

Early Childhood Council of Boulder County

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Our *vision* is to ensure that all young children
birth to five in Boulder County are ready
to succeed in school and life.

Our *mission* is to expand and improve
the comprehensive system
of quality early childhood services
for families in Boulder County.



Letter to the Community...

2011 was a year that saw tremendous changes (of the good kind) for ECCBC. In January 2011, ECCBC moved its offices from Boulder to co-locate with Foothills United Way in Lafayette. This was the culmination of a strategic decision made in FY 2010 to become a fully independent community non profit. The ECCBC Board and staff remain grateful to Karen Rahn and the City of Boulder for their 12 years of mentorship. ECCBC would not have been able to attain the success it currently has, both within Boulder County as well as at the state level, if it had not been for the leadership and vision provided over the past twelve years.

A crucial part of this transition involved expanding the representation across the county on the ECCBC Board of Directors as well as transitioning the leadership of the Board to “a new set of hands” while maintaining fidelity to the vision/mission/and corporate knowledge. All of that being said, we applaud our Board members who have been with us for ‘oh’! these many years (Steve Callander, Richard Garcia and Barbara Pingrey) and welcome our new members (Mack Clark, Bob Palaich and Mary Wolf).

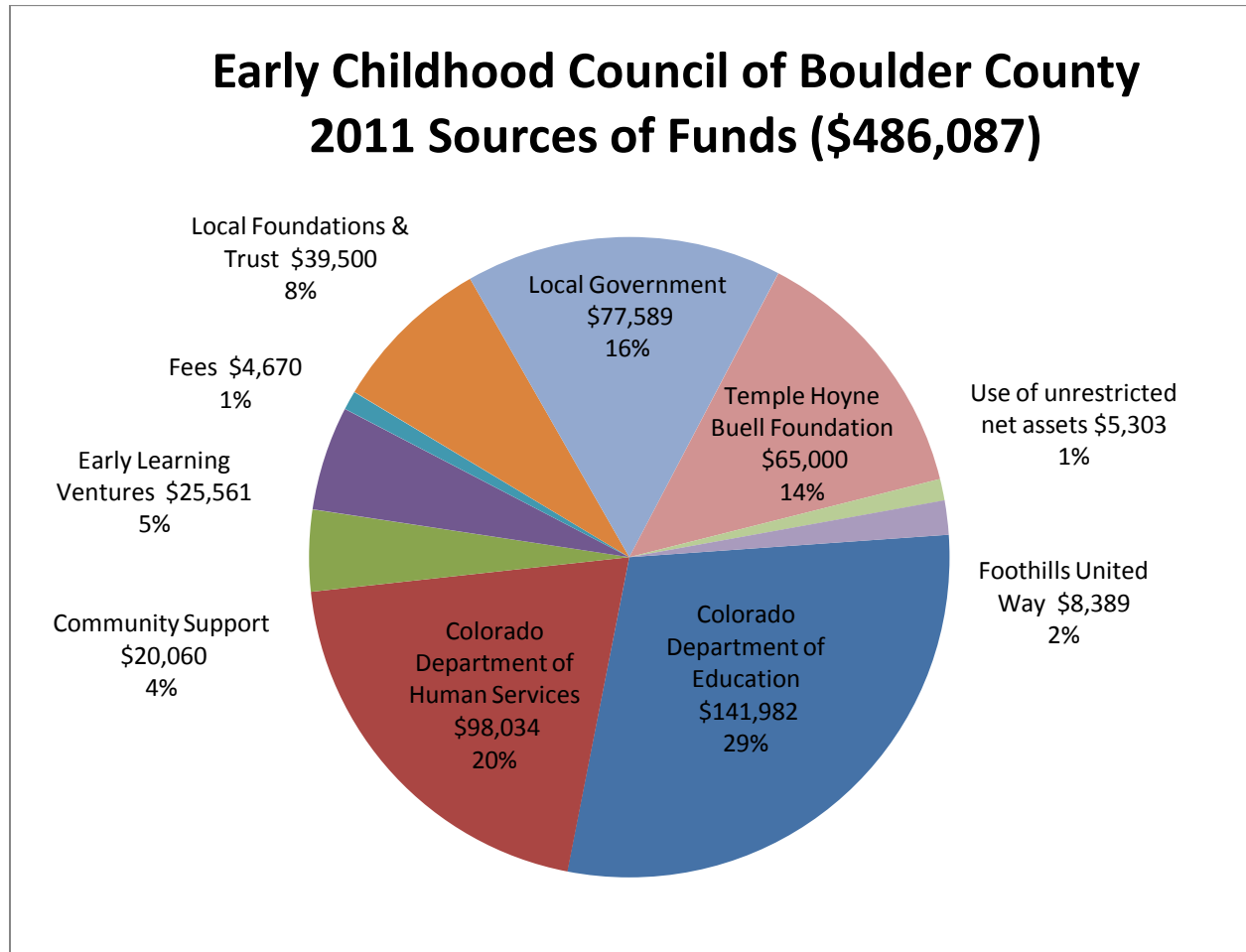
Our Advisory Council has now grown to over 30 individual members representing early childhood experts from all 4 of the early childhood domains (health, mental health, early learning and parent support and engagement). These are folk from Boulder County HHS, the City of Boulder CCR&R and R&T, Front Range Community College, the University of Colorado, The Mental Health Partners, Boulder County Public Health, Boulder County Head Start, The Wild Plum Center (Head Start and Early Head Start), The Parenting Place, Lafayette Library, The Boulder Day Nursery Association, The Acorn School, The Boulder Journey School, Clinica Campesina, Boulder Valley School District as well as St Vrain Valley School district, Imagine! and others. These early childhood experts give of their time and expertise to make ECCBC one of the top performing early childhood councils across Colorado.

