

Building BLOCKS

Issue 7
Fall 2010

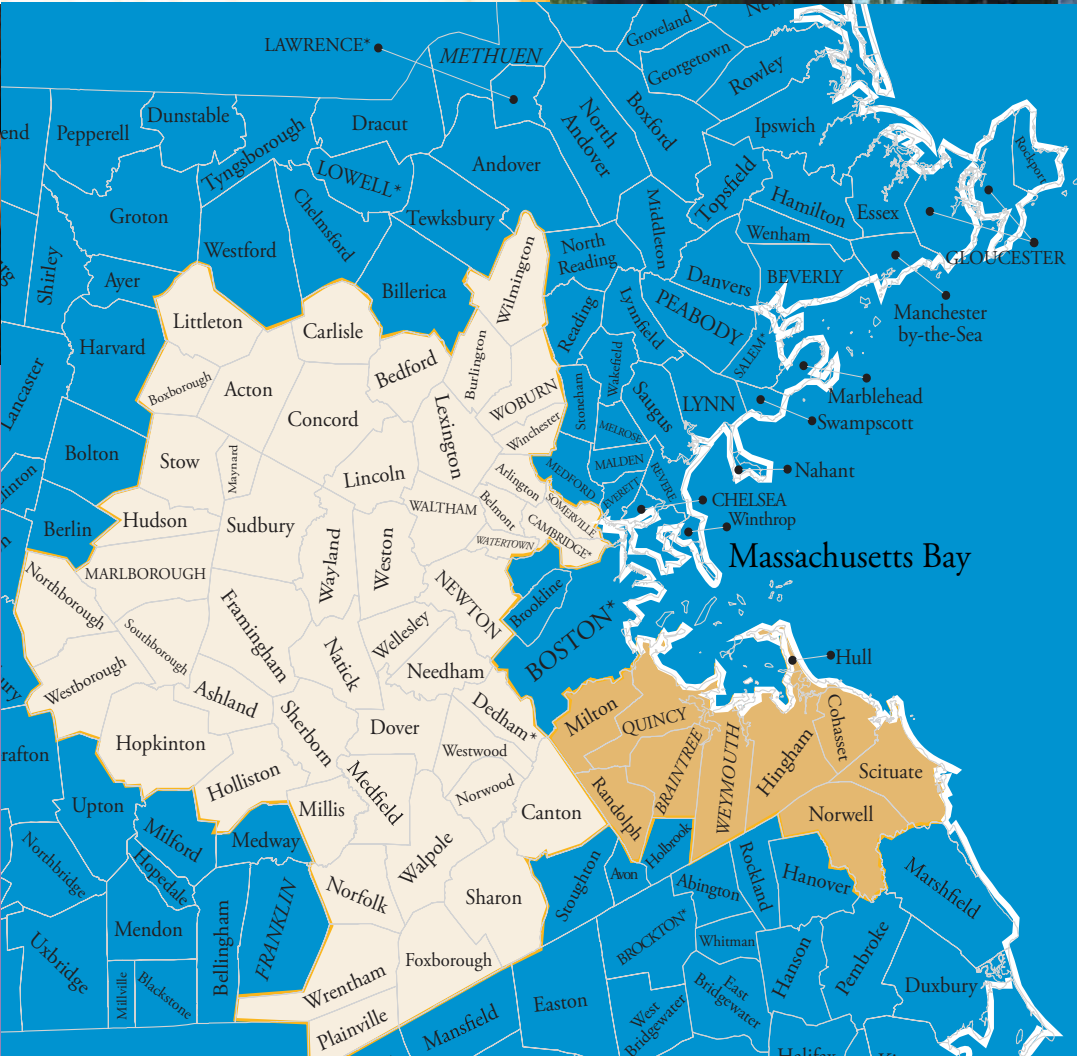
Look at us now!



CCRC Staff



Graphic Design: Colin Dockrill, HMFH Architects, Inc.



