



Child Development Council

The Child Development Council of Central New York, Inc. promotes and advocates for the healthy development and well being of children and families at home, in child care, and in our community through inclusive, individualized services, education, and connections to community resources.

2023

Gratitude Report

The Future is BRIGHT!!



The Future is Bright!!

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your support of the Child Development Council!

We are pleased to present the Council's 2023 Gratitude Report. Please enjoy these highlights of our work.

2023 was an incredible year filled with reflection, growth, and future planning. The Council team dove deep into a strategic planning process, collecting input from stakeholders, including parents, child care providers, and community partners, and exploring agency strengths and community needs. That information was used to develop a framework to guide agency direction in the coming years.

Three priorities emerged from this collaborative process:

- **Representation-** Identifying opportunities to engage a broader range of families and caregivers of children
- **Outreach-** Strengthening agency processes and evaluating opportunities for intentional growth to address community needs within the scope of our mission
- **Collaboration-** Leveraging partnerships to build capacity and work toward meeting goals that benefit families and caregivers of children

Woven within and around these initiatives are **Equity and Inclusion**.

We believe that ensuring equitable representation, engaging in intentional outreach, and strengthening collaborations with community partners and stakeholders will provide the foundation for ***maximizing the potential of the Council team***, who, in turn, can provide the ***highest quality services to families and caregivers of children*** in Cortland and Tompkins Counties.

The opportunity to dream big and develop a path to meet lofty goals is a privilege.

This is especially true when those goals impact the wellbeing of children and their caregivers. The stability of the Council and its long history as a cornerstone of the community is a testament of the ***commitment and passion to 'do good'*** shared by the Child Development Council team, board members, supporters, and stakeholders.

The future is bright- and it is all the brighter when we're in it together!

With much appreciation,

Melissa Perry, Chief Executive Officer



Family Services

Strengthens families through relationships, resources, and individualized caregiving support.



Children ages 0-5

203

Families

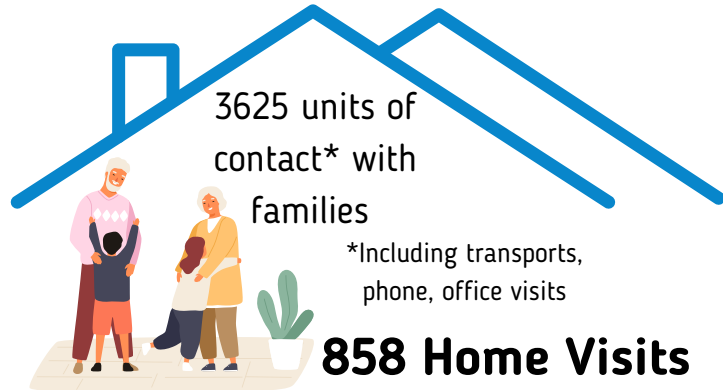
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Who We Served in 2023



“Having someone who listens and doesn’t judge and who is very supportive to our family [has been the most helpful].”
-Family Services Participant



415 Developmental and Social Emotional Assessments

69% of children who received assessments were developmentally on track

15% of children receive Early Intervention Services



Child Care Resource and Referral

Supports the development and sustainability of accessible, affordable, high quality child care.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Funds were used to provide bookshelves, train sets, climbing structures, tricycles, science materials, books, musical instruments, and various other learning materials to enhance the quality of child care programs.

35

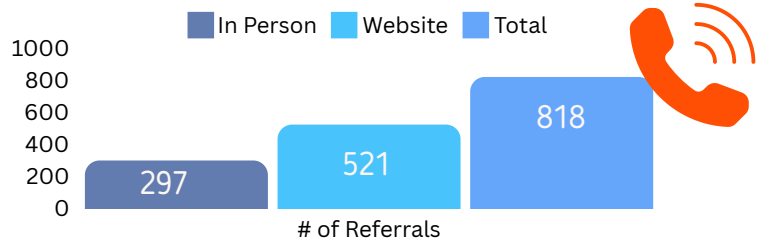
Grants Awarded

\$9,866.33

Total Amount Awarded



Child Care Referral Services



Feedback From Those Seeking Care:

- "For 10 years (three kids) I have been using your referral service with success each time. THANK YOU!"
- "Very happy to have this service in the community. It has really changed our life for the better!"

Trainings

- 74 Trainings Offered
- 298 Unduplicated Participants

Training offered included: Nature Exploration, Core Business Training, Big Body Play, Emergency Preparedness, Loose Parts, and Creative Arts

"I plan on using my newfound knowledge every day and just seeing how the kids play instead of interrupting their play to show them how to really do something. Let them try it themselves and see what they come up with."

-Child Care Provider & Training Participant

Child and Adult Care Food Program

46 Child Care

Providers enrolled

121,487 healthy

meals served

69,389 snacks

served

\$334,562

reimbursed



33 Child Care Providers received plants to start gardens with children in their care

"The kids look at it as a daily treasure hunt for vegetables when the plants are blooming!"

Child Care Provider and CACFP Participant



Child Care Resource and Referral

Supports the development and sustainability of accessible, affordable, high quality child care.

Legally Exempt/ Informal Child Care

Enrolled Providers:

Cortland- 37

Tompkins- 51 plus 5 Summer Camps

Legally Exempt providers received health and safety items and high quality learning materials to enhance quality of care, along with seasonal activity suggestions and safety tips.

Amount distributed for Health, Safety, and Quality Enhancement Items: **\$9,901.76** (for Cortland and Tompkins)



Building Access to Child Care (BACC)

Designed to increase the supply of child care in Tompkins County by attracting and partnering with new providers and offering individualized support to promote long term success and quality programming.

