

Annual Report

2014

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.



Connecting Communities and Children

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. works to promote affordable and quality child care, provide information and support to families and strengthen the early childhood workforce in Dutchess and Putnam counties.



January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

How We Have Grown

1970

The Dutchess County Legislature establishes the Dutchess County Child Development Committee. There is one secretary as the only paid employee. There are five day care centers in Dutchess County.

1981 to 1984

The Dutchess County Child Development Council is formed. The Council is established as the Child Care Resource and Referral Service for Dutchess County. The Council administers the Child Care Food Program for family day care providers. There are 29 licensed day care centers and 30 family day care homes. Staff increases from two to six.

1991 to 1995

The Council becomes the NYS Registrar for family day care homes. Through a contract with the Dutchess County Department of Health, the Council employs two Early Intervention Initial Service Coordinators. Staff grows to 15.

1998

The Council's on-site Resource Lending Library is made possible with funding from IBM and the American Business Collaboration.

2006

The Council becomes the Enrollment Agency for Legally Exempt Child Care for Dutchess and Putnam counties. Upon the request of the Office of Children and Family Services, the Council's Board of Directors votes unanimously to provide services in Putnam County, to include: resource and referral, registration, food program administration, and child care subsidy administration. Services in Putnam County begin in February.

2010

Distance Learning classes are developed by the Council. Child Day Care scholarships are funded by Dyson Foundation.

2013

Council receives a Dutchess County Partnership Grant "Healthy Connections Start in Child Care"

2013

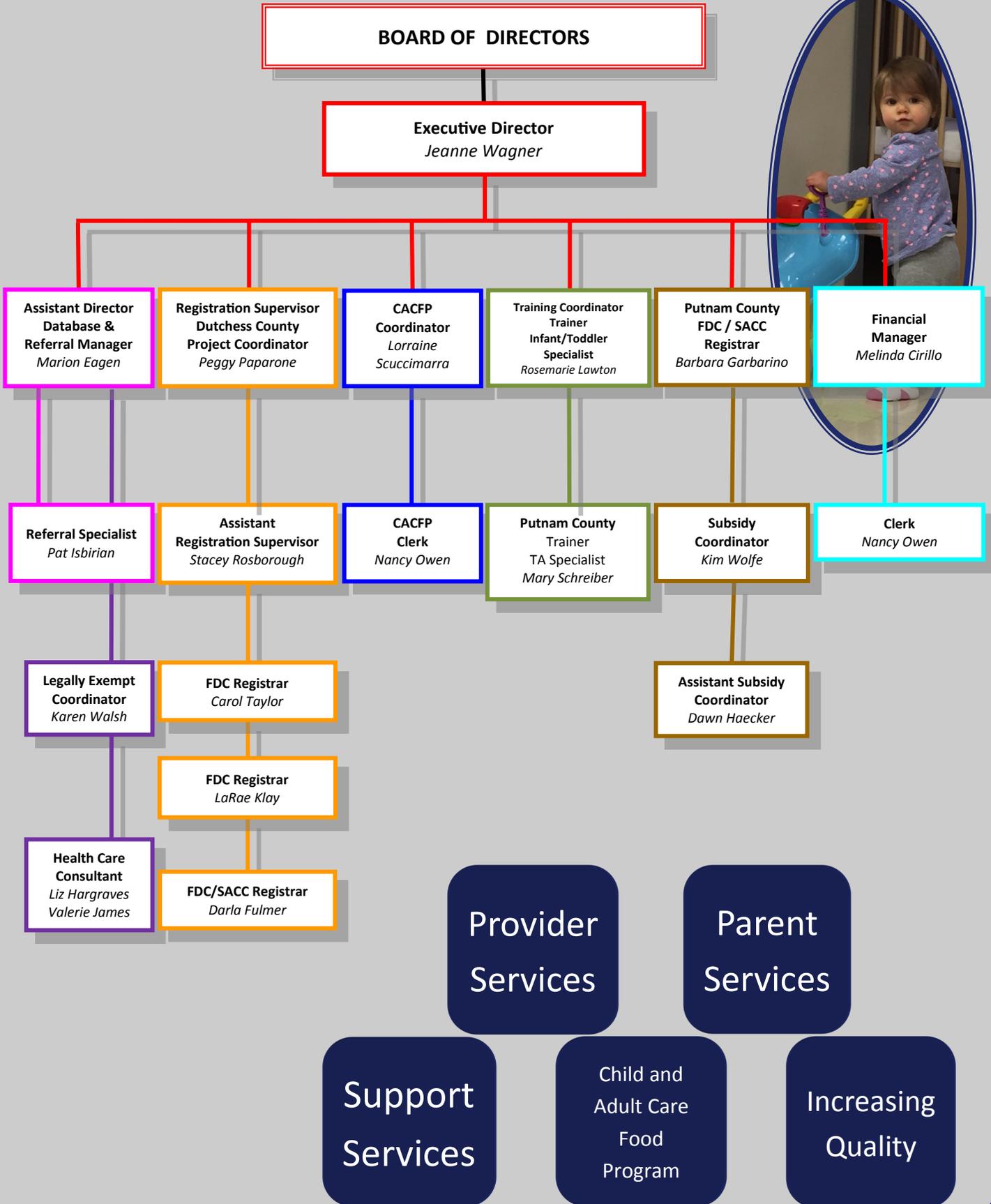
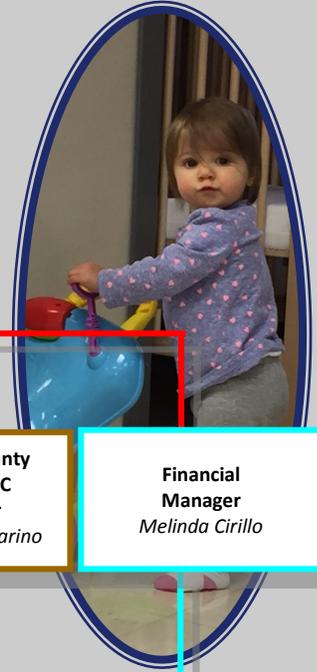
The Council becomes Quality Assured by Child Care Aware of America.

