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NETWORK MEMBER AGENCIES

Child Care Aware[®] of Central Missouri

1715 W. Worley
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573-445-5437 800-243-9685
www.mo.childcareaware.org

Child Care Aware[®] of Eastern Missouri

A Program at LUME Institute
6646 Vernon Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63130
314-469-9805 855-244-5311
www.lumeinstitute.org

Child Care Aware[®] of Southern Missouri

An Operating Agency of the
Council of Churches of the Ozarks
1910 E. Meadowmere
Springfield, MO 65804
417-887-3545 800-743-8497
www.ccochildcare.org

Child Care Aware[®] of Western Missouri

A Program at The Family Conservancy
444 Minnesota Ave, Suite 200
Kansas City, KS 66101
913-342-1110 800-755-0838
www.thefamilyconservancy.org



**Building
our future
workforce**

RIISING ABOVE THE CHALLENGES

2012 was a whirlwind year with a series of challenges, as well as opportunities. Economic conditions resulted in reduced funding, which led to eliminating some of the services that we have provided. Even so, there was still much work to be done and we are quite proud of our accomplishments throughout the year. Some of the highlights include:

- Achieved National Quality Assurance awarded by Child Care Aware® of America
- Advocacy work resulted in passing Sam Pratt's Law in Missouri (see Making a Difference story)
- Generated a new source of funding by becoming a Combined Federal Campaign Donor Recipient
- Increased media exposure and awareness by contributing to newspaper and television investigative reporting

Other activities beyond service delivery include completing work for the Children's Trust Fund Grant promoting the Strengthening Families Framework, starting our 5-year strategic planning process with staff and board members, and expanding our messaging through local television programming.

At the time that this review is being prepared, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon has declared a commitment to early childhood education. We are hopeful that funding levels will be restored as we continue in our efforts to change the landscape for Missouri's children.



CREATING THE CURRICULUM TO BUILD OUR WORKFORCE

This year we completed the development of our Infant and Toddler Basic Knowledge Curriculum (BKC – IT). With the focus on an entry level understanding of child growth and development, this curriculum offers child care staff the necessary tools to care for children and families. The five workshops, each two hours in duration, cover topics from childhood developmental milestones, to recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect and preventing all forms of harm to children.

The BKC – IT contains a special emphasis on the social and emotional development of infants and toddlers, incorporating both physical and mental health. With the addition of the BKC – IT to our other curriculums, Basic Knowledge for Early Childhood and Basic Knowledge for Youth Development, we can now support and reinforce the knowledge base of child care staff serving all ages from birth through 18 years of age.

This whole child approach offers child care professionals a more diversified selection for professional development.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT LEADS TO RESULTS:

After attending BKC-EC Module 9: Guiding Behavior, four staff from Turn the Page Child Development Center realized what they learned related to the children in their care. The three-hour training provided specific strategies to reduce challenging behaviors and help children develop problem-solving skills. The staff spoke to the trainer about specific challenging behaviors in the classroom and brainstormed precise techniques to address each child's particular guidance needs. When the trainer followed up with the center, they reported that behaviors had significantly improved through the application of the new techniques.

COMMITMENT TO FAMILIES

Child Care Aware® of Missouri's Referral Center continues to assist families in their search for quality child care. We provide families with a list of referrals based on the needs and interests expressed. In the past year, we provided 2,437 referrals to families who called the center, serving 3,378 children in need of child care. In addition, we provided 13,196 referrals through online searches, serving 8,063 children in need of child care. We provided consumer education resources to all who called for referrals. We also provided further technical assistance to many families seeking child care and to various community members seeking child care supply and demand data.



HELPING FAMILIES IN NEED:

Although excited about a new job that was to start immediately, a parent called our Referral Center concerned that she would not be able to find child care for her three children on such short notice. A Referral Specialist educated the parent on the various types of child care to choose from and then completed a search based on the parent's specific needs. As the parent did not have access to email, the Referral Specialist reviewed the list of referred programs over the phone to meet the parent's short time frame. A follow-up call two weeks later indicated that the parent had found a program for all three children and was able to start the new job.

