# **Agency Highlights**

# **Child Care Aware® of Missouri Agency Network**

### **Southern Region**

Collaboration is key to daily life at **Child Care Resource and Referral** (CCRR), An Operating Agency of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks. CCRR co-hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> annual SW MO Child Care Provider Health Conference. This event provides health screenings such as cholesterol, blood sugar, immunizations, hearing, and vision, as well as health related training to area practitioners. This year 175 practitioners were in attendance and some traveled from as far as two hours away. The 2010 event was a collaboration with Springfield-Greene County Health Department, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, and Ozark Area Community Action Head Start. CCRR also cohosted the 11th annual Child Care Provider Appreciation Banquet. This year's event featured Dr. Paul Thomlinson who presented "Kids Can Be Smart in a Whole Bunch of Ways!" The event honored 125 practitioners with professional development, dinner and giveaways. This banquet is another great collaboration with Community Partnership, Missouri State University Learning Connection, Springfield-Greene County Library and others.

### **Western Region**

The Family Conservancy continues to be a very active resource serving the child care community. This year they provided 2,083 referrals to families searching for child care by phone and 2,285 to families that completed on-line searches. The agency also supported families with the Parenting Class Calendar on-line, accessed by 1,203 unique visitors through its website and with 9,000 copies of the 25th edition of a "School's Out" guide distributed through public libraries. Program personnel also benefitted from the 120 clock hour CDA course

on-line, taken by 44 practitioners and, 170 practitioners registered for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Early Childhood Fall Symposium, "Building the Future: Strong From the Start." The agency is also providing technical assistance to 25 programs participating in a Missouri ORS demonstration project.

### **Central Region**

Child Care Aware® of Missouri – Central Region was very successful in building community relationships this year. The agency formed a collaborative partnership with the United Way of Central Missouri. and was awarded a grant to provide early childhood training. The agency also continued to build on collaborative relationships with other community partners such as Moberly Area Community College, Lincoln University, Central Missour Association for the Education of Young Children, First Chance For Children, Columbia Chamber of Commerce - Early Childhood Sub-Committee, The Net (a group of social service agencies in Boone County), University Extension, and Central Missouri Community Action The agency continues to be actively involved on the Tri-County ECCS

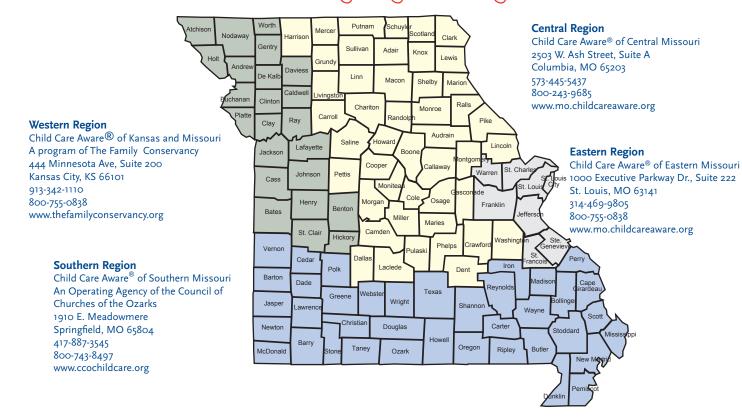
### **Eastern Region**

This year marked the 40th Anniversary for Child Day Care Association (CDCA). In May, the agency held its first Health Symposium offering clock hour training opportunities and exhibitors. The agency also held its first Business and Technology Symposium, designed to introduce facilities to new ways to manage their business. For the kids, CDCA held its annual Perfect Play Date at the Magic House in St. Louis. Hundreds of families and friends of CDCA were in attendance and a good time was had by all. In August, Executive Director Andi Schleicher left the agency after 13 years of service to join NACCRRA as Chief of Membership and Organizational Advancement.

We would like to acknowledge the YWCA St. Joseph, MOCCREN Northeast, University of Central Missouri Workshop on Wheels CCR&R and the Southeast Missouri State Workshop on Wheels CCR&R for their dedication and commitment to serving Missouri's children for more than 15 years!



