

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



50<sup>th</sup>

*Anniversary*

1974

2024

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.



You are invited to

**Child Care Resources of Rockland's  
50th Anniversary  
and  
Children's Champions Celebration**

**Awards Ceremony, Dinner & Dancing**

Thursday, October 10, 2024

5:45 pm - 10:00 pm

The View on the Hudson

101 Shad Row

Piermont, New York

ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE VIA SIDE OF BUILDING

**Formal Attire**

**Honorees:**

**The Champions in the Trenches Awards**

**John Dillon, YMCA Youth Director  
Myria Jean-Gilles, Group Family Child Care Provider**

**Dynamic Group Award**

**Dr. Karen Tesik, AJ Walker and Lori Graham,  
South Orangetown Central School District**

**It Takes a Community Award**

**Jean Roemer, Center for Safety and Change**

**The Phyllis Helbraun Award**

**Frances Franco-Montero, Office of Children and Family Services**

**The Rookie of the Year Award**

**Chava Schwarzmer, Family Child Care Provider**

**Child Care Resources of Rockland  
Special Services 50th Anniversary Awards**

**Stephen M. Fromson, Greenberg, Wanderman and Fromson  
Donalee Berard, Berard and Associates**

**Call us for more information at (845) 425-0009 x0  
or visit our website at [www.childcarerockland.org](http://www.childcarerockland.org)**

## 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.

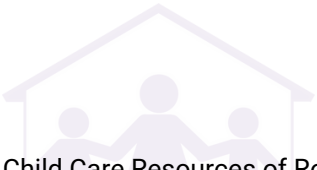
## OUR VISION

---



Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. 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.





## OUR 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 50 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 from 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, as the specialist for infant and toddler services, and to provide Child Care Health Services. And in 2021 OCFS funded the Business Support Initiatives, which CCRR administers.

Following 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 and Toddler network, 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 partners with the United Way of Rockland to administer a unique child care tuition scholarship program.

With the inception of NYS Universal Prekindergarten, in 1998, CCRR was the only child care resource and referral agency in New York State to work with school districts to administer the NYS UPK. From that time until 2022, CCRR was instrumental in establishing, maintaining and managing UPK for children, families, early childhood programs and school districts in Rockland County.



From establishing a Child Development Associate (CDA) Program to developing myriad professional development opportunities, CCRR has supported 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 prevention; program management; family and community relationships; adverse childhood experiences, 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, Inc. celebrates 50 years of service and employs a staff of 23 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.

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## OUR STAFF



### BOARD PRESIDENT

Anne D. Nissen

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Stephen M. Fromson

### VICE PRESIDENT

Vivian England

### SECRETARY

Donna Perreca

### TREASURER

John Gregory

### DIRECTORS

Gila Butrimovitz

Maria Barca

Claire Elpenord

Patricia Soriano Guzmán

Christopher Jensen

Jaime Naddeo

Girish Narasimham

Monica Zenda

### Incoming Executive Director:

Dr. Keishea Allen x615

### Outgoing Executive Director:

Jane Brown

### Finance Coordinator:

Kathleen Siuro x662

### Interim Administrative Director:

Karen Ross

### Director of Family, Community and Operations Services:

Christina Espindola x610

### Resource and Referral Coordinator:

Vicky Saravia x458

### Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Monitor:

Diana Santos x223

### Data and Operations Specialist:

Kari Davie x421

### Outgoing Director of Program Standards, Support and Professional Development Services:

Elaine Trotta

### Incoming Director of Program Standards, Support and Professional Development Services:

Angela Reyes x418

### Standards and Support Coordinator:

Edna Saravia x475

### Standards and Support Specialists:

Blanca Gerena x487

Jill Halpern x456

Shakia Reynolds x620

### Legally Exempt Enrollment Coordinator:

Ines Ortiz x411

### Infant and Toddler Specialist and Professional Development Coordinator:

Jenny Spampinato x419

### Infant and Toddler Mental Health Specialist:

Roxana Halo x613

### Child and Adult Care Food Program Coordinator:

Chantel Pittman x633

### Registered Nurses:

Christie Cinquemani x612

Kristin Saunders Cell: (845) 721-5351

### Business Support Coordinator:

Allison Wojciechowski Cell: (845) 422-7505

### Quality Enhancement Specialists:

Bonnie Parsekian x493

### Quality Enhancement Specialist:

Diahann Darwood x614



## MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND OUTGOING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

---

Happy 50 Years, Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.

With gratitude we want to thank the staff members at CCRR for their dedication to the work we do for the 250+ child care programs in Rockland County as well as the children and families we serve. There were many projects that we completed to help children attend, thrive and develop at the early learning and school age care programs. We also provided our local community, New York State and our country with information and resources to help our elected and appointed officials know about the importance of child care.

During this time, the staff and several board members were tireless as we cleaned out our Spring Valley office of 24 years and moved into a brand-new office space in Orangeburg. It was a mammoth undertaking, but we did it with cooperation, creative thinking and humor. Between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 six new staff members were hired and acclimated to CCRR. It is clear that the 23 employees on staff during this time have been the strongest group in our 50-year history!

