ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Making Quality Care Happen One Child at a Time!





A Letter from Our Leaders

Dear Supporters and Friends of Childcare Resources,

As we close the chapter on 2024, we are filled with immense joy and gratitude for the remarkable journey we have undertaken together. This year marked a significant milestone as we celebrated 40 years of unwavering commitment to the providers, children and families, and our community of central Alabama.

Reflecting on our accomplishments, at the forefront is the profound impact we have made on the lives of our community's children. Our dedicated supporters have helped us raise over \$80 million since our inception, enabling us to provide quality care and early education to thousands of young minds across two generations. This incredible achievement is a testament to the power of community and the shared belief that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive.

The data in this year's report underscores the importance of our mission. We have seen firsthand how the well-being and development of our world are intricately linked to the growth and empowerment of its youngest members. Through our collective dedication to creating environments of compassion, education, and opportunity, we have sown the seeds for a future where every child can flourish and become a catalyst for positive change.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing the boundless potential within the hearts and minds of children. Our work is far from over, and we are excited to continue this journey with you for the next generation.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for believing in the transformative power of early childhood education. Your dedication and generosity have made all the difference, and we look forward to achieving even greater heights in the years to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Joan Wright

Executive Director

Liz Hyde

2024 Board Chair

Our mission is simple, to make quality care and education of young children happen.

Here's how we make it happen!

4 Areas of Service



Training & Technical Assistance

Train and support child care professionals, providing a sizable portion of training available in Blount, Jefferson, Shelby, and Walker Counties.



Financial Assistance

Provide child care financial assistance to low-to-moderate income working families who earn too much to qualify for state subsidy programs.



Resource & Referral

Support families who are searching for child care options, comprehensive child care information, and advocacy resources.



Head Start & Early

Head Start Program

Promote a child's

development through

comprehensive early

learning, health, and family

well-being services.



The goal of Training and Technical Assistance is to increase the quality of child care available to children by providing education through training and technical assistance to individuals working in child care or interested in a career in early care and education.



230

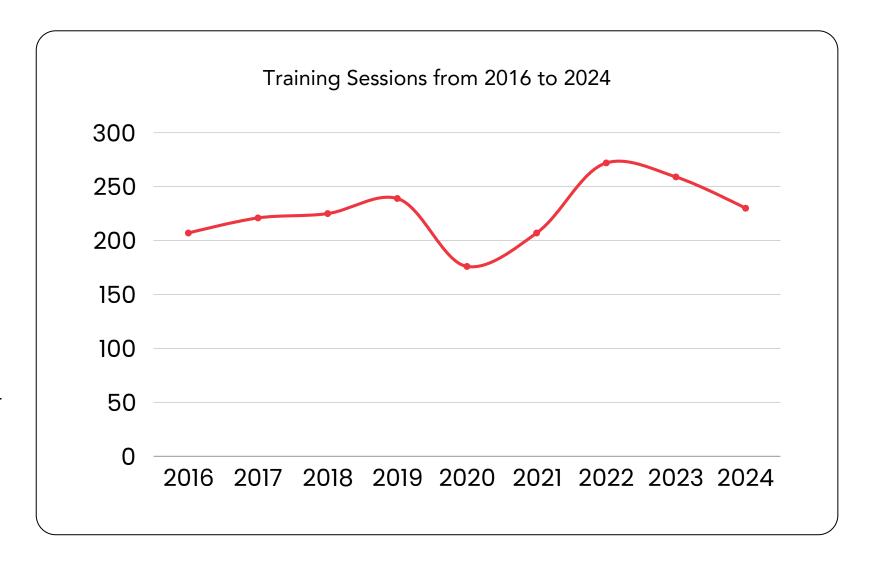
Training Sessions

97 In-Person70 Virtual32 On-Demand31 Canvas Catalog178 of which wereFREE TO ATTEND!



For 40 years, Training & Technical Assistance has been the core of our work. During the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, our agency quickly pivoted from in-person training for the safety of our staff and attendees, and converted training to virtual and ondemand options.

In the last few years, our agency has bounced back to pre-pandemic levels, while continuing to offer virtual and ondemand training sessions alongside inperson opportunities. These sessions offer a unique opportunity for child care providers to continue accessing trainings needed for professional development, and to maintain or achieve licensing requirements.



Training Options:

- In-Person: Held at Childcare Resources or another specified location on a specific date and time.
- Virtual: Either a Live Virtual Online training with an instructor on a specific date and time through Childcare Resources' Online Portal, or virtual through Canvas Catalog, a self-guided, self-paced online training course.
- On-Demand: Self-guided, self-paced training lasting from 1-4 weeks through Childcare Resources' Online Training Portal.
- Canvas Catalog: Self-guided, self-paced online training course through Childcare Resources' Canvas Catalog. Participants register and attend trainings at any time during the course availability dates. Courses are self-guided and available online for 30 days.



