



## Child Care Resource and Referral Services



### 2016 Annual Report

*Assisting parents to obtain affordable quality child care*

&

*Helping to Build Excellence in Child Care*

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Delaware Opportunities is a not for profit Community Action Agency committed to helping everyone become self sufficient and/or attain a better quality of life. The agency shall be directed toward assisting all those with needs to maintain a sense of community values, and community activism, self and family development, and a general improvement in the standard of living for all.

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## Child Care Resource and Referral Staff Directory

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## Child Care Resource and Referral Services

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) program provides a variety of supports to child care providers, parents, businesses and local governments. The program increases the supply of quality child care by providing a broad range of support services to providers, and helps families make informed decisions about available child care services.

Delaware Opportunities Inc. was awarded \$111,689.00 from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services to continue CCR&R services for the 2015-2016 contract year. Financial information about the total agency budget, individual programs and projects is available on the Delaware Opportunities website; <http://delawareopportunities.org/audit-reportfunding-sources>

The Delaware Opportunities CCR&R program:

- assists families by providing a highly visible, centralized source of information for child care consumers;
- identifies sources of financial aid to help families pay for their child care choices;
- improves the quality of available services by providing a broad range of support services to providers, including training, technical assistance and publicity;
- expands the supply of child care by recruiting, assisting and training new providers;
- educates parents about what constitutes quality child care and how to evaluate their child care arrangements on an ongoing basis;
- supports and informs employers, parents, providers and the Delaware County community through collection, analysis and sharing of data, and by highlighting state and federal policy changes and messaging

Our Accomplishments In the past year:

***One on one parenting education was given to 187 families with 261 children searching for quality, affordable child care;***

***Over 1900 units of technical assistance were given to child care providers, parents and community members;***

***108 families with 152 children received assistance with their child care costs;***

*19 hours of individual enhanced technical assistance was given to 9 child care providers to improve the quality of care;*

*182 Parents/caregivers/persons with 242 children attended parent education events including the Delaware Opportunities 8th Annual Children's festival;*

*12 training sessions were conducted to support early learning professionals attended by 129 child care providers;*

*expanded the supply of child care by recruiting, training, and assisting 2 new family day care providers, 1 new group family day care provider and 1 new school age program to obtain a registration/license issued by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services;*

*enrolled and approved 111 legally exempt child care providers caring for children of families receiving subsidized child care;*

*28 family based child care providers participated in the Child and Adult Care food program promoting health and well being of the children in their care*

To further meet the child care needs of parents, children, employers and the community and assist child care providers to further improve the quality of their programs the Delaware Opportunities, Inc. CCR&R is a member of Child Care Aware of America (CCAA), the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Tri-County AEYC, and the Early Care and Learning Council (ECLC)



## ***Working together results in Strong families and communities and Healthy development of children***

**We actively collaborate and partner with many local community businesses and organizations to provide services to families and to help us expand and improve our services.**

### **CCR&R's partners:**

#### NYS Office of Children and Family Services

*Provides funding and support for CCR&R services*

Website: <http://ocfs.ny.gov/main>

#### Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County

*Offers a variety of ongoing nutrition/parenting education workshops for parents and technical assistance and training for child care providers*

Website: <https://ccedelaware.org>

#### Hancock Community Children's Center

*Free drop in center to learn and play for parents and caregivers and their children 0-3, resources, clothing, and monthly programs.*

Website: <http://www.hancockeducationfoundation.com>

#### The Family Service Association

*Offers a variety of one-time parenting workshops to all area parents and caregivers. Topics include information about parenting skills and child and adult development Workshops are available year around at no cost.*

Website: <http://fsaoneontany.org/>

#### NYS Regional Infant/Toddler Technical Assistance Center

##### Capital District Child Care Child Care Council

*Offers assistance to families and technical assistance and training to child care providers*

Website: <http://www.cdccc.org/>

#### Research Foundation of The State University of New York University at Albany

*CCR&R staff trainers facilitate web conferences to child care providers at Delaware Opportunities Inc.*

Website: <http://ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/>

#### The Family Resource Network

*Offers a variety of one time parenting workshops and trainings to parents of children with special needs*

Website: <http://www.familyrn.org/>

ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

On November 19, 2014, President Obama signed the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 into law. This reauthorized the child care program for the first time since 1996 and represents an historic re-envisioning of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program. The new law makes significant advancement by defining health and safety requirements for child care providers, outlining family-friendly eligibility policies, and ensuring parents and the general public have transparent information about the child care choices available to them. For more information about the CCDBG visit the website: <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/ccdf-reauthorization>. For an overview of the law visit the website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/ccdbq-of-2014-plain-language-summary-of-statutory-changes>