Thank you to the Board of Directors who have supported the agency with their time, talent and treasure over the year. Anne Nissen led the Board through this time period, and we are grateful. We know that the new President, Vivian England, will be as strong, compassionate and wise as she leads the board this next year.

We appreciate the continued support of all our funders, whether by contract, grant or donations. They are the backbone of CCRR, affording us the opportunity to grow and move confidently into the future.

We want to live the words of Fred Rogers, "We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

Cheers to another 50 Years, CCRR!!

Keishea Allen and Jane Brown



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Exciting! Challenging! Pivotal! These are the words I would use to describe the period from July 2023 to June 2024 at Child Care Resources of Rockland Inc. During the first half of this year, I was fortunate to be part of the search committee for a new Executive Director. At the end of June 2023, we were thrilled when Dr. Keishea Allen, who shares our vision for Child Care Resources of Rockland Inc., accepted our offer to become the new Executive Director.

Dr. Keishea Allen has a stellar and proven track record in the areas of educational leadership and administration, with an expertise in special education. She is also deeply committed to student success, family involvement, and educational empowerment through advocacy. I confidently speak for the entire Child Care Resources of Rockland Board when I say, "Dr. Allen is the right person at the right time to lead Child Care Resources of Rockland Inc."

As we were searching for a new Executive Director, we were also seeking new office space. There comes a time in the life of every not-for-profit organization when you realize that you need a space that reflects both who you are now and who you aspire to be. Under the dedicated leadership of our Immediate Past-Chair, Stephen M. Fromson, we found a new office space. Our new office is warm and welcoming, and it beautifully reflects the value we place on the work we do and the children and families we serve.

In June 2024, as the organization navigated the changes of having a new Executive Director and moving into a new office space, the board members received a surprising email. For health reasons, our kind, conscientious, and committed Board Chair resigned, effective immediately. After careful consideration, I accepted the nomination to serve as the new Board Chair.

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Vivian England, and I am the Chair of the Board of Child Care Resources of Rockland. I am beyond grateful and excited to serve as Board Chair and to work alongside people I admire and respect. As I mentioned earlier, these are exciting, challenging, and pivotal times at Child Care Resources of Rockland Inc.

Please rest assured that the skilled and dedicated staff at Child Care Resources of Rockland, under the visionary leadership of Dr. Keishea Allen and with the guidance of the committed Board of Directors, stands ready to fulfill our mission of promoting, supporting, and enhancing the healthy development of all children.

Vivian England





## CCRR STAFF



Keishea Allen



Jane Brown



Kari Davie



Christie Cinquemani



Diahann Darwood



Christina Espindola



Blanca Gerena



Roxana Halo



Jill Halpern



Ines Ortiz



Bonnie Parsekian



Chantel Pittman



**CCRR STAFF**



Angela Reyes



Shakia Reynolds



Karen Ross



Diana Santos



Edna Saravia



Vicky Saravia



Kristin Saunders



Kathleen Siuro



Jennifer Spampinato



Elaine Trotta



Allison Wojciechowski



## FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND OPERATIONS SERVICES

The Family, Community, and Operations Services Department provides administrative support for 23 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 fostered family engagement and the greater community via our website and increased connections through social networks. Some notable items that were shared publicly were: professional development offerings to child care workers, guidance, regulations, and information from local, state and federal governmental agencies as well as local and statewide nonprofits, and celebrated Child Care Provider Appreciation Week to recognize the work of child care providers, teachers, and other educators of young children in Rockland County. Our social media channels are gaining momentum, with a recent surge to 2,384 followers. We are thankful for the support of our 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 Child Care Resources of Rockland's marketing, public relations, and fundraising efforts.



### Data Collection

Data is collected to support organizational decision making and strategy. By collecting data, we can better understand the needs of families within the community and how to better serve them. Data can also be used to identify trends and patterns, which can inform decision making and program development.

**“ We are overall satisfied with how the programs have accommodated our children. ”**  
-Parent

### Child Care Resource and Referral Services

With funding from the NYS OCFS and the Rockland County Legislature, our resource and referral services are committed to assisting families in their search for suitable child care solutions. Our dedicated team of specialists inform parents of the range of available care options and provide a comprehensive packet of materials containing referrals, safety checklists, and essential information to empower parents in making informed decisions about their child's care. Through collaborative discussions with parents, we work together to evaluate and identify the best child care arrangement that aligns with their unique needs and preferences. 598 children were referred to all modalities of child care and camps. In addition to assisting families in Rockland County, our resource and referral staff extend their outreach to the business community to convey the importance of providing quality child care services for employees.



## Respite Care Tuition Assistance

Child Care Resources of Rockland (CCRR) remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting families with children facing special needs or challenges. Alongside our comprehensive resource and referral services, we administered a respite program funded by the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). Catering to families with children aged from birth to 21, this program provides parents and caregivers with essential time for self-care while ensuring their children receive quality care in an educational setting.