Regional service, local perspective

For many years, CCRC has been the local child care resource and referral agency for Cambridge, Somerville and surrounding communities. Starting this July, CCRC assumed a new role as the regional service provider for early education and child care for families in 50 communities and for providers in 60 communities.

We are growing our staff (see above), broadening our scope, and building outposts across the region, so that we may continue to make the connections, develop the resources, build the networks, train the caregivers, and promote the best interests of all children in the communities we serve.

In other words, the same vision, the same respect, the same trust, now helping children thrive in a larger village.

Child Care Resource Center now serves families, educators, and providers in most of the communities surrounding Boston across the metropolitan area. CCRC delivers Voucher and Information & Referral Services to all families in unshaded parts of the map, and Professional Development Services to providers in the entire region.



In this issue of Building Blocks we salute:

Sustaining Partner: HMFH Architects

Nurturing Partner: Pioneer Investments

Supporting Partner: Cambridge Trust Company

For information about how your company can become a corporate partner, please call Jenn Kapuscik at 617-547-1063 ext. 214

A familiar face in a new position

Jenn Kapuscik has been involved with CCRC for many years in various roles at collaborating organizations concerned with early childhood education, child care, and family support. She has been CCRC's Grants Management Consultant for the past two years and played a major role in the re-design and expansion of the organization. Jenn is now a full-time CCRC staff member in a new position, Director of Program Development & Evaluation. In her new role Jenn will focus on developing and improving CCRC's family and professional service programs and on coordinating efforts with many partners across the region and state. A long-time Cambridge resident, Jenn is a fierce advocate for a Massachusetts early education and care system that provides a universal continuum of support for children and families from birth to school age, in the home, in the community, and in formal service settings. She has over 20 years of diverse experience including positions as a preschool teacher, a family support program director, a program evaluator, and a lecturer at Tufts University's Eliot Pearson Department of Child Development. She is a graduate of Harvard-Radcliffe College and has a master's degree in Child Development from Tufts University.

Building on success: CCRC Professional Services

At CCRC we know that family stability and the quality of care provided by parents and caregivers are key to children's well-being. Our Professional Services team, led by Paula Bowie, targets low- to moderate-income individuals who wish to gain or maintain employment in the early education and child care fields.

For many years, in nine cities and towns, with funding from the state and private sources, CCRC has honed its Professional Services. Now, on the eve of our 40th anniversary, we are creating a regional professional development system for 60 cities and towns.

“When I received your calendar of professional development opportunities, I was thrilled to see there was so much for out-of-school-time providers and educators. Thank you, for including us in the Region 4 Professional Development Training Calendar.”

Through our new regional contract with the MA Department of Early Education and Care, we reach many more providers and educators. As lead agency in the Region 4 Professional Development Partnership, CCRC heads a team that is creating and adapting best practice models in training, technical assistance, and coaching. With additional support from our donors and funders, we will improve our ability to create a sustainable professional development system that uses web technology to foster greater connectivity among collaborators across the region and the state. Philanthropic support will also make possible more intensive and specialized coaching and mentoring for those who need more assistance due to lack of education and/or limited English language skills.

“I have been working with Paula from CCRC to improve the quality of my family child care program by having her observe and provide feedback. I am now able to apply for certification, which will allow me to follow my dream of opening a larger group child care center and to serve many more children who have been on my waiting list.”

Our donors and funders are essential to our pursuit of this ambitious vision. CCRC's success translates into success for educators and the children they serve. Participants gain the job skills they need to obtain or retain employment and upgrade their credentials. They then establish sustaining careers and at the same time the overall quality of education and support they offer improves. Now that's success!

