

EMERGING STRONGER

A Year of Strength Through Partnerships



2020-2021
Annual Report



INCLUSION

As an inclusive program, we work hard to ensure that all kids reach their full potential regardless of backgrounds or abilities within caring enriching classroom environments.

VISION

We believe that all children reach their full potential when given a strong start.

MISSION

CLC develops a foundation for future contributing members of society and strong communities by providing accessible and research-based programs for young children and families.



Dear Parents & Friends,

For each and every one of us, this year looked like no other. Full of dynamic challenges, the year offered countless opportunities to forge new and stronger partnerships within our community.

As I look back over the year, what stands out most to me is not the fear, grief, or uncertainty, but the exceptional way that our community and organization rose to meet the difficulties of the pandemic.

Through partnerships, we kept children engaged and learning, kept parents able to work, kept food on family tables, and kept our staff and students safe. Through partnerships, we survived and thrived.

When COVID struck, we braced for a financial loss and trimmed our budget accordingly. However, thanks to the support of PPP and Wyoming Business Council grants, in addition to the profound generosity of local donors and the Community Foundation, we were able to retain all staff with full salaries and benefits and maintain the quality of our services.

We knew acutely how much the pandemic impacted families and worked to mitigate the effects as much as possible. We provided refunds and credits for tuition for the times that we were closed, and developed innovative virtual programming to reach kids and families outside of the classroom.

Reflecting on the cooperation and dedication of everyone within the Children's Learning Center community over the past year fills me with pride. Staff, students, parents, community members, and leaders came together to support one another, and to navigate an unprecedented year with patience and grace.

Together, we've learned and grown. And we all look forward to brighter days ahead.

Here's to a 2020 where we all rise up together!

Warmly,

Executive Director

Our Programs

CLC is constantly working to improve safety, education, and programs for our children.

We hold ourselves accountable to you and the children.

Including Special Education, the area's largest Childcare, and Head Start/Early Head Start

SPECIAL EDUCATION

PROGRAM DIRECTOR Davey Hough

CLC is the only program in the area licensed and funded by the state of Wyoming to provide special education, therapy services, and coordination of care for families who have a child or children who will benefit from the Early Intervention and Education Program.

Many families of children with special needs were especially hesitant to risk exposure to COVID: a concern that the CLC staff understood entirely. In

order to continue to support these kids and parents, we developed innovative virtual programming and therapies. For children who were less receptive to online support, we initiated extra safety measures — like plastic shielding — to accommodate in-person interaction. Thanks to these creative approaches, we were able to maintain strong relationships with all of our students, no matter their specific needs. In

FY 21 154

CHILDREN RECEIVED SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES

FREE
DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS 590

DEVELOPMENTAL EVALUATIONS 99

CHILDCARE PROGRAM

PROGRAM DIRECTOR Nicole Philbin

Safe, reliable childcare is a cornerstone resource in every community. Its ripple effect is undeniably profound. When kids have a safe, nurturing place for care, parents are able to work — a critical piece of our community's resources, economy, and overall stability. Especially during the tumult of the pandemic, safe childcare was a fundamental resource for the frontline workers in the area.

COVID exposed the nationwide weaknesses in how childcare and early education is funded. Those who have long been championing childcare as a critical part of the country's infrastructure were heard more loudly than before, and new voices joined their ranks. As the region's largest childcare provider, we witnessed firsthand how the classroom closures and reduction in hours placed difficult constraints on working families.

FY 20 181

CHILDREN ENROLLED

\$179,500
IN TUITION ASSISTANCE

60%
OF CLC FAMILIES QUALIFIED FOR DISCOUNTS AND/OR SCHOLARSHIPS



HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START

PROGRAM DIRECTOR Leticia Liera

A pair of programs that overwhelmingly benefit the most at-risk families in the community, Early Head Start and Head Start were severely impacted by pandemic closures. This meant that not only did those families face new challenges to access affiliated resources, but also that the kids in the program lost precious learning time.