Throughout the fiscal year, July 2023–June 2024, a total of 9 families from Rockland County received respite funding. This funding, provided by OPWDD, assisted eligible families by covering a portion of their child care expenses, allowing them to prioritize work, medical appointments, and daily errands. A total of 112 children received support with child care and other necessary resources.



**“ I could not have been lucky enough to have found Child Care Resources of Rockland. As a single mom, I depend on this scholarship because it has helped keep my sons in daycare/camp. ”**  
- Parent





## United Way of Rockland County Community Impact Initiatives

In partnership with the United Way of Rockland County, we administered the Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program. This initiative provided financial support to families who are below the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP/subsidy) eligibility threshold, ensuring their children have access to quality child care. By promoting financial stability and workforce retention, this program has aided 7 children from 4 families through scholarships in the last cycle.



**“The United Way Scholarship Program has been a lifesaver for my family, making it possible for my children to attend an excellent after-school program. This has allowed me to be more involved in my work and has provided a positive and rewarding experience for us all.”**  
-Parent

**“As a single parent with two children entering 4th and 8th grade, the United Way Tuition Scholarship Program has been assisting me with my son’s morning school program. I am very lucky that United Way has been there for my family during this hard time.”**  
-Parent

## Jane Brown Tuition Scholarship Fund

The Jane Brown Tuition Scholarship Fund, established in the Fall of 2018, is driven by the United Way of Rockland County’s impactful efforts and aims to commemorate Jane Brown’s legacy. Dedicated to assisting working families, the fund has assisted 2 children in accessing quality child care services that might have been financially unattainable. The scholarship fund is committed to broadening its impact, striving to extend support to more children and provide them with the opportunity to thrive in nurturing child care environments.



# PROGRAM STANDARDS, SUPPORT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



## Registration

New York State Office of Children and Families is responsible for the registration and licensure of child care programs. Funding from OCFS is provided to the Rockland County Department of Social Services (RCOSS). RCOSS contracts with Child Care Resources of Rockland to administer the process and procedures for Registering Family Child Care (FCC) Homes and School Age Child Care (SACC) programs. All are subject to completing an initial application, midpoint reviews two years into a licensing period and renewals every four years. Our team conducts annual inspections and quarterly monitor visits, responds to complaints of illegal child care and provides training and technical assistance to new and existing child care staff. From July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, our team completed the process of 4 initial applications (2 additional applications are in process), inspected 8 sites with 1 application withdrawn; processed 3 midpoint applications; processed and inspected 16 sites' renewal applications, responded to 19 complaints; conducted 52 annual unannounced site visits and 85 quarterly and/or monitor visits.

Currently, we have 29 School Age Programs (1 is inactive) and 28 family child care programs (1 is inactive and 2 FCC initials not included).



## Rockland County Department of Health: Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC)

Child Care Resources of Rockland partnered with the Rockland County Department of Health to complete the third year of this five-year project, the New York State (NYS) Creating Healthy Schools and Communities initiative. It is like having a superhero squad, swooping in to help make schools and communities across the state healthier and happier. Imagine a world where kids trade junk food for veggies and couch potatoes turn into fitness enthusiasts! This initiative tackles it all, from crafting policies that promote wellness to handing out tools and tips to get everyone on board the health train.

Whether it's boosting physical activity, pushing for better eating habits, or just making sure everyone feels good, NYS Creating Healthy Schools and Communities is here to turn healthy living into the new cool.

In 2023- 2024, we continued to work with participating child care programs to implement their action plans. We also created new action plans for sites that wanted to do more! We purchased more gardening and physical activity items and we were invited to a taste testing at one of our sites. Child Care Resources of Rockland worked in partnership with the Rockland County Department of Health to start a fruit and veggie of the month club where we shared recipes and purchased kitchen items to support healthy eating.





## Pyramid Hub

Through NYS OCFS, funds were provided to each region for the Pyramid Hub Project. CCRR acted as the Hub for our region of seven counties. We completed the five-year project in 2023. Developed by the Center for Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning, the Pyramid model helps teachers identify and understand how children learn and how their needs can be met at all levels of development.

Training and coaching to early childhood providers focuses on building positive relationships, developing supportive and nurturing environments, teaching social skills, empathy and emotional vocabulary, and providing individualized support when needed. Countless children, their teachers and family members were served through this five-year initiative across New York State.

## Rockland County Legislature Funded Projects

As part of our 2023 contract from the Rockland County Legislature, CCRR staff worked with child care programs to support their work on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) strategies in the classrooms. Through classroom training sessions, on-site intensive technical assistance and materials, classrooms evolved into child friendly systems for learning about STEAM.

