All children and families in Sacramento County will have access to affordable, quality child care and early education services.

We empower families and child care professionals with the tools and support services they need to successfully care for children.

Quality care for children.
Families’ right to choose services that fit their family needs.
Support for child care professionals in providing quality care.
Excellence and teamwork in all that we do.
Collaborative work within the community to develop services that support children and families.
Child Action, Inc. is a private, non-profit corporation that was created in 1976 to provide for the education and social welfare of children and families by organizing, sponsoring and administering services to children. We seek to augment and enhance the delivery of services for children rather than duplicate existing resources. We promote the healthy growth and development of children, support and empower families and create a community that cares for children living in Sacramento County.

Child Action, Inc. provides services to families, which includes child care resource and referral, parent and community education, advocacy for children and families and financial assistance for child care payments. We support families as they make choices about child care, including available child care, how to select a quality child care setting, and payment assistance for low-income families.

We recruit and train English, monolingual, and Refugee family child care home providers and create opportunities for them to receive training and education. We conduct outreach to family, friend and neighbor caregivers to ensure the entire child care continuum has access to quality early learning and child development information. We do on-site assessment of child care programs and partner with providers to implement quality improvement initiatives. Our programs support the early childhood workforce development.

We also engage in community planning for child care services through our collaboration with community partners and advocacy efforts. We work with local decision makers and public officials to improve services for children, families, and child care providers.

In 2018–2019 Child Action, Inc. devoted $72,455,941 and 291,513 staff or volunteer hours in support of families and children in Sacramento County. As 2018–2019 came to a close, we had 151 staff members. Our staff speaks more than twenty languages in addition to English.
Child Action, Inc. | By the Numbers

- **4,689** families received child care referrals for 5,776 children.
- **$59 Million** in child care subsidies paid in Sacramento County for 9,861 children.
- **16,950** individuals were reached through publications, community fairs, public hearings and other activities.
- **2,737** parents and child care providers participated in 195 workshops in five languages, including English, Russian, Spanish, Farsi, and Arabic.
- **160** families and 217 children received vouchers under the Foster Care Bridge program.
- **310** Foster Care Bridge eligible families were referred to Child Action, Inc.
- **23** Trauma Informed Care (TIC) trainings were held.
- **117** TIC coaching session were held.
- **$32,281** in health and safety scholarships to 439 child care providers.
- **102** health training scholarships were provided to child care centers and three hundred thirty-seven (337) were provided to family child care home providers.
- **988** licensed exempt providers were assisted with TrustLine background checks.
- **6** new child care centers and 58 family child care providers opened businesses, creating 633 new child care spaces.
Our 2018–2019 activities were supported through funding from the California Department of Education, Sacramento County Department of Children, Family, and Adult Services, Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance, Sacramento County Office of Education, First 5 Sacramento Commission, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Opening Doors, Inc., United Way and individual donations.

### Administrative Cost Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Service</th>
<th>$70,373,748</th>
<th>97.08%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Services</td>
<td>$2,118,635</td>
<td>2.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$72,492,383</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of California</td>
<td>$66,821,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County of Sacramento</td>
<td>$2,475,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Fees</td>
<td>$2,037,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento County Office of Ed</td>
<td>$568,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First 5 Commission of Sacramento</td>
<td>$278,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$173,037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$109,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$72,463,456</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client Services Provider Payments</td>
<td>$59,140,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Services Program Support</td>
<td>$7,274,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>$2,118,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource and Referral</td>
<td>$2,278,409</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foster Bridge Child Care Vouchers</td>
<td>$753,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruitment and Training</td>
<td>$218,408</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality Enhancement</td>
<td>$249,339</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stipends</td>
<td>$440,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub–Contracts</td>
<td>$17,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$72,463,383</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ADVOCACY AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Child Action, Inc. staff made presentations to over 2,250 people at community fairs and meetings, public hearings and other gatherings in 2018–2019. During 2018-2019, on average, over 5,000 community members received Child Action, Inc. electronic news bulletins and information.

Participation on local boards and community task forces such as the 2020 Census 0–5 Subcommittee, ECE Advisory Committee, Safe Kids Coalition, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Partnership, Sacramento County Office of Education Superintendent’s Early Learning Plan Advisory Committee, Quality Rating and Improvement System Advisory Committee and Consortium, Community Action Board, Infant Safe Sleep, and the Local Planning Council allowed Child Action, Inc. to advocate for parents and child care providers as well as to inform them about local public policy affecting them.

Child Action, Inc. is also a member of the California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPPA) and the Resource & Referral Network (R&R). We participate in annual advocacy days, meeting with legislators to share what is happening with families and child care providers and to advocate for their continued support.
INCREASING CHILD CARE CAPACITY & QUALITY

Child Action, Inc. offers support to potential and newly licensed family child care providers to help them establish quality family child care homes through funding made available by Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance (Sacramento County-DHA) and the California Department of Education. Child Action, Inc. recruits and retains family child care providers and offers technical assistance and training as they navigate the process of opening a licensed family child care. We also support providers who wish to increase the available slots in their programs, which helps them care for additional children. Our capacity building programs are vital to our community so families have choice in selecting child care settings for their children.

