

Annual Report 2015

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.



Connecting Communities and Children

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. works to promote affordable and quality child care, provide information and support to families and strengthen the early childhood workforce in Dutchess and Putnam counties.



January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015

How We Have Grown

1970

The Dutchess County Legislature establishes the Dutchess County Child Development Committee. There is one secretary as the only paid employee. There are five day care centers in Dutchess County.

1981 to 1984

The Dutchess County Child Development Council is formed. The Council is established as the Child Care Resource and Referral Service for Dutchess County. The Council administers the Child Care Food Program for family day care providers. There are 29 licensed day care centers and 30 family day care homes. Staff increases from two to six.

1991 to 1995

The Council becomes the NYS Registrar for family day care homes. Through a contract with the Dutchess County Department of Health, the Council employs two Early Intervention Initial Service Coordinators. Staff grows to 15.

1998

The Council's on-site Resource Lending Library is made possible with funding from IBM and the American Business Collaboration.

2006

The Council becomes the Enrollment Agency for Legally Exempt Child Care for Dutchess and Putnam counties. Upon the request of the Office of Children and Family Services, the Council's Board of Directors votes unanimously to provide services in Putnam County, to include: resource and referral, registration, food program administration, and child care subsidy administration. Services in Putnam County begin in February.

2010

Distance Learning classes are developed by the Council. Child Day Care scholarships are funded by Dyson Foundation.

2013

Council receives a Dutchess County Partnership Grant "Healthy Connections Start in Child Care"

2013

The Council becomes Quality Assured by Child Care Aware of America.

2014

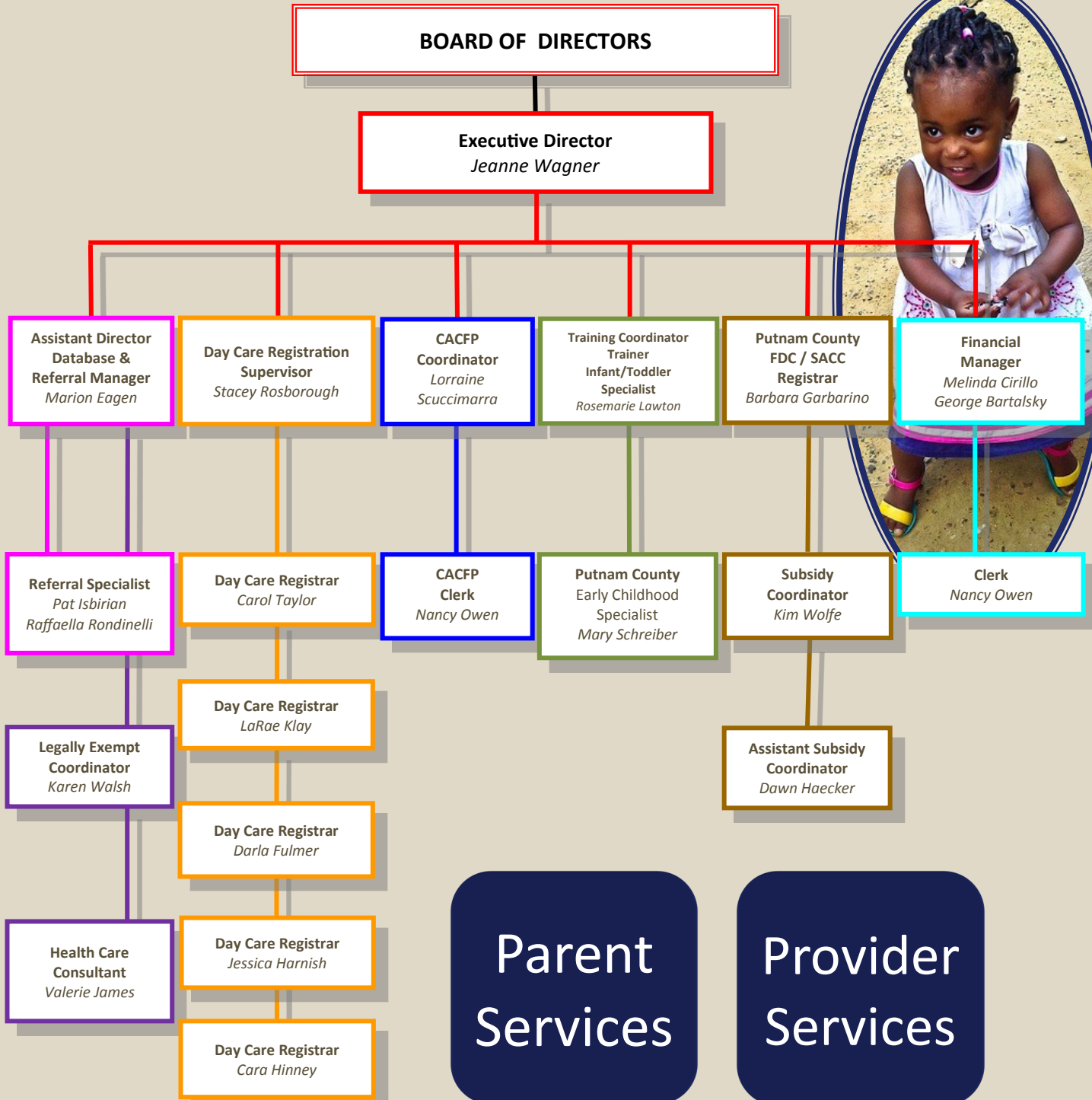
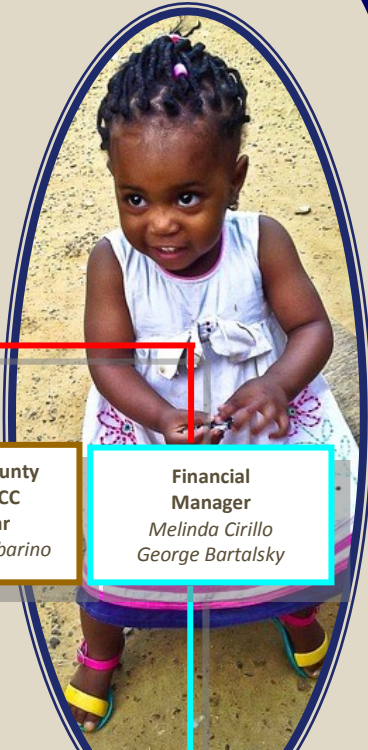
The Council provided training with Quality Improvement grants totaling \$9,457 to 14 centers and 5 home-based programs in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

