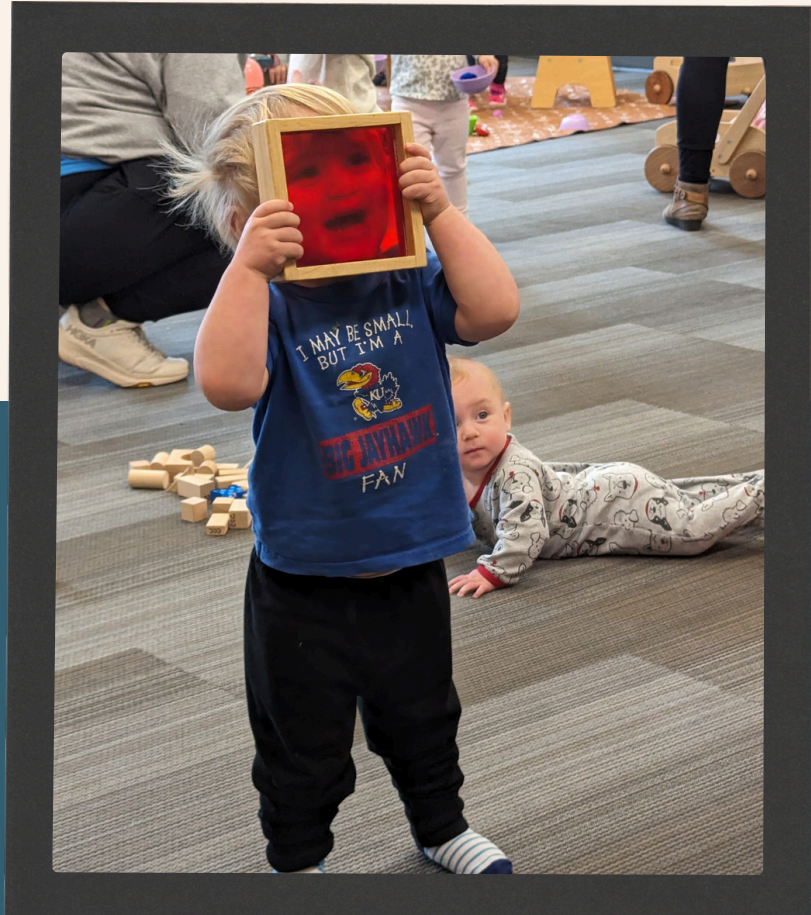


Building resilient children & families



Community Children's Center Annual Report 2024

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*"We have loved having the opportunity to attend the playgroup weekly to socialize with other children & caregivers, learn about other community programs/opportunities, & just to have fun! Erin is amazing & obviously cares very much about early childhood learning & growth." -**Grow & Go program participant***

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Support. Educate. Collaborate.

Dear Friends,

Another year has flown by in Douglas County and we cannot thank you enough for your continued support of Community Children's Center! Over the past twelve months, we have experienced growth in existing programs and launched new programs to better meet the community's needs.

Our Grow & Go weekly playgroup averages 30 children plus their caregivers each session, creating opportunities for connection, play, growth and community. The Early Childhood Clothing Closet has seen an incredible increased demand. In 2023, we distributed over 10,000 clothing items and are on track for more than 20,000 by the end of this year.

We are preparing for the opening of CCC Southwest at 4640 W 27th Street. Once fully operational, CCC Southwest will offer up to 70 child care spots on the southwest side of Lawrence.

We also see daily construction progress on the Early Childhood Community Center at 346 Maine Street with anticipated completion in Spring 2025. The coming year will bring a new child care facility with nontraditional hours, a home for our Family Resource Center and an indoor play space for Douglas County. We hope you are as excited as we are about what the future holds!

We are deeply grateful to every one of you who has contributed to these efforts. Whether you have given your time, resources or support, you've helped create real change. Your individual contributions have made a significant difference. Together, we are building more than programs and spaces - we are building a future where every young child has the care they need and every family has the support they deserve.

With gratitude,



Kim Polson Executive Director



Who are we?



Our goal is to

bridge the gap in available, affordable, and accessible early childhood care and services in Douglas County.

We envision

Building a foundation of lifelong learning and limitless potential, where every child thrives.

CCC serves as a community hub emphasizing equity and inclusion, ensuring all children, families, and early care professionals have the opportunities, resources, trauma-informed training, and support.



Values



Collaboration

We are more impactful & innovative when we work together.



Compassion

Everyone deserves to be met with encouragement, empathy & grace.



Growth

Learning begins at birth & continues through life.



Family

A family is made up of those we choose to include in our trusted circle.



Life Balance

We must care for ourselves before we can care for others.



Inclusion

We strive to create an environment where all feel welcome, respected, and valued.



Resilience

Adversity is an opportunity to build strength & understanding.



Lived Experience

We all have stories to tell & wisdom to share.



Honesty

Open, honest communication builds trust & healthy relationships.

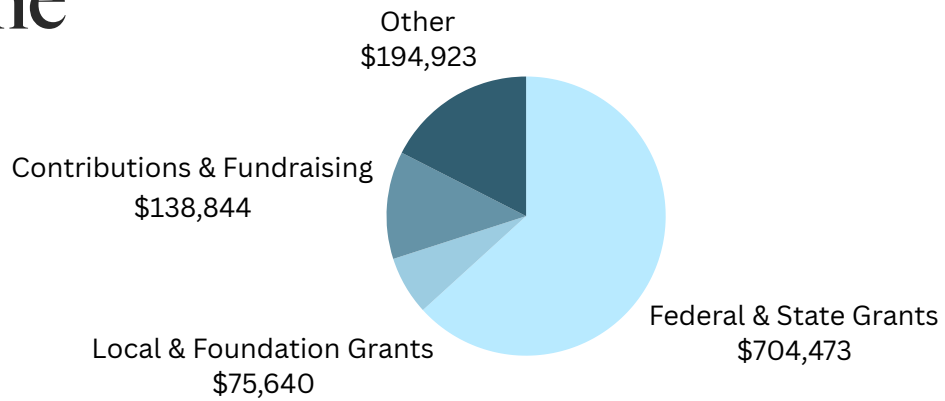


Joy

We are more productive, creative, & fulfilled when we find, feel, & share joy.

