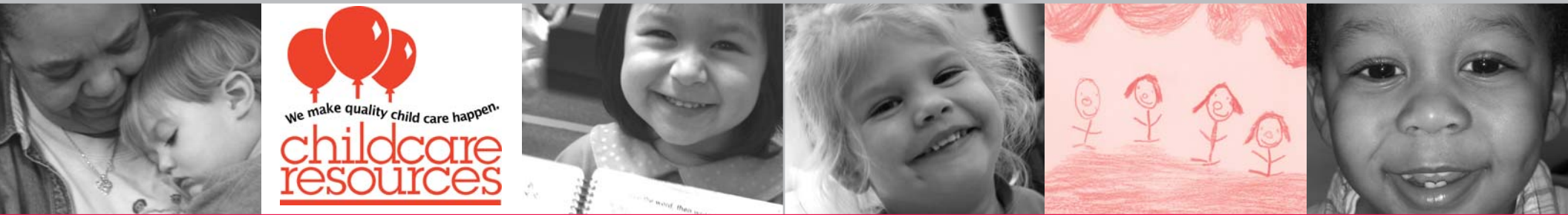


*M* making quality child care happen



*Annual*  
Annual Report  
2005-2006  
*Report*

# welcome *Welcome*



Dear Friends:

The Childcare Resources board and staff appreciate the support we receive from our funders, our clients — child care providers and families — and the many organizations with whom we collaborate.

- We are grateful to the nearly 680 people who attended our 2006 Children's Advocate Award Luncheon, where 20 individuals and organizations were recognized as Friends of Children and three received the Children's Advocate Award. Under the exceptional leadership of Ruffner Page, president of McWane, Inc., the annual fundraiser generated \$130,000 to support programs to improve the availability and affordability of **quality** child care.
- We congratulate United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Birmingham's Hand in Hand Early Learning Program on receiving accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children, a distinction earned by only 5% of child care providers nationwide. Hand in Hand participated in our RISE program, which helps providers improve their programs and achieve national accreditation.
- Our Infant Toddler Outreach was offered in eight child care centers. Using the nationally validated Infant Toddler Environmental Rating Scale, 100% of participants improved their scores above the national average. How fortunate for the children who will receive bright beginnings in these centers!
- What a great year this has been for effective collaboration. To ensure community understanding, we implemented a signed Memorandum of Understanding with United Way's Success by Six Initiative detailing the collaborative rather than duplicative nature of the two programs. Staff have participated in the Early Care and Education Committees of the Jefferson, Shelby, Walker and Blount County Children's Policy Councils as well as in the Jefferson County Blueprint for School Readiness initiative, funded by the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham and led by the Alabama Partnership for Children.

2006 has been another good year for Childcare Resources, and we look forward to 2007.

- In March, we will roll out our Online Child Care Search service. Anyone looking for child care may access information and education from our web site — [www.ccr-bhm.org](http://www.ccr-bhm.org) — any day, any time. Watch for information in the spring.
- On August 25, our Junior Board will host a new fundraiser called the Fairy Tale Ball. Families will experience a party like they have never seen before, so mark your calendars!

Thank you for helping us touch lives — today and tomorrow. We look forward to another successful year of working together to improve the lives of young children.

Deak Rushton  
Board Chairman

Margie Curry  
President

# Leadership



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# who we are *We are*



## Mission

Our mission is to make the **quality** care and education of children happen by providing information, education and assistance to families, providers of child care and the community.

## Vision

**Quality** child care will be available and affordable to all families who need it.

## Service Area

We serve families, child care providers and the communities of Jefferson, Shelby, Walker and Blount Counties in Alabama.

# Quality why we're here



Children deserve the best start in life. That belief is the foundation of all we do at Childcare Resources. We exist to help central Alabama's children get the best start through access to **quality**, affordable child care — care made possible by our programs and services, including:

- child care training and support
- child care financial assistance
- child care resource and referral
- parent education
- community information.

Through client stories and other information, the following pages paint a picture of our efforts in 2005-2006 to help children receive the start they deserve. We hope you enjoy.



Because of Childcare Resources' RISE program, everyone associated with Ready, Set, Grow Child Development Center in Chelsea is benefiting — especially its children. “The staff is receiving training and support to help better the care we give,” says director Jean McGuire. “They now have a confidence that is contagious. They feel equipped to do their job, which creates an environment conducive to learning. I would recommend RISE for any center striving for the best care for children.”



## child care training and support

### Training and Consultation

We provide training opportunities for child care professionals on a variety of subjects — safety, literacy, discipline, classroom makeovers and everything in between. If you or someone you know has had a child in child care in central Alabama, chances are great that his or her teacher has been trained by Childcare Resources. We provide 90% of all training available to child care teachers and administrators in our service area — Jefferson, Shelby, Blount and Walker Counties.