A large percentage of families in these programs are members of our Latino community — a demographic that was disproportionately impacted by COVID because so many are in frontline worker roles. Due to higher rates of exposure and infection in this group of parents, these children lost countless days to required quarantine; on average, they're 30%

behind where they would normally be. Moreover, while around 50% of these families were considered high risk and homeless in 2019, 100% of them met the criteria for this categorization in 2020. In an effort to offset learning loss and deliver ongoing support, CLC is offering summer programming to these families.

Additionally, our staff worked tirelessly to develop and implement virtual learning resources to help minimize the impact of closures on kids' education and development. Though screen-based connection is never as rich or impactful as in-person interaction, we were able to maintain contact and offer support to the families who need it most.

FY 20 92

CHILDREN ENROLLED

50%
OF CHILDREN WERE HIGH RISK AND HOMELESS

FY 21 95

CHILDREN ENROLLED

100%
OF CHILDREN WERE HIGH RISK AND HOMELESS



STEAM

Thanks to a grant received two years ago, CLC launched a new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) program in 2019. For the first year, we enjoyed the leadership of a STEAM Classroom Coordinator. However, this year a half dozen of our teachers picked up the initiative and continued offering the engaging and exciting programming to students. In collaboration with educators from the Jackson Hole Children's

Museum, kids enjoyed project-based learning that encouraged exploration and discovery. Favorite activities included the construction and examination of robots, catapults and ramps. They created simple programs for the robots, measured the flinging capabilities of catapults, and explored how different ramp systems impact how far a car will zoom! These project-based investigations encourage children to create their

own hypotheses, figure out how to measure results, and come to their own experiment-informed conclusions. We look forward to continuing to infuse our curriculum with these engaging kinds of activities — not only do children and teachers enjoy them, but they spark a lifelong curiosity and love for learning in even the youngest participants.

102
STUDENTS
participated in
STEAM activities

FOOD PROGRAM

It's well-established that a hungry brain simply can't learn like a well-fed one. We all know the feeling — a rumbling, empty stomach, a distracted mind, a short fuse. That's why the CLC prioritizes getting all of our students two well-balanced, highly-nutritious meals each and every day.

Of course, when the pandemic struck, many of our Head Start students lost this daily access to our carefully planned meals. In response, we collaborated with an array of community organizations to not only replace these meals for our students, but also to bring nutritious and safe meals to their whole families. With the help of the Community Foundation, Hole Food Rescue, the Jackson Food Cupboard, the Good Samaritan Mission, and local restaurants including the Fine Dining Group, we were able to deliver nutritious (and delicious!) meals and groceries to families throughout the valley.



5 HEAD START STAFF MEMBERS worked through
10 WEEKS during the peak of the pandemic to serve
987 MEALS and Deliver
445 HYGIENE PACKS to local families at-risk

ABOVE AND BEYOND

We also realized that the children who missed our in-house meals missed critical learning time. In collaboration with Teton Literacy Center, we hosted a series of small group activities for families around town. While prioritizing safety, we were able to build meaningful connections and offer extra support and development services to at-risk and overstressed families.

Additionally, our innovative staff developed and distributed at-home activity kits for families to continue learning and exploring together at home. From art projects and stories to fun in the kitchen or outside, these family-friendly activities kept kids engaged and learning even when they couldn't be in the classroom together.

2700
HOURS
of free summer support for students entering Kindergarten



Our Schools



Children's Learning Center is proud to manage **four locations** in three communities in Teton and Sublette Counties.

As our staff and parents can attest, we initiated many new health and safety measures in response to CDC recommendations and upgraded our air circulation/ purification system at all facilities. In addition to plenty of time and energy implementing protocols to ensure that our spaces and staff were as clean and safe as possible, we were delighted to finish long overdue renovations to our Big Piney location.

Inside, we replaced the carpeting, repainted, resurfaced multiple floors, and replaced out-of-date lockers with more child-friendly cubbies for students to use. Outside, we refurbished a large multi-level play structure to make it safer (and more fun!) for all of our Big Piney students.

As the pandemic recedes, we look forward to continuing to make all of our facilities places that are safe, welcoming, and nurturing to each and every one of our students.

How do you know dinosaurs used to live in WY...
Because there's a lot of cracks in the roads from a long time ago.