In 2024 the county funded an initiative that allows CCRR Quality Enhancement Specialists (QES) to observe classrooms and teachers to see where Program Enhancement might be needed. Teachers enjoyed the support and the materials that were purchased to help with classroom environment, curriculum development, staff relationships and family engagement to create more positive learning experiences for children. The County contract continued to help fund the work CCRR does to notify and help programs in the case of emergency situations, as well as fund referrals to families seeking child care, Health Care Services and Community Outreach.

## New York State Office of Children and Family Services Funded Projects

Free training and Intensive Technical Assistance were provided to help early childhood and school age programs to raise the quality of their classroom learning environments. The focus was on improving and maintaining a nurturing, safe and stimulating space for children to explore, learn and grow. It supported their holistic development, encouraged social interaction, and promoted a positive and engaging learning experience. QES staff worked with a variety of programs to promote positive and engaging teaching environments and focus on interest areas, traffic patterns and relevant age-appropriate materials.

OCFS also continued to fund our Resource and Referral Services, Health Care Services and Basic Technical Assistance by phone and email. Over 1,500 contacts were made to help child care staff members with various questions, share strategies and provide resources and information.

## Infant and Toddler Support Services

This Regional Network of Infant and Toddler Specialists is funded by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services. CCRR's Infant and Toddler Specialist continued working to support as well as build capacity for child care providers in Rockland County. This was completed through onsite Basic Technical Assistance (BTA) and Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA).

Through classroom observations, meetings, assessments, and Quality Improvement Plans (QUIPs) the Infant and Toddler Specialist completed 430 units of BTA and 103.5 hours of ITA between July 2023 and June 2024. In early 2024, the Infant and Toddler Specialist submitted required documentation to renew her New York State Training and Technical Assistance Professional Credential.



This consisted of reflective questions, training data, and a professional development plan for the next three years. In total, the Infant and Toddler Specialist provided 22 hours of professional development to home-based and center-based providers, qualifying them to earn continuing education units. In further support of quality infant and toddler care, the Infant and Toddler Specialist facilitated quarterly Better Baby Care Campaign meetings and did outreach within the community.

The Infant and Toddler Mental Health (ITMH) specialist provides prevention-based services to help providers and teachers meet the children's (0 to 3 years old) social and emotional needs to boost their mental health and learning in this fundamental developmental stage. The ITMH specialist collaborates with teachers/providers to implement enhanced ways of practicing responsive caregiving, addressing behavioral issues, and strengthening caregiver-child relationships to help children thrive and improve the quality of their programs.

Throughout the mental health consultation services, the ITMH specialist has successfully worked with programs in Rockland County (e.g., Garnerville, Pomona, New City) by conducting observations and assessments, meeting with staff, and developing individualized action plans to achieve their goals to improve social and emotional wellness in the classroom. The ITMH specialist has helped staff learn and practice new social and emotional skills to create a nurturing environment to help children feel supported and happy.

Besides, the ITMH specialist has contacted over fifty home-based and center-based programs to create awareness of this great community resource.

***CCRR's Infant and Toddler Specialist continued working to support as well as build capacity for child care providers in Rockland County.***



## The 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.





## Legally Exempt Enrollment Services

CCRR is the enrollment agency for Legally Exempt (LE) providers caring for children whose families are approved to receive child care assistance. 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 for less than three hours in a home setting. Providers are often a family member or a close friend, parent or family members who qualify for this type of care often work non-traditional hours or have no means of transportation or funds to pay for public transportation. This is the only child care modality that is eligible for payment by the State where the care can be in the child's home, or the provider lives in the same home where care is provided.

Legally Exempt providers are paid a slightly lower rate than regulated providers.

If the provider is not related to the child, within a certain degree of the relationship, the provider will have to go through the Comprehensive Background Check (CBC) process.

The number of enrolled providers fluctuates between 40 and 45 in Rockland, this includes approximately 15 providers that must go through the CBC process. This process includes fingerprinting, background checks of the providers and family members over the age of 18 and required training for the provider. They also need annual inspections. About 140 children were served through this enrollment process.

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 child's home, in someone else's home or in a group setting such as a nursery school or camp with an approved permit. Enrolled providers must renew their status annually. Legally Exempt providers with 10 hours of training qualify for the enhanced child care rate. For providers who fall under the CBC process they have to take an additional 10 hours of training.

Providers who care for children not in the child's home are eligible to participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Once a program is enrolled, the Rockland County Department of Social Services is responsible for authorizing payment to the provider for child care services.

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

In order to help early childhood and school age care professionals meet the necessary requirements, CCRR offers MAT training as well as 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 13 MAT classes certifying 23 participants: 5 Classroom Sessions with 9 participants; 4 Independent MAT Study Sessions with 11 participants; and 4 Skills Renewal Sessions with 3 participants. We offered 13 American Red Cross training sessions certifying 28 participants. Red Cross sessions are held in English and Spanish.







