

Child Care Choices

“Your Link to Community Child Care”

2004 Report to the Community



Mission Statement

Child Care Choices links those needing child care with providers giving care in Miami County and surrounding areas. We provide child care information, training, and support for families and child care providers to help them give the best possible child care.

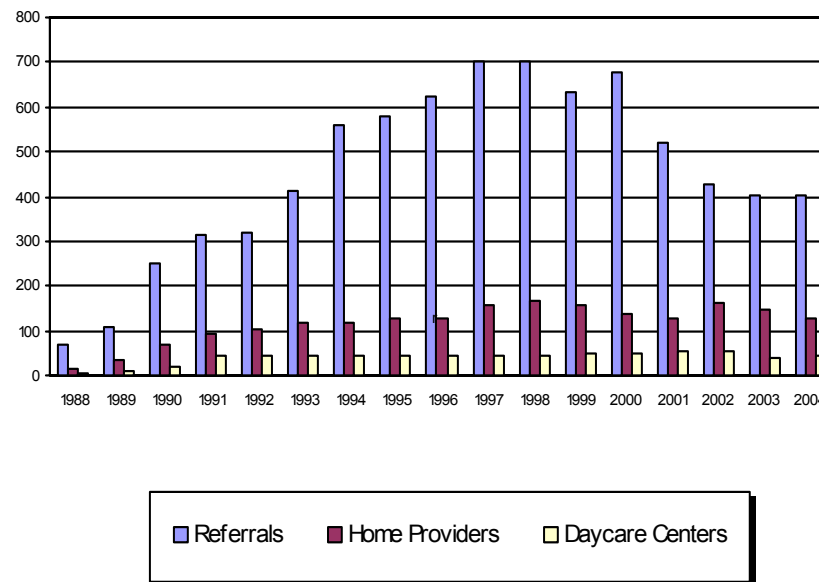
Child Care Choices Serves Miami County and Surrounding Communities

In 2004 Child Care Choices helped 403 families find child care for 600 children. We are finding an increased need for part time child care due to parents working different shifts, single parent families and families being affected by welfare reform.

Child Care Choices offers families ongoing support through parenting newsletters, follow-up calls and phone counseling about child care concerns.

Child Care Choices offers parents information on choosing quality child care with each list of child care referrals. We also send additional information relevant to the age of the children needing care.

Services Offered by Child Care Choices



Child Care Choices supports child care centers and home child care providers. . .

Child Care Choices' registered providers and center staff members receive support from Child Care Choices through telephone counseling, a quarterly newsletter and workshop training sessions. The Child Care Choices "Partners in Parenting" newsletter offers helpful information to providers to share with the parents of children in their care.

Child Care Choices also gives each new home child care provider a start-up kit and a "technical assistance" visit as part of the registration process. These visits are free of charge and give the provider the chance to talk about specific issues of concern to them, ask questions and gain new ideas and insights from a childcare professional.

Child Care Choices believes that well-trained child care providers offer better quality child care and encourages all registered providers to attend as many of the Child Care Choices workshops as possible.

Training! Training! Training!

Research has shown that well-trained child care providers offer better quality child care. Child Care Choices offered 43 training workshops in 2004 with topics ranging from the basics in the Health and Safety in Family Day Care training curriculum to child development, creative activities and other topics.

Child Care Choices collaborated with eight other agencies in sponsoring "Building Babies' Brains", a literature based workshop featuring nationally known educator, Ann Anzalone, attended by 118 caregivers. Home childcare providers are also given opportunities to learn fun, creative and inexpensive ways to provide a good, quality active learning environment for the children in their care. These learning opportunities would not be possible without some of the dollars raised at the annual Child Care Choices Benefit and Auction. Contributions made to this worthwhile event really do help children throughout Miami County.

Child Care Choices' Services Continue...

Child Care Choices continued to serve many families...

- Made 403 child care referrals for 600 children
- Added 19 new home childcare providers for a total of 127 in the Child Care Choices network
- Registered a total of 43 area childcare centers

The Child and Adult Care Food Program continued...

- As we assisted 39 providers who serve nutritious meals to children.

Child Care Choices sponsored programs for 2004...

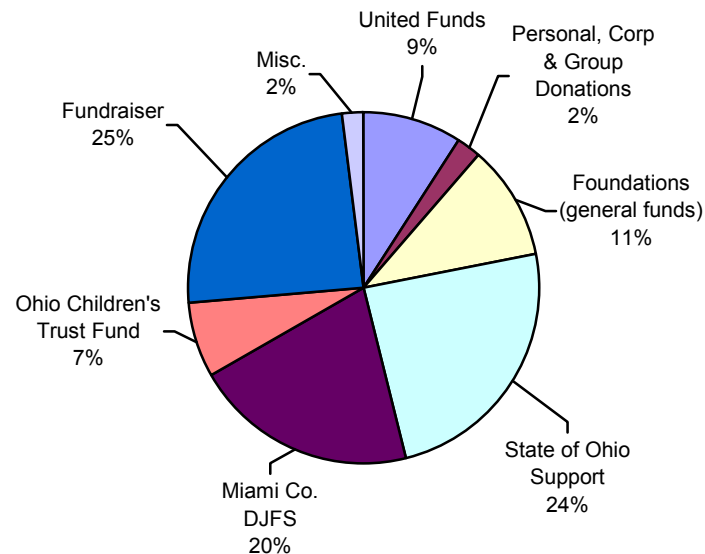
- Sent over 2,000 monthly activity and resource packets to all registered and certified home day care providers in Miami County. Each packet contained a children's book and many activities.
- Sponsored 150 Story Lady visits to child care homes and centers. The Story Lady sang songs, read stories and did art and craft activities with the children. Caregivers watched and learned new ideas.
- Mailed Partners in Parenting newsletter to approximately 2000 families each month
- Distributed over 4,000 children's books to child care providers and the children in their care

Child Care Choices works with other agencies...