#### The numbers

**402**  
training sessions

**967**  
hours of training

**6,067**  
training participants

#### The results

- Approximately 98% of training participants rated their increase in knowledge after training as good or excellent.
- Post-training test scores increased 25% over pre-training test scores.

### Reaching Improvement through Self-Evaluation (RISE)

Our RISE program seeks to improve the quality of child care as determined by industry standards. Funded by the Alabama Department of Human Resources and in partnership with the Harris Early Learning Center, RISE uses a process of evaluation, improvement plans, goals and action steps to help child care centers achieve higher quality, including national accreditation.

#### The numbers

**10**  
number of child care centers enrolled

**113**  
center visits

**408**  
consultations

**10**  
group quality impact meetings with participants from all enrolled centers

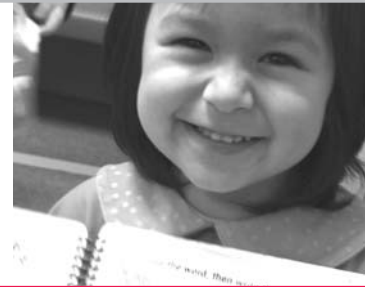
#### The results

One RISE participant, United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Birmingham's Hand in Hand Early Learning Program, earned accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, a distinction shared by only 5 percent of child care programs nationwide.



A teacher of 3-year-olds, Candy and her students are thrilled when Childcare Resources' Teacher Resource Van pulls up to their Blount County child care center. "Every time we get something from the van, the kids can't wait to see what it is!" she says. Because of the van, Candy can use different books, CDs, puppets and educational games than she normally uses, and the van's route through Blount County provides a convenient way to access materials that excite her students.

## child care training and support



### Early Learning Resource Center Teacher Resource Van

Our Early Learning Resource Center and Teacher Resource Van distribute resources — children's books, puppets, musical CDs and instruments, educational activities and teacher resource materials — that help child care professionals create quality classroom environments.

The center is located at our office in downtown Birmingham and the van travels throughout the area, giving teachers and directors easy access to the materials they need.

#### The numbers

1,341

van patron visits

5,776

resources circulated through the van

753

library patron visits

1,764

resources circulated through the library

### Infant Toddler Outreach

Because learning and nurturing are important from the beginning of a child's life, our Infant Toddler Outreach program provides on-site assessment, consultation and training to improve the quality of care in infant and toddler classrooms.

#### The numbers

16

classrooms participating in eight centers

150

center visits

914

consultations

32

classroom assessments

#### The results

Post-assessment scores showed a 22% increase in quality in infant classrooms and a 19% increase in quality in toddler classrooms. A full 100% of classrooms increased their post-assessment scores, scoring above the national average.

Corrie's involvement in Childcare Resources' child care financial assistance program helped her afford quality child care for her three young sons. But it did much more, according to the Trussville mother. "Having the peace of mind that they were safe and loved enabled me to grow further in my career and better support them," she said. She is now a corporate manager in the banking industry and her sons — ages 8, 6 and 4 — are thriving.



## child care financial assistance

Through our Supplemental Child Care Program (SCCP), we offer child care financial assistance for low-income, working families. This program — the only one of its kind in Alabama — helps pay for child care for families who earn too much to qualify for state child care financial assistance. For a family of two, too much income would be anything over \$16,680. When you consider that in Jefferson, Shelby, Walker and Blount Counties, parents pay an average annual cost of \$5,893 per child for care in a child care center — more than the cost of annual tuition at Auburn University or the University of Alabama — you can see how child care costs can be overwhelming for these families. So, we partner with them to help bring down their child care costs so they can work and care for their families.

### The numbers

**217**

families served

**314**

children served

**792**

children on the waiting list (through Sept. 30, 2006)

**\$289,139**

funds disbursed to SCCP families

**\$5,456,045**

money earned by SCCP families

**\$19**

amount returned to the local economy for every \$1 disbursed through SCCP

“W”

“When my husband and I started looking for child care, we didn’t have a clue!” says Anne, a Hoover mother of two preschoolers. “It can be overwhelming to have a phone book before you, looking at all the options and not knowing which one to choose.” So on the advice of co-workers, she contacted Childcare Resources’ Resource & Referral program, which helped her find a center. “Our kids feel at home there and the teachers take great care of them,” she says. “It’s everything I want in a center.”

## child care resource and referral



### For families

Through our Child Care Resource & Referral program, we guide families through the process of locating affordable, quality child care. Finding such care can be difficult — especially in Jefferson, Shelby, Walker and Blount Counties, where parents must choose from more than 850 child care programs — and we understand that this is a weighty decision for parents. So we help them narrow down their child care choices based on their specific needs and provide consumer education materials so they'll know how to recognize quality child care when they visit or call potential child care providers.