The goal of the Early Learning Resource Library & Van is to reduce the cost of delivering quality child care by providing access to teaching materials and resources free of charge. The Resource Center offers free membership and is open weekdays while the Resource Van travels 10 routes monthly.



88

Patron Visits to the Library



199

Patron Visits to the Van



54

Programs
Participating in
Van Routes



The goal of RISE is to positively impact the quality of child care in our community by assisting providers in surpassing the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards, achieving measurable improvements, and supporting the pursuit of national accreditation and re-accreditation.



6

Participating Centers



360
Consultations

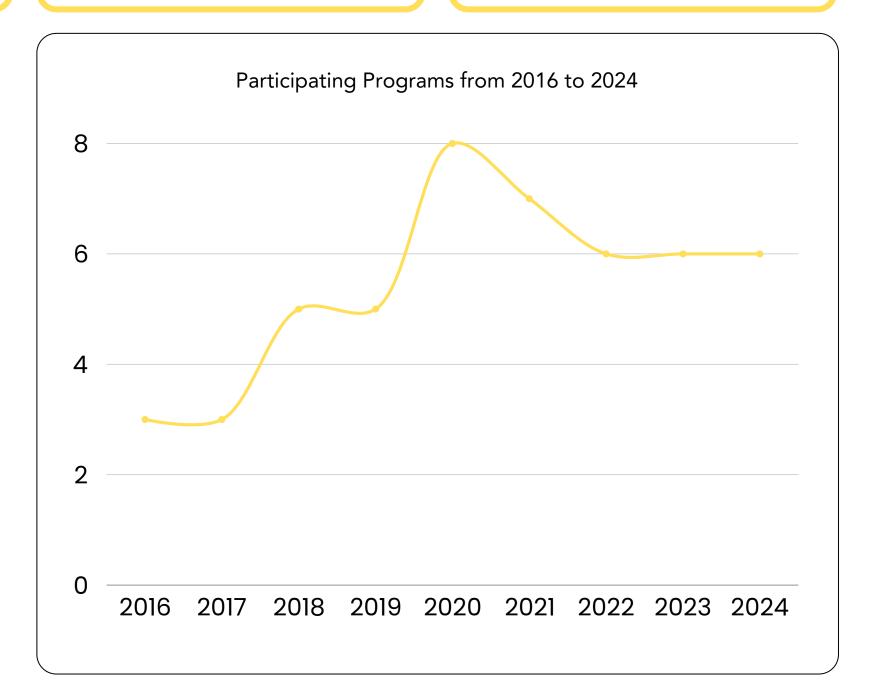


50

Training and
Technical
Assistance Visits

Child care programs desiring to improve quality in their centers rely on RISE to help achieve their goals. Childcare Resources' National Accreditation Specialist works one-on-one, both virtually and on-site, with directors and teachers, guiding them to identify deficiencies and then enhance areas needing improvement.

Because the RISE program requires scheduled meetings, follow-up, and classroom enhancements, participation in the program is incredibly time-intensive, meaning only a select number of specific child care programs are able to participate each year.



"RISE has allowed me to make purchases for things that I normally would not have been able to make. Our teachers can see that we are being supported by RISE when I am able to provide them with the quality materials and supplies that they need to provide the best quality care. The trainings that I have attended have allowed me to pass on very helpful information to our teachers."

RISE Program Participant

The goal of the Infant/Toddler Program is to increase the quality of child care available to infants and toddlers. The program is designed to assist classrooms in surpassing the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) Child Care Licensing and Performance Standards and to encourage directors to operate their program consistent with best practices.



8

Participating Classrooms



66

Consultations



47

Training and
Technical
Assistance Visits

"Throughout our time in the Infant/Toddler Program I have gained knowledge of important qualities of high-quality childcare as the program director, such as: assessing teacher quality, monitoring age appropriate activities, and overall health and safety improvements."

> RaShunda Evans-Jones, Executive Director Elizabeth Perry Rushton Child Development Center Infant/Toddler Program Participant



The goal of the Supplemental Child Care Program (SCCP) is to help low-to-moderate-income working families with children birth to age five maintain employment and achieve selfsufficiency by assisting them with their child care costs at a legally operating provider of their choice.