2015

The Council celebrates 45 years of service to the community



CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF DUTCHESS AND PUTNAM COUNTIES ORGANIZATIONAL CHART- 2015



**Parent
Services**

**Provider
Services**

**Support
Services**

**Child and
Adult Care
Food
Program**

**Increasing
Quality**

Child Care Facts and Figures

Jeanne Wagner



New York State is ranked as the second least affordable state for the cost of child care.

The average annual cost of full time care for an infant in Center-based care based on Market Rates is \$13,104 and \$17,680 in Dutchess and Putnam Counties, respectively.

In New York State, the cost of infant care in a day care center is \$14,144 and in a family child care home is \$10,556 annually.

Investments in high-quality early education generate returns of over \$8 for every \$1 spent.

In 2010-2014, about 10% of children in Dutchess County were living in poverty, up 1 point since 2000, yet below the statewide and national rates, 17% and 22% respectively.

In 2014, 8% of 3-5 year olds received special education services in Dutchess County, higher than the state (5.9%) and the region (6.7%).

In New York State in 2015, the two major obstacles to finding child care were the cost of care and the lack of openings.

In Dutchess and Putnam Counties of those surveyed in 2015, the two biggest problems in finding care were cost of care and the provider's schedule.





The average income for a full-time early child care worker in 2015 was just \$10.72 an hour, putting the wages of child care workers below those of 37% of all occupations in the U.S. economy.

In every state, child care workers would need to spend over 80% of their income in order to afford center-based care for two children.



In 2015, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. hosted its 12th Annual Champions of Child Care event with approximately 237 attending. The Council received 423 nominations for Special Awards and presented Special Awards to 22 individuals or programs. 25 individuals received awards for celebrating milestones of years in the early care and education field. 8 individuals were recognized for outstanding education achievements.

