



Washington's most trusted child care resource



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2016 - JUNE 2017

Who We Are



Child Care Aware of Washington has been helping children, families and child care providers in Washington since 1989. We are Washington's most trusted child care resource.

We are a nonprofit network working with six child care resource and referral programs across WA that provide local services to child care providers, including technical assistance, training and coaching. CCA of WA helps implement Early Achievers, Washington's quality rating and improvement system. Our Family Center connects thousands of families seeking child care to licensed child care programs in their areas. Our scholarships

program, Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships, provides scholarships to child care and early learning professionals.

CCA of WA also provides important child care supply and demand data to inform the state's entire child care and early learning system. We also advocate on both the state and national levels for policies that benefit all families and children.

Data

Child Care Aware of Washington's data on child care supply, demand, costs and trends are frequently used by government agencies, lawmakers, our early learning partners, researchers from around the country, the media and others who want a clear understanding of the state of child care in Washington.

<http://wa.childcareaware.org/about-us/data>



Advocacy

2017 was an up and down year for child care policy in Washington State. The state legislature grappled with multiple concerns surrounding child care provider compensation and the long-term underfunding of Working Connections Child Care, WA's child care subsidy program. The long-term underfunding has left many child care programs across the state on the brink of closing, as increasing minimum wages have evaporated many programs' already thin profit margins.

The legislature responded by increasing Working Connections reimbursement rates by six percent for child care centers. Unfortunately, this is not enough to cover the cost of the minimum wage increases, let alone cover the increasing cost of high-quality care. In addition, the legislature cut \$12 million from Early Achievers, WA's framework for increasing child care program quality.

While there were some victories in Olympia, such as the creation of a child care compensation technical work group convened to find ways of increasing provider compensation, there remains much work to do as we prepare for the 2018 and 2019 legislative sessions.

Letter from the CEO

Child Care Aware of Washington continues to be the most trusted child care resource in Washington. Last year we embarked on new ventures designed to strengthen our state's child care and early learning system, while remaining true to our core services of quality assistance to child care providers, unbiased child care referrals to families seeking care and providing higher education opportunities to early learning professionals with Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships.

Our new ventures include providing shared services to child care providers to reduce administrative burdens and allow them to focus on what they do best - provide excellent care to Washington's children. We anticipate moving forward from the pilot phase of this effort next year.

We are engaging with Washington's business community to find ways that employers both large and small can make meaningful contributions to our child care and early learning system. We believe businesses are in a unique position to help strengthen WA's child care and early learning system, because employers benefit when their employees who are parents have access to high-quality child care.

CCA of WA could not be successful in this work without our six partner agencies across the state that deliver the on-the-ground services that make a real difference for every child care provider. We are grateful for their continued support and dedication to our shared goal of ensuring equitable access to high-quality child care for every family that needs it.

Robin Lester
Chief Executive Officer

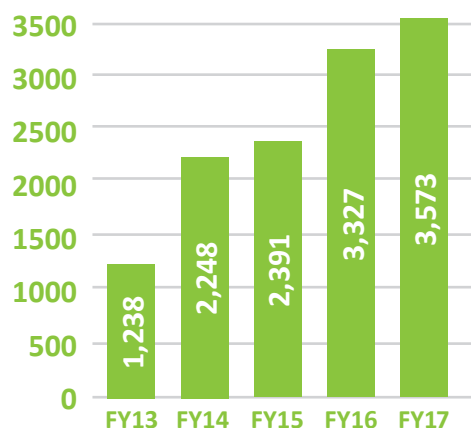
Early Achievers

Early Achievers is Washington's quality rating and improvement system - a

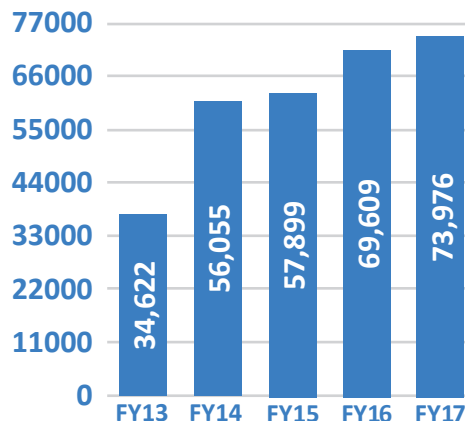
framework for improving the quality of child care and early learning programs across the state. Designed, administered and implemented by the Washington State Department of Early Learning, the University of Washington and Child Care Aware of Washington, Early Achievers is now serving more than 73,000 young children. At the end of FY17, 71% of WA's licensed child care providers were participating in Early Achievers.



Providers Enrolled



Estimated Children Served



These numbers do not include providers that allocate 75% or more of their capacity to Head Start or ECEAP slots. School-age only providers are not eligible for Early Achievers at this time.