New Programs created with BACC support: 4

Program expansions with BACC support: 2

New Child Care Slots: 213



Community Child Care Supply Growth Initiative

This brand new initiative promotes the development of quality child care by funding start-up costs of new programs and the expansion of existing programs.

\$100,000 per year is available for Family and Group Family Child Care programs, with an additional \$200,000 available for Child Care Centers.

Funding for new and expanding programs available in 2024 with a goal of developing 5 new child care programs per year.

NEW!

Ensuring Equity and Inclusion in Child Care

This pilot initiative gives providers necessary tools and guidance to build environments and practices that promote equity and inclusion, effectively enhancing the overall quality of child care programs.

11 eligible Child Care Centers participated in 2023



Provider Feedback: "Thank you for encouraging me to participate in the grant. It is one of the many things in life that once you start looking you realize the importance of DEI in all the areas of our teaching."



Community Services

Postpartum Support Group

9 sessions

11 unique participants

Helping moms connect to one another and discuss the topics most important to them—traumatic births, partner struggles, sleep, breast feeding, and returning to work.



Emergency Scholarships

\$2,788.60 distributed to 3 families in Cortland County

\$16,917.82 distributed to 25 families in Tompkins County

Welcome Little One!

37 participants completed the 4-session series

Each session offers hands-on activities focused on feeding, sleeping, safety, bonding, and developmental milestones to help first time caregivers prepare to welcome their new baby with excitement and confidence.

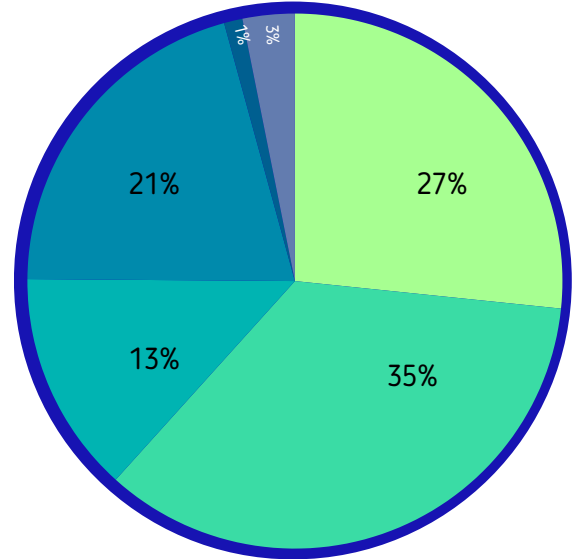
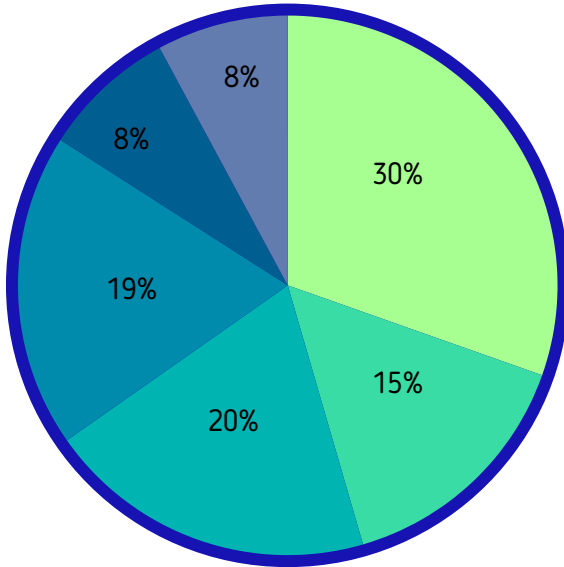
"I really enjoyed the hands-on demonstrations and activities, opportunities to ask questions, friendly atmosphere, great knowledge and information provided."

-Welcome Little One Participant





2023 Child Development Council Finances



Expenses

Tompkins CCR&R (30%)	\$616,222
Cortland CCR&R (15%)	\$305,842
Basic Needs (20%)	\$400,558
Family Support Services-Tompkins (19%)	\$380,942
Family Support Services - Cortland (8%)	\$163,598
Management & General (8%)	\$159,533
Total	\$2,026,695

Revenue

Cortland and Tompkins Counties (27%)	\$663,720
Federal (35%)	\$872,960
New York (13%)	\$334,722
Community Support (21%)	\$513,624
United Way (1%)	\$27,898
Program & other fees (3%)	\$78,372
Total	\$2,491,296

Proudly Serving our Community Since 1967

Family Services • Child Care Resource and Referral • Warm Line

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Board and Staff

Thank You to the 2023-2024 Child Development Council Board of Directors

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Asif Chaudhry
Jessica Custer-Bindel
Stephanie Fritz
Penny Givin
Lucinda Noble
Kyle Page-Robinson

Chau Pham
Nancy Potter
Brian Rozewski
David Rutherford
Qi Wang
Patricia Williams

Current Child Development Council Team

Administrative:

Dara Gray
Diane Feldman
Margaret Tinker
Melissa Perry
Michael Hoit

Child Care Resource and Referral:

Alexxis Strauf
Allison VanGalder
Ann Turcsik
Anne Withers
Barb Mechalke
Jessica Mazur
Joanie Slatoff
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Caleb Wright
Elizabeth Wolff
Jessi Soto-Moyer
Ken Cassano
Lisa Bowman
Lisa Drake
Malinda Rees
Sarah Kunz

Thank you for a great 2023!

Look at what we have been up to already in 2024!