Did you know CLC operates 4 campuses in Northwest Wyoming? Learn more about each:



Home to CLC's main commercial kitchen, large outdoor natural play space, and a greenhouse that helps supply ingredients in home-cooked meals.

- BUILT IN 2011
- 12,000 SQUARE FEET
- Owned and maintained BY TETON COUNTY
- 65 CHILDREN
- 24 STAFF including Special Ed department
- 5 CLASSROOMS

Home to a commercial prep kitchen, CLC administrative offices, and a whole lot of fun and learning.

- BUILT IN 2017
- 15,000 SQUARE FEET
- Owned and maintained BY TETON COUNTY
- 105 CHILDREN
- 30 STAFF
- 7 CLASSROOMS including 2 Head Start Classes

Home to morning and afternoon preschool programs, a gross motor room, and large outdoor play space to encourage our play-based emergent curriculum.

- 4,800 SQUARE FEET in the Big Piney Recreation Center
- Managed BY THE TOWN OF BIG PINEY
- 36 CHILDREN attending morning or afternoon preschool
- 11 STAFF including Special Ed department
- 2 CLASSROOMS

Home to morning and afternoon preschool programs, a gross motor room, large outdoor natural play space, and a greenhouse that helps supply ingredients in home-cooked meals.

- BUILT IN 2000
- 6,000 SQUARE FEET
- OWNED AND MAINTAINED BY TLC
- 36 CHILDREN
- 11 STAFF INCLUDING SPECIAL ED DEPARTMENT
- 2 CLASSROOMS

FUN-Raising

CLC's administration and Board of Directors are committed to keeping tuition levels in the mid-range of the local market. And we are proud to offer noteworthy program components such as home-cooked meals, STEAM education, field trips, and more. But each year, CLC experiences a 20 percent gap between actual program costs and what we bring in through government grants and tuition. We fill this gap through robust year-round fundraising from a variety of sources -- private foundations, special events, business sponsorships, and Old Bill's Fun Run. One of this year's most successful fundraisers was Champions for Children, an online campaign conducted in partnership with Jackson Hole Children's Museum and Teton Literacy.

OLD BILLS FUN RUN 2019-2020

Raised Over
\$136,486
From
164
Donors

OLD BILLS FUN RUN 2020-2021

Raised Over
\$160,789
From
182
Donors

2020 presented unprecedented financial challenges for CLC as an organization and for all our families. However, with the generous support of donors and the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole's Covid Response Fund, we were able to retain 100 percent of staff at pre-Covid

salary and benefit levels and maintain our program quality. At the beginning of the pandemic, we mobilized community leaders and combined our resources with partners to respond to food insecurity. For several months, this collaborative effort prepared and delivered food to dozens of families facing sudden and severe economic hardship. This year more than ever, our

community pulled together to help CLC care for its children. Thank you for your support!

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021
(as of May 15, 2021)

Total Donations
\$728,945
312 Donations Made
20 Gifts from Foundations
10 Donations from Businesses

FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

Total Donations
\$532,747
256 Donations Made
24 Gifts from Foundations
17 Donations from Businesses

