



**2010/2011
ANNUAL REPORT**

Services to Child Care Programs

Kansas Quality Rating & Improvement System (KQRIS)

Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas has 3 counties that are participating in KQRIS- Shawnee, Douglas and Saline. KQRIS is the changing face of quality improvement in Kansas. It's mission is to improve early learning experiences for children, birth to age five, by creating a system that promotes high-quality child-centered care.

With the expansion into North Central Kansas, KQRIS is serving approximately 53 programs throughout Northeast and North Central Kansas. This allowed Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas to serve 116 classrooms, work with 290 staff members and serve 1,399 children in their service area.



Infant/Toddler Program

The **Infant/Toddler Program** works to support family child care providers and center-based child care programs to increase the quality of care for infants/toddlers and their families by providing:

- Professional development opportunities.
- Technical assistance, consultation and support.
- Resources and materials.
- Community collaborations and partnerships.

Care for children under the age of 3 continues to be in high demand in many communities. The **Infant/Toddler Recruitment Program** works in targeted counties where the demand for infant & toddler care exceeds supply. Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas was able to assist in creating 75 infant/toddler slots through this effort in Shawnee County.

Healthy Kansas Kids is an initiative that works to improve physical activity, nutrition and health outcomes for children and families. Services and resources provided include professional development events, individualized coaching visits for child care professionals and collaboration with local, state and national organizations to bring child care professionals and families the most up-to-date information. This is done through the use of tip sheets, newsletters and social media.

The **Strengthening Families Project** is a statewide and national initiative committed to reducing child abuse and neglect by implementing five protective factors. These factors are parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social and emotional competence of children. Research studies support the common-sense notion that when these protective factors are well established in a family, the likelihood of child abuse and neglect diminishes. Research shows that these protective factors are also “promotive” factors that build family strengths and a family environment that promotes optimal child and youth development.



Community Collaborations & Partnerships

ARRA Enhancing Childhood Quality Grants

Working in partnership with Child Care Aware® of Kansas and Child Care Providers Together of Kansas (an affiliate of AFSCME), funding through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) focused on enhancing the quality of Kansas early childhood programs. Funds were distributed to local programs, after-school programs, family child care facilities and programs that care for or plan to care for children with special needs. ARRA funding also brought multiple opportunities for child care providers to access training at no cost through Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas.

Capital Area Smart Start

Capital Area Smart Start funding comes from the state's tobacco settlement and flows through the Kansas Children's Cabinet. Smart Start's focus is preparing children for success in school. In Shawnee County, Smart Start funding supports two specific areas: services for early childhood programs and parent education services (directed by Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas) and home visitation services to families (directed through various home visitation programs including KCSL's Healthy Families program, the Shawnee County Health Agency's Bright Beginnings/Healthy Futures program, TARC's Infant/Toddler and PACT programs and the USD 501 Parents as Teachers program). Professional development and/or technical assistance was provided to 2,291 providers/teachers through the Smart Start initiative, offering strategies to improve classroom practices and positively impact the quality of care offered.



Program statistics shown are from the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

Safe Sleep

This year the agency facilitated efforts to promote safe sleep environments for infants.

Safe Sleep teaches providers and families how to make sleep time safe and play time fun and healthy. Participants learn the indicators of high-quality infant care and how to provide a safe environment during both sleep and active learning times. Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas collaborated with the SIDS Network of Kansas and Safe Kids Coalition to produce and distribute the “Safe Sleep for Babies” video. A total of 2,800 videos were distributed and the video was also posted on the safesleepkansas.org website. The video is shown at a handful of health department orientations for new providers and in a few hospital maternity wards and distribution is ongoing. Funding support from the Topeka Community Foundation assisted 34 child care programs with the purchase of cribs, playpens and other materials to provide a safer sleeping environment.

96% of child care providers accessing short-term technical assistance or resources reported receiving meaningful information about high-quality child care.

Head Start Mentoring Coaching Demonstration Project

The **Head Start Mentoring Coaching Demonstration Project** is a partnership with Community Action, Inc. and Sheldon Head Start programs that provides training and coaching in early literacy and child/adult interaction for Head Start infant/toddler teachers and home visitors. The grant impacts 693 children and 40 teachers and home visitors.

Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas received the “Award for Collaborative Excellence: Mentoring Coaching Demonstration Project” from Community Action, Inc. The award recognized the organization as playing a role in making the Mentoring Coaching Demonstration Project successful in improving the quality of home visitation and classroom services.

Developing Your Family Child Care Business

The **Developing Your Family Child Care Business** program, a partnership with the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce/Go Topeka, introduces critically important information about the business side of the child care industry. During the 12-week course, participants develop a parent handbook and business plan. There were 12 graduates in the 2010 winter class and 15 graduates for the 2011 spring class.

For a complete list of community partners, visit our website at nenc.ks.childcareaware.org.

Services to Families

Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas assists families with their child care needs by providing referrals to regulated child care programs based on the criteria supplied by the family. Agency staff also support families through the “help line” with answers to parenting questions and through referrals to other community resources.

The Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas offices provided a variety of assistance to our service area:

- The Call Center assisted 4,935 families seeking referrals to child care and maintained program information for 1,827 programs in the 785 area code.
- They referred 119,797 early learning programs to families seeking child care.
- They offered child care referrals for 3,091 children that received SRS assistance.
- They distributed 23,055 print materials to parents/families and 45,874 to providers for a total of 68,929.

100% of families attending parent education opportunities reported gaining new knowledge.

Services to Businesses

Child care is a necessity for working families. Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas provides support to businesses interested in helping employees with their child care needs, as well as providing data regarding the supply and demand of child care in a community.

In May 2011, the agency received the Non-Profit Award of Distinction presented by the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and GO Topeka. The annual award recognizes businesses and organizations that have demonstrated growth while contributing to the well-being of the community. The award program stated, “ERC continually looks for opportunities to partner with local businesses in an effort to inform and assist their employees with child care needs by attending employee fairs and events to talk about child care and parenting needs, sharing resources and information.”

91% of parents reported consumer education materials about child development and how children learn increased their understanding.

Agency Funding

Child Care Aware® of Northeast & North Central Kansas is supported through a variety of sources including the United Way, Kansas Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services through Child Care Aware® of Kansas, Kansas Children’s Cabinet, the Topeka Community Foundation, Shawnee County social service funds, individual donors, grants and special projects, including the annual Designers’ Showhouse. The agency also established an endowment through the Topeka Community Foundation in 2011. For a complete list of our funding partners, check out the website at nenc.ks.childcareaware.org.

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2010

Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$113,126
Accounts Receivable	91,536
Investments	246,469
Other	59,131
Total Assets	<u><u>\$510,262</u></u>
Liabilities & Net Assets	
Accounts Payable	\$64,270
Compensated Absences	27,245
Total Liabilities	<u>91,515</u>
Unrestricted	358,861
Temporarily Restricted	10,897
Permanently Restricted	48,989
Total Net Assets	<u>418,747</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u><u>\$510,262</u></u>

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2010

Unrestricted Revenue	
Unrestricted Revenue, Gains & Other Support	\$1,183,550
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	40,348
Total Unrestricted Revenue, Gains & Other Support	<u>1,223,898</u>
Unrestricted Expenses	
Program Services	1,042,494
Supporting Services	172,791
Total Expenses	<u>1,215,285</u>
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$8,613
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	
Contributions, Program Revenue & Memberships	10,293
Net Assets Released From Restrictions	(40,348)
Decrease in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	(30,055)
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	
Contributions	29,592
Increase in Permanently Restricted Net Assets	29,592
Increase in Net Assets	8,150
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	<u>410,597</u>
Net Assets at End of Year	<u><u>\$418,747</u></u>

2010 Income Expenses by Individual Program

Grants & Contract Income

Child Care Aware of Kansas	\$522,614
Smart Start	294,562
American Reinvestment & Recovery	78,638
United Way	63,269
Topeka Chamber-Developing Family Child Care Bus.	35,000
Topeka Community Foundation	21,920
Topeka Public Schools-Early Reading First	15,555
Community Action-Headstart	8,988
Shawnee County	2,500
Other Grants or Programs	5,650

