30 Years

2006 ANNUAL REPORT
ABOUT US

Child Action, Inc. is a private, nonprofit corporation created in 1976 to provide for the education and social welfare of children and families by organizing, sponsoring and administering services for children. We seek to augment and enhance the delivery of services for children rather than duplicate existing resources.

Our major goal is to promote the healthy growth and development of children and families living in Sacramento County. Our primary focus is child care and development. Services include child care resource and referral, child care subsidies, recruitment and training of child care professionals, and parent education and support.

Child Action, Inc. offers a variety of services to families in Sacramento County to assist them as they make choices about child care. These services include information about available child care, consumer guidelines on how to select quality child care, and payment assistance for low-income families.

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**2006 GOALS**

**ENABLE** families to obtain quality child care services and self-sufficiency
- Provide child care payments for eligible children
- Provide child care information and referrals to families
- Ensure that parents have choices in the care of their children

**ENABLE** members of the community access to safe, quality child care services
- Provide electronic access to information and services
- Provide information and services in the first language of the family
- Recruit and maintain an adequate supply of quality child care services
- Conduct outreach and presentations throughout the community
- Work collaboratively with other community organizations to provide family services

**ENHANCE** community awareness of child care needs and issues
- Conduct public education through media, presentations and advocacy
- Develop and disseminate information, reports, publications, and newsletter
- Inform and empower parents and providers
- Maintain a resource library
- Provide information on child care and development issues and events
- Conduct public policy review, testimony, and education

**ENCOURAGE** and support the professional development of child care providers
- Ensure timely payment to child care providers
- Provide training, technical assistance and consultation to child care professionals
- Provide licensing assistance
- Conduct TrustLine and provider orientations
- Administer programs that promote the professional development of early care and learning professionals

**SERVE** a diverse community
- Recruit and hire employees from a broad range of economic, ethnic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds
- Provide information and services in multiple languages
- Develop community consultants as partners in service provision
- Conduct staff diversity training and awareness campaigns
- Collaborate with community agencies

**ENSURE** that Child Action, Inc. services remain relevant, responsive, and responsible
- Maintain a community-based Board of Directors
- Plan for expansion of services that meet community needs
- Provide staff development and training opportunities
- Promote leadership development
- Maintain internal communication and quality control systems
- Maintain viable data management systems
- Exercise outstanding fiscal control and accountability
- Monitor expenditures
- Monitor client eligibility

**PROVIDE** a quality work environment for employees
- Provide fair compensation and benefits
- Provide training, support and resources
- Promote and encourage a supportive work environment
- Promote open communication
- Provide opportunity for advancement
2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2005-2006 Child Action, Inc. devoted $94.2 million and over 676,000 staff/volunteer hours to support families and children in Sacramento County. Our major focus is the provision of child care information and referrals to parents and the general public, the distribution of child care subsidies to low-income families, implementation of quality improvement initiatives, and the recruitment and training of child care teachers and family child care home providers in three languages (English, Spanish, and Russian).

Child Care Services Provided
Child Action, Inc. provided $73.8 million dollars for child care services for 17,750 children from low-income families who were working, in training programs, or enrolled in school during fiscal year 2005-2006. These programs allow parents to choose the child care services that best meet their individual needs anywhere in the county.

“Thank you for allowing me to pursue my dreams while feeling completely comfortable and secure that my children are very well taken care of thanks to your program.”

– 2006 Parent Survey

Centralized Eligibility List
Child Action, Inc. is responsible for administering the Sacramento County Centralized Eligibility List which is in its second year of operation. Child Action, Inc. is working collaboratively with over 25 school districts and community-based organizations in Sacramento County who are using the list to enroll eligible families in their programs. This list is designed to provide a central access point for all families seeking child care assistance.

The software system developed by Child Action, Inc. is accessible on the internet throughout the community at locations including libraries, family resource centers and one-stop career centers. Through the use of this software, Child Action, Inc. is providing data management services for agencies from six other California Counties.

Constructing Connections
Constructing Connections completed its inaugural year in 2006. This innovative project, funded by the Low Income Investment Fund, is designed to increase child care facilities construction in Sacramento County and has the major goals of:
• Building local capacity to finance and construct child care centers
2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Improving the regulatory and funding environment in Sacramento and its surrounding cities in order to support child care facilities development
- Enlisting new and expanding current support of existing community development partners

Partners in Constructing Connections include the Sacramento County Office of Education, the Sacramento County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council, First 5 Sacramento Commission and many other local non-profit agencies, businesses, and state, county and city government agencies.

Preschool Bridging Model
In 2006, Child Action, Inc. participated in a new pilot project funded by the First 5 Sacramento Commission called the Preschool Bridging Model. Hosted in the Elk Grove Unified School District, this innovative partnership with the Sacramento County Office of Education and Child Action, Inc. offers preschool opportunities to children in licensed child care facilities in Elk Grove.