# Child Care Aware $^{\circledR}$ of Missouri is a network of regional agencies providing service to all 115 counties in the state.



### **Board of Directors**

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Pam Hill, Communications Coordinator

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### Support Child Care Aware® of Missouri

Your support will help ensure that we can continue to promote, advocate and support quality child care for all of Missouri's children. Easy ways to provide support include:

Schnucks e-Scrip Community Card GoodSearch.com GoodShop.com iGive.com

Visit our website to learn more about these donation tools. Contributions can also be made by sending a check to:

1000 Executive Parkway Drive, Suite 103 St. Louis, MO 63141 314-535-1458 • 800-200-9017 mo.childcareaware.org



# 2010 Annual Report

Missouri's most trusted child care resource.

Formerly Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network (MOCCRRN)



Connecting families, early learning programs and communities for a better child care experience.

### **Network News and Highlights Core Services**

It is our vision that all children in Missouri have access to healthy, safe, nurturing, enriching and respectful early childhood care and education and out-of-school time care. Through our core services we support families, child care professionals and communities to help make this vision a reality.

Child Care Aware® of Missouri works For Child Care Professionals... closely with the regional Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies in our network to ensure a high quality of service delivery and accountability.

- \* In fiscal year 2010, we helped the families of 25,524 children find child care and provided them with consumer education materials.
- \* We provided 3,490 hours of consultation to child care providers, helping them start new programs and improve existing
- \* We responded to 489 requests from members of the greater community (funders, legislators and others) who asked us for information tracking supply, demand, cost, quality and other child care issues.
- \* We helped 1,492 children with special needs find appropriate child care and we helped more than 1,000 programs learn how to include children with diverse needs and abilities.

### For Families ..

### Referrals

Connecting families to child care that meets their specific needs continues to be at the heart of what we do. This year we provided referrals to 7,041 callers, serving 10,354 children. An additional 14,168 referrals were generated by online searches, serving 15,170 children. With over 21,000 total referrals throughout the state, we continue to be a trusted resource for families looking for child care in Missouri.

Two-thirds of Missouri's families need some form of child care! We helped the families of more than 25,000 children find child care.

### **Accreditation**

One hundred ninety-one child care programs throughout the state are working with their CCR&R Accreditation Specialists to achieve accreditation. These programs include family child care homes, group homes, and child care centers. They are working hard to meet the quality standards of either the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), or Missouri Accreditation. This past year, an additional 18 programs in the state received accreditation.

Fifty-one percent of the teaching in Missouri Child care facilities is poor and needs improvement. 2 We have helped almost 200 programs improve the quality of the child care they provide.

### **Training Coordination**

In 2009, Missouri, Kansas and Illinois started developing a new curriculum designed to give child care and early learning professionals the knowledge necessary to be successful when caring for children. This curriculum was completed in the Spring of 2010 and the first Missouri Train-the-Trainers course was held in November 2010.

In 2009, Child Care Aware® of Missouri along with the Departments of Health and Senior Services, Social Services, and Mental Health started a committee



### **Training Provided to Child Care Professionals**

Session Type	Participants
CCOT: Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP)	373
CCOT: Health, Environmental Safety, and Sanitation	381
CCOT: Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN)	321
Child Care Plus	1046
Family CCOT	149
Infant/Toddler CCOT	456
School Age Care Orientation Training	172
Providers Advance through Continuing Education (PACE): DAP	218
PACE: Safety	270
PACE: CAN	283
Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect (PCAN)	912
Other Sessions	10819

to develop a curriculum on the social emotional development of children. The Social and Emotional Child Care Orientation Training (SE CCOT) was completed in August of 2010 and the first Train-the-Trainers class was held in October. The new SE CCOT curriculum will be offered both face-to-face and online.

