

A Message From the Executive Director

Aideen Gaidmore

Marin Child Care Council (MC3) has made exceptional progress during its work in 2016-2017. We have restored services that were cut or reduced during the recession while qualitatively enhancing programs and services to both parents and providers. We have further become an even more widely recognized strong and vocal advocate for quality child care that is available, accessible and affordable for all.

Our Growth has been welcomed as it brings in the resources necessary to enhance programs and services. This expansion further allows us the ability to retain staff members who value the opportunity to be creative, work independently while also supporting each other through cross training and maintain a "can-do" team attitude.

Respect and trust in our agency's work as a leader and a "hub" for child care issues has continually grown. We are fortunate to have a very talented Board of Directors to help guide and accomplish our mission, with a clear focus on those served.

The funding sources over the past years have significantly diversified while increasing to \$7.7 million. The majority of our funding comes from; the California Department of Education (CDE), the County of Marin, Marin Community Foundation, First Five Marin, and the Marin County Office of Education.

We're looking to the future with optimism while keeping a close eye on all state and federal policies that will impact our community. We will continue to stay flexible in order to respond to new opportunities and challenges that may present themselves. Lastly we will remain a strong advocate for the children and families we serve, and continue our investment in our greatest asset, our team.

Thank you for your support,
Aideen Gaidmore, Executive Director

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Partnering with Parents

We believe that our services should be available to and supportive of all families in our community

Resource and Referral

Choosing child care is one of the most important decisions families make and it can be difficult to find reliable information about your child care options. Our Resource and Referral office helps parents take the guesswork out of choosing care by providing: Referrals to local child care providers, information on state licensing and requirements. Resource and Referral assists families by phone, in person, through our website and in other ways that are tailored to each family. Visit us online at www.mc3.org.

Alternative Payment Program (Subsidy Program)

Marin Child Care Council's Alternative Payment Program (APP) offers full or partial child care subsidies to (need and income) eligible families through a voucher program. This program is designed to maximize parental choice in selecting child care. Options include licensed centers and preschools, licensed family daycare homes or license exempt in-home providers.

The state contracts serve families in Calworks Stage 2 (working families who have been off of welfare for between three and twenty-four months), Stage 3 (working families who have been off of welfare for two or more years who still qualify for assistance with their child care costs) and Alternative Payment (AP), (low-income working families not served by the welfare system and those referred by Child Protective Services) programs.

Centralized Eligibility List (CEL)

The Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) is accessed by all state-funded centers and subsidy programs in the county, to fill vacancies in their programs. Parents can apply to one place for all the State-funded slots in the county. As of right April 2018 the CEL has 628 children actively waiting for child care funding. The CEL continues to play a major role in framing the need for child care funding in the county, as well as identifying underserved populations and locations throughout Marin. The CEL is a valuable tool for the entire child care community.

Parent Voices

Parent Voices is a chapter-based grassroots organizing effort around child care issues and an integral part of Marin Child Care Council's advocacy efforts. Parent Voices involves parents in the budget process including: legislative hearings, press conferences, rallies, and trainings.



Partnering with Providers

We believe that all children deserve quality child care and that quality child care directly benefits children, families, and our community

Resource and Referral

We provide support to the child care community regarding licensing issues, parenting issues, child development concerns and more. In 2016-17, we provided 30 trainings aimed at improving quality child care in Marin. We maintain up-to-date information on 138 licensed child care centers and 139 licensed family child care homes.

Child Care Trainings

We provide support to the child care community by offering trainings, professional development and resources. The current training calendar is up to date on our website at: www.mc3.org

Striving For Excellence

Striving For Excellence is our annual conference for early child hood educators and professionals in Marin and surrounding counties. The conference enables people who are working with children, directly or indirectly, to obtain training in a comfortable setting.

Partnering with Community

We believe that educated and well informed stakeholders are the very best advocates for quality child care

Providing Solutions

Marin Child Care Council maintains an extensive database of licensed child care programs in Marin. In addition we also track parental requests for care as well as assisting parents who are seeking financial aid to help ease child care costs.

Educating and involving local communities and leaders, to understand child care issues and to plan effectively to address child care needs that are supportive of all families, is a vital role we play in our community. We are proud to work in partnership with a number of local and statewide organizations and groups on behalf of families and children.

Linking parents with better options