Other Revenue

Showhouse & Other Special Events-net of expenses	67,062
Individual Donations	56,046
Provider Training	29,376
Other Revenue	22,255

Total Income \$1,223,435

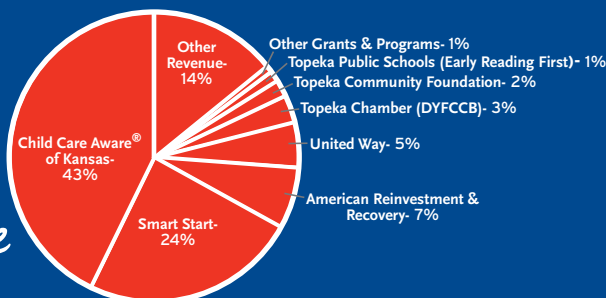
Grants & Contract Expenses

Child Care Aware of Kansas	
Call Center	\$106,555
Infant Toddler	104,499
Resource & Referral Agency	90,909
Strengthening Families	60,000
KQRIS Block Grant-Shawnee County	53,650
KQRIS Block Grant-Douglas County	49,507
KQRIS I/T KELC Block Grant	48,507
CCA Special Projects	8,987
Smart Start	254,730
Smart Start Pass Thru to Child Care Programs	39,832
American Reinvestment & Recovery	54,260
United Way	63,269
Topeka Chamber-Developing Family Child Care Bus.	14,838
Topeka Community Foundation	16,324
Topeka Public Schools-Early Reading First	24,223
Community Action-Headstart	8,988
Shawnee County	2,500
Other Grants or Programs	4,431

Other Expenses

Expenses not covered by specific grants or programs	137,509
Other Fundraising Expenses	71,767

Total Expenses \$1,215,285



2010
Income
Graph



Get Involved... Your Voice Matters!

Because much of the funding for child care resource and referral services is federal and state funding, it is important that parents, child care providers, community stakeholders and business leaders understand their role in shaping public policy through advocacy efforts. Additionally, local government's decisions can also impact the availability and accessibility of child care for working families.

Research-Based Uniform Messages

K-12 Education

Studies show that early childhood programs are the BEST way to support improved academic outcomes in K-12. Children who participate in high-quality early childhood education programs are far more likely to enter kindergarten ready to learn, read at grade level by third grade, and graduate from high school or even college (Gormley et al, 2005; Belfield et al, 2006; Barnett & Masse, 2007).

Brain Development

Ninety percent of a child's brain development occurs before age five. High-quality early childhood services reach children during a crucial period when foundational brain architecture is formed and experience shapes social competency, cognitive ability and mental health (Mustard, 2008).

Return on Investment

Decades of research have shown that for every \$1 invested in high-quality early childhood programs, society will save \$7 down the road in the form of reduced demand on the social welfare system, decreased juvenile crime and improved participation in the economy (Calman & Tarr-Whelan, 2005).

Public Policy & Advocacy Agenda

At the national level:

- Advocate for the reauthorization of the CCDBG (Child Care & Development Block Grant).
- Continue to dialogue with legislators regarding the importance of strengthening requirements for basic training and background checks for the child care work force.

At the state level:

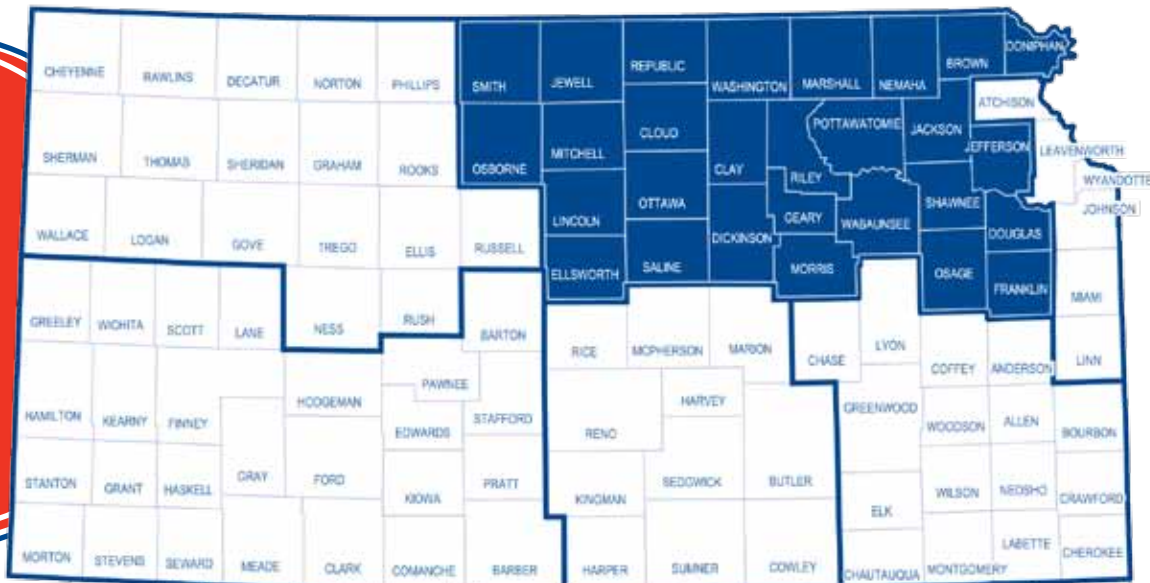
- Work collaboratively with other early childhood partners and stakeholders to protect the Children's Initiative Fund (CIF).

At the local level:

- Protect county investments in child care licensing, advocating for improved ratios of licensing surveyors to child care programs as recommended by National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA).

Other policy issues affecting Kansas children and families and child care issues may arise beyond those included on this list. Please visit our website, nenc.ks.childcareaware.org, for updated information on public policy and advocacy issues.

Child Care Aware® of Northeast and North Central Kansas' service delivery area expanded in April 2011 to 28 counties.



Board of Directors

Officers

Nancy Lindberg, President
Jennifer Raine, President Elect
Sarah Breymeyer, Secretary
Gary Knoll, Treasurer
Melinda Eggenberger, Treasurer Elect
Marilyn Ervin, Immediate Past President

Directors

Avis Cowhick
Bette Felker
Heather Geiger
Bonnie Harvey
Judy Moler

Morgan Padgett

Eva Powers
Jeanie Schuler
Mike Scott
Melissa Wangemann

Staff

Reva Wywadis, Executive Director
Becky Meyer, Accountant
Linda Gwaltney, Executive Assistant
Darci Rickson, Technical Assistance & Data Manager
Eryn Allen, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Laurie Pigg, Director of Referral Services
Debra McClelland, Resource Specialist
Stephanie Prue, Resource Specialist
Billie Segrist, Resource Specialist
Alison Littell, Provider Services Manager
Marie Treichel, Provider Services Manager
Renee Wohletz, Provider Services Manager
Kim vonSoosten, Professional Development Coordinator
Ann Beedles, Infant/Toddler Specialist
Sherron French, Infant/Toddler Specialist

Nancy Rohr, Infant/Toddler Specialist
Star Robinson, Infant/Toddler Recruitment Specialist
Debi Stiles, KQRIS Coach
Jenny Eberth, KQRIS Coach
Debbie Weaver, KQRIS Coach
Deana Turner, Quality Improvement Coach
Michelle Gilbert, Early Care & Education Specialist
Jennifer Pishny, Early Care & Education Specialist
Marsha Tannehill, Early Care & Education Specialist
Jennifer Thrash, Early Care & Education Specialist
Lisa Wilk, Early Care & Education Specialist
Eleanor Strecker, Early Literacy Specialist
Deb Danielson, Library Resource Specialist
Keela Meiers, Library Resource Specialist

Lawrence Office

846 Illinois, Ste D
 Lawrence, KS 66044
 785-865-0669 phone
 1-800-279-2372 toll free
 785-865-0669 fax

Main Office

1710 SW 10th Ave, Ste 215
 Topeka, KS 66604
 785-357-5171 phone
 1-800-279-2372 toll free
 785-357-1813 fax

Salina Office

1512-A East Iron
 Salina, KS 67401
 785-820-8232 phone
 1-800-279-2372 toll free
 785-820-8234 fax

Check us out on the web at nenc.ks.childcareaware.org!