Without education, your children can never really meet the challenges they will face.

So it’s very important to give children education and explain that they should play a role for their country.

~Nelson Mandela
~Our Mission~
Support families, employers, child care providers, and the community by advocating for and developing high quality, affordable, accessible child care for all children.

~Our Vision~
The standard of excellence for child care support and resources for families, child care providers, and the community.

~Our Values~
Integrity
Trust
Competence
Respect
Continuous Quality Improvement

Our major funders include:
- US Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program
- New York State Office of Children and Family Services
- United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
- Health Foundation for Western & Central New York
Other funders include: Journey’s End Refugee Services, local businesses and organizations, and individual memberships and donations.

~Thank You~
Thank you so much for helping with my day care search. It was difficult to find a day care that would accommodate my flexible schedule, and the list you provide me found a wonderful center that my girls love. Thanks again.”

“You helped me calm my worries, Thank you.”

“Thank you for this training. The brainstorming and networking were great and led to new ideas that helped me with a new direction in this specific area.”

“What I love most about DAL is the coming together as a group of directors with common concerns and questions.”

“This class well informs you of what you need to know and complete to start your child care program. It is good to know the supports and resources available as you get started!”

“The information in this training not only applied to my job in child care, but my personal life.”

“The instructor helped me to see the differences between my perspective, the child’s perspective, and ways to work out those differences in a positive way.”

~Make a Difference~
There are so many ways you can have a direct impact on the lives of children and families in our community!

Volunteer with Child Care Resource Network to help plan events, help with office work, or represent us at community resource fairs. Based on your interests, we can connect your skills and talents to meaningful work that makes our community stronger.

Advocate and speak out on behalf of children and families around critical child care issues that are important to you.

Give a monetary or in-kind gift to help support our programs and services. An in-kind donation or a monetary gift goes a long way toward ensuring that all children have access to high quality child care!

For more information on how you can get involved, please contact:
Susan DiNatale
Director of Community Initiatives and Development
716-877-6666 ext. 3031
sdinatale@wnychildren.org
ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:
- Cash: $1,139,484
- Grants receivable: 528,400
- Accounts receivable: 21,636
- Prepaid expenses & deposits: 50,092
- Total current assets: $1,739,612

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net:
- Unrestricted: 25,804
- Total assets: $1,765,416

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES:
- Accounts payable: $149,350
- Accrued liabilities: 144,189
- Deferred revenue: 308,746
- Total liabilities: 807,285

NET ASSETS:
- Unrestricted: 1,456,670
- Total net assets: 1,456,670
- Total assets: 1,765,416

Statement of Financial Position
As of 09/30/2014

Operating revenue:
- Governmental grants:
  - CACFP: $1,923,668
- Resource and referral: 1,160,423
- Day care registration: 659,774
- Provider mandates: 134,836
- Total governmental grants revenue: 3,878,701

Other:
- Interest income: 254
- Membership dues: 12,254
- Annual meeting and other, net: 21,280
- Total other revenue: 33,788
- Total operating revenue: 4,065,844

Operating expenses:
- Program services:
  - CACFP: 1,952,989
  - Child care resource and referral: 1,052,234
  - Day care registration: 664,133
  - Education/training: 75,244
- Total program services: 3,744,600
- Supporting services:
  - General and administrative: 345,174
- Total expenses: 4,089,774

Change in net assets:
- (23,930)

Net assets:
- Beginning of year: 1,480,600
- End of year: $1,456,670

Financial information is generated from the 2014 audit report by:
Bonadio & Co., LLC
Certified Public Accountants

Statement of Activities
10/01/2013—09/30/2014

Dear Colleagues,

No quote better summarizes why the mission of our agency is so important to the Western New York community. For each family, a new child is a new beginning, a first step into a world where each child has the potential to make a difference in a lasting and impactful way if he or she is given a strong life foundation. With each child born, our community has the chance to become a better place.

We understand that, for many parents, the incredible joy of having a child can be quickly matched by despair, worry, and frustration when they must make a critical choice regarding who to trust for child care. Throughout our 27 year history, Child Care Resource Network has remained committed to providing peace of mind for families who use child care by referring them to programs that meet their needs and by working with child care providers to infuse their programs with high quality through research-based, developmentally appropriate practices. Meeting the needs of families and developing the capacity and skills of child care professionals are essential to developing a strong workforce and community.

While CCRN has advocated for best outcomes for children and families since 1987, 2014 signaled a year of “new beginnings” for our agency, similar to the new beginnings experienced by a family when a new child arrives. Being a newcomer to the agency in 2014, I want to thank the dedicated and talented CCRN team, who has worked to strengthen the infrastructure of our agency to better serve the needs of our community. Over the past year, we have expanded upon existing programs that extend beyond the above performance metrics. One example is the Buffalo Microenterprise Refugee Project, through which we collaborate with Journey’s End Refugee Services and the Child Development Association (CDA) to provide training and support to newly arrived refugees and children.

