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FY 2015 ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT OCTOBER THROUGH SEPTEMBER
October 2014-September 2015
Federal ID # 38-2854143

MISSION

To creatively and collaboratively address the economic, educational, social and community needs of at-risk children and families.

PROGRAMS

EARLY CHILDHOOD

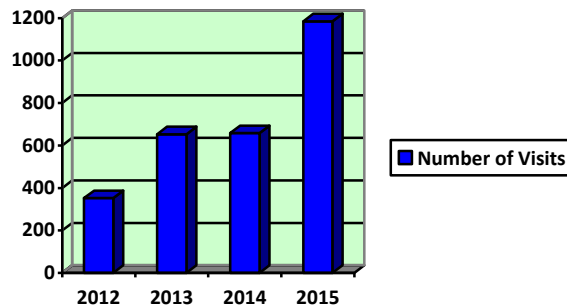
Services include parent education seminars, early learning activities, childcare provider training and referral and advocacy services. Services are provided throughout Wayne and Macomb counties.

All parents received support, recommendations and assistance in identifying other programs to meet their children’s child development and childcare needs. New books are distributed to every child. The agency’s 3 Early Learning Resource Rooms are staffed one day weekly each and provide resources for parents with children birth through 5 years old. Services are designed to assist children get ready for kindergarten. Families may use the materials and learning toy lending libraries.

- 102 parent/child interactive learning groups were provided to 902 adults and their children. These groups focus on early math and reading skills, playful literacy, family assets and parent/child together time. These groups are held at the agency’s Early Learning Resource Rooms which are housed at the Kennedy and Mt Calvary Centers in Warren and the Early Childhood Center in Center Line.

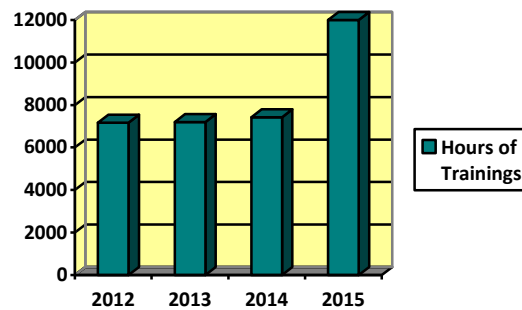
The agency closed its Parent Resource Room in Eastpointe due to lack of participation. Plans are underway to open sites in Hamtramck and at Macomb Community College.

- 50 parent/child interactive learning kits, 75 kindergarten ready kits, 3,500 new children’s books, 124 sets of mittens/hats were distributed to program family participants. Additionally emergency food and baby supplies were distributed to 205 program family participants
- 1,185 home visits were completed for 99 Wayne and Macomb County high-risk children 0-5 years and their parents. Visits focus on early learning activities, early child development, health and wellness information, and support services.



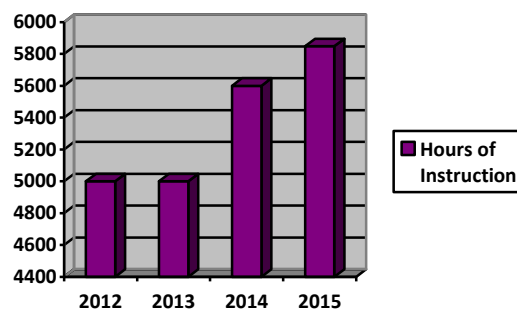
The neighborhood-based Early Learning Communities provide home and center-based childcare providers with free training in early child development, health and safety as well as support services, access to free learning materials and to family/community events. The training sites are located in Detroit and Warren. The program helps childcare providers have the training and resources necessary to insure that children enter kindergarten ready. Additionally, the agency provides support and technical assistance to providers in improving quality.

- 380 training sessions were provided; each session is two hours in length. Average attendance at each session is 12 childcare providers
- 121 childcare providers received quality improvement support through the agency’s participation in the region’s initiative.
- Over 12,000 hours of training, assistance and technical support was provided.



ADULT EDUCATION

- 36 adults enrolled in basic skills upgrading, GED and ESL classes 2,648 hours of adult basic education, GED and English as a Second Language were provided. Additionally, adult students participated in 3200 hours of self directed study.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION/ ADVOCACY

The organization participates in a host of collaborative efforts including Great Start Wayne and Great Start Macomb Executive committees, Great Start Macomb and Great Start Wayne Early Care and Education, Family Support and Parent Involvement Work Groups, United Way for Southeast Michigan’s Regional Early Learning Community, and Detroit Promise Neighborhood Early Childhood Task Force.

The agency participated in 7 community events providing resources and activities for 475 adults and 900 children and in presentations to 6 professional groups.

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

Strong support from volunteers included 1,232 hours of Board members contributed time during this past year and 1,000 hours of time from community members.

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The organization continues to practice sound, conservative financial management and ended the year within its approved operating budget. Sources of revenue include United Way (53%), state and county contracts (37%), interest and investments gains (3%) and special events/ general donation support (7%). The agency remains committed to a diverse revenue mix. The agency’s cash reserve remains strong.

This year’s Community Service Awards Dinner was a celebration honoring Dr. Jim Jacobs, President of Macomb Community College.

The agency undertook a vigorous strategic planning process during this fiscal year. Outcomes included the following board decisions: continue service in core areas, expand locations of parent resource rooms to communities upon community request, diversify funding including increased grantwriting efforts and increase marketing and awareness of agency successes. The board also developed a transition plan in preparation of future challenges.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/STAFF

Board Members:

Jene Allen	Director, Human Resources, Trinity Health-CHE
Brigid Beaubien	Early Childhood/ Education Department, Eastern Michigan University
Thomas Bowen	Partner, Bowen, Radabaugh and Milton, P.C.
Gina Cavaliere	Business Development, the Downtown Detroit Partnership
Leslie Hamell	Community Representative
Theresa Holtrop, MD	Pediatrician, Children's Hospital of Michigan
Nelson Maylone	Education Department, Eastern Michigan University
Toni Mocerri	Consultant
Nicole Moten	Vice President, Wells Fargo Bank
Mary Potts	President, Mt Calvary Lutheran Church

Staff:

Ajara Alghali, Early Childhood Programs Director
Mary Beth Bradford, Adult Educator
Lashonda Butler, Educator/Trainer: Childcare Providers
Rebecca Carr, Parent Educator/Trainer
Pat Colombo, Building Assistant
Bob Cramer, Building Assistant
Denise Dorsz, Executive Director
Shery Farag, Parent Educator
Tiffany Johnson, Executive Assistant
Lillian Ross, Navigator/ Program Assistant
Mervat Tadros, Parent Educator
Jolayne Thompson, Accountant
Alethea Valentine, Quality Improvement Specialist