“You have truly helped to revitalize our accreditation process. You've really gotten folks excited and able to see their potential to learn and do more.”



above from left to right: Pam Rodes, Pioneer Investments (CCRC Board Member); Gloria Franqui, Executive Director, CCRC; Susan Shelby, Principal, Rhino Public Relations and CCRC Board Member; and Laura Wernick, AIA, Senior Principal, HMFH Architects and CCRC Board President. Photo credit: Tish Rodde Photography

Rhino Public Relations, a specialty public relations agency, celebrated its 5th Anniversary in June with a party that raised more than \$3,400 for CCRC. Rhino PR founder Susan Shelby, CPSM sits on the Board of CCRC and understands first-hand the great need for philanthropic support to keep programs and services intact. “We were delighted to give back to such a deserving agency at such an important time in its history,” Susan said. Rhino Public Relations matched the first \$1,000 raised with its own gift to CCRC.

Building on a firm foundation

by Gloria Franqui, Executive Director

I am thrilled with the MA Department of Early Education and Care’s (EEC) decision to award CCRC contracts to provide child care resource and referral services in 50 communities surrounding Boston and to serve as the lead agency for the Professional Development Partnership supporting educators and providers in all 60 communities that make up EEC’s Region 4.

Our staff is excited about bringing CCRC’s proven family and professional service models, created in collaboration with our many partners, to a larger constituency and expanded service area.

For nearly four decades, CCRC has celebrated the diversity of our community and provided support that empowers parents to advocate for the needs of their children and families. We have always seen parents and staff as partners working together to help children thrive. This has proven effective in reaching and engaging low-income families and those who might be further disenfranchised by other socio-economic, cultural, and linguistic factors.

We are particularly eager now to build strong collaborative relationships with community-based organizations throughout the region to better serve all families and child care providers. I am confident that our 40 year history of quality service delivery prepares us to continue developing more efficient and still effective programs for our growing “village”.

Part of the solution



Nat Cary, Vice President of Granite Bay Wealth Management, LLC has been on the CCRC Board for seven years. An ardent supporter of CCRC, he says he was lucky to have great parents—his mother started a Montessori school and the well-being of children was an important value in his family growing up. So the CCRC mission resonated with him from the start.

A strong believer in the credo “if you aren’t part of the solution, you’re part of the problem,” Nat finds the CCRC Board a great vehicle for acting on his commitment to helping children thrive. Nat says, “There are many, many benefits to being on the Board. I have the opportunity to work on an issue that is important to me with a group of people who take good ideas and commit them to action. We make things happen. Right now is a particularly challenging time for all nonprofit organizations and I am proud of CCRC’s spirited approach to transforming the organization and building its capacity to serve more children, families, and providers of care. This is a critical moment for me to step up to support CCRC and to advocate for this important organization among my friends, family, and colleagues.”

Child Care Resource Center

130 Bishop Allen Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 547-1063
www.ccrinc.org

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 54162



United Way
of Massachusetts Bay
and Merrimack Valley

Board of Directors

Laura Wernick, AIA, President
HMFH Architects, Inc.
Nathaniel Cary, Vice President
Granite Bay Wealth Management, LLC
Charles Lippman, Treasurer
CBIZ Tofias
Sarah Cooleybeck, Clerk
Foley Hoag, LLP
Gloria Franqui, Executive Director
Child Care Resource Center

Katherine Freund
Wolf & Company
Joyce Hollman
Retired Exec. Dir., Children's Center, Lexington
Joanne Linowes
Linowes Executive Development Institute
Pamela G. Rodes
Pioneer Investments
Betsey St. Onge
Cambridge Community Leader
Beverly Sealey
Simmons College School of Social Work
Susan R. Shelby
Rhino Public Relations, LLC



What your gift makes possible

- **Your \$25 donation provides:**
Books to give children visiting our offices.
- **Your \$50 donation provides:**
Toys and games for our waiting area.
- **Your \$100 donation provides:**
Materials and handouts for 20 child care providers at a CCRC professional development training.
- **Your \$500 donation pays for:**
Multilingual brochures for distribution at our new community outposts, to inform families about what CCRC has to offer.
- **Your \$1000 donation supports the cost of:**
An accreditation support group training series for 15 family child care providers.



Your gift to CCRC helps children thrive