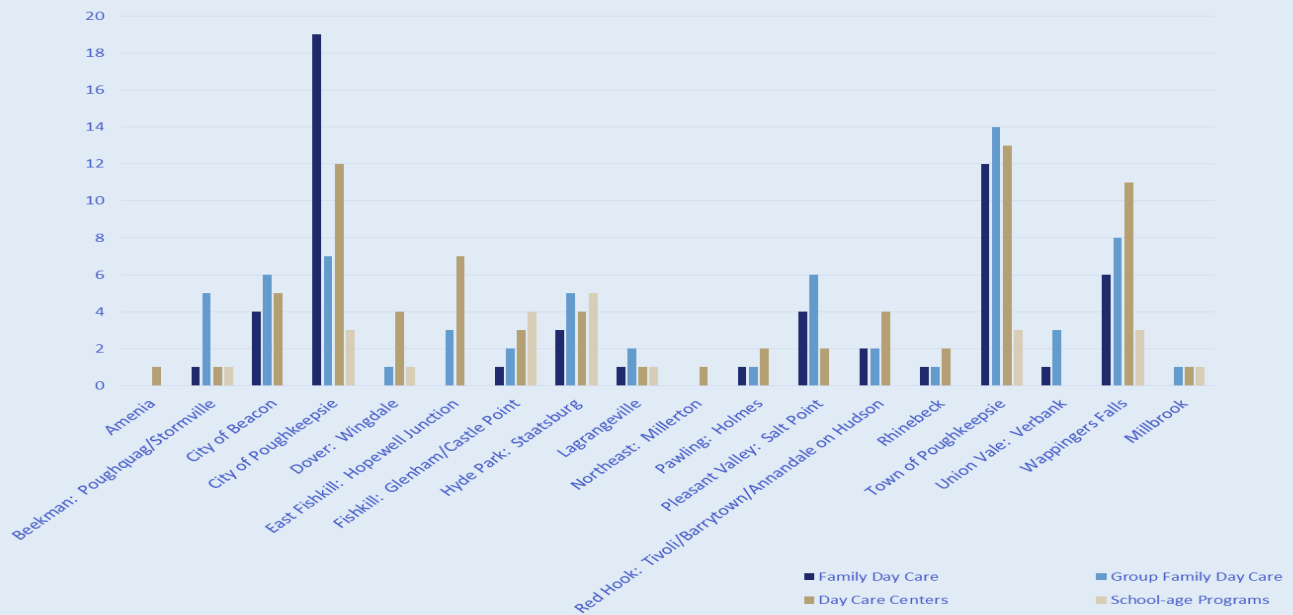
In 2015, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. received 904 requests for referrals from people who were looking for child care in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

In 2015, the total number of available slots in Dutchess and Putnam Counties for children in regulated programs was 11,184.

In Dutchess and Putnam Counties, requests for child care by age were 24% infants, 19% preschool and 22% school age.

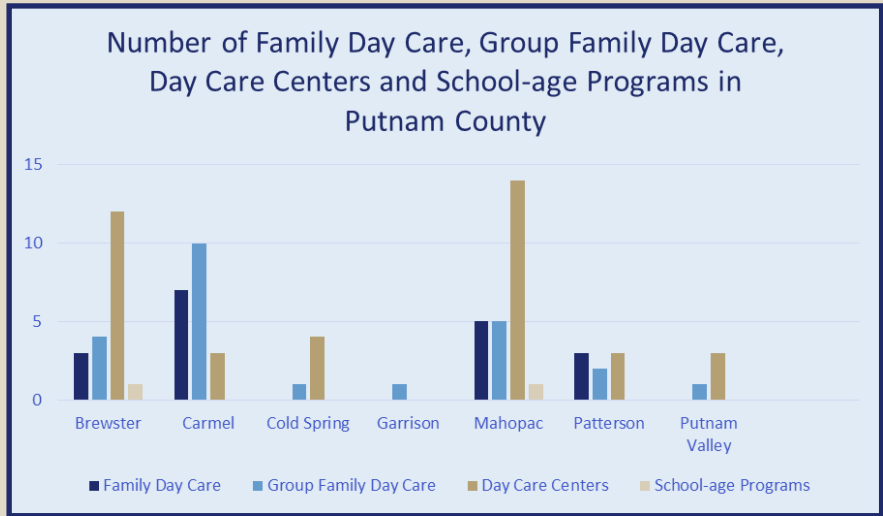
As of 12/31/2015, there were 302 regulated programs in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

Number of Family Day Care, Group Family Day Care, Day Care Centers and School-age Programs in Dutchess County



