



CNE 2010 – 2011 Annual Report

Tracy Burton – A Strong, Caring Advocate for Teen Parents



CNE Early Head Start (EHS) Family Advocate Tracy Burton has been a lifelong advocate for teen parents and their children. Tracy's family calls her "The Caregiver," and for those fortunate enough to meet her and to work with her, care and compassion are her core strengths.

"I've experienced the life of a teen parent, and the support I received and still receive is what I try to give back every day," states Tracy. "Every parent wants what's best for their child, and often for teens they need an advocate to show them what is truly best for their baby."

Tracy is a graduate of Evanston Township High School and gave birth to her first child William when she was 17 years old. In 1989, Tracy was introduced to the newly opened Infant Welfare Society of Evanston's (IWSE) Teen Baby Nursery (TBN) and started to work as a substitute teacher. Baby William was enrolled in IWSE's Baby Toddler Nursery, so Tracy was able to advance her own career at TBN from substitute, to aid, to teacher, to head teacher over a 17-year period. When Early Head Start was introduced into TBN, Tracy then began her career as a family advocate and helped to develop a home visiting pilot program. Tracy began working at CNE 6 years ago and since the program expansion in 2010 has been working with families at District 65 Doorways

to Learning and at two family child care homes in Evanston. She participated in a respite care program for members of a grandparent support group and still remains in touch with many of the young women she has helped over the past two decades. In addition to her professional career, Tracy has received an Associate Degree in Human Services from the University of Phoenix and is currently working toward a B.A. in Applied Behavior Science at National Louis University.

It is the young teen parents who have motivated Tracy to pursue her long, successful career in advocacy. "When I was at TBN, many of these girls didn't have support or knowledge about being a parent, so I helped them by making doctor's appointments, telling them questions to ask, sometimes I would go to the appointments with them," explains Tracy. "I want these parents to succeed. I want them to realize that they can do whatever they want to do. The support is here."



A Special Thank You for These Wonderful Donations to our CNE Early Head Start Families

As the year draws to a close, we at CNE would like to extend a special thank you to the following:

Glencoe resident **Sydney Box** organized a diaper drive on behalf of CNE Early Head Start for her Bat Mitzvah project. We were overwhelmed with the success of Sydney's project as she collected 2,908 diapers and raised \$881 to purchase additional diapers. Thank you to Sydney and her helpers who made this special delivery to CNE.

Barnes & Noble chose CNE as one of the recipients of its 2011 Holiday Book Drive. To date, CNE Early Head Start has received 1,973 books, which are being distributed to EHS families throughout this holiday season. Thank you to Barnes & Noble and to the staff at the Evanston store for nurturing the love of reading in young children.

We asked and you responded. Thank you to all who signed up to **Sponsor a Family** this holiday season. Your generous donations of clothing, gift cards, books and toys have made the season brighter for 200 families.



SYDNEY BOX, PERI BOX, BAILEY EISEN



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARTHA ARNTSON MADE WEEKLY TRIPS TO BARNES & NOBLE TO RECEIVE BOXES OF DONATED BOOKS

Dear CNE Supporter:

As our annual report reflects, CNE has grown in many wonderful ways during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011). Of course, none of this would have been possible without the support of our CNE community.

Thank you to our CNE staff, which strives every day to provide all children, within the communities we serve, access to high quality child care and early education programs. Their hard work, strength and positive energy, help families in need to feel safe, cared for, and strong. We are grateful to the Early Head Start parents who volunteer their valuable time to participate in Policy Council, and to CNE's Board of Directors, which has shown a remarkable commitment to ensuring early childhood education and care is available to all. Thank you also to our community partners who work closely with us to provide access to high quality early education programs.

From increased home visits to pregnant women and babies, to financial support for child care and education, to expansion of Early Head Start services, CNE has continued to offer programs and access to resources which have proven to be effective in putting each child on a path to success. With your help, we are building strong foundations for children in our communities. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Martha Arntson
CNE Executive Director
arntsonm@childcarenetworkofevanston.org

Deb Danson
CNE Board President
Dddanson@ameritech.net



The framework of the Early Head Start program is built around four cornerstones — Child, Family, Community and Staff. CNE is building each child’s future today as demonstrated through positive outcomes for children, families and their communities.

Note: The following data is gathered for and audited by the Department of Health and Human Services

CHILD *282 children served*

- 93% of children meet or exceed social-emotional development expectations
- 95% of children meet or exceed cognitive development expectations
- 85% of children meet or exceed language development expectations
- 95% of children meet or exceed motor development expectations
- 98.5% of children were up-to-date on their immunizations appropriate for their age
- 100% of children had health insurance and ongoing source of health care

FAMILY *All 259 families received at least one family support service*

- The most common support services were parenting education and health education
- 51 pregnant women were supported with pre- and post-natal assistance
- 68 people (including 20 males) attended the CNE EHS Male Involvement Picnic in July
- 68% of EHS home visiting families attended Group Socializations
- 10% of EHS families experienced homelessness during the program year
- 80% are single parent families

COMMUNITY *CNE has built strong community relationships that support our clients*

Early Head Start families have received support as a result of the following partnerships:

