



Kent Regional 4C
Your Community
Child Care Connection

Annual Report

October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010

Kent Regional 4C, a private, non-profit agency, serves Kent County and Western Michigan by *providing leadership, resources, services and education which create, improve and promote quality child care.*

At Kent Regional 4C we help:

- parents learn about quality child care and education.
 - child care and education providers become the best at what they do.
 - communities know the importance of a child's early years.
 - children be ready for success in school and life.
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Overview

The Kent Regional 4C 2010 Fiscal Year was both challenging and exciting.

The State of Michigan working with the Early Childhood Investment Corporation created an automated online child care referral website designed to serve parents across the State. Kent Regional 4C phased out our child care referral service over a 10 month period, while at the same time referring parents to the new website and providing instructions for its use. Our thanks go to the Sebastian Foundation for helping to support this important transition period.

Kent Regional 4C in partnership with Arbor Circle, the Kent Intermediate School District, and Salvation Army Booth Family Services, participated in a First Steps project aimed at increasing literacy skills in young children and the over-all quality of Department of Human Services (DHS) subsidized relative care in high need neighborhoods. The project was highly successful and led to the continuation and expansion of this First Steps effort.

In response to changes in the DHS child care subsidy requirements for relative providers and aides our staff learned new skills in order to provide the required infant through adult CPR, First Aid, and general health and safety classes for this care giving population. In addition to maintaining our regular training and education schedule, Kent Regional 4C trained 439 relative providers and daycare aides between February and September of 2010.

The Great Start Early Learning Advisory Council (GS-ELAC) commissioned a child care Quality Development Continuum/Quality Rating and Improvement System Design Committee in March 2010. The Design Committee made recommendations to GS-ELAC in November 2010. Kent Regional 4C staff actively participated in the Design Committee and the relative care Quality Development Continuum Workstream.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Serving 21 Counties

Licensed child care providers and relative child care providers can be financially reimbursed for nutritious meals and snacks that they serve to children in their care.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Michigan Department of Education. Kent Regional 4C is a Sponsor of the CACFP in Michigan. The program is designed to assist child care providers in planning and helping to pay for nutritious meals/snacks served to children in care, birth-12 years of age. There is no cost to parents or providers to participate in the program.

Providers may also be eligible to claim their own children, age 12 and under, if they meet income requirements and other children in care are present.

FY 2010 CACFP Accomplishments

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|---|-------|
| • Participants | 1,217 |
| • Home Visits | 2,876 |
| • Daily Average Number of Children
Who Received Nutritious Meals and
Snacks in Child Care Homes | 7,302 |
| • Recruitment of New Homes Participating | 308 |

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Referrals for Parents

Kent Regional 4C provided child care referral services for a total of 4,244 families between October 2009 and August 2010.

Education Resources for Parents, Providers and Community

- Mailing:
 - A final newsletter was published and distributed in October 2009
 - Two postcards were sent to all providers directing them to our website
- Website:
 - Revamped with new look
 - Additional educational pieces and links to helpful resources posted
- Facebook and Twitter:
 - Created a Facebook page with daily entries
 - Automatic updates to Twitter account daily
- Email alerts sent monthly to all providers and parents with email addresses

Training for Early Care and Education Professionals

Kent Regional 4C offers a variety of training and educational resources for early childhood care and education providers. Educational resources were funded by class fees, Heart of West Michigan United Way, First Steps and the Southwest and Western Great Start Regional Resource Centers.

★ - These are quotes from class participants.

13 Correspondence classes for 195 students

★ *"Thank you for your hard work in organizing this class so well. I have kept all the information that I have received and plan to pass it down to my staff. I'm looking forward to the next class in Administration Part 2."*

84 Online classes for 438 students

★ *"I liked that I was able to take the class at my own pace and thoroughly read all of the information without regards to time. I feel taking an online class is more effective than a regular seminar-type class because I can take the time to really focus on the information and implement these practices in my workplace."*

★ *"Please know how much it is appreciated that Kent Regional 4C's offers online learning. I live in a rural area and for me to drive to take a course would be very costly as well as time consuming. Thanks, you guys!"*

18 Classroom classes for 213 students

★ *"Use of various groups, management style, and learning techniques was exceptional!"*

13 CPR/First Aid classes for 142 students

★ *"I really like taking the classes here (at Kent Regional 4C). Thanks for offering them here!!"*

37th Annual Early Childhood Conference in January 2010 - 489 attendees

Resources specifically for Relative Care and Daycare Aide Providers:

44 Great Start to Quality Orientation (GSQO) classes for 439 students

409 Home Visits

★ *"(Child) and I look forward to seeing (our coach) when she visits each month. She always has new activities for us to do!"*

146 Play and Learn groups for 626 providers and 892 children



Kent Regional 4C Board of Directors

- Amy Combs - Helen DeVos Children's Hospital (Chair)
- Kathi Harris - UAW (Vice Chair)
- Dan Gerrity - Retired (Treasurer)
- Dan Fogel - Life Guidance
- Amy Hekman - Grand Rapids Community College
- Janice Hilliard - Blue Cross/Blue Shield
- Jennifer Jordan - Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids
- Mary Beth Kozak - Bissell
- Gayle Orange - Camp Fire USA West Michigan Council
- Shlynn Rhodes - Blue Cross/Blue Shield
- Michael Stoiko, MD - Helen DeVos Children's Hospital

Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2010

<u>Assets</u>	<u>2010</u>
Current Assets	
Cash	\$252,604
Accounts receivable	255,961
Investments	668,374
Prepaid expenses and other assets	10,899
Beneficial interest in assets	64,612
Total Current Assets	\$1,252,450
Property and Equipment	
Furniture and equipment	\$160,524
Leasehold improvements	75,845
Accumulated depreciation	(192,873)
Total Net Property and Equipment	\$43,496
Total Assets	\$1,295,946
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$2,835
Capitalized lease obligations current portion	6,694
Accrued liabilities	84,467
Deferred revenue	53,644
Total Current Liabilities	\$147,640
Long-Term Liabilities	
Capitalized lease obligations long-term portion	\$9,365
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$881,658
Temporarily restricted	257,283
Total Net Assets	\$1,138,941
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,295,946