Is a comprehensive initiative to ensure that our young children – the 1.5 million New Yorkers under age six – have the opportunity for high quality early learning experiences. QUALITYstarsNY has the potential to create an efficient and effective early learning system that is accountable to investors, easy to access and good for children and families. QUALITYstarsNY is a quality rating and improvement system. It is designed to recognize programs that demonstrate quality above and beyond meeting New York's strong regulatory standards. An effective quality rating and improvement system for programs in centers, school and homes, rests on the foundation of a state's regulatory system. QUALITYstarsNY is designed to improve quality and provide supports such as technical assistance and professional development. Any program that is regulated by the State of New York or the City of New York will be eligible to apply for a star rating. A one-star rating will be issued by completing a registration/licensing application. For more information about QUALITYstarsNY visit their website: <http://qualitystarsny.org>



#### Early Learning Trainer Credential

The New York State Early Learning Trainer Credential provides a standard by which to assure the quality of Early Learning Trainers. Additionally, it represents a level of professional achievement for trainers. The title, "trainer" is the field-accepted term used to indicate a person who educates, instructs, guides, and/ or mentors other adults in knowledge and practices for professional development.

The New York State Early Learning Trainer Credential formally recognizes the value and specialized knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for those who provide community-based training to early care and education programs and providers. The Trainer's education, experience and competencies, categorized by four Knowledge Base Areas, including knowledge of content, instructional design and development, presentation skills, and professionalism are reviewed and verified by New York State Association for the Education of Young Children. If an individual meets all criteria the credential is awarded. For more information about the Trainer Credential, visit: <http://www.nysaeyc.org/credentials>



**FOR OUR  
BABIES**  
NEW YORK  
A CALL FOR BETTER BEGINNINGS

## Shape babies' brains with responsive and nurturing caregiving.

**For Our Babies** is a national campaign that raises awareness and mobilized action for the healthy development of children in the United States, from conception to age 3 years. **New York is the first state to join the national movement.** The New York campaign is steered by the statewide infant and Toddler Resource Network, a group of 27 infant and toddler training specialists coordinated by the Early Care and Learning Council (ECLC). **For Our Babies** focuses on **Four Pillars of Healthy Development:** Prenatal Care; Paid Family Leave; Well Baby Care; and Quality Infant/Toddler Care. For more information visit the website: <http://www.earlycareandlearning.org/for-our-babies-new-york.html>



Aspire is New York State's registry and statewide training calendar for early childhood and school age professionals. Teachers, providers, directors, trainers and anyone who works with children can use Aspire to keep track of important information about their career, including education, employment history and other professional development or contributions. Aspire can also help early childhood and school age professionals plan and find professional development that will enrich their practice.

The New York City Early Childhood Professional Development Institute (PDI) administers Aspire on behalf of New York Works for Children, the state's professional development system. Aspire was developed using funds from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, the New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

<http://www.nyworksforchildren.org/Aspire.aspx>

Making a Difference for Children

How to ADVOCATE

**What is advocacy?** Families, organizations or volunteers working on behalf of the rights and interests of others, such as, high quality, affordable child care for all children.

**Who can advocate?** Anyone can advocate! Advocates exist in schools, child care facilities, communities, and home environments.

**What do advocates do?** Advocates typically represent or give voice to an individual or group whose concerns and interests are not being heard. For example, an advocate may seek to ensure that children have access to positive influences or services, which will benefit their lives such as education and childcare.

Advocacy also happens at the policy level and aims at changing the policies of governments. These advocates do lobbying, policy research, file lawsuits, and engage in other types of policy change techniques.

**What do people advocate for?** Some of the current issues on the table for child care include:

- Supporting working families by advocating for additional money for child care subsidies
- Support funding for Child Care Resource and Referral Services
- Support public funding for afterschool programs
- Support funding to increase the quality in child care programs
- Support funding for QUALITYstarsNY <http://qualitystarsny.org/>

## Where can you find more information about advocacy?



Visit the Child Care Aware® of America's Legislative Action Center to learn about Child Care Aware® of America's campaigns to strengthen the quality of child care, join their Action Network or email your elected officials.

Visit: <http://capwiz.com/naccrra/home/>

## NY Education and Action Center!



### *What will you find in the action center?*

- Tools to help you contact your legislators
- Fact sheets about early care and learning in NYS
- Information about getting involved in advocacy
- Ways to increase parent engagement
- And more!

Visit the NY Education and Action Center: <http://cqcengage.com/earlylearningpolicygroup/NY>



Visit Winning Beginning NY to sign up to receive action alerts and become an E-advocate (emailing a pre-written letter to your elected officials). Visit: <http://winningbeginningny.org/>



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