Our Staff

REGIONAL OFFICE

PATTI BOYD
Executive Director

MIRIAM MORILLON
Finance Director

ABBY O'NEILL
Operations

JUAN CARLOS PEREZ
Tuition Billing Manager

HEAD START

MARCELLA
BADILLO-CARRILLO
*Early Head Start Teacher &
Home Visitor*

CRISTINA CAMPOS
*Early Head Start Teacher &
Home Visitor*

CONY CERVANTES
Head Start Teacher

RONEY DE LA CRUZ
*Head Start Bus Driver &
Maintenance Manager*

CYNTHIA FISCHER
Head Start Teacher / Coach

CHERIE FLORES
*Early Head Start & Head Start
Data Manager*

HITZIA GARNICA
*Early Head Start Teacher &
Home Visitor*

SONIA HERNANDEZ
Head Start Teacher

LETICIA LIERA
*Early Head Start & Head Start
Director*

MARIANA MCFARLANE
*Early Head Start & Head Start
Program Manager*

ESTHER MONTIEL-MORENO
Bus Monitor/Kitchen Assistant

YADIRA SOSA
Head Start Teacher

SPECIAL EDUCATION Teton and Sublette Counties

ANA ASENCIOS
Sublette County Custodian

ANNE BARRETT HAZARD
*Teton County Speech &
Language Pathologist*

JEN BAXTER
*Teton County
Occupational Therapist*

HEATHER BIXLER
*Sublette County
Data Manager*

SONYA CHONCZYNSKI
*Teton County
Special Education Teacher*

OLIVIA EIDEN
*Sublette County Business &
Big Piney Site Manager*

ROBBI FARROW
*Teton County Occupational
Therapist & Family Service
Coordinator*

BECKY GREGORY
*Sublette County Development
& Pinedale Site Manager*

ANIKA HERBERT
*Teton County Inclusion
Provider*

DAVEY HOUGH
*Teton and Sublette Counties,
Special Education Director*

STACI JONES
*Sublette County Inclusion
Provider*

MICKEY LAPAN
*Teton County Inclusion
Provider & Speech &
Language Pathologist Aide*

HOLLY MADOLE
*Sublette County Special
Education Teacher*

MOLLY MAKELA
*Teton County Speech and
Language Pathologist*

KRISTA MANNING
*Sublette County Speech &
Language Pathologist*

LISA MASON
*Sublette County Family
Service Coordinator*

EMILY RUTZ
*Teton County Speech and
Language Pathologist*

SONIA SCHUPP
*Sublette County
Occupational Therapist*

MARISSA STONE
*Sublette County Teacher &
Inclusion Provider*

NATALIE STRONG
Sublette County Teacher

KIM TALOR
Sublette County Co-Teacher

WENDY WILLIAMS
*Teton County Special
Education Teacher*

KAT WOLAVER
Sublette County Teacher

MEREDITH YETTER
*Special Education,
Administrative Assistant*

TETON COUNTY EDUCATION

GLORIA AGUILAR
Teacher

MARIBEL BAUTISTA
Teacher

ANGIE BILLGER
Teacher

LILIANA BULAT
Support Teacher

COLUMBA CARRILLO
Teacher

ADRIENNE COCA
Teacher

SUSAN DURKIN
Teacher

JUSTIN FINCH
Teacher

RILLA FERREIRA
Teacher

ALEJANDRA FRANCO
Teacher

LIGIA GALEANO
Teacher

DIANA GARCIA DUARTE
Teacher

ARCELIA GARCIA FLORES
Teacher

TERESA GONZALEZ
Kitchen Staff

ALEJANDRA HERNANDEZ
Teacher

MARIA HERNANDEZ
Custodian

ANNIE JOHNSON
Teacher

KATRINA LARSON
Teacher

JENNIFER LOPEZ
Teacher

ARIANNA MAHONEY
Teacher

HEATHER MENKE
Rafter J Program Manager

NORMA MONTIEL
Mercill Program Manager

BETTY MORENO
Teacher

JORGE MOYE
Kitchen Manager

SAMANTHA O'BRIEN
Teacher

BERONICA OSEGUERA
Teacher

NICOLE PHILBIN
Teton County Education Director

EMILY RENDALL
Support Teacher

MARIA SANCHEZ
Teacher

HEIDI SCHRUM
Enrollment Coordinator

ANGELA SPLAVNIC
Teacher

ISIDRA VARGAS
Teacher

ABIGAIL WEBSTER
Teacher

BOARD

BETSY CARLIN
Vice-chair

TAMI CROSSON
Chair

JIM LEWIS
Treasurer

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Secretary

MELANIE BENNETT

MARILEE GORDON

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JESSICA JAUBERT

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LISA PRICE
Emeritus

JEFF GOLTZ
Emeritus

MARK MICKELSON
Emeritus

JANET WOODLAND
Emeritus

AUDREY COHEN DAVIS
Emeritus

GREG MASON
Emeritus

Though it makes us a twinge sad to say so, CLC wishes to congratulate two incredible CLC program directors as they retire from their careers in early education and intervention.

Davey Hough

Special Education Director Davey Hough has been a fixture of our program, capping his remarkable career in Speech Pathology and Early Childhood Special Education with nearly four decades leading our special education program in Teton and Sublette counties. His leadership and caring personality have helped nudge many former students toward becoming prominent community members today. Davey will enjoy some well-deserved family time and travel when he retires in June.