2014

The Council provided training with Quality Improvement grants totaling \$9,457 to 14 centers and 5 home-based programs in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.



CHILD CARE COUNCIL OF DUTCHESS AND PUTNAM COUNTIES ORGANIZATIONAL CHART- 2014



Child Care Facts and Figures

Jeanne Wagner



New York State is ranked as the least affordable state for the cost of child care.

The average annual cost of full time care for an infant in Center-based care is \$13,104 and \$17,680 in Dutchess and Putnam Counties, respectively.

In the overall ranking for Child Well-Being in 2014, New York came in at #28.

Economists have estimated the rate of return for high-quality early intervention to be in the range of 6-10 percent annually for children in disadvantaged families.

In New York State, 66% of families' incomes are below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

In 2013, the number of children who were potentially eligible to receive child care subsidies, approximately 12% were served; in Putnam County 7% were served.

In 2013, Mid-Hudson Valley families had more subsidized children in informal care: 39% informal care, 30% home-based care, and 31% in center-based care.

In Dutchess and Putnam Counties of these surveyed in 2014, the two biggest problems in finding care were cost (22%) and location (22%).

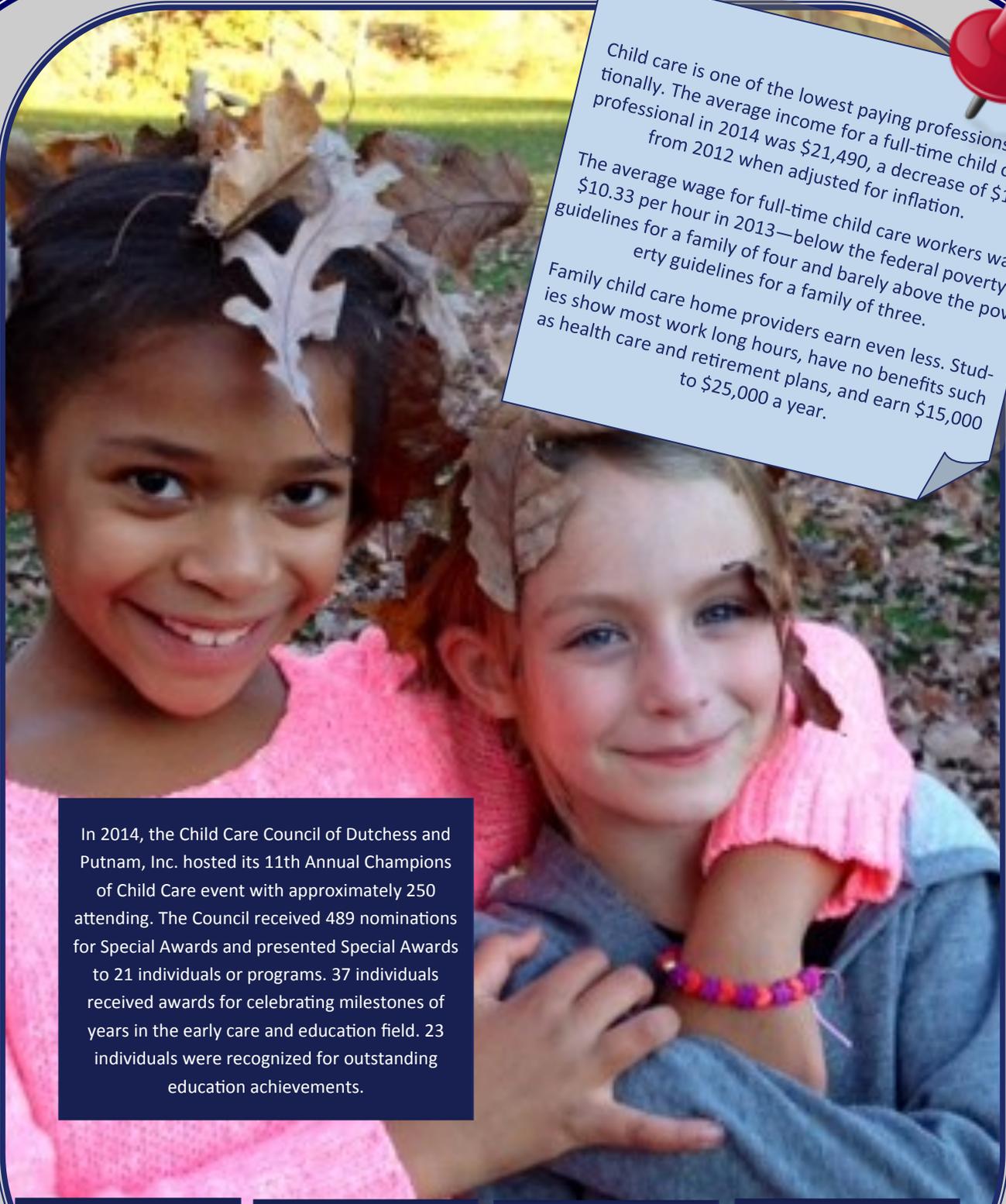


Source: Council on Children and Families, New York Kids Count, 2014

Child Care Aware of America 2014 Report: "Parents and the High Cost of Child Care"