## **Business Support Services New York State Funded Workforce Retention, Stabilization and Deserts Grants**

In May of 2023, Governor Hochul announced the \$500 million in underutilized Federal Funds would be used towards the Workforce Retention Grant to support NY State's child care workforce. The application for this grant opened on July 27, 2023, and closed on September 15, 2023. 197 providers in Rockland County were recipients of the grant. A total of \$5,589,404.00 was awarded to child care providers in Rockland County. This included 18 Family Child Care, 104 Group Family Child Care, 50 Child Care Centers and 25 School Age Child Care programs. The Business Support Coordinator conducted outreach to providers to make them aware of the grant opportunity and educate them on the parameters and requirements of the grant. The Business Support Coordinator also assisted providers with application support including walking them through the application and making sure it was submitted. The Business Support Coordinator conducted outreach to providers after the closing of the Stabilization Grant period to make sure they completed their required expense reports. Additional assistance was given to Desert Grant recipients and Workforce Retention Grant recipients during their grant period to complete required expense reports. The Business Support Coordinator provided a range of business support to the grant recipients and all child care providers of Rockland County. This included: an Information Session for Desert Grant recipients on how to complete their expense reports; a training for building a Sustainability Plan for Desert Grant Recipients; two Information Sessions providing details on applying for the Workforce Retention Grant; four Information Sessions for providers on how to complete their Workforce Retention Grant expense report.

The Business Support Coordinator also offered 8 business trainings on various business topics based on the needs of Rockland County providers. These topics included policies and contracts, interviewing skills, marketing their child care business, payroll, setting tuition rates, workplace culture, and sustainability planning. The Business Support Coordinator conducted 1,004 instances of technical assistance to child care providers. This technical assistance included grant support and general business assistance.

**“If it wasn't for Allison I wouldn't have known what to do. She answered my questions and was very responsive and held info sessions.”**  
– Lynn Del Duca

**“Allison was very helpful throughout the grant period. You could always call and email her and always got back to me in a timely manner. She also offered info sessions on the grant and expense reports.”**  
– Juliette Allen YMCA

## **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, 1,289 children in Rockland County received nutritious meals through CACFP from 96 participating Family, Group Family Child Care and Legally Exempt programs. Child Care Resources of Rockland's CACFP staff members processed menus for these programs and dispersed food reimbursement checks totaling \$871,177.

**1,289 CHILDREN RECEIVED NUTRITIOUS  
MEALS THROUGH CACFP FROM 96  
CHILD CARE PROGRAMS**



## Child Care Health Services

Child Care programs electing to give medication must have their 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. Child care 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. These services may include assistance in developing policies and procedures related to health and infection control regulations, such as policies to prevent anaphylaxis and the response during an anaphylactic emergency.

Site visits are scheduled for providers who are choosing to administer medication or a child care center that cares for infants, toddlers and mildly and moderately ill children. These visits help programs meet OCFS regulations and licensing standards.

Expanded nursing services are available on a contract basis to child care 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 specific health 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.

**“ My son has a special need and may be difficult to handle at times. The staff know how to keep him busy and safe. ”**

**-Parent**

## Special Needs Services

CCRR received funding from the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities to provide intensive training and on-site technical assistance to child care programs requesting additional help working with children who have special developmental needs. CCRR staff made numerous on-site classroom observations of children's interactions with teachers and peers. Programs received free seminars and unlimited access to assist in developing strategies that help teachers as they care for children with special needs.

## Professional Development

Over the year, the Infant and Toddler Specialist, who also serves as CCRR's Professional Development Coordinator, worked closely with CCRR staff to coordinate and develop the Professional Development calendars for Rockland County. This provided various opportunities for directors, staff, and home-based providers to participate in professional development addressing the ten NYSOCFS training component areas. After internal discussion and input from the Rockland County providers, CCRR's Professional Development team returned to in-person seminars with few virtual options. Rockland County providers were eager to return to in-person seminars for a more hands-on experience and group learning. This increased opportunities to provide more technical support to directors, teachers, and home-based providers. Through various funding streams, we were able to provide a total of 133 training opportunities to 772 early childhood and school age staff members. Thanks to funding provided from Assembly Member Ken Zebrowski, we were able to offer free professional development to 86 attendees during July 2023 to June 2024 at 29 separate training opportunities.

## ADVOCACY



“Early childhood education should not be a privilege. It should be available to every child, every family, despite one’s socioeconomic status. It is our responsibility to advocate on behalf of all children, so they receive quality early childhood education, allowing them to fulfill their future goals, armed with knowledge, confidence, and strength.”