Together, these figures represent an increase of 15% in CCRN services that benefit the community.

In 2014, Child Care Resource Network experienced many changes that led our agency to the brink of new beginnings, where we are poised to make a greater impact than ever on the children and families of Western New York. We believe that the best is yet to come for our region, but that can only happen if we dedicate ourselves collectively toward ensuring bright new beginnings for each one of our children. Thank you for engaging with our agency in this mission.

Warm regards,

Lynn Pullano

~ Letter From the CEO ~

“A new baby is the beginning of all things—wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities.”

-Eda LeShan
~Child Care Resource Network Board of Directors~

2014 Board of Directors
Brian Kantz, President
Marcia Brogan, Vice President
Mike Rubin, CPA, Treasurer
Colleen Brecker, Ed.M.
Ronald Brown
Kathy Doody, Ph.D.
Christine Ellington-Rowe, Ed.M.
Barbara Greer
Miles Gresham, Esq.
Gregg Moore

2015 Board of Directors
Christine Ellington-Rowe, Ed.M., President
Ronald Brown, Vice President
Mike Rubin, CPA, Treasurer
Miles Gresham, Esq., Secretary
Colleen Brecker, Ed.M.
Kathy R. Doody, Ph.D.
Barbara Greer
Tamara Manly
Mary Ellen Mitchell, CPA
Nicholas Sponaugle, CPA
Suzanne Tomkins, J.D.

~Child Care Resource Network Staff~

CEO
Lynn Pullano

Administrative Services
Madelyn Termini, Sandy Williams

Child and Adult Care Food Program
Kim Backey, Anoiette Davis,
Ida Dockery, Maria Navarro
Stephanie Simmons

Community Initiatives and Development
Susan D’Natale

Community Outreach and Assessment
Amanda Kelkenberg, Grace McKenzie

Education and Training
Marilyn Ballard, Jill Boeck, Chazniique Cooks,
Maryann Ciskal, Kyle Hendnicke, Debbie Kopack
Kim LoDico, Gayle Nixon
Candice Thompson, Michelle Wilson

Parent and Employer Services
Carrie Truesdell

Quality Assurance and Support Services
Renee Gietz

Regulatory Services
Christen Balistriero, Letti Bragg
Joann Calandra, Laura Cavaretta
Patricia Engleka, Rebecca Gibson
Mary Insalaco, Davida Knight
Kelly Maloney, Billie Jo Meehan
Charles Orlando, Missy Penosi
Jennifer Schreiber, Jackie Roberson Jr.
Marta Rodriguez-Perez

WNY Infant Toddler Resource Network
Karen Kopacz, Kristin Macha

Finance
Peggy Krathaus, Christine Ventura

~Elizabeth’s Story~

I attended a CDA course for certification in infant and toddler care at Child Care Resource Network. The training prepared me in many ways to become a competent, confident caregiver. As each topic unfolded week after week, my interest peaked, my perspective broadened, and a sense of empowerment always followed. I buzzed out the door at the end of every class feeling nourished, refreshed, and passionate about my career choice. Equally as impressive as the material was the camaraderie between teachers and students. Strong bonds were formed and one of my dearest friendships came out of this course.

This course for me was a transformative journey and led me to a Toddler Teacher position at one of the most amazing child care centers. I utilize the knowledge and strategies obtained through CDA daily. My commitment is to provide a nurturing environment and quality child care for every child. Furthermore, I pledge to be a lifelong learner - welcoming all that stirs curiosity and brings wonder and awe into the classroom.

So all children can **thrive!**
Child Care Resource Network is a strong voice in the community advocating for policies that lead to healthy children and strong families. Some of our 2013-2014 highlights include:

- Lynn Pullano, CEO, was named to the Winning Beginning New York steering committee, providing representation of the child care issues that exist in Western New York on a statewide level.
- Conducting county and state legislative visits to educate key stakeholders on the critical needs of families related to child care subsidy, the opportunity to restructure Child Protective Services in Erie County and the Paid Family Leave Act.
- Engaging families and child care providers to take action in local, statewide and national movements calling for investments in early childhood initiatives.

We advocate, outreach and collaborate…

Child Care Resource Network is pleased to participate in 80 community events this year, ranging from resource fairs to conferences and legislative breakfasts. This year we increased our community involvement by 71%.

Our social media presence has blossomed into a cohesive effort on Facebook and Twitter, with over 280 friends and followers. We look forward to augmenting our social media presence.

