

Dear Child Care Resource & Referral,

I am writing this letter because so many times in our busy life (that we are all caught up in), we forget to thank the people behind the scenes that make our life a little easier.

I am so grateful for the women at the Joliet CCR&R that I have been blessed to come in contact with. Staff at CCR&R have spent several long hours, including numerous training calls, to help us with the questions on our certificates, payments, and the paperwork needed to help the families in our area get the necessary services available. Several of our young single mothers have received assistance, and we would not have had the knowledge to guide them through this process without the help from the CCR&R staff. We are so grateful that we have had these staff available to us.

Again, we just wanted to let the department know how important the CCR&R staff has been in helping us as we strive to offer quality care to all the children. Thank you for all that you do to help us provide the necessary care to our most important population, young children.
Peggy, Kankakee



Child Care Resource & Referral

■ WILL ■ GRUNDY ■ KENDALL ■ KANKAKEE COUNTIES
801 N. Larkin Ave., Suite 202, Joliet, IL 60435
www.ChildCareHelp.com

To promote and facilitate the availability of affordable quality child care through assistance, education, and advocacy in Will, Grundy, Kendall, and Kankakee counties.

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As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization uniting public and private resources to serve all families, Child Care Resource & Referral is funded by contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, United Way, and the Illinois Department of Human Services.



2010 Annual Program Report



Community

1991 – It Was A Very Good Year

Dear Colleagues,
 1991 - Child Care Resource & Referral opened its doors. Thanks to the United Way of Will County's willingness to be our fiscal agent there now was a statewide system addressing accessibility, affordability, and quality of Early Childhood Care & Education. Times sounded simple back then. We were housed in the Renaissance Center and had many a lunch at Chicken and Spice.

1995-1997 - Within a couple of years we outgrew our space moving to Jefferson and Republic, became our own independent not for profit, and began the first of many trips down to Springfield picking up boxes of files to sort through as we began taking on the Transitional and Direct Pay Child Care Assistance Program. Welfare to Work became implemented sending families out looking for Child Care as they went to work. Child Care Resource & Referral experienced a high demand for additional programs and services needed.

2001 - Who will forget the fire that burned our building to the ground? The Local DHS office came to our rescue allowing us to set up shop in their available space and the Springfield office came with computers for us to use. The fire took place on a Friday night in June and by Tuesday we were back in business losing only one day of service. In October we moved to Black and Larkin where we still are today. With enough office space and parking we have been able to accommodate yet another growth in programs and services.

2008 - 2010 – Will always be remembered for when Illinois Budget Crisis hit! What a profound impact this has had on all of us, bringing us together under one common goal. Today, we are still pushing for a Responsible Budget that will no longer threaten the very infra structure of the Social Service System. Although we've had to take a few steps back, we will continue to move forward.

2011 - Child Care Resource & Referral kicks off its 20th YEAR! Please join us as we embark on our celebration for Families, Providers, and the Communities we serve! Watch for more information to come throughout the year!

2011 – It Will Be A Very Good Year!

Chris Byrdon
 Executive Director, CCR&R

COLLABORATIONS

- Advocates United for Joliet Children
- All Our Kids Network
- Caregiver Connections
- Department of Human Services
- Fox Valley United Way
- Grundy Partnership for Children
- Healthy Child Care Illinois
- Illinois State Board of Education

- Kankakee Community Foundation
- Will County MAPP Project
- Success by Six
- United Way of Grundy County
- United Way of Kankakee County
- United Way of Will County
- Youth Experiencing Success in School

Family

PARENT REFERRAL

CCR&R's Parent Referral Department assisted families in their search for child care by conducting interviews to assess the family's need, providing consumer education materials on child care options, and issuing 839 referrals to child care providers based on the family's needs.

CCR&R's Parent Referral Department maintains over 1,000 providers in the agency's comprehensive provider database and presents parents with information on provider state child care licensing requirements .

COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

	**CHILDREN 0 TO 5	**CHILDREN 5 TO 14
WILL	63,397	107,090
KENDALL	11,419	14,949
KANKAKEE	9,513	15,476
GRUNDY	4,340	6,274

* Data from Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (IECAM) - 2010.
 **Data from US Census - 2008 (+/- 0.2 margin of error).

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

CCR&R's Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) administered funds from the Department of Human Services to county residents who applied for child care assistance.

APPLIED & RECEIVED CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE	
GRUNDY	132
KANKAKEE	736
KENDALL	237
WILL	2,357

Eligibility for the Assistance Program requires an applicant to fall below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level while employed or attending an approved education or training program.

REASON FOR ASSISTANCE	
EMPLOYMENT	3,167
EDUCATION OR TRAINING	277
EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION	18

CCR&R's CCAP processed payments for the Department of Human Services to providers providing child care services for children while the income eligible parent is at work or in school.

PROVIDERS RECEIVING DHS PAYMENT	
GRUNDY	101
KANKAKEE	1,332
KENDALL	200
WILL	3,558

\$25,863,000 was circulated back into the economy through payments made to providers for providing care to families on the child care assistance program.

Providers

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS

This past year, CCR&R sponsored 113 workshops to improve the quality and supply of child care.

More than 354 hours of training were offered to providers on topics ranging from "Asthma" to Creative Curriculum."

1,463 early childhood professionals participated in orientations and ongoing training to further develop their skills in the Early Childhood field.

	TRAININGS	PROVIDER ENROLLMENT
GRUNDY	8	110
KANKAKEE	11	81
KENDALL	13	179
WILL	81	1,093

Professional Development Advising
 In collaboration with Gateways to Opportunities, CCR&R offers a trained specialist delivering one-on-one advising for providers working to further their educational career goals in Early Childhood and School age care.

Infant/Toddler Specialist
 Through the Infant/Toddler Consultation Program, CCR&R provided 250 interactions through consultations and trainings to support and inform family child care providers and center staff when working with infants and toddlers.

CONSULTANTS

SELF in Collaboration with Caregiver Connections
 SELF provided consultations to 112 family and center child care providers to encourage social and emotional well being for children 0-5 as well as developed an action plan with providers to reduce problem areas.

Quality Rating System (QRS)
 Funded by IDHS, 15 providers have participated in and achieved a Star Level rating by meeting the specific criteria for the type of care they provide through technical assistance, training and support from CCR&R.

Preschool For All
 Through ISBE, CCR&R provided high-quality education for 80 three-to-five year olds, specifically focusing on children that are at-risk.

Healthy Child Care Illinois Nurse Consultant
 In cooperation with the Will County Health Department, CCR&R housed a nurse consultant to serve as a resource for parents and providers, including conducting child-health related trainings to an enrolled 220 providers.