"Child Care Subsidies in the Mid-Hudson Valley: An Analysis of Need, Availability and Trends by CGR, Inc.

Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. data



Child care is one of the lowest paying professions nationally. The average income for a full-time child care professional in 2014 was \$21,490, a decrease of \$131 from 2012 when adjusted for inflation.

The average wage for full-time child care workers was \$10.33 per hour in 2013—below the federal poverty guidelines for a family of four and barely above the poverty guidelines for a family of three.

Family child care home providers earn even less. Studies show most work long hours, have no benefits such as health care and retirement plans, and earn \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year.

In 2014, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. hosted its 11th Annual Champions of Child Care event with approximately 250 attending. The Council received 489 nominations for Special Awards and presented Special Awards to 21 individuals or programs. 37 individuals received awards for celebrating milestones of years in the early care and education field. 23 individuals were recognized for outstanding education achievements.

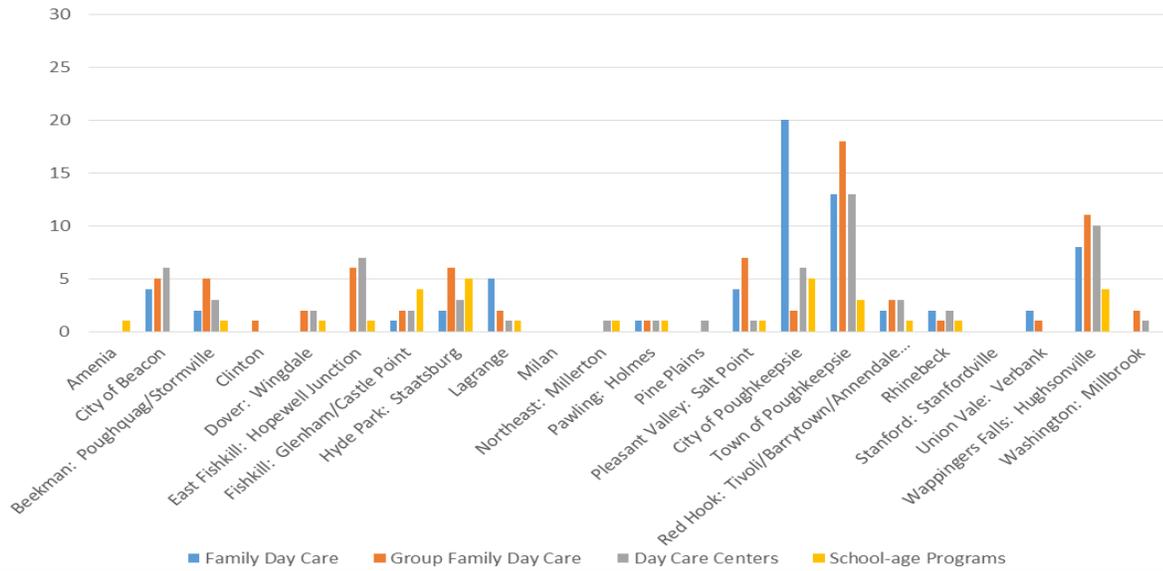
In 2014, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. received 1,326 requests for referrals from people who were looking for child care in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

In 2014, the total number of available spaces in Dutchess and Putnam Counties for children in regulated programs was 11,208.