IMPROVING CHILD CARE SAFETY

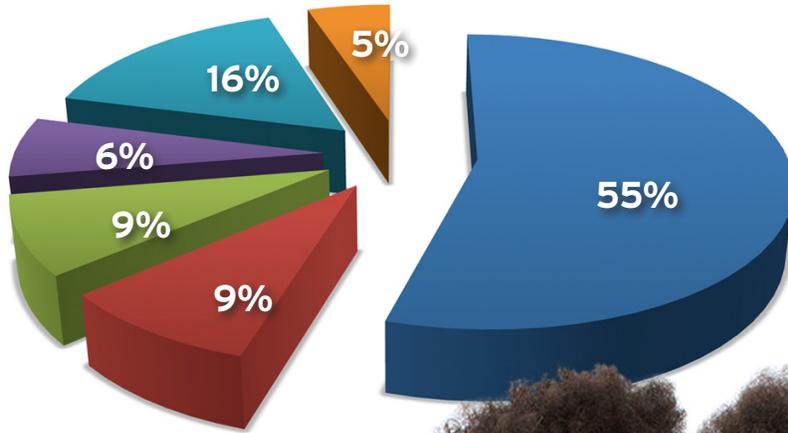
According to reports by Child Care Aware® of America, Missouri ranks 46th and 24th in child care centers and family homes respectively for oversight and regulation. A high number of unlicensed and illegal child care programs throughout the state contributes to child care being unsafe for children. Child Care Aware® of Missouri has been a steadfast advocate for changed and improved legislation that will support environments for our children’s safety. We contribute to the work done by parents, reporters and legislators to highlight the need for stricter regulation.

In 2012 we created a video explaining the importance of early learning programs on the future workforce and how employers can help their staff meet their child care needs. The video aired on a local television station program and is shared socially on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and LinkedIn. We are continuing work to expand our reach to the business community.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: *Child Care Aware® of Missouri was an instrumental advocacy partner in supporting the passage of House Bill 1323, creating Sam Pratt’s Law. The bill was named after Sam Pratt, an infant who died in illegal child care. After Sam’s death from alleged child abuse, the state had no legal way of shutting down the unlicensed caregiver. House Bill 1323 states that in any case involving the abuse, neglect, or death of a child, any judge may prohibit a defendant, as a condition of his or her release, from providing child care services for compensation, pending final disposition of the case. In addition, HB 1323 requires that any child care facility that is exempt from licensure to disclose to any parent or guardian of children in its care that the facility is not licensed. Any person who violates this provision a second or subsequent time will be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and face a fine of \$200 per day, up to a maximum of \$10,000.*

FISCAL YEAR ENDING 9/30/2012 EXPENSE BREAKOUT

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



- Direct Service Delivery*
- Network Office
- Network Coordination of Training, Community Outreach/Capacity Building, and Inclusion
- Accreditation Project & Strengthening Families
- T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships and Operations
- Special Projects

* Direct Service Delivery includes the Referral Center plus Central Region
 * Capacity Building includes Give Army Parents a Break



AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

CHILD CARE AWARE® OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

Child Care Aware® of Central Missouri continues to provide workshops and resources throughout its 46 counties. Project LAUNCH, a local project, selected us to offer social and emotional training to both child care professionals and the community. Child care professionals received follow-up onsite technical assistance to provide a curriculum that supports emotional development. Child Care Aware® of Central Missouri continued its partnership with Columbia Cares for Kids, offering events to the community, and with the United Way of Central Missouri, providing workshops to child care professionals.

CHILD CARE AWARE® OF EASTERN MISSOURI

Child Care Aware® of Eastern Missouri, a program at LUME Institute, received its first contracts as the Eastern Region member agency of Child Care Aware® of Missouri in July 2011 and worked hard to deliver all contracted services with high standards by the end of June 2012. LUME

Institute staff built staff and procedures while simultaneously delivering quality coaching and professional development in the eight Eastern Region counties. Before joining the Network as a member agency, LUME Institute provided Accreditation Facilitation services and Social and Emotional Competency training and technical assistance for Child Care Aware® of Missouri.

CHILD CARE AWARE® OF SOUTHERN MISSOURI

Child Care Aware® of Southern Missouri, An Operating Agency of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks, continued to assist Jasper County through the Disaster Response Social-Emotional Competency Project, in collaboration with the Ozark Center and with funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health. Child care teachers, kindergarten teachers and families were assisted through training and on-site technical assistance focusing on social and emotional development. They received resources and tools to use in the classroom and at home. In addition, resource packets distributed to area

businesses included community resource information, tips on helping children through the tornado anniversary, personal well-being tips, website resources, and ideas on how to share the information with employees and their customers/clients.

CHILD CARE AWARE® OF WESTERN MISSOURI

Child Care Aware® of Western Missouri, a program at The Family Conservancy, is committed to promoting quality early education for the children and families within its region. As a co-sponsor of the 16th Annual Quality Celebration in Kansas City and the 7th Annual Early Care and Education Quality Celebration in St. Joseph, Child Care Aware® of Western Missouri applauds the accomplishments of early childhood professionals who have achieved a degree or credential in the early childhood field and programs that have received accreditation or re-accreditation. Child Care Aware® of Western Missouri also hosted its Annual Fall Symposium, with approximately 200 early childhood professionals in attendance.

Child Care Aware® of Central, Southern, and Western Missouri were all awarded Child Care Aware® of America's Quality Assurance status for a five-year validation. Child Care Aware® of Eastern Missouri will be able to work toward Quality Assurance status after it has been operating for several years.

Donate Today!

Your financial support of Child Care Aware® of Missouri 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 be made on the website or by sending a check to our St. Louis office.

