop *Healthy Cooking and Eating with Children*, and received materials to enhance food preparation and presentation.



## Diversity Project

As part of our contract with Rockland County, CCRR staff provided intensive training, on-site technical assistance, and a substantial amount of books, toys, and art supplies to 12 preschool classrooms at eight sites. Spending 20 hours in each classroom, our Quality Enhancement Specialists worked with teachers and support staff to promote diversity awareness, related not only to social or cultural differences, but also differences in gender/gender-identity, economic status, physical ability, and age.

In 2019, the Diversity Project continues in 12 additional classrooms at five child care programs.



## Better Baby Care Campaign



The Better Baby Care Campaign, facilitated by Child Care Resources of Rockland, began as an initiative funded by the United Way of Rockland County in 2002 to improve the quality of care for babies in Rockland County. Representatives of many agencies and organizations meet to discuss issues and projects impacting infants, toddlers, and their families. Information and resources concerning infants and toddlers was shared, including Rockland-based Baby Cafes and the Rockland County Breastfeeding Coalition. The film *The Dark Side of the Full Moon*, focusing on maternal mental health, was presented in the County. The Better Baby Care Campaign participated in the Department of Health's Health Education Day.



**Tales for Tots** is just one of the literacy programs we have launched over the years. The program matches volunteer readers to early childhood programs. In 2018, volunteers read to children weekly and provided developmentally appropriate books.

## Volunteer Readers

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Al Appel          | Carole Greene      |
| Sherman Baker     | Steve Hagendorf    |
| Barbara Barowsky  | Garnette Henderson |
| Tom Belcher       | Stephanie Hirsh    |
| Maxine Bernstein  | Alyce Jacobson     |
| Elaine Binder     | Barbara Levenson   |
| Gerald Bloom      | Susan Levey        |
| Nancy Breed-Makin | Karen Marrinan     |
| Jennifer Clark    | Rosemary Miele     |
| Daniel Desanovich | Terry Mollo        |
| Sylvia Falk       | Marcia Scheer,     |
| Linda Freundel    | Coordinator        |
| Martha Goldman    | Marsha Silverstein |
| Carol Gordon      | Estelle Sterniolo  |
| Rita Grayson      | Sally Winter       |
| Brenda Greenberg  |                    |

## Participating Child Care Programs

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| • Campus Fun and Learn Child Development Center  | • Jawonio                           |
| • Children's Corner Learning Center, Pearl River | • Kidsnett                          |
| • East Ramapo Early Childhood Center             | • Playgarten                        |
| • Haverstraw Day Care and Learning Center        | • Rockland Worksite Day Care Center |
|  | • Tutor Time New City               |

**“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.”**

- Dr. Seuss





## PROGRAM STANDARDS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

### Registration

Child Care Resources of Rockland serves as the registrar for Family Child Care and School Age Care Programs in Rockland County. Our registration staff is trained and available to assist child care providers and school age care programs in registering, renewing certifications, and maintaining the regulatory standards set by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYSOCFS). There were 247 regulated programs : 61 Early Childhood Centers; 37 Family Child Care Providers; 118 Group Family Child Care Providers; and 31 School Age Care Programs.



**247 REGULATED PROGRAMS**

### Legally Exempt Enrollment Services

CCRR is the enrollment agency for legally exempt (LE) providers caring for children whose families receive child care subsidy. Legally exempt providers are often referred to as informal providers. They are defined as providers who care for no more than two unrelated children at the same time in addition to related children, or who care for children less than three hours in a home setting. In 2018 there were 140 LE programs serving 460 children.

Legally Exempt Family Child Care, In-Home Family Child Care, and Group Legally Exempt Child Care programs are exempt from State License and Registration Regulations according to state child care regulations. Child care can be provided in the provider's home, in the child's home, in someone else's home, or in a group setting such as nursery schools and camps. Enrolled providers must renew their status annually.

As the enrollment agency, we are required to conduct inspection visits of 20% of legally exempt family child care providers. We also respond to any complaints related to legally exempt family child care and group family child care, if they are programs that are enrolled. Once a program is enrolled, the Rockland County Department of Social Services is responsible for authorizing payments to the provider for child care services. We can provide further assistance through the administration of our Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and our technical assistance to parents and providers.