-Keishea Allen, Ed.D.  
Executive Director

**Proclamation**

  
Office of the  
**County Executive**  
Rockland County  
New York

**CHILD CARE PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY  
MAY 10, 2024**

*WHEREAS, Child Care Aware of America and other organizations nationwide are recognizing Child Care Providers on this day; and*

*WHEREAS, Child care provides a safe, nurturing place for the enrichment and development of millions of children nationwide, and is a vital force in our economy; and*

*WHEREAS, the pandemic illuminated how indispensable child care providers are for the well-being and economic security of Rockland County's young children, families, and communities; and*

*WHEREAS, Child care programs, which are mostly small businesses, run and staffed predominantly by women, are still recovering from health and financial hardships stemming from the pandemic while they have continued to meet the needs of families; and*

*WHEREAS, We recognize that child care has been a lifeline for families, communities, and the economy and as such, has provided much-needed support to providers to help sustain the vitality of care in Rockland County; and*

*WHEREAS, Rockland County's future depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today, support for high-quality child care represents a worthy commitment to our children's future.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edwin J. Day, County Executive of Rockland County, do hereby proclaim MAY 10, 2024 as CHILD CARE PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY in Rockland County.**

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set by my hand and caused the seal of the County Executive of Rockland County to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.*

  
EDWIN J. DAY  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



**Proclamation**

  
**Rockland County**  
State of New York

**IN SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION OF  
PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY**  
May 10, 2024

*WHEREAS, the Rockland County Legislature wishes whenever possible to express its recognition, appreciation, admiration and respect to individuals that contribute to the betterment of our residents; and*

*WHEREAS, Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. promotes, supports, and enhances the healthy development of all children equally – with no socio-economic eligibility for services. They provide resource and referral services for families seeking affordable early childhood education and quality school age care through training, support, and resources both publicly and privately, emphasizing the value of quality childcare to the economic vitality of Rockland County; and*

*WHEREAS, providers organize dynamic and stimulating events and activities, supporting the health, safety and well-being of all children. Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. consults with families seeking child care and other services, strategize to strengthen family and community approaches to healthy child development and prevention of child abuse and neglect; and*

*WHEREAS, they also provide information and resources to all child care providers regarding public health, regulatory updates and emergencies that may occur in the county that would impact child care programs; and*

*WHEREAS, Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. excels in maintaining NYS Standards of Excellence/Best Practices for board governance, staff qualifications, operation, and agency management. They continue to improve data processes for objective assessments, programs and services, addressing the existing and emerging needs of children and their families; and*

*WHEREAS, childcare is a community effort and today, on Provider Appreciation Day, we join with Child Care Resources of Rockland in bringing awareness to the importance of such work celebrating all of those considered essential child-raising partners that help working parents provide for their families.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAY HOOD, Jr., Chairman of the Rockland County Legislature, on behalf of the entire Legislature do hereby proclaim May 10, 2024, as PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY in the County of Rockland.**

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed the seal of the Rockland County Legislature this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.*

  
HON. JAY HOOD, JR.  
Chairman of the Legislature



  
LAURENCE O. TOOLE  
Clerk to the Legislature



# PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

May 10, 2024



*"I care because I know that early education is important to children's future."*

**Lourdes Guzmán**  
Group Family Child Care Provider



*I care for children's health...  
"I am Darnett Davis, a proud Child Care Provider who is committed, dedicated and provides a colorful, safe learning environment for children. We practice healthy eating habits to reduce early childhood obesity."*

Kidsnett Child Care Program Inc.  
**Darnett Davis,**  
Child Care Center Director



*"I care for children so their parents can feel secure when they go to work."*

Golden Angel Family Day Care Corp.  
**Maria Mercedes,**  
Family Child Care Provider