Single Parent
Head-of-Household
Families Enrolled



Children Supported



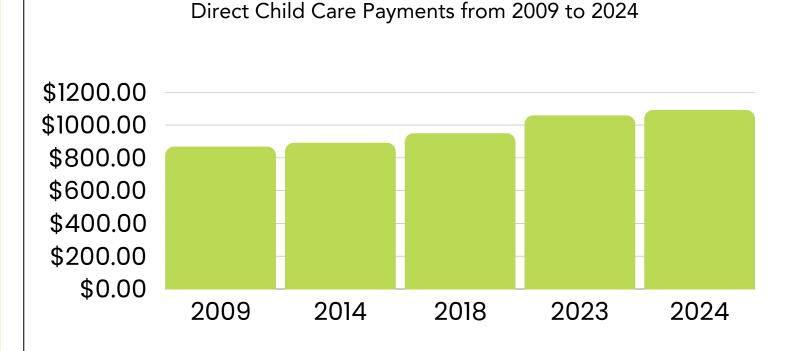
\$98,303

Direct Payments to Child Care Providers



\$46,879

Average Annual Income of Enrolled Families

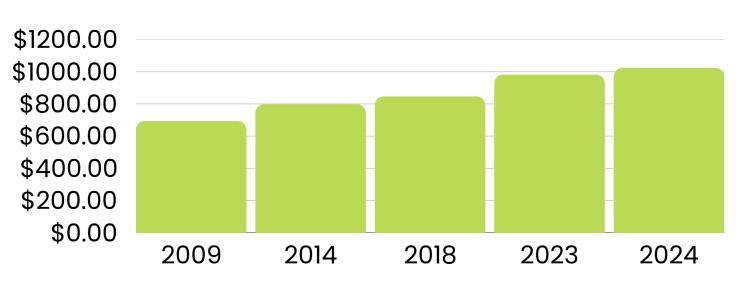


Average Payment Per Family



\$1,024

Average Child Care Payment Per Child



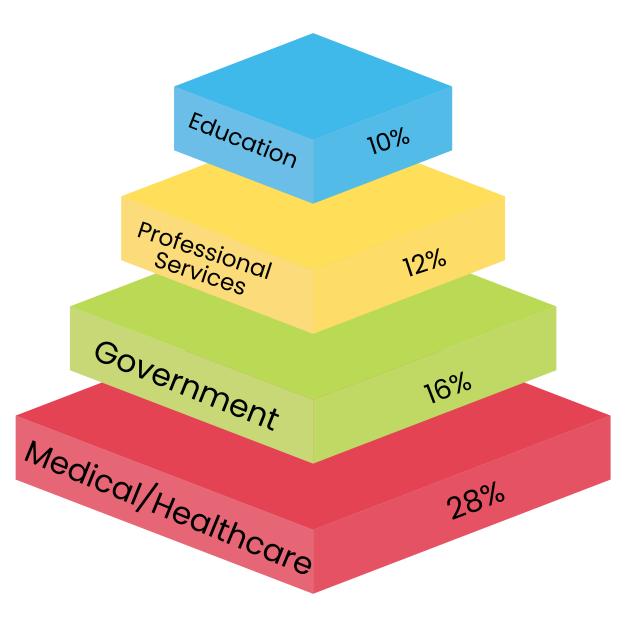
Average Payment Per Child

Childcare Resources' SCCP is the only program of its kind in central Alabama!

While the demand for SCCP remains the same, the amount paid through our program per family and per child continues to grow as child care costs continue to rise. As you can see in the graphic on the right, the families we assist work in a wide variety of fields, further showing that no matter what you do, everyone can benefit!



Top Employment Sectors of Families Enrolled in SCCP



"By paying a portion of the cost of child care for my son, I am able to budget that amount towards buying necessities like groceries or taking him to places like the Itty Bitty Magic City at McWane, or Chuck E. Cheese, and these are places he enjoys visiting."

T. King, Supplemental Child Care Program Participant



Resource and Referral provides free customized child care searches for the community. Each search includes provider profiles to assist the family in locating quality child care as well as parent resources to support the unique needs of each individual family.