- | | |
|---|--|
| CEDA/Neighbors at Work | Hillside Food Pantry |
| Chicago Children’s Museum | Evanston LIFT |
| Child & Family Connections | New Trier Township |
| Connections for the Homeless | Safe Kids/Children’s Memorial Hospital |
| Dentist R US | Salvation Army |
| Evanston Hospital Child & Adolescent Clinic | Skokie Public Library |
| Evanston Township High School | Skokie Village Human Services Department |
| Family Focus Evanston | Youth Job Center |
| Harvest Food Pantry | |

STAFF

- 100% of the teaching staff meet or exceed a federal requirement by obtaining a degree and/or credential in Early Childhood Education
- 3 CNE family support staff members have been awarded Family Service Credentials and 1 Health Services Manager Credential
- 19 Early Head Start staff members are currently working on career development through Gateways to Opportunity Early Childhood Education, Infant/Toddler and Director Credentials
- 96 EHS staff members received training and ongoing support in the following areas:

Infant/toddler development	Inclusion
School readiness	Identifying child abuse and neglect
Early literacy	Parent communication
Health and safety	
- 95% employee retention rate of CNE EHS grantee staff

Financial Summary *July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011*

Public Support and Revenue

Government	\$4,578,302
United Way	18,360
Private Grants	50,364
Contributions	48,301
Special Events	802
Interest, Donated Services & Miscellaneous	14,649
Net Public Support & Revenue	\$4,710,778

Expenses (Program Services)

CNE (including scholarships)	\$ 159,572
Services for Children with Special Needs	67,689
Early Head Start	2,544,306
Illinois State Board of Education/Pre-K	297,284
Site Administered Contract	1,062,346
Management & General	385,672
Fundraising & Development	58,089
Total Expenses	\$4,574,958

Changes in Net Assets	135,820
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	183,596
Net Assets, End of Year*	\$319,416

*Net assets increased during the fiscal year due to the audit requirement to amortize expenses incurred in the reconstruction of CNE's new site location. All expenses have been paid for, primarily through our Federal Early Head Start Expansion Grant.

Results of the Most Recent Financial Audit

In the opinion of Cheryl Rohlfs and Associates, Ltd., “the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Childcare Network of Evanston as of June 30, 2011, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

Results of the Most Recent Early Head Start Federal Review

From 3/21/10 to 3/26/10, the Administration for Children and Families conducted an on-site monitoring review of the CNE Early Head Start program. Based on the information gathered during the review, the program was found to be in compliance with all, except three, applicable Head Start Program Performance Standards, laws, regulations, and policy requirements. The three areas included 1. After-the-fact determination of the actual activity of each employee, 2. Reporting of actual 15% administrative costs on the budget, and 3. Two playground areas had a potential safety hazard. On 12/5/10, a follow up review was conducted. All areas were found to be in compliance. No further corrective action was needed.

Budgetary Expenditures

For the total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source, please see the Financial Summary for July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Budgetary expenditures for the fiscal year included occupancy costs, program supplies, office supplies, contractual/professional fees, professional development expenses and personnel, including fringe benefits.

All federal funds received by the program were spent according to the proposed budget. No overruns occurred. Some line items adjustments were made. Quarterly reports were submitted to the Office of Head Start. For the 2010–2011 Early Head Start budget, CNE was awarded funding for an additional 24 infants, toddlers and their families for home visiting. With the exception of the increase for Early Head Start, CNE assumed flat funding for the FY2011 budget.



As a non-profit organization, CNE is grateful to its many supporters who believe in our mission to cultivate a community where all children, from birth to age five, have access to early education and high quality care in order to succeed in school and life. You demonstrate your commitment and support with donations of both time and money. Thank you.

The following supporters made donations to CNE between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011:

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\$1,000+

Anonymous
Paul & Martha Arntson
Sue & Paul Brenner
Sue Canter
Deb & Forrest Danson
Terry & Merle Fippinger
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\$500 – \$999

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\$250 – \$499

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Up to \$99

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In Honor of Carol Mullins

Mary Jane & Edward Chainski

In Honor of Leo & Bonnie Dohogne

Betsy & James Uzzell

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Chiaravalle Montessori School

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Evanston Community Foundation

Evanston Mental Health Board

First Congregational Church of Evanston

Francis Beidler Foundation

INCCRRA

Infant Welfare Society of Evanston

Kiwanis Foundation of Evanston

Leo S. Guthman Fund

Rotary Club of Evanston

School for Little Children

Total Child Preschool and Childcare

United Way of Metropolitan Chicago

United Way of the North Shore

Woman's Club of Evanston

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Family Child Care Connections

District 65 Family Center

Evanston Day Nursery

Infant Welfare Society of Evanston

JCC Mayer Kaplan Children's Center

Reba Early Learning Center

Toddler Town

Total Child Preschool and Child Care

Staff

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Carmen Armstrong

Chris Baer

Tami Biordi

Tracy Burton

Socorro Clarke

Julia Goldberg

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Evanston, Illinois 60201



CNE is committed to cultivating a community where all children, from birth to age five, have access to early education and high quality care in order to succeed in school and life.