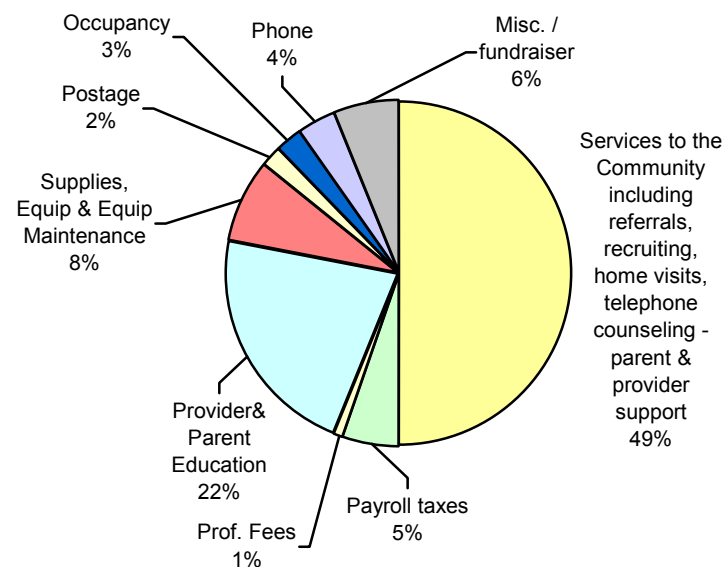
- Works closely with Miami County Dept. of Job & Family Services in planning and giving child care provider training.
- Participates in the Miami Country Early Intervention Consortium, Miami County Family and Children First Council, Child and Adult Care Food Program Sponsor Network, and Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association

Volunteers help stretch every dollar... Child Care Choices staff, board and community members work many volunteer hours a week including facilitating workshops, making presentations to the community, helping with office work and fund-raising, and many other activities.

2004 Support & Revenue



2004 Expenses



Community volunteers contribute substantially to the services given to Miami County families through Child Care Choices.

Director

Elizabeth Russ

Food Program Administrator

Gail Ruhkamp

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Carol Myers
Lynn Glenn**Board Members**Ann Baird
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Sonia Ewald
Pat Holmes
Charlie Janning
Kate Johnsen
Peggy Kelly
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Miami County Foundation
Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Ohio Dept. of Education
Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services
Tipp City Area Community Foundation
Piqua Community Foundation**United Way Funds**Tipp City Area United Way
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Lucy Godbey
Naonori and Hiromi Nabeshima
Kathie Perri
Dorie & Del Perry
Basil Zabek**Office & Workshop Space**

West Charleston Church of the Brethren

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COSI Columbus
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Dayton Playhouse
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Fiesta Hair and Tanning Salon, Piqua
Fine Art by Design
Flora, Kelly
Foster, Debbie
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Godbey, Lucy
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Jenkin's Automotive
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Johnson, Jane
Johnson, Rick & Jane
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Newport Aquarium
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Ratliff, Lynn
Roark Furs
Ruhkamp, Don & Virginia
Ruhkamp, Gail & Craig
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Russ, Catherine
Russell, Brooke
S & R Goldsmith, Tipp CitySaunders Seed, Tipp City
Schmitz, Stephen
Schroeder, Katie
Schwans, Troy
Second Street Eatery, Tipp City
Showcase Cinemas
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Snyder, Nancy
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Swisher, Tom and Lorna
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The Hair Gallery, Troy
The Little House
Think TV
Tipp Players
Tires Unlimited, Dayton
Total Image
Trader Joe's
Troy Country Club
Troy-Tipp Lawn Equipment
United Business Services, Dayton
van Haaren, Beth and Michael
Victoria Theatre, Dayton
Wal mart, Troy
Wal-mart, Huber Heights
Weiler Welding
WMMX 107.7 FM Clear Channel

Triple “C” Roundup with Child Care Choices

The 2004 Benefit & Auction was held at St. Patrick’s Parish Center in Troy and once again the committee outdid itself and the entire event was enormously successful.

Triple “C” Roundup raised over \$20,913.53 for the organization, and increased the general awareness of Child Care Choices and its many services.

The funds generated by the fundraiser were used to:

- Make hundreds of referrals to families needing child care
- Partially fund 43 workshops for 786 Home Child Care Providers and Day Care Center personnel
- Help fund the recruitment of 18 new home childcare providers
- Help fund Story Lady visits to child care homes and centers
- Allow us to distribute over 4,000 books to providers and children

The annual benefit & auction would not be a success without the hundreds of volunteer hours that go into putting it together, as well as the generous support of local individuals and businesses. We sincerely appreciate every person who helps make the event the huge success it is every year.

Child Care Choices believes parents are best able to evaluate and choose childcare for their children. Responsibility for selecting and employing a childcare provider rests with each parent. Child Care Choices does not monitor the quality, nor does it recommend the providers listed with the service. . Parents are urged to interview carefully and check all references before leaving a child in care.



814 W. Main Street, Tipp City, Ohio 45371
937-667-1799 or 937-773-9944
betsy-childcarechoices@bizwoh.rr.com
<http://www.child-care-choices.org>