



2023-2024
ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I look back on the past year, I'm filled with gratitude and admiration for the amazing people who make Children's Learning Center tick. I've been told that I have big shoes to fill after Patti's retirement, but the truth is, I don't have to do it alone.

CLC is so much more than just a place—it's a community of people who care deeply about supporting young children and their families. From our talented teachers to our compassionate staff to our courageous families, every single person plays a vital role in our mission.

I've had the privilege of seeing firsthand the incredible impact our people have on each other's lives. I've watched teachers go above and beyond to support a child's unique needs, staff members work tirelessly to connect families with vital resources, and families themselves show remarkable strength and resilience in the face of challenges.

I'm also proud of the way our team has come together to support each other through our recent leadership transition. It's not always easy to navigate change, but our staff has shown remarkable resilience, flexibility, and dedication. We are proud to be building CLC's next chapter.

In the pages that follow, you will meet some of the remarkable people who make Children's Learning Center thrive. You'll hear their stories, learn about their passions and challenges, and get a glimpse into the incredible community we're building together.

Thank you for being part of our community. Your support means everything to us, and we're honored to have you by our side as we continue to empower the people who matter most—our children, our families, our staff, and our community.

With gratitude,

Nicole

Executive Director

BOARD

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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.

VISION

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

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.

The *CLC* Team

Working with young children is demanding, physically and emotionally, and our team shows up to work with smiles on their faces, even after the longest days. This dedicated group of people makes CLC come to life, day in and day out. This year, we are celebrating the many staff members who achieved major anniversaries with Children's Learning Center.



JUSTIN FINCH
Owls Teacher
5 years



**ISIDRA VARGAS
HERNANDEZ**
Support Staff
5 years



STACI JONES
Inclusion Provider
5 years



HEIDI SCHRUM
Enrollment Coordinator
10 years



YADIRA SOSA
Head Start Bears Teacher
10 years



JEN BAXTER
Occupational Therapist
15 years



SONIA SCHUPP
Occupational Therapist
15 years



HITZIA GARNICA
Early Head Start Home Visitor
20 years



CRISTINA CAMPOS
Early Head Start Home Visitor
20 years



Farewell to Patti Boyd

After nearly 13 years as the executive director at the helm of Children's Learning Center, Patti Boyd retired at the end of June. When Patti joined the team, CLC's services were not well known outside of the community that accessed them, enrollment was struggling, and funding sources were unstable. Patti brought the importance of early childhood education to the forefront of the community, increased awareness of CLC's services, and grew enrollment by 40 percent. She took CLC's different service areas and skillfully unified them to create a more cohesive program. Patti also championed the importance of early childhood education at the state level, advocating for funding for special education services. We are incredibly grateful for Patti's leadership over the past 13 years, which has stabilized CLC's resources and enabled us to operate as a center of excellence for childcare in our community. Patti's tireless advocacy, infectious enthusiasm, and unrelenting belief in the potential of every child transformed CLC into a place of learning, growth, and joy.

By the *Numbers*



29%

of staff are bilingual



84

staff members



48%

of staff have been with CLC more than 5 years



21%

of staff have been with CLC more than 10 years



Wraparound *Care*

Ninety percent of brain development happens by age five. The experiences children have in the first five years of their lives largely shape their brain development and long-term outcomes. At CLC, we work with families to provide an array of services to support not only the individual development of the child, but also the entire family. Many of the families we serve are facing a variety of challenges, from language barriers to financial stress to developmental delays or disabilities. Our team helps parents and caregivers navigate complex systems to ensure the best care for their children and positive outcomes for their families. From the first developmental screenings to sending kids off to kindergarten, we are committed to providing comprehensive, wraparound care for local families.

By the *Numbers*



125

children received special education services



515

developmental screenings



68

developmental evaluations



The Impact of Early Intervention

For one local family, the impact of these early intervention services has been profound. First-time parents Nida and Dionis first noticed their son, Agon, was not meeting some critical developmental milestones when he was about six months old. As first-generation immigrants, they were unfamiliar – culturally and logistically – with how to address their concerns. Through their own research, they found out about CLC, scheduled a developmental assessment, and soon began working with our team of therapists. A key member of this team was Robbi, an occupational therapist who has worked at CLC for nearly 30 years. “Looking for and accessing

resources is not part of the culture where we are both from,” Dionis reflects. “Robbi helped us understand what resources were available, walked us through everything, and worked with our Agon a lot that first year. She has changed the trajectory of our son’s life.” A key milestone for the Ristos was securing a full-time childcare spot for Agon at CLC’s Rafter J Center, where he now receives comprehensive services from a special education team housed in the same building as his childcare program. The special education team is only steps away from his classroom and comes in to support classroom teachers when needed.

“

The level of anxiety we experience as parents on a daily basis has diminished tremendously because of CLC. It’s extremely comforting to be able to trust the adults that are taking care of your child. The care Agon receives is innate and genuine; we never even have to ask for that. When we drop him off in the morning, we feel as confident as possible that he is in good hands and is being taken care of. We have immense gratitude for the whole team at CLC.

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Family Wellbeing

The Head Start program not only supports the development of children from birth to age 5, but also the wellbeing of their entire family. Parents have the opportunity to participate in fitness classes, receive CPR training, socialize with other parents, and more. Our team also works to connect families to other available resources in the community such as the Jackson Cupboard, Santa Claus Fund, and health care providers. These programs aim to positively influence the wellbeing of children and families in our community.