There are an estimated 3,000 women and men employed in Dutchess and Putnam Counties in the early care and education workforce.

As of 12/31/2014, there were 316 regulated programs in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

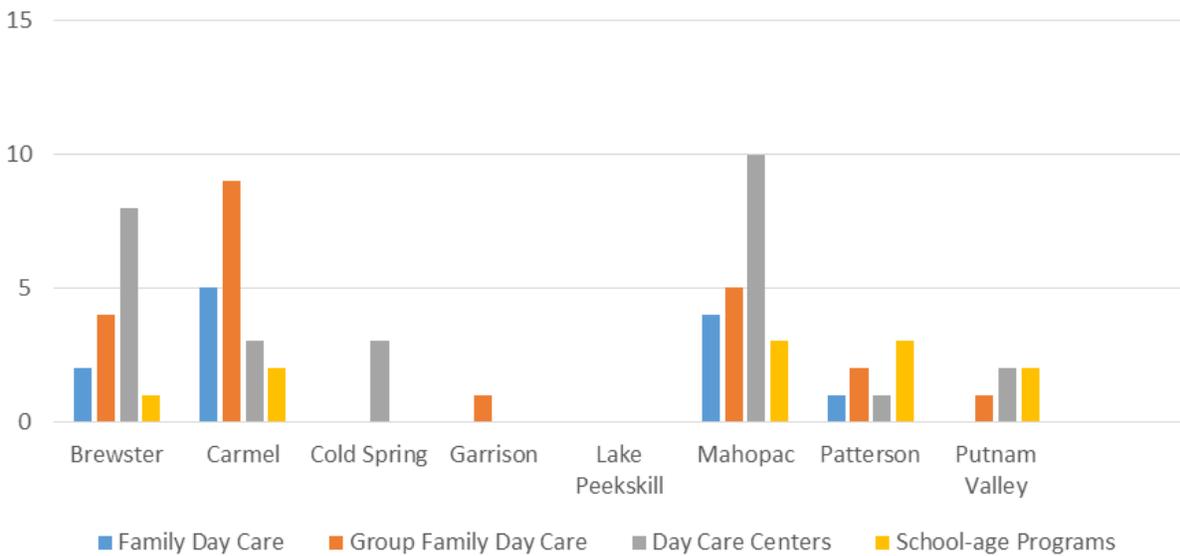
Number of Family Day Care, Group Family Day Care, Day Care Centers and School-age Programs in Dutchess County



REQUESTS FOR CHILDCARE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY

Zip Code	Town	Counselor Assisted	On-Line Referral Module
12501	Amenia	1	0
12508	Beacon	23	12
12601	City of Poughkeepsie	171	49
12602	City of Poughkeepsie P.O. Boxes	1	0
12514	Clinton Corners	8	3
12522	Dover Plains	4	1
12524/12511/12527	Fishkill/Castle Point/Glenham	9	9
12533	Hopewell Junction	19	13
12538	Hyde Park	33	6
12540	LaGrangeville	4	4
12545/12585	Millbrook/Verbank	4	0
12546	Millerton	1	1
12531/12564	Pawling/Holmes	14	3
12567	Pine Plains/Stanfordville	4	1
12569	Pleasant Valley	11	12
12570	Poughquag	9	0
12571	Red Hook	12	9
12572	Rhinebeck	7	4
12574	Rhinecliff	1	1
12578	Salt Point	4	4
12580	Staatsburg	6	0
12582	Stormville	3	2
12583	Tivoli	2	0
12603	Town of Poughkeepsie	90	35
12590	Wappingers Falls	46	24
12592	Wassaic	3	0
12594	Wingdale	8	0
	Other Dutchess Requests	23	
	TOTAL	521	193
	TOTAL REQUESTS		714

Number of Family Day Care, Group Family Day Care, Day Care Centers and School-age Programs in Putnam County



REQUESTS FOR CHILDCARE IN PUTNAM COUNTY

Zip Code	Town	Number of Requests
10509	Brewster	8
10512	Carmel	26
10516	Cold Spring	0
10524	Garrison	0
10537	Lake Peekskill	3
10541/10542	Mahopac	15
12563	Patterson	2
10579	Putnam Valley	8
	Other Putnam Requests	5
	TOTAL	67

The chart on the left shows the towns and cities in Dutchess County where parents requested child care. The most requested regions were the City of Poughkeepsie and the Town of Poughkeepsie, with 171 and 90 requests, respectively. Wappingers Falls, Hyde Park and Beacon were the next most requested areas. The County's population is the most densely concentrated in urban and suburban areas. Requests for child care in its more rural locations, such as Amenia, Tivoli, Pine Plains and Millerton, and other towns in Northern Dutchess County were substantially lower, with fewer than five requests for each.

The above chart shows the number of child care requests across the towns, cities and villages of Putnam County.