Thank you to our members of the Board, our Advisory Council, our Professional Development Committee and numerous other volunteers! Here’s looking forward to 2012!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "BA Watson".

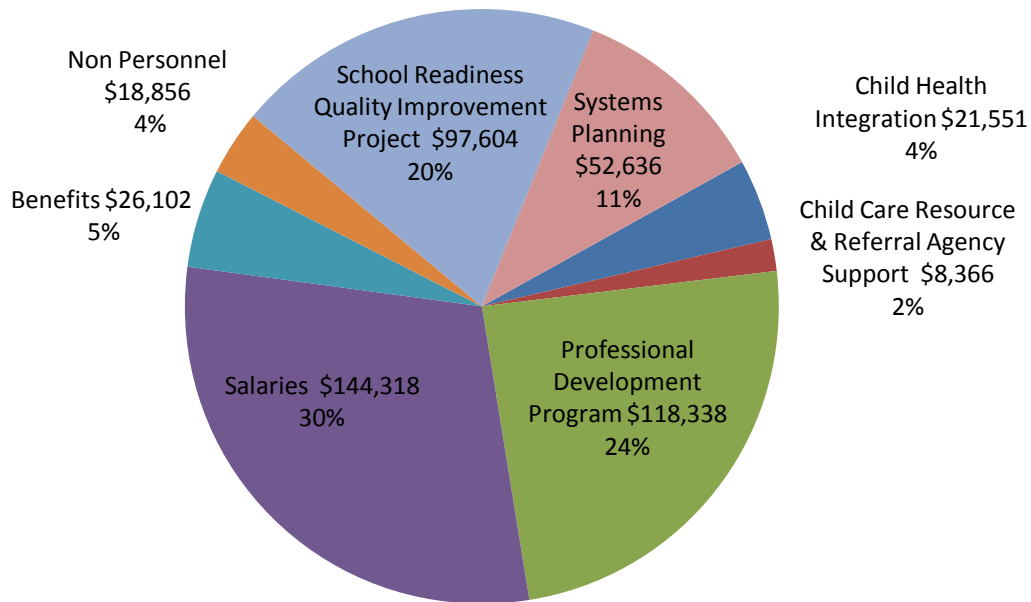
Sources of Funds – \$486,087



The majority of the council revenue in 2011 was sourced from state federal flow-through funds (49%). Local government, including Boulder County and the City of Boulder, provided 16% of council revenues. Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation provided 14% of overall council funds. Support from local foundations including The Wolf Family Foundation, The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County, The Rose Community Foundation and the Colorado Trust provided 8% of funds. The Colorado Department of Education, local government and Early Learning Ventures revenues supported the Executive Director and Programs Director salary and general operating costs. Colorado Department of Human Services and Foothills United Way revenues supported School Readiness and Quality Improvement initiatives that collaborate with community partners to deliver services to children and families in the community. ECCBC's professional development program was supported by the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services and Colorado Department of Education as well as Expanding Quality Infant Toddler trainings fees of \$50 per trainee. The Colorado Trust funded the Child Health Integration Project, 2011 being the second year of a three year project. Community support from Chamber of Commerce, Impact on Education and St Vrain Valley School District brought the national speaker on early childhood systems development, Dr. Richard Brandon, to Boulder County in October 2011.

Uses of Funds – \$486,087

Early Childhood Council of Boulder County 2011 Uses of Funds (\$486,087)



Direct Services to child care community of Boulder County accounted for 50% or \$245,859 of the 2011 budget funds. \$118,338 or 24% was spent on supporting the professional development needs of licensed child care providers in Boulder County through career path support and access to high quality training opportunities. 26% was spent on quality improvement services for child care providers and the children in their care. Quality improvement activities included Qualistar rating support, resources for new materials, parent resources, and child health and mental health services. Systems planning funds (\$52,636) provided research and development support as well as paying for *The Biennial Indicators Report*. Non-personnel expenses (4%) supported operating costs including office expenses and support for the Advisory Council. Salary and benefits accounted for 35% of the budget.