Our partnership with Community Care Licensing (CCL) is in our outreach to child care providers. In 2018–2019, we reached 302 prospective child care providers through sixteen licensing orientations held at our office, including two in Spanish and two in Farsi. Orientation attendees received information about the licensing process such as meeting CPR/First Aid, Preventative Health, and Mandated Reporter training requirements. Once licensed, our support continues as child care providers learn how to market and build their small business. Our technical assistance is offered electronically, over the phone, and on-site. Support is tailored to meet providers where they are while adhering to child development best practices and licensure regulations.

CAPACITY BUILDING SUCCESS STORY

Nature’s Lab, a small family child care program, had originally only planned to enroll children ages 3 and up. The idea of not enrolling infants and toddlers came up based on this program’s “outdoor classroom” curriculum. This English-Spanish bilingual program exposes children to outdoor play, STEAM opportunities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math), and age-appropriate risk-taking. As a result, the provider was unsure how to engage very young children in such a program without jeopardizing their health and safety. After receiving consultation services and technical assistance around working with child care staff on maintaining appropriate supervision, collaborating with families on teaching all children program expectations, and age-appropriate activities for all children, the provider decided to start enrolling infants and toddlers after her licensed capacity was increased in January 2019.

Workshops and Training

Workshop sessions covered topics of parenting, child development and behavior, starting a child care business, conducting quality assessments, health issues and services, behavior management, inclusion of children with special needs, child abuse prevention, language and literacy, school readiness, Infant/Toddler Care, curriculum development, academic advising, and obtaining child development permits.

Through a partnership with SCOE, Child Action, Inc. was able to host twenty (20) play day sessions in three different locations during 2018–2019. These sessions hosted activities for providers to engage in social-emotional development, language development, literacy, perceptual, motor and cognitive development with children. We also shared information about setting up quality learning environments.

Our workshops and trainings create opportunities for Family Child Care and Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care providers to network and share their experiences with one another.
Quality Child Care Collaborative (QCCC)

A First 5 funded program, the QCCC is a partnership of community organizations, educational institutions and government service agencies that work together to provide an integrated infrastructure of support for child care providers, creating a seamless delivery system of multiple agencies to promote, support and improve the development of children. QCCC partners bring a high level of experience in planning and delivering a broad range of child care, health, mental health, and special education services. The QCCC provides a tiered service delivery system to private family child care providers and child care centers. Services include training and technical assistance, consultation, and information and resources, with services provided by dedicated QCCC specialists.

The QCCC partners have worked together for over 15 years and have well established relationships that enhance the QCCC’s ability to deliver services within the child care community. The QCCC Consultation Team provided one thousand two hundred four (1,204) technical assistance, training and consultation services, including on-site visits to one hundred fourteen (114) child care centers and family child care homes.

QCCC also provided assessments, which were administered to measure the quality of the environment of early childhood education programs during the year. Results of the assessments were reviewed and shared with directors, teachers and home providers who developed quality improvement plans in collaboration with Child Action, Inc. staff.

QCCC Partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QCCC Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WestEd Center for Families-Program for Infant/Toddler Care (PITC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento County Office of Education/Infant Development Program (SCOE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento County Dept. of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarmLine Family Resource Center’s (WLFRC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QCCC PERSONAL STORY

One family child care provider asked staff for support on biting and communicating biting strategies and developmental stages to parents. Staff visited the site to deliver a biting kit containing books and resource about biting strategies and child development. The provider was encouraged that there seemed to be quite a bit she could do with families to reduce and, ultimately, eliminate biting.

Together, the coordinator and provider developed a plan that included practicing the different strategies that the provider could use to reduce biting incidents, messaging the challenge to parents with the goal of having a parent’s meeting to discuss strategies, share information and resources, and develop an atmosphere where all parents and providers could work as a team.
FAMILY SERVICES

Child Care Referrals:

Many parents find it challenging to find and select a child care setting for their child. The process may seem daunting or they may worry about leaving their child in the care of another person. Our referral specialists walk through these feelings with families and provide tools they can utilize in their search for child care. Parents know what is best for their child and listening to what they need supports parents as they make important child care decisions. We offer free referral services to all parents living and working in Sacramento County, regardless of income.

Our handouts and publications to support parents in the process of selecting a child care setting for their child. Our publication High Quality Child Care: Your Guide to Finding and Selecting the Best Care for Your Child provides a wealth of information and is available on our website. It is also provided in booklet form to families to assist them in reflecting on their child care needs and considering the options available to them.

State law requires that we remove any facility from our referral list that has been issued a temporary suspension order, had their license revoked, or has been placed on probation. We maintain and regularly update information on each licensed facility’s schedule, rates and program through regular contact with Community Care Licensing and child care providers. In 2018–2019, we provided referrals to 4,689 families and 5,776 children.