*"I care for children because I love working with them."*

Mother Gooses House  
**Irma Pachter,**  
Group Family Child Care Provider



*"I care for children with love because I enjoy seeing them smile."*

Rainbows Daycare  
**Lovianny M. Vargas,**  
Group Family Child Care Provider

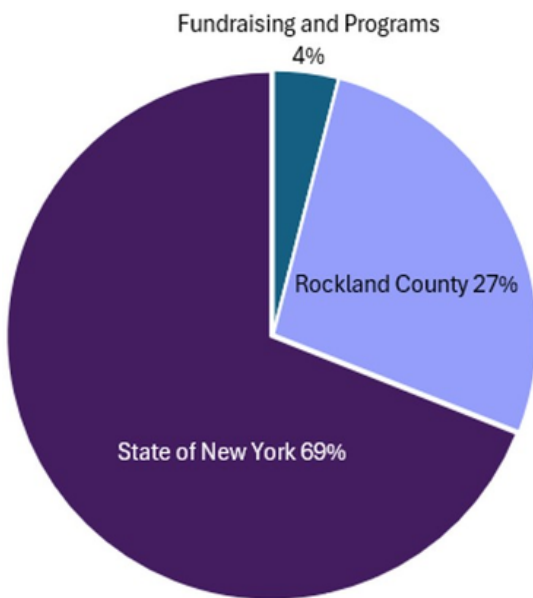
## OUR FINANCES



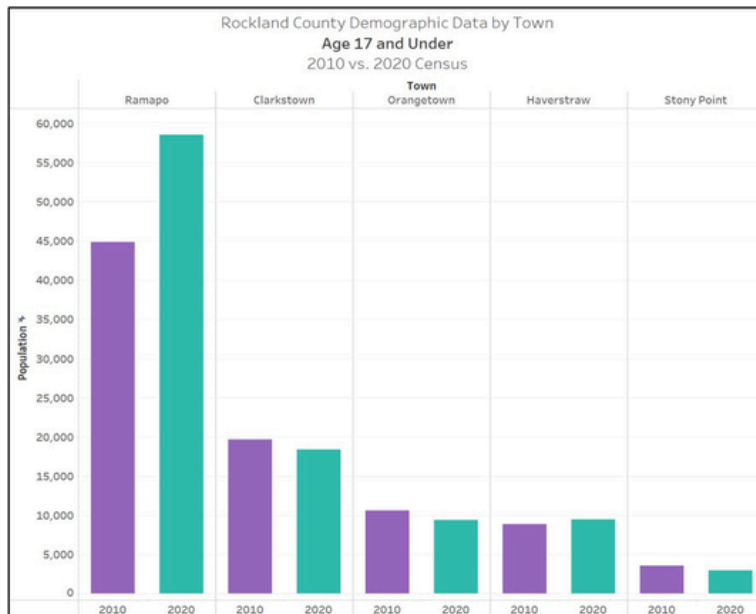
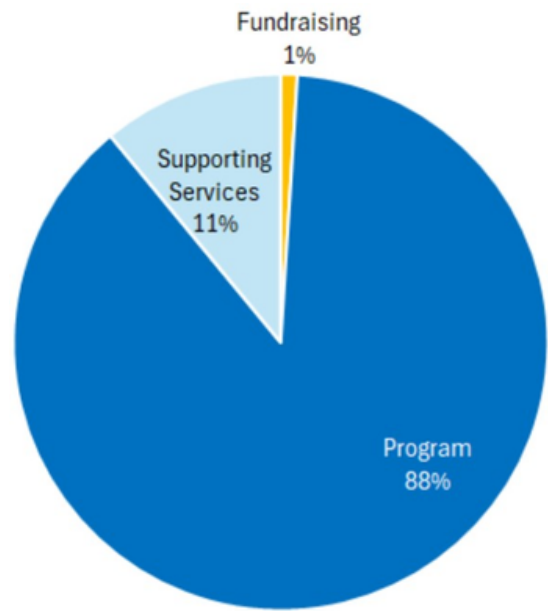
### 2023 – 2024 Financial Position

CCRR’s unaudited financials for 2023–2024 showed our Annual Agency budget of \$2,498,145. Revenue totaled \$3,007,381 and expenses totaled \$3,034,976. This resulted in a net loss of \$27,595. However, \$101,301 was related to our move to our new location. Therefore, we had an operating surplus of \$73,706. CCRR had a strong year financially.

#### FY 2023-2024 Revenues



#### Expenses FY23-24





Child Care Resources of Rockland new location building,  
40 Ramland Road, Orangeburg NY 10962