REQUESTS FOR CHILDCARE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY

| Zip Code | Town | Counselor Assisted | On-Line Referral Module |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 12501 | Amenia | 5 | 0 |
| 12504 | Annandale-On-Hudson | 1 | 0 |
| 12508 | Beacon | 21 | 10 |
| 12512 | Chelsea | 1 | 0 |
| 12601 | City of Poughkeepsie | 172 | 44 |
| 12602 | City of Poughkeepsie P.O. Boxes | 7 | 0 |
| 12514 | Clinton Corners | 1 | 1 |
| 12522 | Dover Plains | 5 | 2 |
| 12524 | Fishkill | 18 | 13 |
| 12533 | Hopewell Junction | 13 | 13 |
| 12538 | Hyde Park | 33 | 15 |
| 12540 | LaGrangeville | 14 | 1 |
| 12545/12585 | Millbrook/Verbank | 6 | 3 |
| 12531/12564 | Pawling/Holmes | 6 | 1 |
| 12567 | Pine Plains/Stanfordville | 2 | 0 |
| 12569 | Pleasant Valley | 16 | 11 |
| 12570 | Poughquag | 9 | 4 |
| 12571 | Red Hook | 8 | 9 |
| 12572 | Rhinebeck | 5 | 3 |
| 12578 | Salt Point | 2 | 1 |
| 12580 | Staatsburg | 7 | 3 |
| 12582 | Stormville | 3 | 2 |
| 12583 | Tivoli | 2 | 0 |
| 12603 | Town of Poughkeepsie | 100 | 53 |
| 12590 | Wappingers Falls | 61 | 23 |
| 12592 | Wassaic | 1 | 1 |
| 12594 | Wingdale | 4 | 0 |
| | Other Dutchess Requests | 16 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 539 | 213 |
| | TOTAL REQUESTS | | 752 |



REQUESTS FOR CHILDCARE IN PUTNAM COUNTY

| Zip Code | Town | Counselor Assisted | On-Line Referral Module |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 10509 | Brewster | 10 | 4 |
| 10512 | Carmel | 21 | 7 |
| 10516 | Cold Spring | 0 | 0 |
| 10524 | Garrison | 0 | 0 |
| 10537 | Lake Peekskill | 1 | 0 |
| 10541/10542 | Mahopac | 11 | 4 |
| 12563 | Patterson | 6 | 2 |
| 10579 | Putnam Valley | 5 | 1 |
| | Other Putnam Requests | 3 | 0 |
| | TOTAL | 57 | 18 |
| | TOTAL REQUESTS | | 75 |

The above chart shows the number of child care requests across the towns, cities and villages of Putnam County.

The most requested location for child care was Carmel, with Mahopac and Brewster following as second and third, respectively.

The chart on the left shows the towns and cities in Dutchess County where parents requested child care. The most requested regions were the City of Poughkeepsie and the Town of Poughkeepsie, with 172 and 100 requests, respectively. Wappingers Falls, Hyde Park and Beacon were the next most requested areas. The County's population is the most densely concentrated in urban and suburban areas. Requests for child care in its more rural locations, such as Amenia, Tivoli, Pine Plains, and other towns in Northern Dutchess County were substantially lower, with five or fewer requests for each.

Building Quality Through Professional Development

Rosemarie Lawton, Mary Schreiber

"National Research has demonstrated that the quality of young children's experiences in early care and education is directly related to the specific preparation in early childhood education obtained by the adults caring for and educating them."

www.earlychildhood.org/pdfs/CoreBody.pdf

The Council published three training calendars in 2015 which included 115 available trainings.

In 2015 the Council provided face-to-face trainings at 21 centers, school age and group family day care programs.

The number of attendees for 2015 trainings was 800.



Parent Education

LaRae Klay, Cara Hinney, Carol Taylor

CCCDP has initiated partnerships with local human service agencies, hosted parent trainings, distributed Parent Needs Assessments and attended a record number of visibility events from 2011-2015. Part of CCCDP's achievement in becoming quality assured in 2013 resulted from successfully incorporating parent education resources and services. Several hundred Parent Needs Assessment surveys have been distributed at visibility events, trainings and through the mail. The surveys ask parents a series of questions about their preference for which childcare topics to learn about, what times of the days to attend training and how to receive information i.e., via mail or email. Once analyzed, the results support CCCDP's efforts in setting goals and implementing parent education training and resources. Since 2013, CCCDP has successfully offered two parent education trainings a year with the assistance of our partnering agencies. Further efforts by CCCDP led to the creation and quarterly circulation of The Parent Connection in 2011, CCCDP's first online newsletter dedicated to parents. Its first publication was sent to some 200 plus parents and community agencies. Now, in its fifth year of circulation, it has close to 2,000 recipients and has a growing number of professionals contributing articles and other related information.