This project brings a credentialed Preschool Bridging Teacher and Bridging Coach with the Elk Grove Unified School District to work with teachers in licensed public and private child care centers and family child care homes to provide preschool services. In addition, the project is designed to increase the quality of the environment and enhance the early learning opportunities for children in licensed child care in the school district. Information and data gathered from the Bridging Model will contribute towards the development of a countywide preschool expansion plan.

“Defrost the SMI” Campaign
Sacramento’s Chapter of Parent Voices, a parent-run, parent-led grassroots organization working to make quality child care accessible and affordable to all families, focused their efforts on defrosting the State Median Income (SMI). The SMI is the scale used to determine a family’s eligibility for subsidized child care. Parents making 75% of the SMI and below are eligible; however, the SMI was frozen in the state budget and had not been adjusted to reflect the increased cost of living in California. Since the year 2000, thousands of parents across the state lost or were close to losing their child care subsidies because their income eligibility was artificially deflated. On May 3, 2006, over 600 parents participated at the annual “Stand for Children” rally at the State Capitol, and held individual meetings with elected officials to tell the story of how this freeze was impacting their lives. Following the compelling testimony of parents at budget hearings, Governor Schwarzenegger included $67 million in his 2006-07 budget to end the five-year old freeze on income eligibility.
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Low Administrative Costs

State of California $ 66,541,279
County of Sacramento $ 23,281,234
Sacramento County of Education $ 545,352
First 5 Commission of Sacramento $ 1,719,512
Parent Fees $ 1,891,152
Other $ 173,814
Interest $ 14,398
Total Revenue: $ 94,166,741

Revenue

Program Services $ 91,857,572 97.45%
Administrative Services $ 2,403,117 2.55%
Total Expenditures: $ 94,260,689 100.00%

Expenses

Client Services Provider Payments $ 73,814,090
Client Services Program Support $ 14,655,565
General and Administrative $ 2,403,117
Quality Enhancement $ 1,259,092
Stipends $ 855,705
Resource and Referral $ 811,457
Recruitment and Training $ 346,093
Community Planning $ 93,189
Sub-Contracts $ 22,381
Total Expenditures: $ 94,260,689
Parents looking for child care

One of the most challenging decisions that parents face is selecting a child care program to care for their children when they are working or attending school or training. In 2005-2006, Child Action, Inc. provided child care referrals to nearly 11,000 families seeking care for over 14,000 children. Seventy percent of the families needed child care because they were working. Over two hundred of these families were assisted in finding inclusive child care services for children with special needs through enhanced referral services.

Advocating for child care

Parent Voices is a parent-led grassroots organization fighting to make quality child care affordable and accessible to all families. Parent Voices gives parents an opportunity to voice the needs of their children and to ensure they grow into healthy and productive adults. By coming together as one voice, parents take a major step in improving the lives of all children in Sacramento. Parents learn advocacy skills through trainings, regular meetings, special events, media, and participation in the political process. Parents are an integral part of planning and executing all Parent Voices activities.

Developing parenting skills and learning about child development

Child Action, Inc. offers workshops on a variety of topics for parents to develop their skills, gain confidence and meet other families. Workshop topics include child development, managing behavior, immunization, school readiness, single parenting, asthma and allergies, good discipline, safety, and children with special needs. Select workshops are conducted in Spanish and Russian.

Paying for child care

The cost of child care is often greater than what families can pay. Child Action, Inc. provided child care payments for over 17,750 children from low income families in our community who were working, in training programs, or enrolled in school during fiscal year 2005-2006. These programs allow parents to choose the child care services that best meet their individual needs anywhere in the county.

 родительства

Одним из самых сложных решений, которое родители сталкиваются при выборе ребенка детского сада, является работа или обучение в школе или на курсах. В 2005-2006 годах Child Action, Inc. предоставила более 11,000 семьям услуги по подбору детских садов для более чем 14,000 детей. Семьдесят процентов семей нуждались в детском саду, потому что они работали. Более двухсот семей были включены в поиск инклюзивных услуг добрая детей с особыми потребностями через улучшенные услуги подбора.

Активисты за детский сад

Parent Voices – это родительская организация, которая борется за то, чтобы качество детского сада было доступным и доступным для всех семей. Parent Voices дает родителям возможность выразить нужды своих детей и обеспечить их здоровье и продуктивность. При объединении в один голос, родители принимают важный шаг в улучшении жизни всех детей в Сакраменто. Родители учатся навыкам адвокатуры через тренинги, регулярные собрания, специальные мероприятия, медиа и участие в политическом процессе. Родители являются неотъемлемой частью планирования и выполнения Parent Voices.