The most requested location for child care was Carmel, with Mahopac and Brewster following as second and third, respectively.

Building Quality Through Professional Development

Rosemarie Lawton, Mary Schreiber

"National Research has demonstrated that the quality of young children's experiences in early care and education is directly related to the specific preparation in early childhood education obtained by the adults caring for and educating them."

www.earlychildhood.org/pdfs/CoreBody.pdf

The Council published three training calendars in 2014 which included 163 available trainings.

In 2014 the Council provided face-to-face trainings at 23 centers, school age and group family day care programs.

The number of attendees for 2014 trainings was 1006.



Parent Education

LaRae Klay, Carol Taylor

In the last four years, CCCDP has initiated partnerships with local human service agencies, hosted parent training, distributed Parent Needs Assessments and attended a record number of visibility events from 2011-2014. Part of CCCDP's achievement in becoming quality assured in 2013 resulted from successfully incorporating parent education resources and services. Several hundred Parent Needs Assessment surveys have been distributed at visibility events, trainings and through the mail. The surveys ask parents a series of questions about their preference for which childcare topics to learn about, what times of the days to attend training and how to receive information i.e., via mail or email. Once analyzed, the results support CCCDP's efforts in setting goals and implementing parent education training and resources. Since 2013, CCCDP has successfully offered two parent education trainings a year with the assistance of our partnering agencies. Further efforts by CCCDP led to the creation and quarterly circulation of The Parent Connection in 2011, CCCDP's first online newsletter dedicated to parents. Its first publication was sent to some 200 plus parents and community agencies. Now, in its fourth year of circulation, it has over 1,500 recipients and has a growing number of professionals contributing articles and other related information.

In 2014, CCCDP continued its outreach to school districts by attending an annual visibility event where local human services agencies are brought together with representatives from schools in the community.

CCCDP retained its partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension and created a new partnership with Kinship Navigators, in 2014, with the goal of providing childcare resources for relatives who are caregivers.

In 2014, CCCDP retained partnering agreements with 6 local human services agencies to broaden the delivery of our parent outreach services and resources.

CCCDP has offered 4 parent training classes since 2013. Each class has reached its maximum number of attendees. In a creative twist, childcare providers were encouraged to bring parents with an incentive to earn a coupon for another training class.

Dutchess County Partnership Grant

The Council was awarded a Dutchess County Agency Partnership Grant for the program “Jump Start School Age—Choices for a Healthy Tomorrow.” This program educated 23 School Age Child Care program staff, 124 children and 177 parents on the importance and examples of healthy snacks and fun physical activities. Five participating School Age Child Care programs also received approximately \$400 worth of resource materials to use in their programs.



Child Care Tuition Scholarship Program

Through this program, funded by the Dyson Foundation, children were in safe, dependable and nurturing center-based programs in Dutchess County. Parents were able to work or go to school knowing that their children were in those environments rather than in piecemeal child care arrangements. Child care staff could develop positive relationships with the children who were in care in a regular schedule.

In 2014 this program supported:

- 14 child care centers
- 24 families
- 29 children, ages 12 months to 11 years

All families earned under 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, or for a family of three an annual income not to exceed \$48,825.

Child Care Program Quality

Quality child care is defined as positive early learning experiences which foster intellectual, social and emotional development and lay the foundation for later school success for all children. Therefore, children living in high-risk environments need additional supports to promote their healthy growth and development. All child-care arrangements including family, friend, neighbor, and family—and center-based child care, have the potential to provide high-quality, individualized, responsive and stimulating experiences that occur within the context of strong relationships and which are imbedded in everyday routines.

(source: <http://www.zerotothree.org/early-care-education/>)

As part of the 10/1/13-9/30/14 Child Care Resource and Referral contract, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. distributed Quality Improvement grants to child care centers and family day care programs, 8 in Dutchess and 14 in Putnam County.



Child Care Resource and Referral (Dutchess & Putnam)

Marion Eagen, Pat Isbirian

- * Provides information to parents on locating child care, consumer education, referrals, subsidies, services for families
- * Recruits child care providers, provides start-up information and technical assistance in meeting regulatory requirements
- * Provides the Community with education on child care issues and current data needed in planning for community services
- * Supports employers in planning, implementing and providing employee child care services



Statistics

Number of:	Dutchess	Capacity	Putnam	Capacity	Program Totals	Total Capacity
Day Care Centers	63	4737	27	2063	90	6800
Group Family Day Care	75	1230	22	332	97	1562
Family Day Care	66	472	12	96	78	568
School Age Child Care	31	1566	11	730	42	2296
Total	235	8005	72	3221	307	11226

* estimates

Legally Exempt Enrollment (Dutchess & Putnam)

Karen Walsh



- * Legally exempt providers deliver informal, non-registered child care for relatives and a limited number of non-relative children who receive subsidy from the parents' local Department of Social Services.
- * As the Enrollment Agency, the Council is responsible for reviewing and approving enrollment applications, as well as visiting a percentage of the legally exempt homes to inspect basic health and safety compliance.
- * As of December 31, 2014, the number of legally exempt providers that have a payable status in Dutchess and Putnam counties is 330.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Lorraine Scuccimarra and Nancy Owen



The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. is a sponsor of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). CACFP is a federal program that reimburses child care providers for nutritious meals and snacks served to children in their care.