In 2015, CCCDP continued its outreach by attending visibility events where local human services agencies are brought together with representatives from the community.

In 2015, CCCDP retained partnering agreements with 6 local human services agencies to broaden the delivery of our parent outreach services and resources.

CCCDP has offered 5 parent training classes since 2013. Each class has reached its maximum number of attendees. In a creative twist, childcare providers were encouraged to bring parents with an incentive to earn a coupon for another training class.

Babies Step Forward

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam is participating in the federally funded Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership Program with Westchester Community Opportunity Program (Westcop) as the lead agency. The project, “Babies Step Forward,” is designed to improve the quality and enrich participating programs that serve low income infants and toddlers in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties. The Council’s responsibility is to provide Child Development Associate (CDA) training and Medication Administration Training to all infant and toddler staff in two participating day care centers. Poughkeepsie Child Development (Dutchess County) and Over the Rainbow (Putnam County) are receiving the Council’s training as well as program resources and support for parents of the young children.



Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program

Through this program, funded by the Dyson Foundation, children were in safe, dependable and nurturing center-based programs in Dutchess County. Parents were able to work or go to school knowing that their children were in those environments rather than in piecemeal child care arrangements. Child care staff could develop positive relationships with the children who were in care in a regular schedule.

In 2015 this program supported:

- 17 child care centers
- 44 families
- 48 children, ages infant to 11 years

All families earned under 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, or for a family of three an annual income not to exceed \$50,225.



Child Care Program Quality

Quality child care is defined as positive early learning experiences which foster intellectual, social and emotional development and lay the foundation for later school success for all children. Therefore, children living in high-risk environments need additional supports to promote their healthy growth and development. All child-care arrangements including family, friend, neighbor, and family– and center-based child care, have the potential to provide high-quality, individualized, responsive and stimulating experiences that occur within the context of strong relationships and which are imbedded in everyday routines.

(source: <http://www.zerotothree.org/early-care-education/>)

As part of the 10/1/14-9/30/15 Child Care Resource and Referral contract, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. distributed Quality Improvement grants to regulated early childhood programs, 14 in Dutchess and 12 in Putnam County.



Child Care Resource and Referral (Dutchess & Putnam)

Marion Eagen, Pat Isbirian, Raffaella Rondinelli

- * Provides information to parents on locating child care, consumer education, referrals, subsidies, services for families
- * Recruits child care providers, provides start-up information and technical assistance in meeting regulatory requirements
- * Provides the Community with education on child care issues and current data needed in planning for community services
- * Supports employers in planning, implementing and providing employee child care services



Statistics

| Number of: | Dutchess | Capacity | Putnam | Capacity | Program Totals | Total Capacity |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| Day Care Centers | 65 | 4712 | 18 | 2083 | 93 | 6795 |
| Group Family Day Care | 66 | 1036 | 22 | 344 | 88 | 1380 |
| Family Day Care | 66 | 512 | 13 | 102 | 79 | 614 |
| School Age Child Care | 34 | 1755 | 10 | 640 | 44 | 2395 |
| Total | 231 | 8015 | 63 | 3169 | 304 | 11,184 |

* estimates

Legally Exempt Enrollment (Dutchess & Putnam)

Karen Walsh



- * Legally exempt providers deliver informal, non-registered child care for relatives and a limited number of non-relative children who receive subsidy from the parents' local Department of Social Services.
- * As the Enrollment Agency, the Council is responsible for reviewing and approving enrollment applications, as well as visiting a percentage of the legally exempt homes to inspect basic health and safety compliance.
- * As of December 31, 2015, the number of legally exempt providers that have a payable status in Dutchess and Putnam counties was 348.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Lorraine Scuccimarra and Nancy Owen



The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. is a sponsor of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). CACFP is a federal program that reimburses child care providers for nutritious meals and snacks served to children in their care.

Children that are cared for by providers participating in the CACFP benefit by being fed nutritious USDA regulated meals that ensure their proper development. These children gain from early nutrition education that helps them establish positive eating habits that will enrich the quality of their diet throughout life.

Parents of children in child care are assured that their child (ren) receives high quality meals. With proper nutrition, the child is less likely to experience illness and fatigue and will develop at a normal physical and intellectual pace. Good nutrition is the recipe for an all-round happier child.

