

## “Flashback to the 50s” with Child Care Choices

The 2009 Benefit & Auction was held at Edison Community College in Piqua and once again the committee outdid itself and the entire event was enormously successful.

“Flashback to the 50s” raised over \$20,056 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 58 workshops for Home Child Care Providers and Day Care Center personnel
- Help fund the recruitment of 9 new home childcare providers
- Help fund 180 Story Lady visits to child care homes and centers
- Allow us to distribute over 2,000 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.*



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# Child Care Choices

“Your Link to Community Child Care”

## 2009 Report to the Community



### Mission Statement

**Child Care Choices links families 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 2009 Child Care Choices helped 240 families find child care for 405 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 the current recession.

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, plus additional information relevant to the age of the children needing care.

## 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.



Go Green Workshop attendees

## Training! Training! Training!

Research has shown that well-trained child care providers offer better quality child care. Child Care Choices offered 58 training workshops in 2009 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.

Step Up to Quality is Ohio's voluntary quality rating system for early care and education programs licensed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Step Up to Quality provides the recognition a program deserves for its continued commitment to achieving higher quality child care, and offers parents an easy tool to use to select higher quality programs for their children. During 2009, Child Care Choices offered 25 Step Up to Quality approved workshops for child care providers in our community.

The CCC Story Lady comes into homes and centers to read to children, sing songs, and present a creative activity. This provides an educational and fun experience for the children, as well as an individual training for the provider. The provider is able to observe a master teacher speaking, reading, and interacting with children.

## Child Care Choices' Services Continue...

### Child Care Choices continued to serve many families...

- Made 240 child care referrals for 405 children
- Added 9 new home childcare providers for a total of 110 in the Child Care Choices network
- Registered a total of 51 area childcare centers



### The Child and Adult Care Food Program continued...

- As we assisted 47 providers who serve nutritious meals to children.

### Child Care Choices sponsored programs for 2009...

- Sent over 200 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 180 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.
- Distributed Partners in Parenting newsletter to Miami County families each month
- Distributed over 2,000 children's books to child care providers and the children in their care

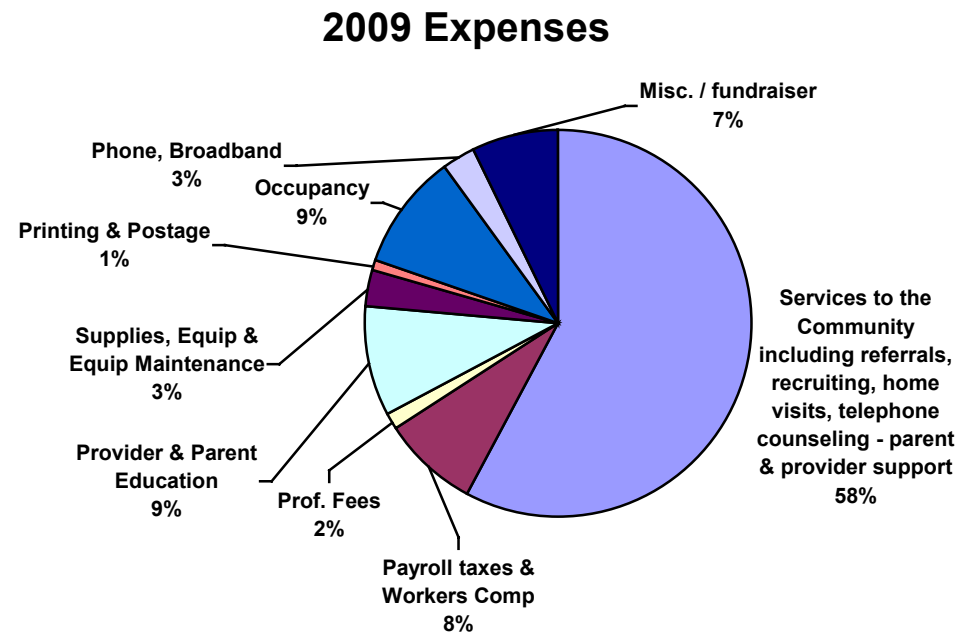
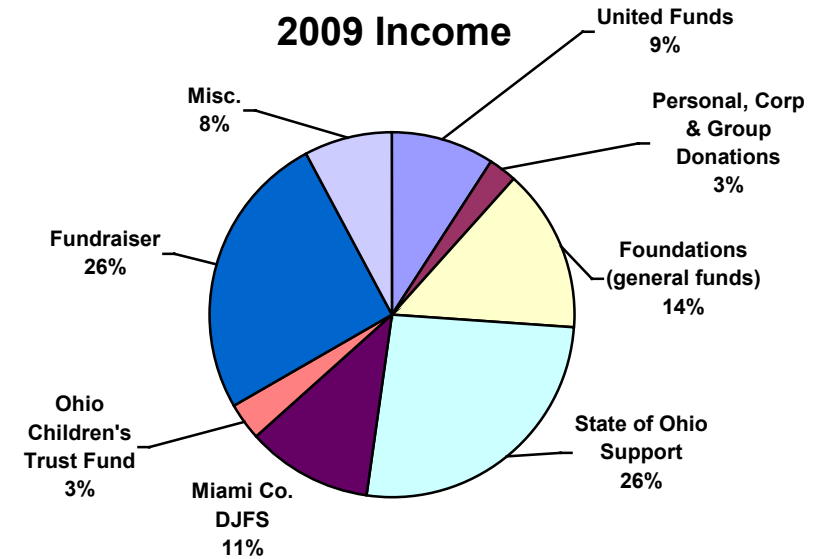
### Child Care Choices works with other agencies...

- Works closely with Miami County Dept. of Job & Family Services in planning and giving child care provider training.
- Participates in the Miami County 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.

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



## Thanks to all donors!

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