Children that are cared for by providers participating in the CACFP benefit by being fed nutritious USDA regulated meals that ensure their proper development. These children gain from early nutrition education that helps them establish positive eating habits that will enrich the quality of their diet throughout life.

Parents of children in child care are assured that their child (ren) receives high quality meals. With proper nutrition, the child is less likely to experience illness and fatigue and will develop at a normal physical and intellectual pace. Good nutrition is the recipe for an all-round happier child.

Child care providers receive nutrition education and support services from their CACFP sponsor that helps them serve nutritious meals and creates a positive eating environment for children. The quality of child care provided in our community is improved due to educational and financial resources available to caregivers through the CACFP.

In 2014, the Council had 63 Family, Group Family and Legally Exempt providers participating in CACFP.

In 2014, an average of 765 children a month were served healthy meals and snacks by CACFP providers in Dutchess and Putnam Counties.

Infant and Toddler Services

Rosemarie Lawton

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc., a member of the Region VI Infant and Toddler Network, provides support services to child care programs based on the Ten Components of Quality Infant Toddler Care.

These are:

1. Child Care Programs Following Appropriate Health and Safety Practices
2. Staff Well Trained in Early Childhood Development
3. Age Appropriate Environments
4. Small Groups with Optimal Adult/Child Ratios
5. Primary Caregiver Relationships and Continuity of Caregiver Over Time
6. Active and Responsive Caregiving to Support Children's Development
7. Curriculum, Observation and Individualized Programming
8. Support of Emerging Language and Literacy
9. Family Involvement and Cultural Continuity
10. Comprehensive Support Services



In 2014, Child Care Providers participated in group and/or onsite trainings or technical assistance opportunities in the following topic areas:

- Infant Toddler Environmental Rating Scales
- Discipline
- Developmentally Appropriate Environments and Materials
- Developmental Milestones
- Challenging Behaviors
- Language and Literacy
- Active and Responsive Caregiving
- Curriculum and Individualized Programming
- Family Engagement
- Room Arrangement



Family Day Care and School Age Registration

Peggy Paparone, Stacey Rosborough, Barbara Garbarino, Carol Taylor, LaRae Klay, and Darla Fulmer

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. (CCCDP) regulates family day care programs and the after school child care programs in Dutchess and Putnam Counties. This includes processing new and renewal applications, monitoring and inspecting programs, investigating complaints, and offering professional training and technical assistance.

2014 Family Day
Care Total Homes:

Dutchess: 72

Putnam: 12



2014 School Age
Child Care Total
Programs:

Dutchess: 28

Putnam: 11

In 2014 the
Council
investigated
22 complaints

Complaints

The Office of Children and Family Services maintains a toll-free line for complaints about child care programs. Any person can call (800)-732-5207 or (845) 473-4141 during normal work hours and a staff person will take the information.

Council Cluster
Meetings met
once a quarter
in 2014

Council Cluster Meetings

Council Cluster Meetings meet for 1 ½ hours and are free to Family Day Care (FDC) and Group Family Day Care (GFDC) providers. Each meeting covers one or more of the 9 topic hours of NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS).

The meetings offer free training, networking with other providers, opportunity to ask questions and share ideas and/or hear a guest speaker. The meetings are facilitated by two Registrars from the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam Staff.

In 2013, the first cluster meeting was held for School Age Child Care Professionals.

Increased Presence in the Field

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) serves New York's public by promoting the safety and well-being of our children, families and communities. OCFS achieves these results by setting and enforcing policies, building partnerships, and funding and providing quality services. In order to promote safety and well-being of children in child care, the Child Care Council's licensors and registrars must be available to child care providers for technical assistance and must inspect programs to evaluate compliance with regulations. Research shows that unannounced inspections of child care programs encourages compliance with regulatory standards and improves quality. The recent change in licensing and registration from two years to four years for subsequent renewal periods was an opportunity for the Division of Child Care Services to evaluate the timing of inspections and their purpose. As a result, the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc. has had licensors and registrars in the field more often.

The Council
performed 400
inspections in
2014

Building Healthy Kids

Liz Hargraves, RN

The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam Inc. employs a Registered Nurse to provide health consultancy services to all child care programs in their efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for the children they serve.

Services include guiding them through the steps to become approved to administer medication, answering questions about common child care health issues, helping develop new and reviewing current health care plans, helping providers accommodate children with special health care needs completing Individualized Health Care Plans, and facilitating Medication Administration Training (MAT).