## Inclusion

Child Care Aware® of Missouri's staff embraces diversity and supports inclusive practices in Missouri with the work of Inclusion Specialists in each region, funded by the Department of Health and Senior Services. Inclusion Specialists completed more than 870 on-site consultations and trained more than 1,045 child care professionals on Child Care Plus, a curriculum that teaches how to meet the needs of all children. Inclusion Specialists also provided more than 255 workshop hours on a variety of inclusion topics to meet the needs of child care professionals. More than 2,230 participants attended these sessions.



## T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI Scholarship

Child Care Aware® of Missouri holds the license for T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps), an educational scholarship opportunity for early childhood providers in licensed centers and family or group child care homes. T.E.A.C.H. MISSOURI is part of a nationwide effort to increase quality in early childhood programs by increasing the educational qualifications of the teachers in the field. Missouri is one of 20 states offering this very successful program.

For Communities ...

Child Care Aware® of Missouri works in communities across the state, building collaborative efforts with business and civic leaders to ensure safe and enriching child care for all children and their families. Some of the services that we provide to Missouri communities

- \* Regional and statewide data and analysis on child care supply and demand
- \* Serve as a data resource to inform policy makers' decisions on investments in early childhood education
- \* A resource for information on policies that effect child care quality

Missouri is ranked 44 out of 50 states for oversight and regulations for child care centers. 3 Child Care Aware® of Missouris serves as an advocate to improve the quality of care for the entire state.

This year brought a number of changes that allowed us to identify new opportunities to enhance our presence in the communities that we serve. Due to the economic climate and a reduction in revenues for the state, our overall funding was cut by \$761,000. Determined to continue offering full service to the entire state of Missouri, the Board of Directors decided on a restructure plan that would allow the organization to be nimble and responsive to the changing climate. As a result, all regional service delivery offerings were consolidated into four agencies.

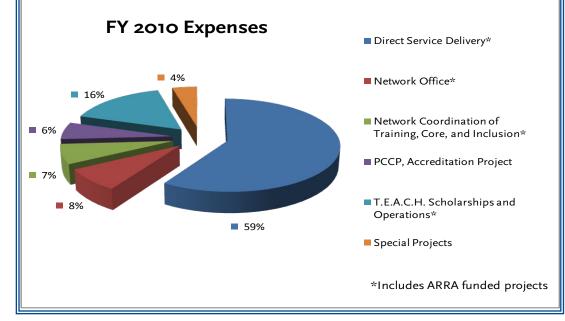
The four agency solution was designed to balance the equally important factors of service quality, statewide coverage, and accountability for the taxpayer dollars that fund these programs. The restructuring also centralized the referral service at the state level starting January 1, 2011. Board Chair Sarah Kirschner led the plan, stating "An innovative re-thinking of our decade-old models for statewide service delivery was the only real solution." As part of the restructure, we closed four of our network agency operations in St. Joseph, Macon, Warrensburg and Cape Girardeau.

More highlights for the year

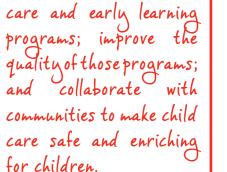
- \* Co-sponsored the Missouri Business Summit with Parents as Teachers National Center, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri Chamber of Commerce, and Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood.
- \* Gained approval from NACCRRA to be one of the first 15 states to receive an online action center, fully integrated with our Parent Central/Parent Network efforts.
- \* We moved our St. Louis office to a new space in Creve Coeur, Missouri. We also moved our lefferson City office to a new space located three blocks from the Capitol.
- \* Executive Director Carol Scott was elected to the NACCRRA Board of Directors, as Chair of the State Network Leadership Council.
- \* Awarded "Give Army Parents a Break" Grant to offer respite care.



Child Care Aware® of Missouri is primarily funded by the Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Social Services.



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The mission of Child Care

Aware® of Missouri is to

connect families to child

<sup>1</sup>American Community Survey 2007, U.S. Census Bureau; <sup>2</sup>Midwest Child Care Research Consortium Data; <sup>3</sup>We Can Do Better: 2009 Update, NACCRRA