2011 HIGHLIGHTS

Systems Planning Activities – Three major activities

1. The Reorganization of ECCBC

The move of ECCBC to a fully independent community 501 C 3 was made to ensure the financial and operational sustainability of ECCBC over the long haul. ECCBC is now “owned and operated” by the residents of Boulder County.

2. Fall 2011 Community Event

In October 2011, ECCBC welcomed Dr. Rick Brandon, Director of The Social Policy Institute, University of Washington, to speak to the Boulder County community about the critical importance of the early childhood sector as an economic development tool. Not only do ECE providers (licensed centers, family childcare homes, preschools and Head Starts) provide safe and stimulating environments for our youngest residents while their primary caregivers go to work and to school, but these providers are also working to provide Boulder County with a well-educated workforce for the 21st century. Without ECE providers, not only would the other economic sectors across Boulder County suffer (like the housing sector, the banking sector, the high tech sector, CU, etc) in the short term (i.e. where would the child be during the day?) but in the long term as well (who is preparing our youngest to take advantage of their public education?)

3. Expansion of ECCBC funding

ECCBC was able to secure funding from private foundations to provide sustainable funds for council operations and programs and services. Prior to our reorganization, ECCBC was often viewed as a program of the City of Boulder and therefore ineligible for private foundation funding.

Programs & Services – Professional Development

The ECCBC Professional Pathways Program provided direct service and continued its role to promote access to high quality training and ongoing education. Training opportunities for the child care community were provided and included the infant toddler caregiving training services.

Professional development career path initiatives awarded \$28,140 in financial incentives for undertaking college level coursework to 97 child care providers in Boulder County. Forty-three persons received recognition for achieving their Early Childhood Credential. Since 2004 over \$153,000 has been distributed in incentives for ongoing college level education to Boulder County child care providers through the ECCBC Financial Incentive program.

Monthly Training Calendars with news and information continued to be provided in 2011 to over 300 licensed child care providers in Boulder County. Overall, ECCBC provided approximately 680 clock hours of ongoing professional development in 2011. Sponsored trainings included Eco Healthy Child Care training and the Parade of Classrooms.

