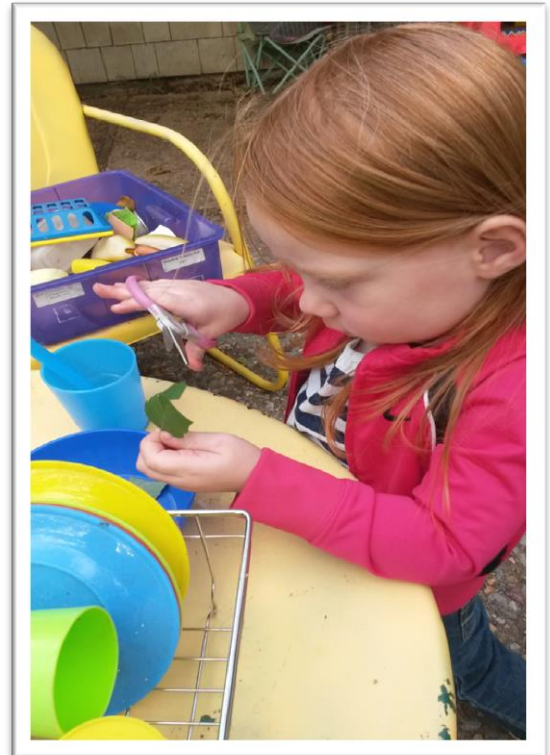
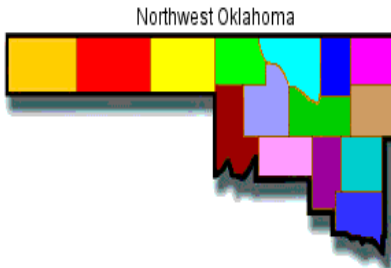


Annual Report Child Care Resource and Referral 2015



Mission of Child Care Resource and Referral

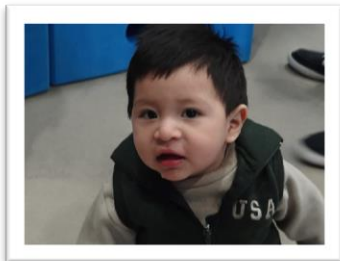
CDSA's Child Care Resource and Referral serves families, providers, and communities in Alfalfa, Beaver, Blaine, Canadian, Cimarron, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Grant, Harper, Kingfisher, Major, Texas, Woods, and Woodward Counties. Our mission is to help achieve a quality child care system accessible to all Oklahoma families through community-based resource and referral services. .



Services for Families

Starting in July of 2015, Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral established a statewide centralized call center at Rainbow Fleet in Oklahoma City. This was a significant change in services offered through CDSA's Child Care Resource and Referral. The number of actual referral calls has declined in recent years as more parents are searching for child care through online searches and social media. Economically, it was wise to utilize limited resources to operate a centralized service. This move made it possible for regional staff to focus efforts on individualized technical assistance and child care training during the year. Although the focus changed slightly, Child Care Resource and Referral continues to be committed to ensuring that parents have information to assist them in making wise child care choices. Parent demand for high quality child care is a significant piece of raising the overall quality of child care throughout Oklahoma.

Child Care Specialists at the call center provide referrals to licensed centers and/or family child care homes. There is no charge for this service. Referrals are customized to match the child's age, parent or caregiver's work schedule, and location. Child Care Specialists do not evaluate care givers nor recommend one program above another. Although the majority of calls were forwarded to Rainbow Fleet, CDSA Child Care Resource and Referral assisted 50 families who were walk-ins or who needed very specific information. CDSA Child Care Resource and Referral still assumes responsibility for ensuring that the child care provider data base for the northwest region is up to date so that parents receive accurate and complete referral information.



Comments from Parents Using Services

"I was thankful that they were able to help me locate some programs that could help me with parttime care. It is very difficult to find parttime care to fit with my school schedule."

"Wendy gave me good questions to ask when I visited daycare homes. I asked many of the questions from some information she sent me in the mail."

Services for Providers

No one has a greater impact on the quality of care than the people who work with children everyday. Child Care Resource and Referral assists providers in improving the quality of care by providing technical assistance (on-site, phone, or office); low cost training based on what all adults who work with young children need to know, understand and be able to do to support children's learning and development.

	2014	2015
Training Hrs	154	201
Provider Assistance Calls	198	386
Technical Assistance and Follow Up	135	190

In 2015, there were 201 training hours provided or facilitated by Child Care Resource and Referral. There were child care trainings provided for child care providers in Beaver, Canadian, Garfield, Kingfisher, Major, Texas, Woods, and Woodward counties. Every effort is made to ensure that child care providers throughout our service area have access to the training they need to both meet licensing requirements and to improve the quality of care they provide.

In addition to facilitating or providing formal training, Child Care Resource and Referral staff answered almost 400 phone calls and emails from child care providers for child care information or technical assistance. We will continue

to provide increased training follow up and technical assistance during the next contract year.

Child care providers also have access to our resource room including a learning kits, training dvds, copy machine, laminator, and Ellison die cut machine. Child care providers on the data base receive a quarterly newsletter containing training opportunities, articles on child development and information on issues that affect child care.

Feedback from Child Care Providers Attending Training or Receiving Technical Assistance

"We always appreciate the time that Child Care Resource and Referral dedicates to training in our area. The trainings are always fun and informative."

"I was so worried about the Environmental Rating Scales and Donna provided so much support and guidance as I prepared for the ERS visit. I learned so much and think that I have made many positive changes that will benefit both children and staff."



Services for the Community

High quality child care does more than benefit children; it can create positive results for entire families and for the community as a whole. By providing resources, documenting community needs and creating ways to meet those needs, Child Care Resource and Referral brings the voices of children, families, and child care providers to the public.



Child Care Resource and Referral has worked with Smart Start communities in El Reno and Enid to address overall community needs related to early childhood. Staff have also attended Oklahoma CEO (Champions for Early Education) meetings in the region and participated in other community events to increase awareness about the importance of quality child care and to inform the public about the services provided by Child Care Resource and Referral. The picture to the left is one from a First Friday event in downtown Enid.

Child Care Resource and Referral works with Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral to distribute the Oklahoma Child Care Portfolio.

The portfolio provides an analysis of child care in each county of Oklahoma. The report focuses on licensed child care; although, we are aware that in many families are often dependent on families and neighbors to provide child care. You can access the full report at <http://okchildcareportfolio.org/>

Finances

Funding for CDSA's Child Care Resource and Referral is from a grant with Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA). OCCRRA administers the statewide child care resource and referral network with funding from Oklahoma Department of Human Services (Oklahoma Child Care Services). Funding for Child Care Resource and Referral services are from federal Child Care Development Funds.

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Child Care Resource and Referral, a program of CDSA is a member of Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Association.