Our media presence continues to grow. The Awards Dinner, the Annual Conference, and our Child and Adult Care Food Program were all highlighted in news media this year.

We have worked with our community partners to close the gaps in services to families and child care providers.

“Community Partners”

- Accord Corporation
- American Red Cross
- Baker Victory Services
- Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System
- Buffalo Adult Education
- Buffalo Pre-Natal-Perinatal Network
- Buffalo Promise Neighborhood
- Canisius College
- Catholic Charities WIC
- Center for Resolution & Justice
- Chautauqua Child Care Council
- Child Adolescent Treatment Services
- City of Buffalo
- Community Action of Orleans & Genesee, Inc.
- Community Action Organization
- Child Care Clearinghouse of Niagara
- Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled
- Cornell University Cooperative Extension
- Early Childhood Direction Center
- EPIC-Every Person Influences Children
- Erie Community College
- Erie County Dept of Health
- Erie County Dept of Social Services
- Erie County Office for the Disabled
- Family & Child Advocacy Network
- Family Help Center
- Gloria J. Parks Community Center
- Holy Cross Head Start
- Jewish Family Service of Buffalo and Erie County
- Journey’s End Refugee Services
- Matt Urban Community Center
- Medaille College
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- Native American Community Services
- Niagara County Dept of Health
- Niagara University
- Northwest Community Center
- NYS Office of Children & Family Services
- NYS Public Policy & Education Fund
- Parent Network of WNY
- People, Inc.
- Read to Succeed Buffalo
- Response to Love Center
- The Belle Center
- True Bethel Baptist Church
- University at Buffalo
- Villa Maria College
- Women’s and Children Hospital

~ Agency Services ~

Our Work on Behalf of Children

Child and Adult Care Food Program
Conducted with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the NYS Department of Health (DOH), the child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) issues reimbursement to family, group family and legally exempt child care providers for serving nutritious meals in child care programs. Services include program enrollment, nutrition education, processing claim submissions and regular child care program monitoring.

Child Care Registration
Conducted with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) the Child Care Registration program provides registration services for family day care and school age child care programs. Responsibilities include registering and monitoring child care programs, in accordance with the NYS Day Care Regulations, to ensure children are healthy and safe.

Education and Training
The Education and Training program provides an array of services to child care providers with the goal of improving the quality of early care and education for children. Services include:

- Training and Technical Assistance
- Credentialing Programs
- Health Care Consultancy (HCC)
- School Age Child Care Network
- Directors as Leaders (DAL)
- Medication Administration Training (MAT)
- Western New York (WNY) Infant Toddler Resource Network (ITRN)

Legally Exempt Enrollment
Conducted with the NYS OCFS, the Legally Exempt program provides enrollment and monitoring services to informal child care providers who receive government child care subsidies. To increase the quality of care, the legally exempt program also provides support to child care providers through technical assistance and a health and safety grant program.

Parent Services
The Parent Services program helps families find child care by providing referrals to licensed and registered child care programs in Erie County that meet the individual needs of families. In addition to assisting families find child care, the Parent Services program provides valuable resources to families on topics related to child development, parent education opportunities and choosing high quality child care.
In 2013-2014, Child Care Resource Network distributed a total of 1.6 million dollars to 422 child care providers through CACFP. These dollars were reimbursement for the out of pocket business expenses child care providers incur to feed children in their programs. Over 3,400 children received healthy meals and snacks while in child care.

Through a coaching and mentoring model, 35 child care providers received support related to child development, curriculum, family relationships, leadership and small business practices. This support ensured that child care providers were equipped with the critical tools necessary to run their businesses with strong programming, giving over 300 children a stable child care program with improved early learning experiences.

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Child Care Resource Network also enrolled over 1,000 legally exempt child care providers. These caregivers help families meet specific child care needs that licensed and registered child care may not. Such needs include overnight and weekend care, flexible child care schedules, cultural and linguistic knowledge and transportation.

In 2013-2014, Child Care Resource Network provided peace of mind for over 800 families in need of child care. We empowered working parents to choose high quality child care by providing information and resources to identify a child care program that was the “right fit” for their family.

Child Care Resource Network empowered child care providers to learn and grow as well. Our professional development training activities included topics related to healthy children, safe environments, responsive care giving, child assessment, and community supports for children and families. This training not only fulfilled NYS regulatory requirements, but supported the lifelong learning needs of child care providers striving to provide quality child care.

Child Care Resource Network is committed to helping child care providers advance their careers with credentials and higher education coursework. In 2013-2014, 35 child care providers participated in a 120 hour nationally recognized Child Development Associate credentialing program. This intensive program requires a year long commitment to learning and was the first step to a college degree for the child care providers who participated!

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