## Medication Administration Training, American Red Cross First Aid and CPR

In order to help early childhood and school age care professionals meet the necessary requirements, CCRR offers MAT training and CPR and First Aid courses regularly.

All licensed, registered, and legally exempt child care programs that elect to give prescribed medication must take Medication Administration Training (MAT). This training is not required for over-the-counter topical products, such as ointments and sunscreen. In the rare instances where a provider holds a NYS license as a physician, physician's assistant, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or as an advanced emergency medical technician, they are exempt from this training requirement. We held 16 MAT sessions certifying 63 participants: seven classroom sessions with 41 participants; six Independent MAT Study sessions with 21 participants; and three Skills Renewal sessions with 4 participants.

In 2018, there were 25 American Red Cross (ARC) trainings completed, certifying 161 early childhood and school age care professionals. Seven of those classes were held in Spanish certifying 34 bilingual providers.



**25 ARC TRAININGS CERTIFIED 161  
EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL  
AGE CARE PROFESSIONALS**

In collaboration with Rockland County public libraries, four babysitting classes were taught, providing Red Cross Babysitting Certification to 48 young adults. One teen CPR class certified seven participants.



## Child Care Health Services

Programs electing to give medication must have their program's health care plan approved by a health care specialist who holds a NYS license as a physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or registered nurse. With funding provided by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, Child Care Resources of Rockland has a registered nurse on staff.

Technical assistance is available to meet the required standards of practice in administering medication and in writing the health care plan. Programs electing not to give medication may also subscribe to the Child Care Health Specialist services for professional advice and assistance in health related matters in developing their health care plan. CCRR provided health care services to 29 child care centers, 33 group family child care homes, 10 family child care homes, and six school age care programs, totaling 78 programs.

Expanded nursing services are available on a contract basis to programs that choose to have our Child Care Health Specialist take on typical duties of a school nurse: review child and staff health records, inspect and clarify medication documentation, develop policies and parent memos, perform "walk-through" visits, track immunizations, perform lice checks as needed, and complete the annual NYS DOH immunization survey. Additionally, seminars on relevant topics are offered to meet training requirements and interests of providers on various health related topics. In 2018 six programs used this service.



## Gift of Sight and SEE Programs

The OneSight program, in cooperation with LensCrafters, entrusts us to refer children, their families, and teachers unable to obtain eye care through insurance coverage, private financing, or public health, free eye examinations and eyeglasses.

The Lions Club SEE program coordinates with CCRR to offer free photo screening at child care programs to detect amblyopia, commonly known as "lazy eye." The photos are sent to the Ira G. Moss Institute in Buffalo, NY for evaluation and parents are notified if there is a concern. At least seven other eye problems may be revealed by the photos.

## Child and Adult Care Food Program

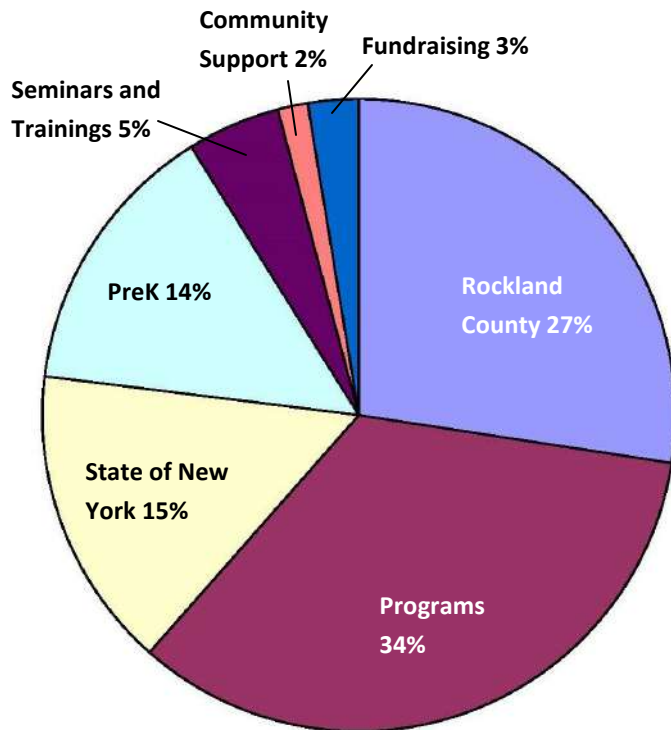
The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered by the NYS Department of Health. On average, 1,026 children in Rockland County received nutritious meals through CACFP from 69 participating child care programs. Child Care Resources of Rockland's CACFP Coordinator processed 3,312 menus for these programs and dispersed food checks totaling \$607,871.