Child care providers receive nutrition education and support services from their CACFP sponsor that helps them serve nutritious meals and creates a positive eating environment for children. The quality of child care provided in our community is improved due to educational and financial resources available to caregivers through the CACFP.

In 2015, the Council had 56 Family, Group Family and Legally Exempt providers participating in CACFP.

In 2015, an average of 526 children a month were served healthy meals and snacks by CACFP providers in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

Infant and Toddler Services

Rosemarie Lawton

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc., a member of the Region VI Infant and Toddler Network, provides support services to child care programs based on the Ten Components of Quality Infant Toddler Care.



These are:

1. Child Care Programs Following Appropriate Health and Safety Practices
2. Staff Well Trained in Early Childhood Development
3. Age Appropriate Environments
4. Small Groups with Optimal Adult/Child Ratios
5. Primary Caregiver Relationships and Continuity of Caregiver Over Time
6. Active and Responsive Caregiving to Support Children's Development
7. Curriculum, Observation and Individualized Programming
8. Support of Emerging Language and Literacy
9. Family Involvement and Cultural Continuity
10. Comprehensive Support Services

In 2015, Child Care Providers participated in group and/or onsite trainings or technical assistance opportunities in the following topic areas:

- Infant Toddler Environmental Rating Scales
- Discipline
- Developmentally Appropriate Environments and Materials
- Developmental Milestones
- Challenging Behaviors
- Language and Literacy
- Active and Responsive Caregiving
- Curriculum and Individualized Programming
- Family Engagement
- Room Arrangement
- Freedom of Movement
- Primary Caregiving and Continuity of Care





Family Day Care and School Age Registration

Stacey Rosborough, Barbara Garbarino, Carol Taylor, LaRae Klay,
Darla Fulmer, Jessica Harnish, Cara Hinney

2015 Family Day Care

Total Homes:

Dutchess: 66

Putnam: 13

2015 School Age Child Care Total

Programs:

Dutchess: 34

Putnam: 10

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. (CCCDP) regulates family day care programs and the after school child care programs in Dutchess and Putnam Counties. This includes processing new and renewal applications, monitoring and inspecting programs, investigating complaints, and offering professional training and technical assistance.

Complaints

The Office of Children and Family Services maintains a toll-free line for complaints about child care programs. Any person can call (800)-732-5207 or (845) 473-4141 during normal work hours and a staff person will take the information.

In 2015 the
Council
investigated
20 complaints

Council Cluster
Meetings met
once a quarter
in 2015

Council Cluster Meetings

Council Cluster Meetings meet for 1 ½ hours and are free to Family Day Care (FDC) and Group Family Day Care (GFDC) providers. Each meeting covers one or more of the 9 topic hours of NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS).

The meetings offer free training, networking with other providers, opportunity to ask questions and share ideas and/or hear a guest speaker. The meetings are facilitated by two Registrars from the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam Staff.

Increased Presence in the Field

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) serves New York's public by promoting the safety and well-being of our children, families and communities. OCFS achieves these results by setting and enforcing policies, building partnerships, and funding and providing quality services. In order to promote safety and well-being of children in child care, the Child Care Council's registrars must be available to child care providers for technical assistance and must inspect programs to evaluate compliance with regulations. Research shows that unannounced inspections of child care programs encourages compliance with regulatory standards and improves quality.

The Council
performed 460
inspections in
2015

Building Healthy Kids

Valerie James, RN

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam Inc. employs a Registered Nurse to provide health consultancy services to all child care programs in their efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for the children they serve.

Services include guiding them through the steps to become approved to administer medication, answering questions about common child care health issues, helping develop new and reviewing current health care plans, helping providers accommodate children with special health care needs, completing Individualized Health Care Plans, and facilitating Medication Administration Training (MAT).

The number of
MAT trainings
offered in 2015: 7

Number of
providers who
took MAT
training in
2015: 35

Number of
programs that
were MAT
Approved in 2015:
Dutchess: 85
Putnam: 45

Number of providers
the Health Care
Consultant reviewed
and signed a completed
Health Care Plan in
2015:
Dutchess: 30
Putnam: 25



Child Care Subsidy

Marion Eagen, Kim Wolfe, Dawn Haecker

The cost of child care can often be a family's second highest expense, second to rent or mortgage payments. To help low-income working parents with the cost, the federal and state governments provide all counties, including Dutchess and Putnam, with funds and determine income guidelines for subsidy.

