LAMOILLE FAMILY CENTER FY'16 ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016











Encouraging, Educating and Celebrating Families Since 1976

To our Board, Staff, and Friends of the Lamoille Family Center,

After 40 years of operation we remain humbled by the incredible strength and resilience that children, youth and families demonstrate as they tackle life's challenges. We are proud to be a part of their lives and strive for good results with them by encouraging, educating and celebrating their success! The breadth of our programming - home visiting, youth case management, infant child care, school-based services, parent education and employment supports - allows us to have a positive impact in many different ways. Here's what we hear from people we serve:

"I finally felt like I had an advocate and someone who was on my side. It's also the first time someone other than my family was there to help me. It meant a great deal to me. It was like the light at the end of a tunnel."

"I want to thank you so much for helping me. This program has helped me find a place to live for me and my son. I was looking for a long time. Your program was a savior and is a great program. Thank you!"

We are proud to help our participants learn, build new skills, develop confidence and become more resilient. Their success helps build strong communities and healthy futures for all of our children.

We extend our deepest thanks to our donors for their continued support, our staff and volunteers for their dedication and hard work, and to community partners for sharing our commitment to improving the lives of children and families in our region.

We look forward to navigating the future together!

Warm regards,

Bryn Fisher Board Chairperson

Scott Johnson Executive Director



Volunteers Elves at the Holiday Project helped bring happiness to hundreds of families in Lamoille County.



Staff Retreat June 2016 Hosmer Point Outdoor Camp

FY'16 Board Members

Bryn Fisher, Chair Sandy Paquette, Vice-Chair John Duffy, Treasurer Ronna Ziegel, Secretary Brenda Christie Janelle Germaine Katie Marvin Eileen Paus

FY'16 Staff

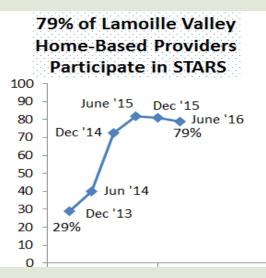
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Encouraging, Educating & Celebrating Families

Home-based providers in the Lamoille Valley strive for high quality care with support from the Lamoille Family Center's Child Care Mentor.

For our youngest children, enriching experiences and responsive relationships are essential to early brain development. Since many children spend a significant portion of their day in an early care setting, it is critically important that providers are knowledgeable and qualified in child development.



The story behind the curve...

With support from Vermont Birth to Five (VB5), the Family Center employs a Child Care Mentor to assist home based providers in enhancing their program quality, obtaining early childhood credentials and participating in STARS (Vermont's Step Ahead Recognition System). Since 2013, participation in STARS for registered home providers has risen from 29% to 79%. While we have seen a slight decrease in the past year we still exceed the state average by 6%.

"As a provider, it's nice to know that I have someone I can turn to. My mentor has been great at helping me get my STARS taken care of and is helping me reach my goal of getting my CDA."

3 STAR Child Care Provider

HOW MUCH DID WE DO?

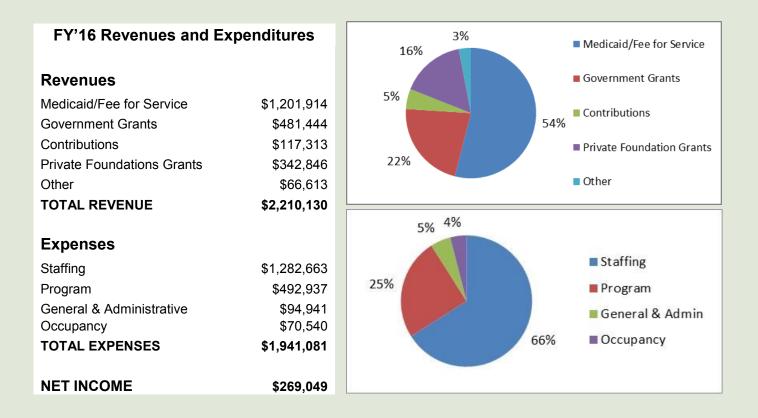
- The Children's Integrated Services program provided 4823
 home visits to 300 individuals and families whose children have physical, developmental or behavioral challenges
- The Holiday Project provided toys, games, puzzles, stocking stuffers, mittens, hats and books to 353 children representing 164 families
- The Outreach program provided emergency assistance with rent, fuel, utilities, food, gas, diapers, and clothing to **113** families, reaching **425** children and adults
- 29 child care programs received training and support to serve 94,864 healthy meals and snacks to 198 children
- **791 families received financial assistance** to help offset the high cost of child care

HOW WELL DID WE DO IT?

- **91% of survey respondents** rated playgroups as "excellent" or "good"
- 98% of Child Care Financial Assistance Program applications were processed within the required timeframe
- **100% of survey respondents** rated their experience with the Child Care Referral program as helpful
- The LFC licensed child care center **maintained 5 STARS**, the highest possible quality rating
- 99% of Children's Integrated Services program participants had services start within the required timeframe
- **50%** Workforce Performance Rate for Reach Up Participants (nearly double the state average)

IS ANYONE BETTER OFF?

- Playgroup participants responded that their child has benefited and made progress since joining playgroup: Social/Emotional development (92%), Communication (84%), Cognitive development (76%)
- 3 students graduated from Families Learning Together
- **79% of Reach Up participants** are employed or actively engaged in jobs skills training, up 10% since FY'15
- More families have access to quality care and a higher rate of State financial assistance, with 76% of Lamoille Valley early care and education programs participating in STARS
- 48% of survey respondents reported either finding child care or keeping their current arrangement after utilizing the Child Care Referral program
- **90% of participants** in the LINK and Learning Together programs reported that they "have a plan for the future"





The Lamoille Family Center remained fiscally strong in FY'16, and our Auditors, JMM & Associates, reported no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We remain fiscally conservative and attentive to our primary mission and staff in order to maintain critical services for young children, youth and their families. Due to several factors, including vacancy savings, a one-time estate donation and a successful annual appeal, net earnings were strong and enabled us to add to our future reserves.

THANK YOU...

Community support is critical to the sustainability of the Lamoille Family Center. Thank you to the numerous individual, business, foundation and State and Federal supporters that made it possible for us to reach more than 4000 children, youth, parents and caregivers in FY'16. We cannot do this work without you!

Contributions can be made at <u>http://www.lamoillefamilycenter.org/</u> <u>donate/</u> or sent to 480 Cady's Falls Road Morrisville, VT 05661.





Lamoille Family Center

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