



ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending December 31, 2017



**Connecting for
Children & Families**



Dear Friends,

2017 brought many wonderful new opportunities to Connecting for Children & Families, focused around strengthening our community and our organization. We are thankful to all of our corporate partners and community leaders for all we have accomplished together this past year.

Connecting for Children & Families (CCF) was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the James M. Cox Foundation to fund the purchase of the historic Hope Street School, and provide high quality educational programs in our Hope Street Early Learning Center. This grant was an investment in the future of our community, securing our legacy of supporting city children and their families.

While Rhode Islanders may be known for our coffee milk, we at CCF have a special appreciation for Finlays, the company which makes Autocrat Coffee Syrup. They reached out to us to form the *Fight the Hunger Initiative*, a

partnership addressing hunger in our community. Volunteers from Finlays arrive every Friday to pack up bags of food purchased from the RI Food Bank for 30 children in our Hope Street Early Learning Center. Each child receives a



free bag of food to take home for the weekend, ensuring their families have access to healthy food all weekend.

This year also brought with it the opportunity to expand our workforce

development program to the newly formed Westerly Education Center. The program's expansion was accomplished with support from Real Jobs RI, and was developed from employer feedback collected by the Department of Labor and Training and the Governors' Workforce Board. This opportunity helped us support the needs of our business community partners, and engage new students in workforce training programs, which they may not have otherwise had access to.

Each time I walk through our programs and see the children, youth and families engaged in our services, I'm deeply grateful to all of the individuals, foundations and corporations who continue to make our work possible. Thank you for your commitment to CCF and the families we serve.

Sincerely,

Terese Curtin, MSW
Executive Director



Program Overview

Early Childhood Education

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is a nationally recognized, certified school readiness program for families with young children, prenatal to five years old. Parent Educators provide families with activities, support materials, screenings and other tools to foster positive child development and promote literacy.

Hope Street Early Learning Center is a dynamic and diverse learning environment for 92 children ages 18-months to five years old. Our four-star BrightStars-rated Center provides high quality and affordable early learning opportunities, engaging toddlers and preschoolers in learning and play. Program curriculum focuses on healthy social, emotional, physical and cognitive development, preparing children for later success in school.

Hope Street School-Age Program provides safe, academically enriching before and after-school care for 40 students in grades K-5. Our developmentally appropriate setting encourages social-emotional growth and fosters learning. Programming aligns with in-school curriculum and supports ongoing communication between teachers and parents.

School-Linked Services

Our *21st Century Community Learning Centers* offer after-school enrichment through homework assistance, reading and math remediation, as well as instruction in the arts and music, robotics, cooking classes, physical activity programs, and more. We also offer classes in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) through a SMILE (Science and Math Investigative Learning Experience) partnership with URI. We also teach a wide variety of physical activity programs and community service programming.

Summer Enrichment includes six weeks of educational programs designed to prevent summer learning loss for students in grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Students receive intensive academic assistance, as well as instruction in the arts, sports, swimming, and weekly field trips. Our Federal Summer Food Program ensures that Woonsocket children are receiving nutritious meals during the summer months.

Parent Workshops/Family Nights offer information to parents on key topics and provide parent-child activities to strengthen positive family relationships.