576

Parents Created Accounts



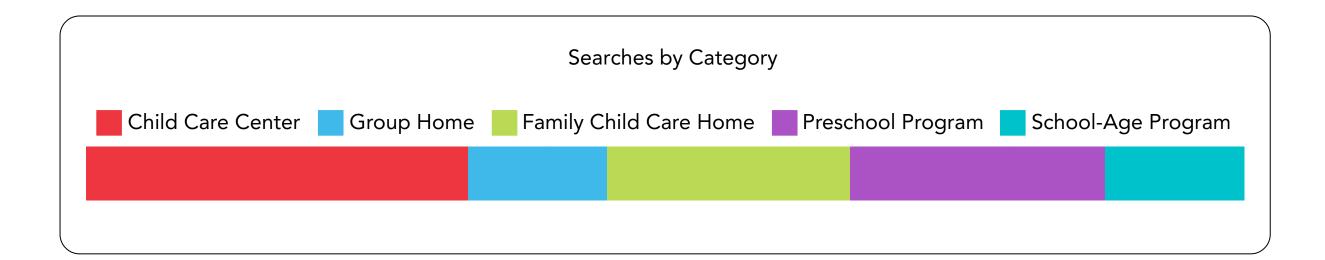
490

Total Parent-Performed Searches



304

Child Care Referrals Provided





The Head Start and Early Head Start Programs promote a child's development through comprehensive early learning, health, and family well-being services. Childcare Resources' Head Start Program operates through a partnership model with local schools, child care programs, and the community.



594
Funded Enrollment



151

Current Enrolled Early Head Start Children



279

Current Enrolled Head Start Children



9

Child Care Program Partners



4

Agency Operated Programs

Zip Codes Served in Jefferson County

35020 • 35022

35094 • 35203

35205 • 35206

35212 • 35217



49%

Head Start Families at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Line



55%

Early Head Start
Families at or below
100% of the Federal
Poverty Line



81%

Head Start Children received health, hearing, vision, and development screenings



79%

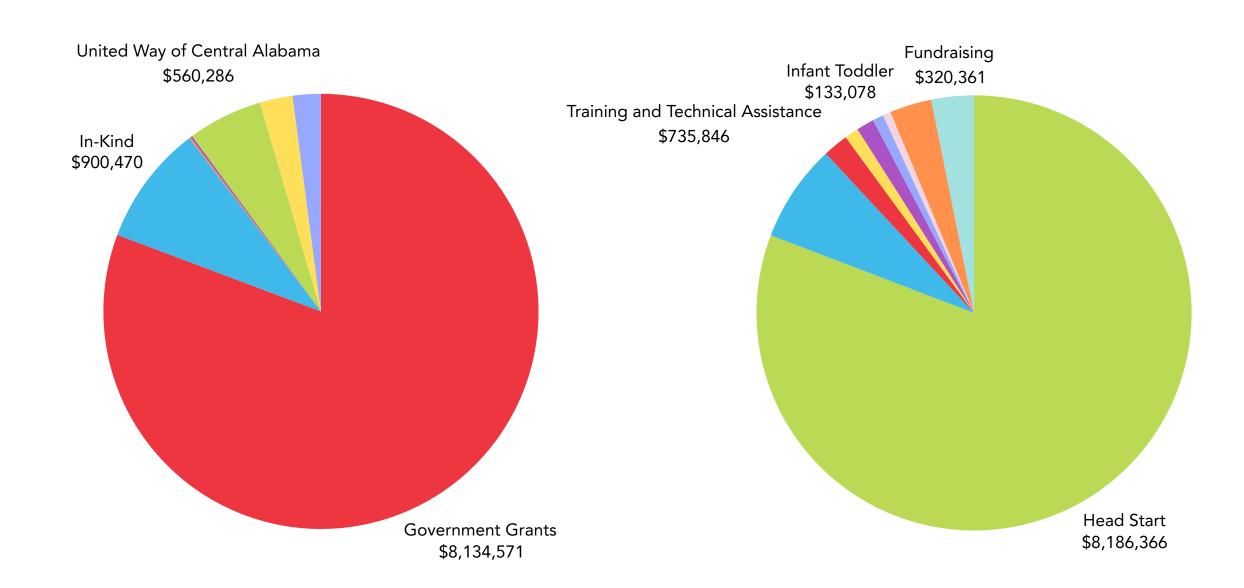
Early Head Start
Children received
health, hearing, vision,
and development
screenings

"I faced an extremely challenging circumstance when I found myself having to take care of my son all on my own. I enrolled my only son in the Head Start program and it was the best thing I did. I was able to actively participate as a parent and utilize the support services to not only ensure my son's early education success, but also to gain stability and confidence in my own life. So much so that I was eventually able to land a job and become a strong advocate for other single fathers in the community."



Revenue

Expenses





















Happy Birthday Childcare Resources!

This summer, we proudly celebrated 40 years of unwavering dedication to the care and education of children. Since our founding in 1984, Childcare Resources has been a pillar in the community, providing essential information, education, and assistance to families, child care providers, and the broader community.

Our journey over the past four decades has been marked by countless stories of growth, resilience, and collaboration as we've strived to ensure that every child has access to quality care and that families and providers are supported every step of the way.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been part of this journey. Your support has been the cornerstone of our success, and we truly would not be here without every one of you!

Here's to 40 years of making a difference— and to the many more years ahead of us! ♥

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