The Expanding Quality Infant Toddler caregiving training program maintained growth in 2011 to provide four (4) EQIT cohort trainings, including 6-8 hours of coaching for each trainee. The program trains providers in best practices in infant toddler care through EQIT 48 hour curriculum and one-to-one coaching. The Boulder County EQIT team of four (4) dedicated early childhood experts worked with over 70 child care providers in Boulder County in 2011. These activities provided an additional 3,808 contact hours of training and produced 71 graduates.

Programs & Services – School Readiness

2011 was the third year of participation for the third School Readiness Quality Improvement Project cohort of child care providers. The four child care centers (3 Longmont, 1 Boulder) received annual Qualistar rating and intensive quality improvement support. Over 200 children in 23 classrooms across the sites received child health promotions service from Boulder County Public Health including vision, hearing, dental and developmental screenings, referrals and follow-up. All preschool classroom teachers received social skills training services from Mental Health Partners Inc through the project. Two of the four sites maintained a 3 star rating with 2011 being their third annual Qualistar rating. The other two sites improved to a 3 star rating in their second rating.

Programs & Services – Child Health Integration

The Colorado Trust granted ECCBC \$31,000 each year 2010-2012 to work on integrating child health services into the local early childhood system. In 2011, the second year of this grant ECCBC maintained partnerships with Boulder County Public Health, Child Health Promotions, and Mental Health Partners Inc, Child Development Team, to promote child health and mental health screening and referral services to underserved populations in Boulder. 99 underserved young children were screened and referred for further treatment for issues that negatively impact child health and school readiness: vision 16%; hearing 16%; dental 33% and developmental 12%. Child Health Integration Project partners used this work to leverage systems development conversations in the county with critical health partners such as Dental Aid, Boulder County Healthy Kids initiative and Child Find in both school districts. In 2012, the project will focus on furthering the critical systems development around oral health and establishing a Boulder County Dental Coalition to serve young children and pregnant women in Boulder County.

ECCBC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Donna Arnold, Boulder Valley School District

Jordana Ash, Mental Health Center Serving Boulder and Broomfield Counties

Karen Carr, Boulder Valley School District

Karen Cody Carlson, Dental Aid

Annette Crawford, Child Care Recruitment & Training, City of Boulder

Peter Dawson MD, People's Clinic

Kim Decker, Parent Representative

Lisa Dion, Play Therapy Institute of Colorado

Cynthia Divino, Boulder Institute for Psychotherapy and Research

Matt Eldred, The Acorn School for Early Childhood Development

Judy Fry, Child Care Resource & Referral, City of Boulder

Janet Gutman, St Vrain Valley School District

Maria Harper, Boulder County Head Start

Tikki Heublein & Denys Vigil, Center for Responsible Education

Joan Holtz, Imagine!

Jim Koch, Colorado Department of Human Services

Will Kropp, Parenting Place

Joan Martin, Early Childhood Specialist

Sue McCord PhD, University of Colorado - retired

April Menzies PhD, Front Range Community College

Linda Miron, Boulder Valley School District

Susan Moore PhD, University of Colorado

Amy Oglivie, Wild Plum Center for Young Children and Families

Sarah Scully, Boulder County Public Health

Katherine Schwartz, Congregation Har Hashem

Marcia Seegers, Front Range Community College

Jennifer Selbitschka, Boulder Journey School

Kit Thompson, Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services

Claudia Tomass, Lafayette Public Library

Lane Volpe PhD, Parent Infant Research Group

Marsa Williams, Aspen Family Services

Karen Zeid, Parent Representative

Board of Directors

Officers

Steve Callander, President
Executive Director, Boulder Day Nursery Association

Robin Bohannon, Vice President
Director, Boulder County Department of Community Services

Karen Rahn, Secretary/Treasurer
Director, Housing & Human Services, City of Boulder

Members

Mack Clark
Retired Deputy Superintendent
Boulder Valley School District

Richard Garcia
Executive Director
Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition

Robert Palaich
Partner
Augenblick, Palaich & Associates

Barbara Pingrey
President & CEO
Foothills United Way

Mary Wolf
Community Member
Volunteer Teacher at Columbine Elementary School

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Council Staff: Bobbie Watson, Executive Director; Danielle Butler, Programs Director