By the Numbers



79

children enrolled in Early Head Start/Head Start program



271

children enrolled in childcare across Sublette and Teton County



443

meals per day

Guadalupe's Family

Guadalupe is a single mother of three children, Brittany (9), Cain (7), and Eyden (1). She first got involved in the Head Start program when Brittany was 18 months old. Now, her older kids are in elementary school, while Eyden works with a home visitor through the Early Head Start program. One of CLC's home visitors, Hitzia, comes to Guadalupe's home weekly to meet with Eyden. Guadalupe and Eyden also participate in two socialization sessions each month with other families who are part of the Early Head Start program. Guadalupe has been a very active parent, taking CPR classes, participating in the fitness program, and

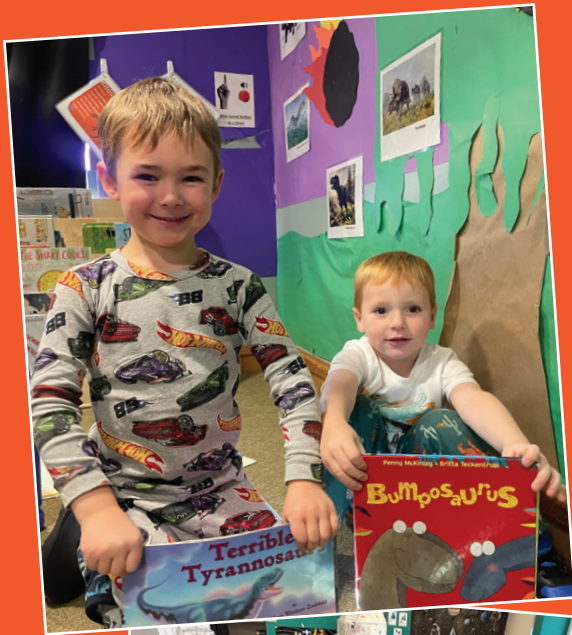


volunteering her time by serving on the Policy Council, a group of parents who help make decisions about the Head Start program. She has connected with community resources like the Jackson Cupboard and Santa Claus Fund. Guadalupe is one of our greatest parent advocates, often referring other families in the community.

“

CLC has helped me get involved with other parents in the community and be a great mom.

”



Tuition Assistance

While the importance of early childhood education cannot be denied, the impact of childcare expenses on a family's budget can be significant. As a nonprofit, we choose to fundraise to keep tuition rates more affordable for families in our community. Even still, the expense of childcare can be a challenge, which is where our tuition assistance program comes into play. This extra assistance helps keep working families working without having to worry about their children during the day.

By the *Numbers*



\$154,200

in tuition assistance
(including staff discounts)



42%

of families received
tuition assistance

“

Receiving financial assistance through the CLC scholarship program has been life-changing for our family. It's given us the opportunity to work and provide for our kids, knowing they're in a safe, nurturing environment that supports their growth and development.

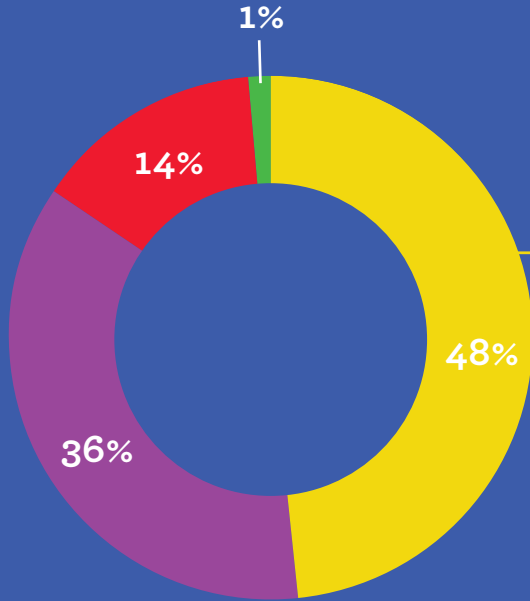
—Tuition Assistance Recipient

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2023-2024

Financials

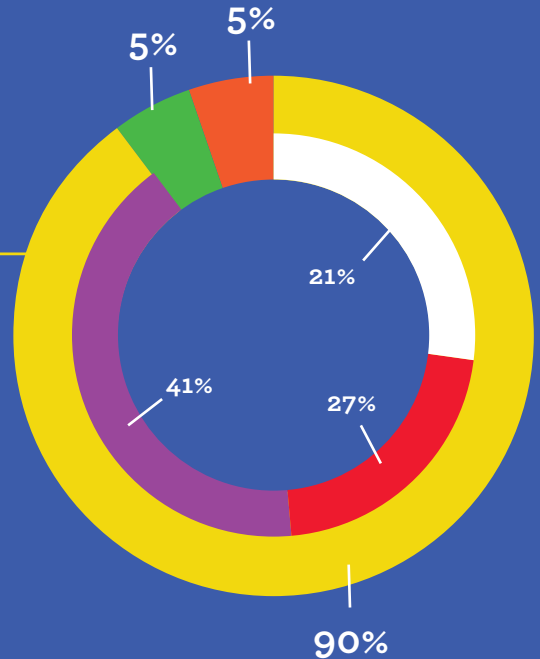


INCOME \$6,540,087

- Government - \$3,161,117
- Tuition - \$2,366,573
- Private Donations - \$936,940*
- Other - \$75,457

EXPENSES \$6,348,899

- Program - \$5,708,342
- Special Education - \$1,741,561
- Early Head Start/Head Start - \$1,349,800
- Tuition-Based Childcare - \$2,616,981
- Administration - \$313,740
- Fundraising - \$326,817



*Fundraising income does not include funds raised this fiscal year that are designated for Housing and Staff Sustainability from Hughes Charitable Fund and CLC's Contingency Fund.



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

RAFTER J CENTER

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Jackson, WY 83001

MERCILL CENTER

145 Mercill Avenue
Jackson, WY 83001

PINEDALE CENTER

191 South Franklin Street
Pinedale, WY 82941

BIG PINEY CENTER

650 Piney Drive
Big Piney, WY 83113