Dear Friends,

The 2007 year was important for kids in Washington State and for Child Care Resources! The Legislative Session was one of the best that I can remember in my 18 year history at CCR. More than $130 million of new investments in early learning were appropriated. Additionally, the legislature approved the early learning advocates’ two top priorities for the session: establishment of a Quality Rating and Improvement System and raising the State’s reimbursement rates for child care subsidies.

CCR and many advocates worked together towards the increases in State early learning funding. In addition, CCR played an integral role in developing the QRIS system for our State and locally in King County. Thrive By Five Washington is funding two demonstration communities, one in White Center and one in East Yakima, and these communities will offer many much-needed supports to families, children and providers to improve the school readiness of children in those communities. White Center will also serve as the King County pilot for QRIS. CCR was awarded a substantial grant by Thrive by Five Washington to lead the efforts for child care provider quality improvement. We also received generous funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for our communications and education efforts related to QRIS and about the importance of quality care to parents, providers and other caregivers.

To gear up for all these changes, CCR added staff in 2007 and negotiated more space in our building to accommodate the new teams in 2008. We know that in order to maintain and expand advances for children, much more work lies ahead. Heartfelt thanks to each of you who help in many ways: funding our work, supporting our efforts, and advocating for kids!

Thank you,

Nina Auerbach
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends,

Child Care Resources’ vision is expressed in just a few words – but what powerful words they are! Every day it becomes more clear why “a great start” is important: children learn from birth, and research proves that children who experience high-quality early education do better in school, graduate from high school, attend college, and avoid a host of problems such as early childbearing, drug abuse, and criminal behavior. Early education is an excellent investment in our community’s future – one that promises significant long-term returns.

As compelling as that is, on a personal level it is the “EVERY child” of the vision that calls me to volunteer for CCR for the past 5 years. CCR programming is necessarily unique and diverse because the children whose lives we want to impact are themselves unique and diverse. We seek to improve the care of children, from all parts of the socio-economic spectrum, with more than a dozen languages and in all types of child care settings. Many face daunting challenges: poverty, homelessness, physical and learning disabilities. When CCR says our goal is every child, we really mean it.

As I prepare to pass on the presidential duties to the capable hands of incoming President Trish Davis, I could not be more proud of CCR’s work. As a donor it gives me great confidence to know that my investment is being spent responsibly and is having real impact on the children in our community for years to come. For every child, their family and their community, lifelong success starts with quality early learning – thank you for helping us make that happen!

Sincerely,

Emily Anthony
President, Board of Directors
Working for Families

Everyone wants quality child care for their children – where kids are safe, have fun and develop a strong social, emotional and cognitive foundation that will shape them for the rest of their lives. However, affordable, convenient and appropriate care can be a challenge to find.

The CCR Response

Child Care Resources’ Family Services team has a wealth of knowledge and experience that serves the needs of all families. For families who are homeless or living in poverty, CCR staff provides enhanced referrals. For those who lack transportation, staff will take them to visit child care sites. For families who have limited English proficiency, our bilingual staff provide translation and interpretation to help them access the resources they need.

Comprehensive Services:

- The Information and Referral Service offers a specialized online and telephone referral service through our database of over 1,900 child care providers for all families.
- Employer Partnerships, with leading organizations like amazon.com, King County, Port of Seattle and University of Washington, are making a difference in addressing the lack of available child care. Employers are on contract with CCR so their employees can have free and unlimited access to the Information and Referral Service. In 2007, we responded to 301 employer-sponsored family services cases, a 425% increase over the previous year.

Learn about our child care financial assistance program and our program for families who are homeless; see page 7.

In 2007, more than 6,600 families contacted us to find the right child care for their children. Overall, Family Services staff fielded 9,294 calls for our programs, a 9.4% increase over 2006.

“I just wanted to drop you a quick note to let you know that I was able to find a place for my son and to thank you for all of your help. I really appreciate it (he does too... he just doesn’t know it yet).”

~ Warm regards, a father

Partnering with Providers

– training women for sustainable careers in child care

For mothers trying to move out of poverty, the road to stability is daunting. Enrolling in school or a training program can lead to opportunities, but the shortage of accessible, or affordable, child care can be an obstacle. As a result, the entire family suffers.