Thank you!

Lety Liera

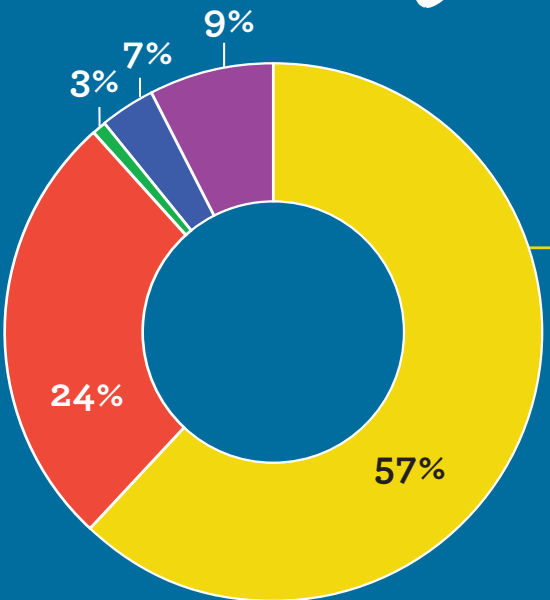
Lety Liera helped found the Head Start and Early Head Start program in Teton County about 20 years ago. Her consistent, dedicated efforts helped shape our Head Start program for Teton County's at-risk families and children into one of the top Head Start programs in the U.S. She's also become a leader in the local Latino community through that time.

A large international nonprofit reached out to Lety with an exciting opportunity as a leader in their foundation. She'll remain with CLC until August and will be available in a consulting capacity for the coming year.

Alongside the strong teams they've built, they'll both be instrumental in hiring and training their successors. Davey and Lety leave big shoes to fill, but we see an opportunity to build on their legacy through the steps we take to fill them. The quality early childhood services you know will remain vibrant through this transition.



BY THE Numbers

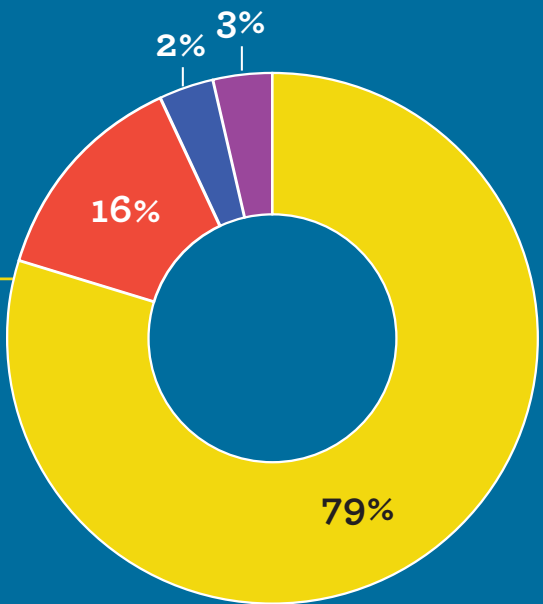


INCOME \$5,456,923

- Government - \$3,127,625
- Program Services Tuition - \$1,326,212
- Fundraising - \$467,518
- In-Kind contributions - \$163,365
- Reserves - \$372,203

EXPENSES \$5,456,923

- Total Payroll & Benefits - \$4,356,192
- All Other Expenses - \$728,231
- Tuition Discounts & Scholarships - \$179,500
- Occupancy, Repair & Maintenance - \$193,000



*Primarily from Latino community - hit extremely hard by COVID (frontline workers), more exposures, more cases, more serious cases.
*Kids lost so many days due to quarantines — average 30% behind where they would normally be
*Summer program to help with kindergarten readiness for these kids
*Previous year, 50% of these families were considered high-risk and homeless, This year, 100% were categorized high-risk AND homeless/ substantial housing instability/etc.
*2/3rd of nutrition during the day (normally) - worked with other orgs to provide food for EHS and HS families

Special thanks

to our corporate sponsors
who support CLC



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*"Children's Learning Center is an
equal opportunity provider."*