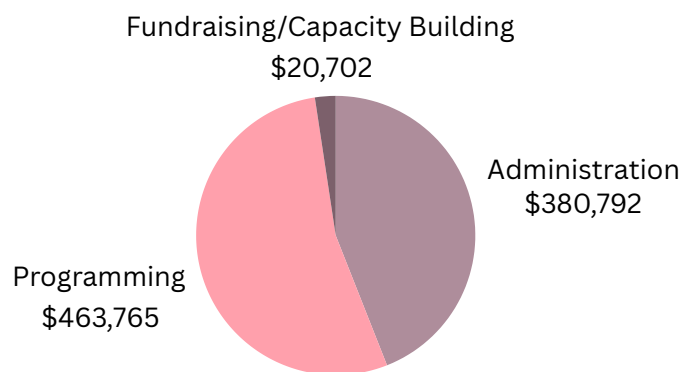
Financials

Income



Federal and State Grants: \$704,473
Local and Foundation Grants: \$75,640
Contributions and Fundraising: \$138,844
Other: \$194,923
Total Income: \$1,113,880

Expenses



Administration: \$380,792
Programming: \$463,765
Fundraising/Capacity Building: \$20,702
Total Expenses: \$865,259

Faces of CCC



Services

In 2023-2024 we served...

1,136 children 220 new families

1,972 clients 346 home visits

provided 16,813 items of clothing

(Jun 12-2023 - May 31, 2024)

Building a stronger early childhood environment in Douglas County.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CLOTHING CLOSET

CCC provides a donated closet for free gently used clothing for maternity and 0-5T sizes, as well as diapers and other necessities.

FAMILY NAVIGATION & SUPPORT

The Family Resource Center meets families where they are to provide support, education, and resource management.

TYKES ONLINE RESOURCE HUB

The TYKES online hub includes local activities, community information, and available resources for caregiving.

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE

Our innovative partnerships with other social service organizations allows us to support families in our community.

PROVIDER SUPPORT

CCC supports early child care professionals in a way that makes a profound difference in their morale and ability to provide high-quality care.

RESPONSIVE CAREGIVING

We focus on high-quality, trauma-informed caregiving techniques to better serve caregivers and professionals.

GROW & GO PLAYGROUPS

Grow and Go focuses on whole-child development through social-emotional learning using the power of play.

EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE FAIR

CCC brings together over 40 local early childhood resources each year to strengthen our early childhood ecosystem.

Early Childhood Community Center

A NEW KIND OF CARE

01.

In 2025, Community Children's Center will launch the Early Childhood Community Center at 346 Maine St. This facility will serve as a space for our current services, as well as partnership programs, an indoor play area for children five and under, and 138 early child care slots including overnight and weekends.

We will be an incubator space for child care professionals in training, an education space for families, and a play space for our littlest learners.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

02.

Parenting can feel overwhelming and isolating to new families, especially those facing barriers like language, food insecurity, health and wellness challenges, and cycles of poverty and violence.

We hope to provide these families with the freedom to heal and the opportunities to do so through our services, education programs, partnerships, and a welcoming and comfortable community space.

From Responsive Caregiving courses to providing an Early Childhood Clothing Closet, we aim to remove barriers and connect parents to nurture our local parenting community.

FAMILY RESOURCES

03.

Our Family Resource program will use the Early Childhood Community Center as a hub of care for families and an opportunity to reach out to members of the community who may not realize the scope of services we have to offer.

All of our family resource services are free of charge and available to all families in Douglas County with children five and under. We strive to make our programming accessible to all families, where and how they choose to participate. We work to decrease barriers and offer services that allow caregivers to learn and grow in comfort.

Whether it's providing material support, education, or short-term care resources, our Family Resource Center is happy to help!

Meet the Team



Kim Polson

Executive Director



Suzy Green

Family Resource Center
Director



Chelsea Harrington

Family Resource Center
Coordinator



Erin Lawrence

Community Engagement
Coordinator



Will Averill

Director of
Communications &
Development



DeAnn Windibiziri

Occasional Care Specialist



Mickie Hodapp

Director of Early Childhood
Care & Education



Jennifer McAferty

HR Manager



Board of Directors

Kirsten Flory, President

President & CEO
Foundations Commercial

Doni Mooberry Slough, Treasurer

Attorney/Advisor
Mooberry Financial Management, LLC

Kate Campbell

Retired

Yolanda Franklin

President
Nothing Unique Foundation

Sally Lundblad

Retired

Kelsey McClasky

Mortgage Loan Officer
Fountain Mortgage

Jenn Preston

Quality Improvement Director, Bert Nash

Suzanne Wikle

Senior Policy Analyst
Center for Law and Social Policy

Kimberly Williams

Speech-Language Pathologist
Sound/Speech Therapy

Linda Robinson

Retired

Eileen Weiss

Retired



*Bartlett & West renderings of our new
Early Childhood Community Center*



COMMUNITY
CHILDREN'S CENTER

CCC Maine
346 Maine Street
Lawrence, Kansas
66044

CCC Southwest
4640 W 27th St.
Lawrence, Kansas
66047

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X: @cccks

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