CCRR Annual Agency Picnic 2024 at Haverstraw Bay Park Pavillion

**“If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”  
- Henry Ford**

## Thank You to Our Donors



<b>Keishea Allen</b>	<b>Trecia Ferguson</b>	<b>Dorina Maragliano</b>	<b>Margaret Roche</b>
<b>Carlie Anderson</b>	<b>Kimberly Fersch</b>	<b>Elizabeth Marks</b>	<b>Rockland YMCA</b>
<b>Rachel Appell</b>	<b>Moshe Fiddle</b>	<b>Robert Marks</b>	<b>Jeannine Roemer</b>
<b>Stephen Baker</b>	<b>Dulce Flores</b>	<b>Mark Marotta</b>	<b>Shaindy Rosemann</b>
<b>Danielle Ball</b>	<b>Denise Forsberg</b>	<b>Frances Marton</b>	<b>Karen Ross</b>
<b>Maria Barca</b>	<b>Frances Franco-</b>	<b>Maira Mazariago</b>	<b>Laura Beth Ross</b>
<b>Regina Barone</b>	<b>Montero</b>	<b>Elizabeth McAlleer</b>	<b>Stephen Ross</b>
<b>Benim Scholastic Academy Inc.</b>	<b>Stephen M. Fromson</b>	<b>Terrence McDonald</b>	<b>Renee Rubinfeld</b>
<b>Donalee Berard</b>	<b>Rosa Garcia</b>	<b>Michelle McLaughlin</b>	<b>Salvation Army</b>
<b>Don Bermack</b>	<b>Grace Golden</b>	<b>Meadow Hill Reformed Church</b>	<b>Diana Santos</b>
<b>Yvonne Bermudez</b>	<b>Jessica Gregory</b>	<b>Joseph Mellia</b>	<b>Vicky Saravia</b>
<b>Blackbaud Giving Fund</b>	<b>John Gregory</b>	<b>Brian Miller</b>	<b>Edna Saravia</b>
<b>Levar Braham</b>	<b>Joseph Gregory</b>	<b>Ruby Miranda</b>	<b>Liana Sargsyan-Quinn</b>
<b>Jane Brown</b>	<b>Lyndsay Gregory</b>	<b>Ellen Mitchell</b>	<b>Jim Schneider</b>
<b>Trenton Brown</b>	<b>Tina Guarasci</b>	<b>Heather Mitchell</b>	<b>Gerd Schubert</b>
<b>Giribel Bueno</b>	<b>Kristine Guterl</b>	<b>George Morfogen</b>	<b>Mary Seewald</b>
<b>James Burton</b>	<b>Yvonne Harding</b>	<b>Gerard Moriarity</b>	<b>Kathleen Siuro</b>
<b>Gila Butrimovitz</b>	<b>Kathleen Hargat</b>	<b>Kathy Moss</b>	<b>Nycole Smith</b>
<b>Chris Chaize</b>	<b>Christine Healy</b>	<b>Jaime Naddeo</b>	<b>Patricia Soriano Guzmán</b>
<b>Children of America- Stony Point</b>	<b>Lee Hoffman</b>	<b>Girsh Narasimham</b>	<b>Beatrix Stefan</b>
<b>Carolyn Colucci</b>	<b>Alyce Jacobson</b>	<b>National Council of Jewish Women</b>	<b>Stop &amp; Shop</b>
<b>Elisa Cordero</b>	<b>JCC-Y of Rockland</b>	<b>Rockland</b>	<b>Miriam Swiatycki</b>
<b>Kevin Cramsie</b>	<b>Deleese Jenkins</b>	<b>Anne D. Nissen</b>	<b>Donna Tanner</b>
<b>Johely Cruz</b>	<b>Christopher Jensen</b>	<b>Nyack Development Center</b>	<b>Carol Terry</b>
<b>Rodia Darcely</b>	<b>James Kayser</b>	<b>Nyack's Little Schoolhouse</b>	<b>Christina Tikkanen</b>
<b>Diahann Darwood</b>	<b>Elizabeth Kendall</b>	<b>Joan O'Sullivan</b>	<b>Patricia Tobin</b>
<b>Kari Davie</b>	<b>Christine Kennedy</b>	<b>Anna Orser</b>	<b>Elaine Trotta</b>
<b>Darnett Davis-White</b>	<b>Kindercare</b>	<b>Joey Orser</b>	<b>Phyllis Tucker</b>
<b>Claudine Desir</b>	<b>Michael Korines</b>	<b>Mia Orser</b>	<b>Sheryl Van Beers</b>
<b>Jeannine Desir</b>	<b>Robin Korines</b>	<b>Scot Orser</b>	<b>Barbara Weber</b>
<b>Joseph DiCarlo</b>	<b>Gail Koss</b>	<b>Teresa Ortega</b>	<b>Allison Wojciechowski</b>
<b>Stephen DiCarlo</b>	<b>Jason Koutroftas</b>	<b>Ines Ortiz</b>	<b>Yevgeniy Yankovskiy</b>
<b>Ellen Divietro</b>	<b>Rebecca Kurlander</b>	<b>Albert Palermo</b>	<b>Steve Yassky</b>
<b>Nicole Elliot</b>	<b>Adriana Kyriacou</b>	<b>Patricia Paniccia</b>	<b>Amanda Young</b>
<b>Dr. Claire Elpenord</b>	<b>John Lagana</b>	<b>Bonnie Parsekian</b>	<b>Lori Young</b>
<b>Vivian England</b>	<b>Juliet Lewis-Allen</b>	<b>Donna Perreca</b>	<b>Rachel Young</b>
<b>Christina Espindola</b>	<b>Larry Lewis</b>	<b>Play Garten</b>	<b>Roberta Zampolin</b>
<b>Maria Estrella</b>	<b>Tzirel Lichpman</b>	<b>Joy Pleasants</b>	<b>Monica Zenda</b>
<b>Facebook Payments Inc.</b>	<b>Jesse Lipson</b>	<b>Primetime for Kids</b>	<b>Sophia Zuniga</b>
<b>Honor Fagan</b>	<b>Little Lambs PreK</b>	<b>Angela Reyes</b>	
<b>Faroqui Farida</b>	<b>Martin Lonow</b>	<b>Benjamin Riba</b>	

Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc. is a contract agency of the County of Rockland, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, NYS Department of Health, and the United Way of Rockland County. Additional funding for Special Needs Services is provided by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. We are also supported by our members. Child Care Resources of Rockland Inc. is Best Practices Certified by the New York State Standards of Excellence Certification Program for The Field of Child Care Resource and Referral.

*Together We Are Stronger:  
A Legacy of Child Care,  
50 Years and Beyond*



**Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.**

40 Ramland Road, Suite 209  
Orangeburg, NY 10962

Phone: (845) 425-0009 | (877) 425-0009

Fax: (845) 425-5312

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30am - 5:00pm

[info@rocklandchildcare.org](mailto:info@rocklandchildcare.org)

[childcarerockland.org](http://childcarerockland.org)



Follow us @ccrrockland



Child Care Aware of America Member