NYS established the state guidelines of income below 200% of the Federal Poverty guidelines for qualifying families. Individual counties determine their guidelines based on their state allocation and local funds. From January through July 2015, Dutchess County used 125% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines and then raised the eligibility to 175% on August 1. Putnam County's eligibility level remained at 200% throughout 2015.

Parents in both counties chose care on their own or by receiving referrals from the Council's Referral Service. The parents then informed their local Department of Children and Family Services (Dutchess) and the Department of Social Services (Putnam) and the child care providers were paid by the county. The rate of pay was based on market rates effective April 2014 from a survey of NYS child care providers.

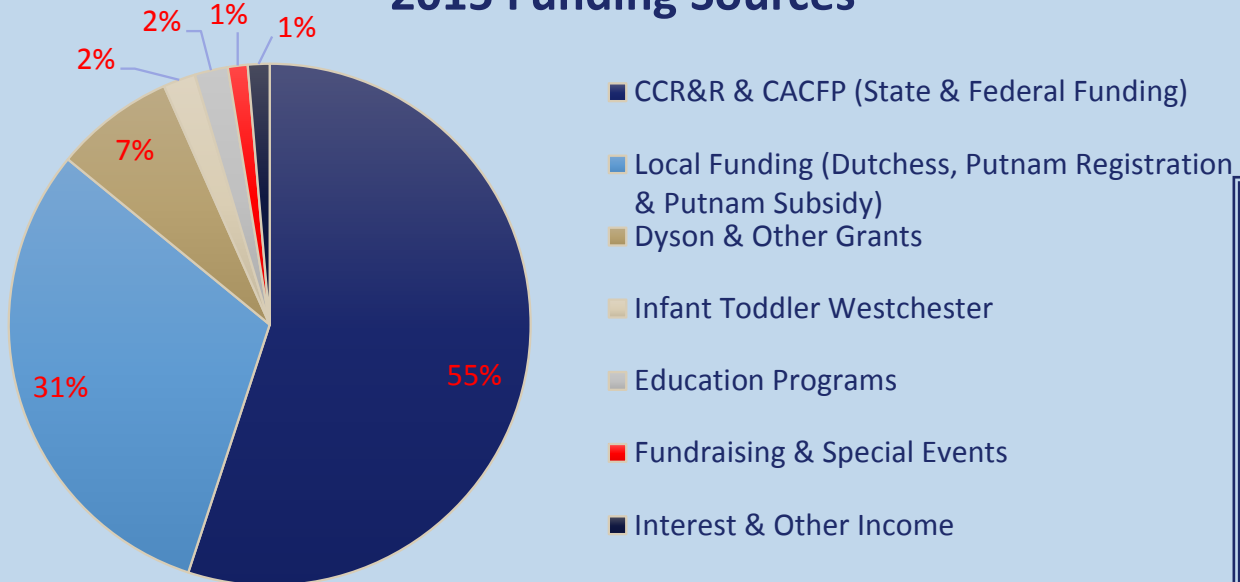
Subsidies pay child care costs for children age 12 and under. When a child reaches age 13, subsidy is only available to families with special circumstances.