Развитие навыков родителей и изучение вопросов детей

Child Action, Inc. предлагает тренинги на темы для родителей, чтобы развивать их навыки, улучшать уверенность и встречать другие семьи. Темы тренингов включают развитие детей, управление поведением, иммунизацию, готовность к школе, однородительское воспитание, астму и аллергии, хороший дисциплин, безопасность, и детей с особыми потребностями. Выбор тренингов проводится на испанском и русском языках.

Оплата детского сада

Стоимость детского сада часто выше того, что семьи могут оплатить. Child Action, Inc. предоставила оплату детского сада для более чем 17,750 детей из семей с низким доходом в нашем сообществе, которые работали, учились на курсах или обучались на протяжении финансового года 2005-2006. Эти программы позволяют родителям выбирать услуги для своих детей, которые лучше всего соответствуют их индивидуальным потребностям по всей стране.
PROVIDERS

Child Action, Inc. delivers a variety of services and resources to assist child care providers and potential new child care providers in offering quality services to children and families in Sacramento County.

Recruitment, Training and Technical Assistance
Child Action, Inc. provides training and information designed to help child care providers build, expand, or renovate a child care center or family child care home. These services include training and technical assistance on child development, business practices, and communication. In addition, we offer feasibility studies for individuals interested in opening child care centers and license fee reimbursement for new family child care providers.

Information and Resources
Child Action, Inc. publishes a number of handouts on topics of interest to child care providers including: health and safety, community resources, business and legal issues, and guidance and curriculum. Child Action, Inc. also provides a library of resources available for child care professionals. The library contains books, videos, articles, toys, and materials. Resources are available in English and variety of other languages.

“I would like to thank Child Action, Inc. for providing such a big help and opportunities for providers to become better at what we do.”

– 2006 Provider Survey

Program Assessment and Consultation
Child Action, Inc. offers child care providers in Sacramento County access to assessment and consultation services to improve the quality of care offered in their programs. Our staff is trained to use assessment tools, such as the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale, to assess the quality of a provider’s environment and to work collaboratively with providers to develop plans to improve their services.

Child Action, Inc. serves as the lead agency for the Sacramento County Quality Child Care Collaborative, a partnership of community agencies and educational and governmental institutions. Through this partnership, Child Action, Inc. is able to facilitate consultation services for providers and children.
COMMUNITY

Child Action, Inc. has been a proud member of the Sacramento Community since 1976. Because we take our role of building caring communities seriously, we work collaboratively with other community based organizations, schools and local government. Child Action, Inc. staff members participate on local boards and community task forces such as the Children’s Coalition, Sacramento ENRICHES, Sacramento County Office of Education Preschool Planning Task Force, School Readiness Task Force, Sacramento County Maternal Adolescent Child Care Health Board, and the SETA Community Action Board. These affiliations provide the opportunity to advocate for parents and child care providers as well as stay informed about local public policy.

Child Action, Inc. also has representation on statewide organizations including the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network and Northern Directors Group to ensure the needs of Sacramento families are represented in statewide public policy discussions.

In 2006 Child Action, Inc. staff made presentations to over 10,000 people at community meetings, public hearings and other gatherings. These presentations provide an overview of our services and give us the opportunity to receive feedback from members of the community in order to understand and meet the needs of Sacramento families.

In an effort to reach an even wider audience, Child Action, Inc. publishes a quarterly newsletter, Our Children, Our Community, which was distributed to over 18,000 parents, child care providers, and community leaders in 2006.

Child Action, Inc. hosted the annual Child Care Coalition Conference and In Praise of Providers Awards Dinner in April 2006. The awards dinner honors excellence in the field of early care and education in Sacramento County. In addition, Child Action, Inc. hosted the Stand for Children picnic in May 2006, bringing together hundreds of parents, children, and child care providers.
In our efforts to provide high quality services, Child Action, Inc. has assembled a team of over 300 individuals. These people have expertise in a variety of different disciplines including child development, social work, information technology and organizational management, which allows us to efficiently and effectively administer our diverse services.

Sacramento County is one of the most diverse in the nation, and Child Action, Inc. strives to maintain a team which is representative of the cultural and linguistic diversity of Sacramento County and our clients.

Child Action, Inc. is committed to promoting good will and understanding among employees and our community.

In keeping with this commitment, we have established a Diversity Committee, consisting of 15 employees, that meets regularly to develop and promote diversity awareness through events, activities, and education. The Diversity Committee coordinates quarterly trainings that provide a chance for Child Action, Inc. staff to learn, reflect, and discuss current issues. Twice a month, the Diversity Committee provides information to staff members about diversity related topics via the agency intranet.
Healthy Children, Strong Families, Caring Communities

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Director of Community Services

THERESA CORRIGAN
Director of Client Services

MJ BOYD
Director of Operations

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Controller

FUNDING SOURCES

California Child Care Resource & Referral Network
California Department of Education
City of Sacramento
First 5 California Commission
First 5 Sacramento Commission
Low-Income Investment Fund
Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance
Sacramento County Office of Education
Tax-Exempt Donations
United Way
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