Training – Professional Development Academy

Child Care Aware of Washington's Professional Development Academy provides continuing education on a variety of early learning topics. We are dedicated to building new knowledge and skills through a collaborative and interactive approach to learning. Our expert trainers offer participants research-based information and practical tools they need to stay informed of best practices, overcome challenges and better serve children and families.

13,826 Early Achievers trainings completed

9,947 Non-Early Achievers trainings completed



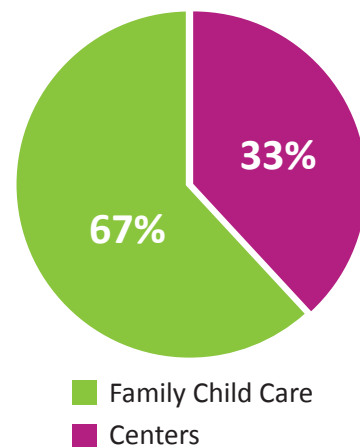
The Elevate Early Learning Conference

Child Care Aware of Washington's Elevate Early Learning Conference has become the premiere state conference for Washington's child care and early learning leaders. The annual conference attracts nearly 400 attendees from across WA to engage in cross-system conversations, skill-building sessions, trainings and leadership presentations designed to equip and empower WA's early learning leaders to build an equitable child care and early learning system. At Elevate, everyone learns to "Inspire every provider. Reach every child."©



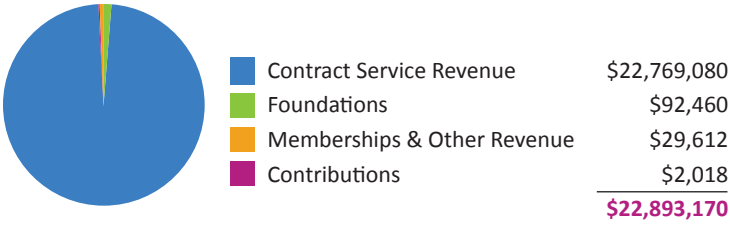
Elevate | Early Learning Conference©

Early Achievers Participants by Type - FY17

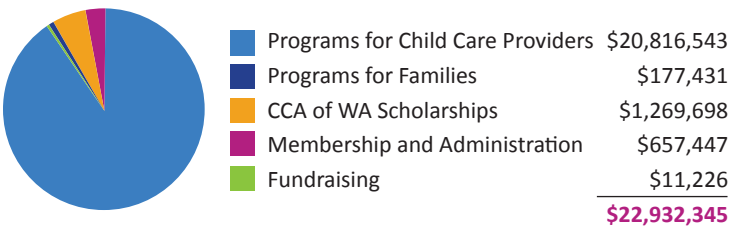


Child Care Aware of Washington is a nonprofit dedicated to ensuring that every child in Washington has access to high-quality child care and early learning programs. We advocate for child care and early learning policies that benefit all families, while also delivering the means to make a positive difference for all children, including those furthest from opportunity.

Revenue



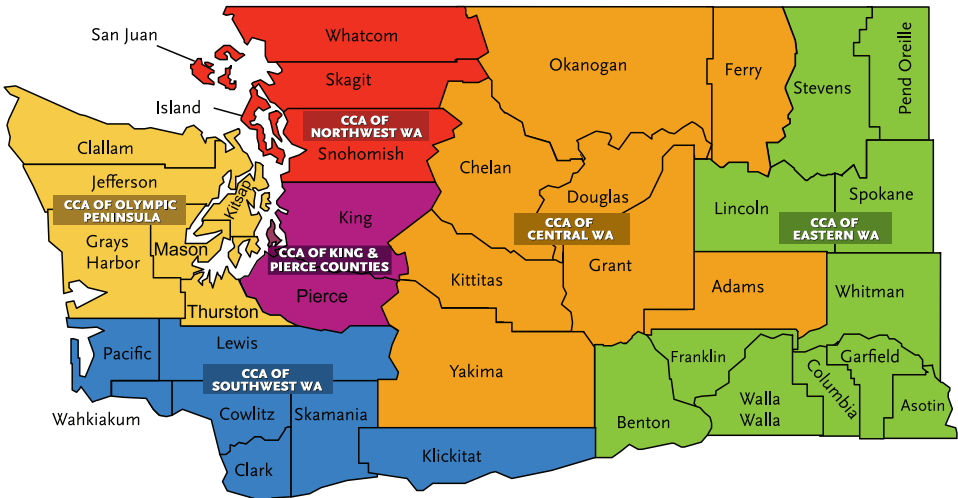
Expenses



Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships

Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships offers scholarships to early learning professionals to enrich their expertise. Our goal is to advance the early learning field by increasing educational achievement and helping child care and early learning professionals achieve their goals.

Not all of our scholarships are for college credits. Some are for professional certificates and assessments.



Child Care Aware of Washington Family Center

Connecting families to high-quality child care for over 28 years



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