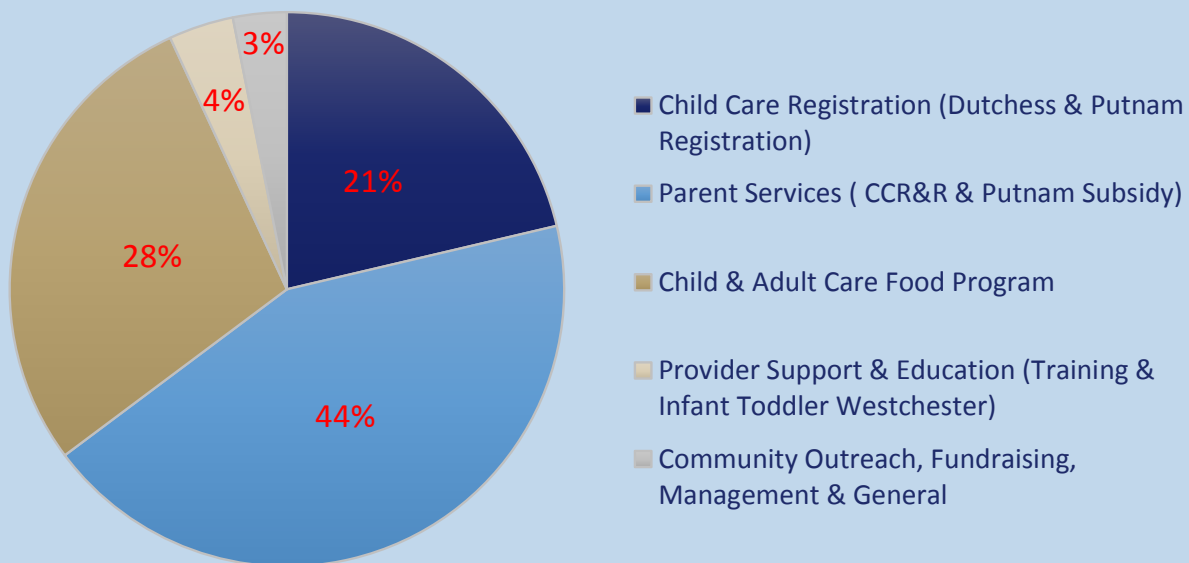
Funding

George Bartalsky

Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Inc. 2015 Funding Sources



Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Inc. 2015 Expenses



**Numbers are based on Unaudited Financial statements and Functional Expenses.

Board of Directors, 2015

Executive Committee

Chair

Julie Riess, Ph,D, [Member at Large](#)

Vice-Chair

Margaret Olimpieri, [Dutchess Community College](#)

Secretary

Linda Monkman, [Dutchess County Department of Mental Hygiene](#)

Treasurer

Aleta Symon, [Member at Large](#)

Members at Large

Rita Acerno, [Child Care Provider](#)

Nicole Bonelli, [Vassar College](#)

Erian Falcon, [City of Poughkeepsie](#)

Linda Dunlap, [Past Chair](#)

Executive Director

Jeanne Wagner, [Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.](#)

Members

Lance Bixby: [Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services](#)

Grace Caddell: [Astor Early Childhood Programs](#)

Laureann Elting: [Rhinebeck Bank](#)

Danette Garcia: [Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse](#)

Elizabeth Kwant: [Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce](#)

Drita Nicaj: [Member at Large](#)

Donna Bolner: [Dutchess County Legislature](#)

Marge Horton: [Dutchess County Legislature](#)

Champions of Child Care

2015 Award Winners

Dutchess County Rookie of the Year:

[Lucia Swartz, Sol Silver Early Childhood Center](#)

Putnam County Rookie of the Year:

[Beth Ann Mahoskey, Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries](#)

Dutchess County Staff Member of the Year:

[Shelby Boettcher, Caitlin Hernandez, Lisa Marie Ruggiera, Kidz Town of Dutchess](#)

Putnam County Staff Member of the Year:

[Daniel Zabel, Kidz Country Learning Day Care Center](#)

Dutchess County Director of the Year:

[Ashley Romm, Healthy Kids Extended Day Program, Inc.](#)

Putnam County Director of the Year:

[Darline Roveto, Little Feet Childcare Center, LLC](#)

Dutchess County Outstanding Special Needs Award:

[Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center](#)

Putnam County Outstanding Special Needs Award:

[Jan Jimemez, Jan's Kidz Childcare, Inc.](#)

Dutchess County Family Day Care Program of the Year:

[Doretha Oliver, The Happy Face Daycare](#)

Putnam County Family Day Care Program of the Year:

[Catherine Babnick, Cathy's Cottage, LLC](#)

Dutchess County Group Family Day Care Program of the Year:

[Trudy Lackner, The Children's Corner](#)

Putnam County Group Family Day Care Program of the Year:

[Marisela Jaramillo](#)

Dutchess County School Age Child Care Program of the Year:

[First Reformed Church of Fishkill](#)

Putnam County School Age Child Care Program of the Year:

[Green Chimneys Children's Services, Inc.](#)

Dutchess County Day Care Center Program of the Year:

[Honeybee Childcare Corp.](#)

Putnam County Day Care Center Program of the Year:

[Creative Kids ChildCare Center, Creative Kids Kent, LLC. Creative Kids Mahopac](#)

Dutchess County Child Care Council Award of Excellence:

[Judy Wyskida](#)

Putnam County Child Care Council Award of Excellence:

[Rita Acerno](#)



The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.

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