CHILD CARE REFERRALS

![Child Care Referrals Graph]

- Infants: 38%
- Preschool: 34%
- School Age: 28%
- Under the age of 6: 72%

- Need:
  - Working: 94%
  - Looking for work: 2%
  - In school/training: 3%
  - Alternative schedule: 8%
Foster Care Bridge Program

The Foster Care Bridge program (Bridge) supports Sacramento County’s resource families in accessing, securing, and paying for child care for foster children. Developed in partnership between the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Department of Family, Adult, and Children Services (DCFAS), Child Action, Inc. is part of a network of resource and referral and alternative payment programs across the state that operates the Bridge program. Resource families partner with navigators who assist them in accessing child care for children placed in their homes. Vouchers assist with paying the cost of child care.

There is also a Trauma Informed Care component to the program that educates child care providers about trauma and the way it may impact the children in their care.

BRIDGE PROGRAM SUCCESS

After growing up in the foster care system, I was afraid to leave my two year-old daughter in the care of someone I didn’t know. When my social worker referred me to the Foster Care Bridge program, I was hesitant because I was scared. I trusted my social worker, but this was a new idea to me. My Child Action, Inc. child care navigator explained the different types of child care settings to me. She also showed me how I could look up each provider on the Community Care Licensing website to see if any of the providers had complaints against them. I appreciated the reassurance of my navigator that the choice to decide what was best for my daughter was 100% mine to make. Thanks to the Bridge program, I was able to secure a job and enroll in school.

– Sacramento County AB12 Youth
Alternative Payment Program/Subsidized Child Care

Funded by the California Department of Education (CDE), subsidized child care provides financial assistance to eligible families for child care costs.

Financial assistance may benefit families who receive help paying for child care because it supports them as they seek employment, work, or go to school. Subsidy assistance may also benefit child care providers; as the need for child care arises, more child care slots are filled. This improves the economic health of the entire community.

Child Action, Inc. provided over $59 million dollars for child care subsidy services for 9,861 children from 5,568 low-income families who were working, in training programs, or enrolled in school during 2018-2019. These programs allow parents to choose the child care services that best meet their individual needs anywhere in the county.

**ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM/SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEL</td>
<td>2,224</td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>5,164</td>
<td>1,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>3,433</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Alternative Payment Program (CAPP):** Families are enrolled in this program from the Childcare Eligibility List (CEL). Families with children receiving Child Protective Services have first priority, followed by families with the lowest income adjusted for family size. When there are multiple families with comparable income on the CEL, families with children who have exceptional needs are given priority. Families with the same ranking will be enrolled according to who has been on the CEL the longest. 2,224 children and 1,300 families were served from June 1, 2018–June 1, 2019.

**CalWORKs Stage 2 Program:** Families are placed on Stage 2 after a parent's approved activity has stabilized or when the family is transitioning off of cash aid. Clients may continue to receive child care on Stage 2 for up to 24 months after they no longer receive cash aid. 5,164 children and 2,961 families received services.

**CalWORKs Stage 3 Program:** Families on Stage 2 may transfer to this program when they have exhausted their 24-month limit on Stage 2 (referred to as timing out). Stage 3 can continue for as long as the family remains eligible and continues to have a need for care. 3,433 children and 1,846 families were served.

CAI serves as the Single Point of Entry for Providers to create a seamless transition from Stage 1 to Stage 2. All providers caring for families on Stage 1 (administered by Sacramento County), Stage 2, Stage 3 or CAPP are enrolled by CAI’s Provider Department. 1,845 providers enrolled in 2018–2019.
**Childcare Eligibility List (CEL)**

To make it easier to support families in need of child care subsidies, a number of organizations participate in the “Childcare Eligibility List” (or CEL) which is a wait list maintained by Child Action, Inc. of families who have completed an application for subsidized child care programs. There are also subsidy agencies that do not participate in the CEL. By signing up on the CEL, multiple subsidized programs in Sacramento County can access waiting list information when they have openings on their programs. This improves the chances of a greater number of families obtaining financial assistance for child care costs. There was, on average, 2157 children on the CEL throughout 2018–2019.

Due to funding limitations and tremendous need, there is no guarantee of financial assistance. However, the first step in receiving help paying for child care is to submit a CEL application. After an application is submitted, CEL information must be updated at least every 3 months or if there are any changes in address, phone number, income, or family size.

**Choosing Child Care**

Child Action, Inc. subsidy programs allow care in licensed centers, licensed family child care homes and license-exempt centers. State laws governing subsidized child care programs do not allow some programs to approve sectarian care (licensed care which includes religious training or worship). When choosing the child care that best suits the needs of their children, our families consider these types of care:

- Child Care Center
- License-Exempt Center
- Family Child Care Home (FCCH)
- Exempt Home
- Relative

**LOOKING AHEAD**

With Governor Newsom’s administration shining a spotlight on the importance of early learning, childhood development, and adverse childhood experiences, we are confident that investment into these areas will benefit Sacramento County’s children and their caregivers. We look forward to a continued partnership with state leaders to identify areas where we can work together to ensure all child care settings receive the attention and support needed to provide all children with quality early learning.

We also look forward to opportunities to continually meet families and child care providers in their communities. Parent Cafés, have already been shown to be an effective method of engagement and we look forward to expanding our Parent Cafés in the upcoming year.
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