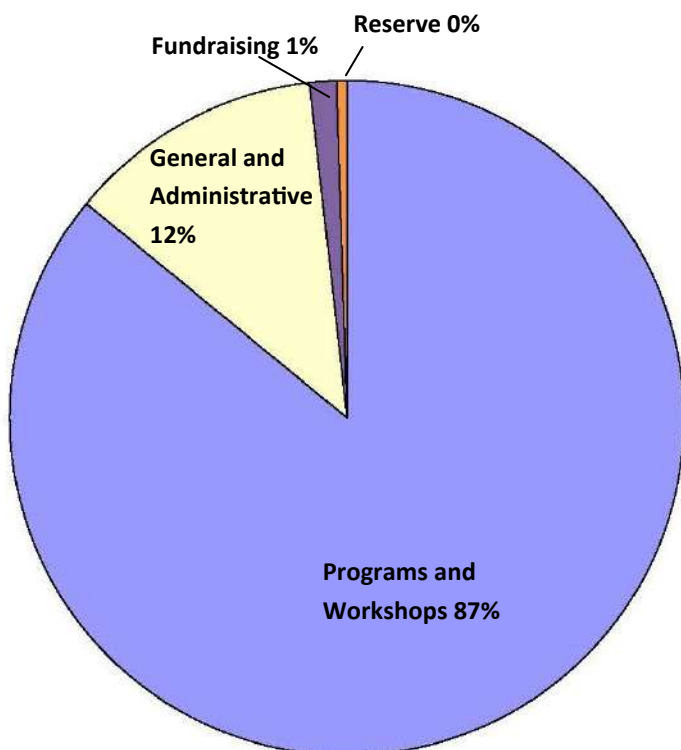
**1,026 CHILDREN RECEIVED  
NUTRITIOUS MEALS  
THROUGH CACFP FROM 69  
CHILD CARE PROGRAMS**



## REVENUE SOURCES AND SUPPORT JANUARY 2018—DECEMBER 2018



## EXPENSES AND RESERVES JANUARY 2018—DECEMBER 2018



# Our Finances



**DECEMBER 31, 2018**  
**ANNUAL BUDGET: \$2,302,787**

### ASSETS

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Cash & Equivalents   | 280,322        |
| Prepays              | 37,728         |
| Receivables          | 494,923        |
| Other Current Assets | 9,263          |
| <hr/>                |                |
| Total Current Assets | 822,236        |
| Office Equipment     | 184,902        |
| Depreciation         | --151,682      |
| <hr/>                |                |
| <b>Total Assets:</b> | <b>855,456</b> |

### LIABILITIES & RESERVES

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Accounts Payable                        | 177,557        |
| Other Current Payables                  | 15,741         |
| <hr/>                                   |                |
| Total Current Liabilities               | 193,298        |
| Fund Reserves                           | 662,158        |
| <hr/>                                   |                |
| <b>Total Liabilities &amp; Reserves</b> | <b>855,456</b> |

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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## When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed. — Maya Angelou

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“It has been a great experience to find out more about CCRR from the inside, including learning about how many constituencies CCRR serves. This gem of a nonprofit is often overlooked by the business community. This agency ensures quality childcare through training opportunities and offers referrals so people can find the best fit for their family. What a perfect partnership for employers who want to invest in their community and support their employees.”

- NANCY CUTLER

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A solid body of research shows the cost-effectiveness of early childhood development in helping to prevent achievement gaps, boost school achievement, promote better health outcomes, improve our workforce, increase productivity and reduce the need for costly social spending.

- James Heckman

## Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.

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