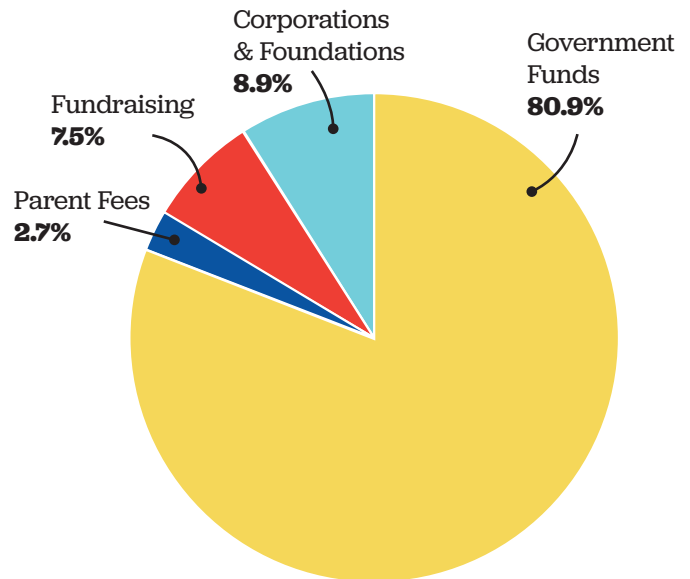
Center for Financial Success

Financial Empowerment/Workforce Development provides financial empowerment education, financial coaching, job coaching, workforce development, and free tax preparation services for low-income families.

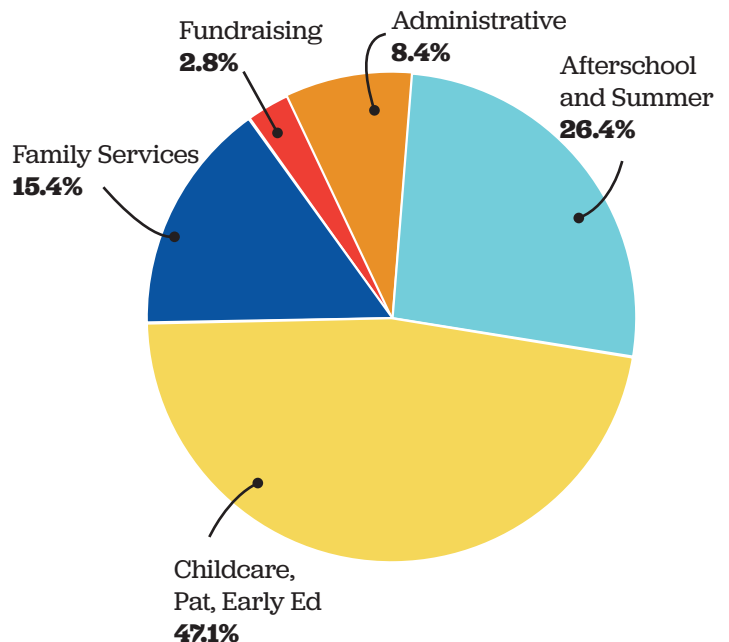
Basic Needs offers wraparound support to families for any requests they may have, including emergency food needs, clothing, and heating assistance.

The Year in Numbers

FY2017 Source of Funds



FY2017 Expenditures



Mission Statement

Established in 1995 with funding from the Rhode Island Foundation, Connecting for Children and Families (CCF) is a community-based, non-profit organization located in Woonsocket, one of Rhode Island's core urban cities. Our mission - to transform the lives of Woonsocket children through high quality educational opportunities and family support - is accomplished through strong community partnerships and advocacy.



Board of Directors

Lisa Carcifero, Chairperson
Woonsocket Prevention Coalition

Ericka Moore, Vice-Chairperson
Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island

Ben Washington, Secretary
Parent/Community Representative

Kathy Orovitz, Treasurer
Navigant Credit Union

Geraldine Barclay-King
Parent/Community Representative

Chris Beauchamp
Woonsocket City Council

Laura Belisle
Cox Communications

Cynthia Carlozzi
Parent/Community Representative

Nancy Dufresne
BankRI

Nancy Giambusso
Woonsocket Even Start

Meka Hamilton
Parent/Community Representative

Sharon Harmon
Parent/Community Representative

Angela Holt
Kevin K. Coleman Elementary School

McKayla Ivins
Parent/Community Representative

Marge Jacob
RE/MAX Town and Country Cumberland Office

Candace Jodice
CVS Health

Carolyn Kyle
Landmark Medical Center

Lisa St. Onge
Amica Insurance

Stacey Phommatheth
Center for Southeast Asians