

# **Butler County Children's Center, Inc.**

## **Annual Report 2011**

Butler County Children's Center, Inc. is a private nonprofit 501c3 that is run by a volunteer Board of Directors. The mission of Butler County Children's Center, Inc. is to provide a variety of children's programs and quality services designed to meet the comprehensive needs of families. The vision of Butler County Children's Center, Inc. is to be the leading provider of children's programs and quality services for families. Programs provided by Butler County Children's Center, Inc. are:

- Child Care
- Head Start
- Northwest Regional Key Professional Development Organization
- Child Care Information Services (CCIS)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Early Head Start
- Pre-K Counts

As part of its strategic plan, The Board of Directors develops and implements a process every (3) three years. The plan is reviewed and updated yearly as needed. A Community Needs Assessment and an Agency Self-Assessment is part of this procedure.

The Butler County Children's Center, Inc. staff and its volunteer Board of Directors are constantly assessing the child care needs of the community and developing programs which meet those needs.

After completion of the most recent Community Needs Assessment, Butler County Children's Center, Inc. submitted an application to continue the administration of the Federal Head Start/Early Head Start program, the state funded Head Start program, the CCIS (Child Care Information Services), CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food

Program) and the Pre-K Counts program with changes to better serve the Butler Community.

The 2010-11 program year showed Butler County Children's Center, Inc. serving 368 Head Start Children from 331 families and 133 Early Head Start Children from 108 families and 10 pregnant women. The average funded enrollment was 318 for Head Start and 82 for Early Head Start. Eighty six percent (316) of the Head Start children were below the poverty level, ten percent (37) were between poverty and 130% of poverty level and 15 children or 4% were over income. Of the Early Head Start children 99% (117) were at poverty or below, 2 children or 1% between poverty and 130% of poverty income. Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive programs that service families who are at the poverty income level or below. One hundred percent (100%) of the Head Start/Early Head Start children received medical exams and 89% receive dental exams.

Pre-K Counts provides thirty-five (35) children from thirty-three (33) families with an early learning educational program. Butler County Children's Center, Inc. collaborates with Butler Area School District and Karns City Area School District to provide the Pre-K Counts state funded program.

Butler County Children's Center, Inc. is proud to be a STAR 4 child care center at our Bon Aire and Middlesex Sites. The Bon Aire child care program offers programming for 210 children from 187 families for children birth to 12 years of age. Parents who are working or going to school can be assured that their children are well cared for and receiving a developmentally appropriate early learning education. Before and After school care is also provided at our Bon Aire site. The children are transported each day to several local elementary schools.

Butler County Children's Center, Inc. boasts that they have been designated a Keystone STAR 4 Program. Keystone STARS is a quality improvement program that recognizes child care providers who exceed state health and safety licensing requirements. Butler County Children's Center, Inc. Chief Executive Officer, Alice Nunes, serves on the Pre-K Counts Advisory and the Pennsylvania Early Learning Council. Participation in these councils assures Butler County Children's Center, Inc. to be a leader in the Early Learning Community in Butler County and Pennsylvania.

Butler County Children's Center, Inc. has given increased attention to School Readiness and has taken initial steps to formulate a specific list of School Readiness goals for our children and families. In December of 2011 a School Readiness Committee was formed. The committee is made up of staff parents and community members all of who have a stake in the school readiness of children under the age of 5. In all of our Early Childhood programs, we meet each child at his/her developmental level and provide individual, small group and large group learning experiences that promote steady and gradual progress toward age appropriate objectives. Learning experiences are research based and linked with the state of Pennsylvania's standard aligned system and the revised Head Start Child Outcomes Framework. All children are assessed on an ongoing basis and child progress data is aggregated and analyzed three (3) times each year. Data is examined for patterns and trends and plans for continuous quality improvement are generated and implemented. The Agency expects to develop a comprehensive list of concrete school readiness goals for all children and families before the middle of 2012.

The Butler County Children's Center, Inc. was found to be a Program of Excellence in its most recent 2010 Head Start Federal Review. The Center has had clean audits for the past eight (8) years is considered a low-risk Agency.