The number of
MAT trainings
offered in 2014:

7

Number of
providers who
took MAT
training in 2014:

41

Number of
programs that were
MAT Approved in
2014:

Dutchess: 75

Putnam: 36

Number of providers
the Health Care Consult-
ant reviewed and signed
a completed Health
Care Plan

Dutchess: 26

Putnam: 16



Child Care Subsidy

Marion Eagen, Kim Wolfe, Dawn Haecker

The cost of child care can often be a family's second highest expense, second to rent or mortgage payments. To help low-income working parents with the cost, the federal and state governments provide, all counties, including Dutchess and Putnam, with funds and determine income guidelines for subsidy.

NYS established the state guidelines of income below 200% of the Federal Poverty guidelines for qualifying families. Individual counties determine their guidelines based on their state allocation and local funds. Throughout 2014, Dutchess County used 125% of Federal Poverty Guidelines and Putnam used 200%. To be eligible for a subsidy at 125%, a family of 3 can earn up to \$24,738 while at 200% a family of 3 can earn up to \$39,580.

Parents in both counties chose care on their own or by receiving referrals from the Council Referral Services. The parents then informed their local Department of Children and Family Services (Dutchess) and the Department of Social Services (Putnam) and the child care providers were paid by the county. The rate of pay was based on market rates effective April 2014 from a survey of NYS child care providers.

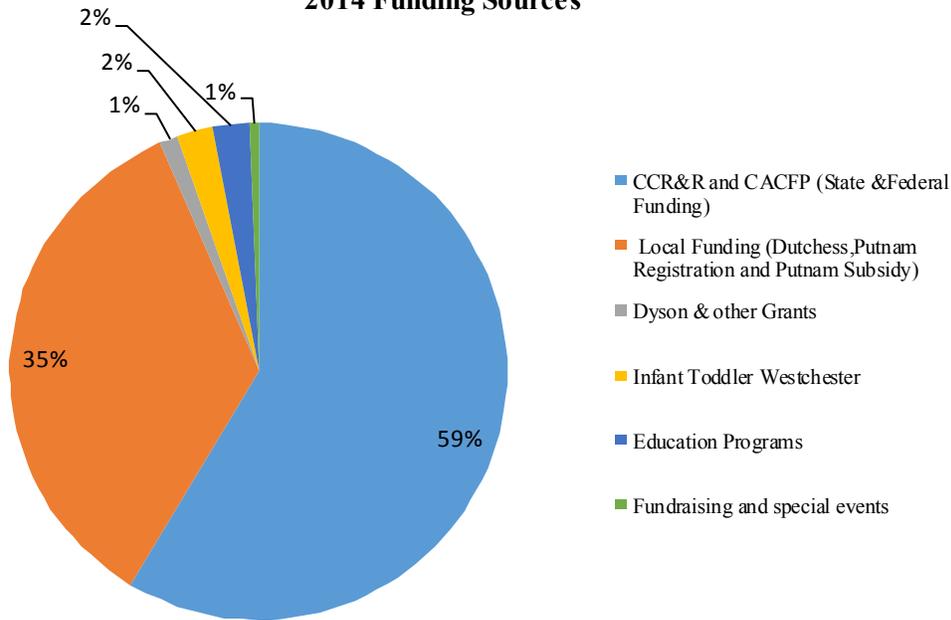
Subsidies pay child care costs for children age 12 and under. Except in special circumstances, when a child reaches age 13, child care subsidy support is no longer available to families. This, however, is a critical age at which proper supervision and structured activities will reduce the risks of delinquent behavior and unhealthy habits.