The CCR Response

CCR’s Child Care Careers Program has broad impact. By training low-income women for sustainable careers in child care, we help increase the availability of child care, especially culturally-relevant care. Low-income women – many are immigrants and refugees – receive training (including English as a Second Language, if needed); case management to help them overcome other barriers such as domestic violence, health issues or transportation; and employment support. The Careers Program opens doors for families.

Here’s one story: Thuy was living in an RV and looking for work while trying to figure out how to care for her two children. Then, she entered the Careers Program. After graduation, she opened a child care program at the Rainier Vista housing site, where she subsequently was able to save enough money to buy a home. Now she runs a model child care program – one that is culturally appropriate for her community – and her family is thriving.

In 2007 alone, the Child Care Careers Program helped 70 refugee and immigrant women secure paying positions in quality child care settings. Since 1998: 350 women have found positions in child care centers; 85 have opened family child care businesses, and only 10% of graduates’ businesses have closed (due largely to relocation out of state or pursuit of a degree or new career like full-time teaching), significantly lower than the state’s 20% closure rate.
Initiatives Build Quality for Providers and Families

2007 Accolades

CCR was recognized with the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility—a national project on workplace flexibility and workplace effectiveness from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Institute for a Competitive Workforce.

Nina Auerbach was presented with the 2007 Phenomenal Woman Award by the Jewish Women’s Endowment Foundation “As a respected advocate and expert in early childhood development”.

CCR’s Leadership Team was honored with the Puget Sound Coaches Association Prism Award for Washington State organizations’ commitment to coaching as a leadership strategy.

Grace Alams, CCR Board Member since 2001, and family home child care provider was honored by British Petroleum with one of 18 National Child Care Provider Awards.

An Emerging Statewide System Will Boost Quality and Support Providers

The child care system in Washington State is taking exciting steps forward. Our Legislature mandated $5 million in state funding in 2007-2009 to launch a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) designed to help families better understand what quality child care looks like and how they can make informed decisions in selecting appropriate care. The system is also designed to give providers the tools and support they need to improve their programs. Collectively, the child care field will be strengthened and the hundreds of thousands of children receiving care here will have even better opportunities for success in school and in life.

“Since I came to CCR 18 years ago, parents have been asking for something like this. I commend the Governor and Legislature for the bold move to bring this type of system to our state,” says Nina Auerbach, CCR’s Chief Executive Officer.

CCR served a key role in bringing QRIS to our state and continues to be a leader in its planning and implementation. Over many months now, CCR has been interacting with families, child care providers, interested community members and other service providers to gather input and keep them apprised of progress. We have also been funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to coordinate a public communications campaign to engage 8,000 parents and 2,000 licensed providers in QRIS as it nears its official launch this summer.

While, at the time of this printing, the model has yet to be finalized, this voluntary initiative will likely include incentives—grants, low interest loans, expanded educational opportunities, etc.—to help providers boost the quality of care in their programs. Ultimately, the greatest beneficiaries will be our children and communities.

White Center Early Learning Initiative

– a community investing in children

The White Center Early Learning Initiative (WCELI) is an innovative pilot project that can change the early learning landscape. A partnership of community members, private organizations and public agencies, it is one of two demonstration sites funded by Thrive By Five Washington.

White Center, straddling south Seattle and Burien, is growing and diverse, with a significant population of families who speak languages ranging from Somali to Vietnamese. The WCELI is a ten-year effort to create culturally-appropriate, sustainable, integrated and accessible child development and family services. Its home-based programs, parent education, professional development for providers, and model child care center will improve early learning and kindergarten readiness for every child.

CCR brings to this its expertise in coaching and mentoring to child care providers and in supporting family, friend and neighbor caregivers.

“We are both working and still can’t have enough to pay for child care without your help. Thank you, our son has been able to stay in the same child care program for a year!”

– A Spanish speaking family
Homeless Child Care Program
– supporting families and their child care providers

Children who are homeless suffer immense stresses, making them among the most vulnerable in our midst. With 70% of homeless families led by single mothers, they need support beyond child care. Without basic services to help them out of poverty, their chances to establish healthy lives are compromised.

The CCR Response

CCR offers a unique and holistic program for homeless families that helps not only children and their families, but also the providers who care for them. We provide: child care referral, subsidy and transportation support; individualized case management for families; and mentoring and training for providers to help them with specific and sometimes challenging needs of a homeless child.

Here's what one mother told us: Lisa had a life plan and the determination to implement it. She had moved from a homeless shelter to temporary housing and was about to start a job training program. Still, her daily battles with depression, a back injury and lack of child care for her son Josh threatened their chances for stability.

