



CONNECTING FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Terese Curtin, MSW
Executive Director

As this year comes to a close, we have so many positive things to reflect on. First, I would like to thank my Board of Directors and staff for the tremendous effort they put into helping CCF provide award-winning programs for the Woonsocket community. Their hard work and dedication helped to improve the lives of more than 3,000 families this year.

The 2015 annual report highlights major accomplishments of our community - based work. With the help of many corporate supporters, family foundations, and individual donors, we were able to purchase the historic Hope Street School. The purchase of this building, which serves as CCF's headquarters and Family Center, will allow us to save approximately \$100,000 per year, now to be used for innovative programs and services to benefit Woonsocket families. I cannot express how thankful I am to those who assisted us in this effort. We plan to continue the campaign in the coming year in an effort to raise funds for capital and program support.

This year, CCF's *Chillin' and Skillin'* Education Camp received both state and nationwide media coverage for its accomplishments in continuing children's education over the summer. During this time, low-income children can strengthen and improve both their literacy and math skills, keeping them on the road to success.

Our Center for Financial Success continues to expand. We have increased the number of clients served through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which has a significant impact on financial stability for our families.

CCF continues to identify opportunities to expand our reach and serve additional Woonsocket families. For more information on how you can help us achieve our goals, please visit our website at www.ccfcenter.org and like us on Facebook.

It was an exciting year for CCF! Thank you for your unwavering support!



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PROGRAMS

Basic Needs & Service Linkage

- Emergency assistance with food, clothing, and utilities.
- Information and referral to partner community agencies.

Family Support Initiatives

- *Parents as Teachers*: A home-based parenting education and support program for families with young children.
- Case management services, parent workshops, and family activity nights.

Center for Financial Success

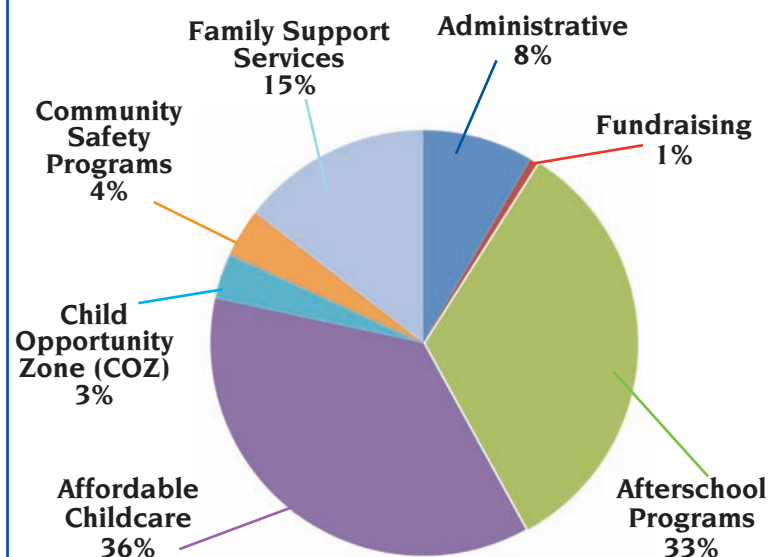
- Financial workshops and individual financial counseling.
- Workforce development training in culinary arts, health care, and financial services.
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)- Free tax preparation services.
- Financial education for students in grades K-12.
- Success Wear: Work appropriate clothing at no cost to participants completing CCF job training programs.

Early Care & Education

- Quality care for toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children. 4-star quality rating from Bright Stars.
- Evidence-based curriculum that ensures children enter kindergarten with the language and literacy skills necessary for school success.

FISCAL YEAR

FY2015 Expenditures



YEAR AT A GLANCE

School-linked Initiatives

- As Woonsocket's Child Opportunity Zone (COZ), CCF coordinates educational, health and social services to promote academic success.
- After-school and school vacation camps providing homework help, tutoring, and enrichment for students in grades K-12.
- Summer Learning Initiatives offered district-wide for grades K-12 students.

Community Safety

- *Woonsocket Safe Communities*: Provides education and information on injury prevention and traffic safety issues, including certified technicians who provide and install car seats to eligible families in Woonsocket.
- *SHIELD for Life*: educates residents about Rhode Island's primary seat belt law, safe driving habits, and consequences of distracted driving.
- *Alcohol Impaired Driving Program*: educates the Woonsocket community on state laws, regulation, and impaired driving prevention.



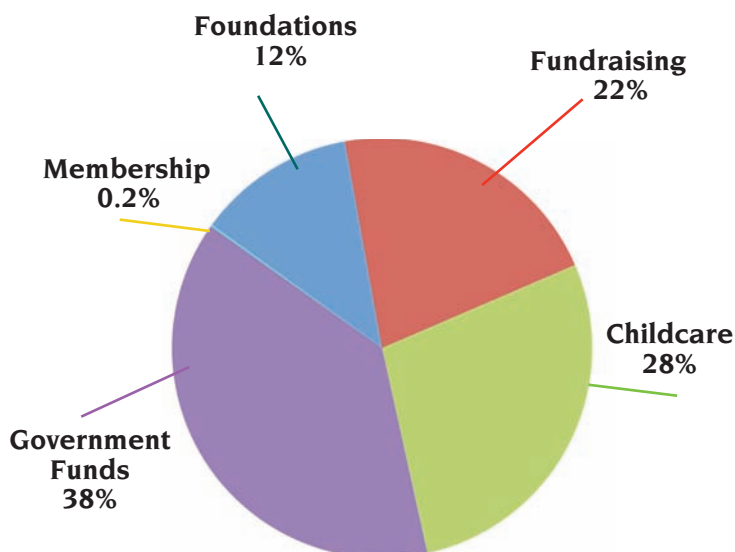
2015 Accomplishments

- Our *Hope Street Childcare Center* opened a State Pre-K classroom and joined the *Early Head Start State Partnership*.
- CCF raised more than \$25,000 for our 5th Annual *Make Tracks for Kids Run/Walk* held at Bryant University.
- Through CCF's Center for Financial Success, we served 566 clients in our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, which resulted in \$1.2 million in tax refunds to Woonsocket families.
- Through our workforce training programs, adults gained skills and confidence to enter the workforce. 84% of our culinary graduates and 75% of our Stepping Up Health Care Career Orientation graduates obtained employment.
- CCF's after-school program at the Woonsocket Middle School was part of a national project known as *The NASA Challenge*. Astronauts from NASA conferred with the students about their projects and how they came up with their solutions.
- Our *Chillin' & Skillin' Education Camp* was featured in an article titled *A New Kind of Summer School* in the July issue of RI Monthly.



January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

FY2015 Source of Funds



MISSION STATEMENT

Established in 1995 with funding from the Rhode Island Foundation, **Connecting for Children and Families (CCF)** is a community-based, non-profit organization located in Woonsocket, one of Rhode Island's core urban cities. Our mission - to transform the lives of Woonsocket children through high quality educational opportunities and family support - is accomplished through strong community partnerships and advocacy.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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