### For employers

Employees today struggle to balance the demands of work and family life. Companies that invest in work/life benefits gain a critical business and financial advantage in employee recruitment and retention.

Understanding that employees who have safe, reliable, quality child care are more productive, reliable and happy, employers contract with Childcare Resources to provide Enhanced Child Care Resource & Referral services.

### The numbers

1,395

families requesting child care searches

1,803

searches completed for families

2,266

total calls/contacts from families

10,708

educational materials distributed

### The results

A full 100% of families reported using the information they received from Childcare Resources to make their child care choices.



“Anybody can be a Mom or a Dad, but it takes a devoted person to be a **parent**,” says Trevis, who along with his wife, Marsetta, participates in Childcare Resources’ parent education program at the Bessemer child care center their 3-year-old daughter attends. “The program emphasizes the importance of education, proper discipline and proper parenting skills, and the parents always receive an encouraging word,” says the Bessemer father of two.



## parent education

We deliver the nationally renowned Parents as Teachers (PAT) program in several local child care centers. Through this parent education program, parents who volunteer to participate have convenient access to family counseling, individual and group meetings, and health and development screenings and referrals in their son or daughter’s child care setting. Through this program, we walk alongside parents as they seek to understand and support their child’s development.

### The numbers

164

children enrolled from 125 families

534

individual meetings with parents

28

parent group meetings

350

child development and health screenings

340

center visits

### The results

Approximately 94% of families participating in PAT were able to correctly identify age-appropriate behaviors in their children and reported using more than one form of effective and appropriate discipline with their children.

“20”

“When I learned that my family was moving to the Birmingham area, I knew I would need to find child care for our daughter so I started to look online,” says Katie. “Within minutes I found the Childcare Resources web site, which led me to a Resource & Referral counselor on staff who gave me information and eased my mind as to the possibilities for child care in the area.” Now Katie and her family are settled into their home and her daughter is loving her new child care center.

## community information



The Childcare Resources web site, [www.ccr-bhm.org](http://www.ccr-bhm.org), provides valuable information for the community — parents, child care providers and the general public — about:

- child care resource and referral
- tips for choosing child care
- child care financial assistance
- child care provider training opportunities
- child care career planning
- services for child care providers, including Infant Toddler Outreach, Parents as Teachers, RISE, the Teacher Resource Van and the Early Learning Resource Center
- corporate work/life benefits
- how to contact legislators and government officials
- early childhood development
- how to support CCR.

The site also provides:

- links to other organizations concerned with children
- information about agency special events
- access to *Training Post*, our quarterly newsletter for child care providers; *The Resource*, our agency newsletter; and other agency publications
- links to agency news releases.

The web site continues to be a vital part of our communication network as the number of visits increases each year. In 2004-2005, the web site had 490,825 visits. In 2005-2006, the number rose to 654,371.

### The numbers

654,371

web site visits

44,220

web site visitors

27,895

web site documents downloaded

# financials *Financials*



With the generous support of individuals, businesses, foundations and government organizations, we were able to help give children the best start in life in 2005-2006 through the services outlined in the following budget.

On behalf of the Childcare Resources Board of Directors, Junior Board and staff and the children we serve, thank you for your 2005-2006 contributions. We appreciate your partnership in helping us make **quality**, affordable child care a reality for families in our community.

## 2005-2006 Support and Revenue

Grants from Government Agencies	\$710,315
United Way of Central Alabama	534,831
Corporate Contracts and Program Fees	58,009
Other	309,195
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,612,350</b>

## 2005-2006 Expenses

Program Services	
Resource and Referral	\$71,021
Training and Provider Support	790,484
Child Care Financial Assistance	369,749
Parents as Teachers Training	84,796
Support Services	
Management and General	362,491
Fundraising	131,371
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,809,912 *</b>

*\*includes expenses associated with \$178,584 of funds booked in the prior year*

# Donors



Donors listed are for fiscal year Oct. 1, 2005-Sept. 30, 2006. Donations made after Sept. 30 will appear in the 2006-2007 Annual Report.

## Child Care Resource and Referral

### Major Funder United Way of Central Alabama

*Generous Supporters*  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama  
New South Federal Savings Bank  
Protective Life

## Child Care Provider Training and Support

### Major Funders Alabama Department of Human Resources United Way of Central Alabama

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## Supplemental Child Care Program (SCCP)

### Major Funders United Way of Central Alabama

### City of Birmingham Community Development Block Grant

### Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham

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The Women's Fund of Greater Birmingham

## Parents As Teachers

### Major Funders Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, Children's Trust Fund of Alabama

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*We have made every attempt to include each of our generous friends. However, if we have inadvertently failed to list your gift, please notify us at (205) 795-2207 so we may correct the omission.*



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