The moment Lisa called CCR, the pressure lifted. CCR helped Lisa find a child care center sensitive and skilled to meet Josh and Lisa's needs. We removed some financial worry by paying for care until Lisa was eligible for subsidies. Now, two years later, Josh is getting kindergarten-ready and Lisa is healthy and eager to start her new career.

In 2007, the Homeless Child Care Program assisted 594 homeless families and 1,081 homeless children.

Child Care Financial Assistance

It’s not a secret: child care is expensive. Families typically pay up to 25% of their income for it, a devastating stretch for families living in or near poverty. But, for many who are unable to stay at home to care for a child, this expense is not optional. For low-income families, the pressures can be tough: without reliable child care, parents face significant challenges in keeping, and advancing in, a job or educational program. Without work, the family’s chances to move out of poverty can be insurmountable.

The CCR Response

To give these families the opportunity they need, CCR offers Child Care Financial Assistance, a scholarship program for low-income families that provides support for child care.

In 2007, this program covered costs for approximately 91 children – totaling 10,737 days of care – making it possible for parents to take classes, find a home or search for a better job.

Soy Bilingue
Adult Dual Language Model

Theresa Lenear, CCR’s Director of Diversity and Inclusion, contributed to this manual for early education and elementary teachers. Theresa authored a chapter on bicultural voice. “Developing one’s bicultural voice, cultural competence, and critical thinking skills is a process that goes hand-in-hand with one’s ethnic identity development. We cannot begin to learn, or understand, or even interact with others on that basic human level without understanding ourselves as cultural beings.” Tilman Smith, of CCR, was also a contributing writer.
"It is all about quality for our children. Children are plants in the ground that need light, water and love to grow. It is up to us the adults to provide them with what they need in order to grow and become good people. It is up to us as parents to make sure that where we send our children is a place that gives these things to our children when we are not there."

~ Burhan Farah, child care provider in White Center
We appreciate your gift and want to ensure that your name is listed correctly. Please call.

* Members of the community who have been consistent donors for the past three years.

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Washington Education Association

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**Members of the community who have been consistent donors for the past three years.**

Please call (206) 329-1011 x 258 if there are corrections to be made or if inadvertently omitted your name.

Statement of Unrestricted Activity
Year Ended December 31, 2007

Unrestricted Public Support
Government contracts and grants $3,236,586
United Way of King County 13,000
Contributions and private grants 439,460
In-Kind contributions 144,798
Total Unrestricted Public Support $3,833,844

Revenue
Employer fees $ 29,707
Program service fees 235,773
Investment income 58,770
Other income 11,662
Total Revenue $ 335,912

Net Assets Released from Restrictions
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions $ 626,784
Satisfaction of time restrictions 252,047
Total Unrestricted Public Support, Revenue and Other Support $5,048,587

Expenses
Program services $3,946,354
Management and general 598,088
Fundraising 438,194
Total Expenses $4,982,636
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets $ 65,951

Expenses by Function
Administration and Fundraising - 21%
Family Services -32%
Provider Services - 47%

Auditor’s Statement
In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Child Care Resources as of December 31, 2007, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. - Jacobsen Jarvis & Co., PLLC

The entire audited financial statements are available on our web site at www.childcare.org.
Child Care Resources Programs

Services for Families
- Information and referral (telephone and web-based)
- Enhanced information and referral by contract for employers and families transitioning from welfare to work
- Child care financial assistance
- Child care for homeless families

Services for Providers
- Technical assistance and coaching to improve quality
- Training classes, workshops and conferences
- Resource centers and telephone warm line
- Help with national accreditation
- Child Care Careers Program for low income women

Community Initiatives
- White Center Early Learning Initiative
- Professional Development for Seattle Step-Ahead Preschools
- Seattle Early Reading First
- Family, Friend, and Neighbor Caregivers (FFN)
  - Plan and Learn Groups
  - Integration of FFN strategies for community organizations

Visit www.childcare.org for information in Amharic, English, Somali, Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese.

All Kids are Our Kids

Vision
Every child has a great start in school and in life.

Mission
Child Care Resources leads efforts to promote equity for children, community stability and school readiness by:
- Helping families access and choose high quality child and afterschool care.
- Partnering with providers and caregivers to offer excellent care.
- Advocating for child care solutions that strengthen communities.