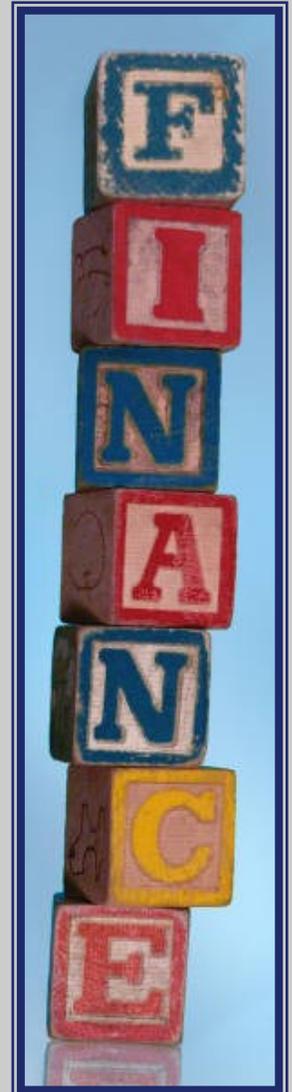
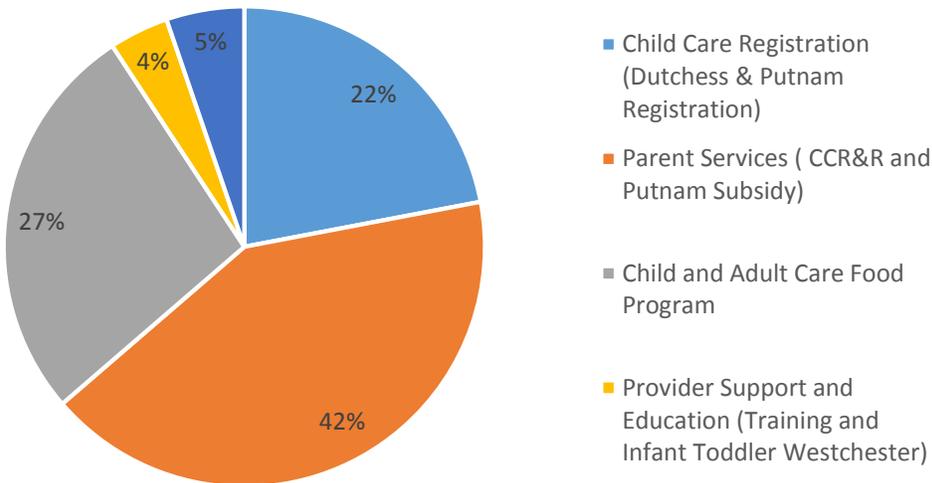
Funding

Melinda Cirillo

**Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Inc.
2014 Funding Sources**



**Child Care Council of Dutchess & Putnam, Inc.
2014 Expenses**



**Numbers are based on Un Audited Financial statements and Functional Expenses.

Board of Directors, 2014

Executive Committee

Chair

Linda Dunlap, [Marist College](#)

Vice-Chair

Julie Riess, Ph.D., [Member at Large](#)

Secretary

Linda Monkman, [Dutchess County Department of Mental Hygiene](#)

Treasurer

Howard Lynne, [Member at Large](#)

Aleta Symon, [Member at Large](#)

Members at Large

Rita Acerno, [Child Care Provider](#)

Emily Albers, [Parent](#)

Erian Falcon, [City of Poughkeepsie](#)

Executive Director

Jeanne Wagner, [Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.](#)

Members

Lance Bixby: [Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services](#)

Nicole Bonelli-Dubinski: [Vassar College](#)

Grace Caddell: [Astor Early Childhood Programs, Head Start, Wingdale](#)

Tom Cataldo: [Child Care Provider](#)

Laureann Elting: [Rhinebeck Savings Bank](#)

Elizabeth Kwant: [Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce](#)

Drita Nicaj: [Member at Large](#)

Margaret Olimpieri: [Dutchess Community College](#)

Donna Bolner: [Dutchess County Legislature](#)

Marge Horton: [Dutchess County Legislature](#)

Champions of Child Care

2014 Award Winners

Dutchess County Rookie of the Year: [Lucia Swartz, Sol Silver Early Childhood Center](#)

Putnam County Rookie of the Year: [Beth Ann Mahoskey, Mt. Tremper Outdoor Ministries](#)

Dutchess County Staff Member of the Year: [Shelby Boettcher, Caitlin Hernandez, Lisa Marie Ruggiera, Kidz Town of Dutchess](#)

Putnam County Staff Member of the Year: [Daniel Zabel, Kidz Country Learning Day Care Center](#)

Dutchess County Director of the Year: [Ashley Romm, Healthy Kids Extended Day Program, Inc.](#)

Putnam County Director of the Year: [Darline Roveto, Little Feet Childcare Center, LLC](#)

Dutchess County Outstanding Special Needs Award: [Mid Hudson Valley Early Education Center](#)

Putnam County Outstanding Special Needs Award: [Jan Jimenez, Jan's Kidz Childcare, Inc.](#)

Dutchess County Family Day Care Program of the Year: [Dor-etha Oliver, The Happy Face Daycare](#)

Putnam County Family Day Care Program of the Year: [Catherine Babnick, Cathy's Cottage, LLC](#)

Dutchess County Group Family Day Care Program of the Year: [Trudy Lackner, The Children's Corner](#)

Putnam County Group Family Day Care Program of the Year: [Marisela Jaramillo](#)

Dutchess County School Age Child Care Program of the Year: [First Reformed Church of Fishkill](#)

Putnam County School Age Child Care Program of the Year: [Green Chimneys Children's Services, Inc.](#)

Dutchess County Day Care Center Program of the Year: [Honey-bee Childcare Corp.](#)

Putnam County Day Care Center Program of the Year: [Creative Kids ChildCare Center, Creative Kids Kent, LLC, Creative Kids Mahopac](#)

Dutchess County Child Care Council Award of Excellence: [Judy Wyskida](#)

Putnam County Child Care Council Award of Excellence: [Rita Acerno](#)



The Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, Inc.

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