**Total Revenue by Source  
2010-2011**

	Admin.	Child Care	CCIS	EHS-X	HS/EHS	HSSAP	Pre-K	Total
<b>Govt. Grants-</b>				490888	2953458	187056	274750	3906152
CCIS-Federal			1925390					1925390
CCIS-State			1304921					1304921
CACFP-Fed.		691521						691521
PHEAA-State		4752						4752
Fees-DPW/CCIS-State		467331						467331
Other Grants-Key. Stars-Fed.		40114						40114
Other Grants-State		45512						45512
Other Grants-Commun. Action- Fed.		29842						29842
<b>Total Govt.</b>		1279072	3230311	490888	2953458	187056	274750	8415535
Program Fees-Priv.		137651						137651
Contr. Support-U. Way/In Kind		96985		202	18086			115273
Other-Training Revenue- PA Keys		11975						11975
Other- Rent/Interest/Training/Misc.	39208	7216						46424
<b>Total Revenue by Source</b>	<b>39208</b>	<b>1532899</b>	<b>3230311</b>	<b>491090</b>	<b>2971544</b>	<b>187056</b>	<b>274750</b>	<b>8726858</b>
Public-	0	1388032	3230311	491090	2953458	187056	274750	8524697
Private	39208	144867			18086			202161
	39208	1532899	3230311	491090	2971544	187056	274750	8726858

The Board of Directors has approved budgets for the 2010-2011 year in all programs operated by Butler County Children’s Center, Inc, and receives monthly financial report on all programs. The Board also approves all grants that are applied for while Policy Council approves all grants related to Head Start and Early Head Start.

In April 2011 the Board of Directors, Policy Council and staff conducted the annual self-assessment. The very positive outcomes denoted no deficiencies and management staff created improvement plans to insure for continuous quality improvement to the programs. The Board of Directors, Policy Council and staff continue to work on its long range strategic plan goals. New Board Officers were elected in

December 2011. Each board member has considerable experience and expertise to offer to Butler County Children's Center, Inc. The Board of Directors is very active and conducts most of their work in committees.

Throughout the year Butler County Children's Center, Inc. received small community grants to help supplement its services. Both the United Way funds and the Community Action Block Grant funds are available to help families become self sufficient and attend the child care of their choice throughout Butler County.

Butler County Children's Center, Inc. is proud to work with the Northwest Regional Key to provide trainings for child care workers in Butler and six (6) surrounding counties. This past fiscal year we presented twenty (20) workshops for two hundred seventy eight (278) childcare staff for a total of seventy (70) training hours; provided twenty six (26) parent training workshops to three hundred and eighty two (382) parents; monitored one hundred and two (102) family day care homes for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). During the past year the CCIS program provided state subsidized care for over one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight (1,798) children and one thousand and twenty four (1,024) families.

Family activities were a big success this year. The annual Head Start Kick-Off Event was "A Day at the Races." A "Books for Kids" literacy night was also held where each child was able to take a book home. "Passport around the World," visiting the Glass Blowing Center, movie night, craft night and sled riding were also activities that were very popular this year. Male involvement activities consisted of a trip to Jennings Nature Reserve, a night of Bowling, Woodworking, Build a Box Car Day and a fishing day.

Children who are not exposed to books in their homes and who are not read to on a regular basis are among America's most vulnerable children. These children are less likely to exceed in school and in life. Staff and parents at Butler County Children's

Center, Inc. have established a “Books for Kids” program. The Books for Kids Committee works hard to provide books at no cost to children. Last year Borders Express donated six (6) boxes of books.

The Center purchased the Franklin Township Elementary School on Rieger Road in April, 2009. We continue to make needed improvements and renovations to the building. The Mt Chestnut Early Learning Center housed three (3) Head Start classrooms until November 2011 when the Center moved one (1) classroom from Mt. Chestnut to Moraine Elementary in Slippery Rock School District. Mt. Chestnut also houses administrative and program offices, a gym, kitchen and two (2) new playgrounds. The Intermediate Unit IV rents space from the Children’s Center for their Early Intervention Preschool program which allows for great collaboration. In the summer months Kids Count/Family Psychological rents space to run their summer camps for children with behavior issues. In the fall of 2011, during the United Way Week of Caring Baglier Automotive and Peoples TWP Gas Company did outside work on the Bon Aire playgrounds etc. and painted at Mt. Chestnut.

Butler County Children Center, Inc. employs one hundred and eleven (107) full-time and sixteen (14) part-time staff. Three (3) Americore and seventeen (17) substitutes are also part of the Center.

Butler County Children’s Center, Inc. staff is very active in the community by participating in and collaborating with many agencies. The Early Care and Education Council (Butler’s Engagement Group) and the Butler Collaborative for Families both are well represented with Butler County Children’s Center staff. Staff also serves on local boards and committees that keep Butler County Children’s Center informed and involved in the community.

During the 2011 holiday season the Children’s Center was again amazed at the generosity of businesses and citizens of Butler County who donated Christmas gifts for 283 of our children.

With a busy and active 2011 behind us, Butler County Children’s Center, Inc. looks forward to continuing to serve Butler County residents in 2012.