2020 Impact Report
A Year of Accomplishments.

YWCA Child Care Resource & Referral

Toledo | Mansfield | Lima
The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral is a division of the YWCA of Northwest Ohio. The Child Care Resource and Referral serves families and child care providers in 20 counties in Northwest Ohio from our three regional offices.

Our Funders:
The YWCA CCR&R is funded by grants from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, United Way of Greater Toledo, United Way of Greater Lima, and United Way of Crawford County.
Services provided by the YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral

- One-on-one classroom and administrative support (technical assistance) for child care providers
- Professional development training sessions for child care professionals
- Business Supports for child care program owners and administrators
- Step Up to Quality star rating assistance for both family child care and center-based child care programs
- Community outreach and advocacy on the importance of high quality child care
- Fully stocked resource library for child care professionals & families
- Individualized child care searches for families
- Training and programming for parents and families
- Collaboration with community partners to support early childhood education initiatives
COVID-19 RESPONSE

61 Childcare searches during the pandemic

Virtual
- Trainings for providers
- Educational activities & storytimes for families
- Technical Assistance for providers
- Community meetings & events

Assistance with PPP & EIDL LOANS for small businesses

Helped providers
Acquire PPE
Facemasks
Cleaning supplies
Hand sanitizer

232 Grab & Go activity bags for children & families

23 Early Childhood Advocacy opportunities
Helped providers navigate pandemic licensing rules

Introduced providers to ELRO Early Learning Resources Ohio
- Recommendations for policy and procedure changes for programs
- Communication examples & letters for parents on important topics

Offered a listening ear for providers and parents.
Assisting with maintaining their personal mental health
All child care program administrators and child care staff members working in ODJFS licensed programs are required to complete a minimum of 6 hours of child development training each fiscal year. In addition, administrators and child care staff members working at Step Up to Quality rated programs must complete at least 20 hours of Ohio Approved professional development every two years. The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral supports child care programs by providing trainings to meet these needs.

The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral was awarded the CDA Gold Standard in 2019. The Gold Standard is an earned recognition that demonstrates qualified organizations have met rigorous criteria for student services and professional development so students can be assured the training they receive will prepare them for the CDA exam and verification visit. YWCA CCR&R Specialists also serve as PD Specialists, completing CDA verification visits in order to help CDA candidates complete their credential.

**Health & Safety Trainings**

The YWCA CCR&R provides affordable health and safety trainings in order to support child care programs in meeting licensing requirements for trained staff. We currently offer Child Abuse Prevention and Recognition, Communicable Disease Recognition and Prevention, and First Aid and CPR in all three offices.
Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) is a five-star quality rating and improvement system administered by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. SUTQ recognizes and promotes learning and development programs that meet quality program standards that exceed licensing health and safety regulations. The program standards are based on national research identifying standards which lead to improved outcomes for children. Programs that are Star Rated show higher quality classroom practices and improved outcomes for children compared to programs that are not Star Rated.
In order to support child care providers in earning their initial Step Up to Quality star ratings, and increasing their ratings, the YWCA CCR&R offers personalized technical assistance. This technical assistance includes introducing program staff to quality measurement tools such as classroom and program self-assessments, assisting with curriculum implementation, coaching on lesson planning and developmentally appropriate practice, training on developmental screenings and formative assessments, and partnering with programs to provide educational workshops for families.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDA 1: Toledo</th>
<th>SDA 7: Lima</th>
<th>SDA 12: Mansfield</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PFCC Programs: 313</td>
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<td>Centers: 165</td>
<td>Centers: 34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type B: 113</td>
<td>Type B: 18</td>
<td>Type B: 57</td>
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% of Rated PFCC Programs:
- SDA 1: Toledo - 95%
- SDA 7: Lima - 97%
- SDA 12: Mansfield - 96%

In 2020, YWCA CCR&R staff ensured that an average of 96% of ODJFS licensed child care programs in 20 counties become Step Up to Quality rated. This reflects an increase in understanding the importance of quality early childhood education and the outcomes it has for children.
The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral offers a variety of services for parents and families. Each of our three offices personalizes parent services specifically for the needs of the local community. Our Lima office hosts Family Fun Learning Groups, while our Toledo office focuses on offering parenting trainings, and the Mansfield office participates in nearly every family-centered community event in their four-county area.

Our Outreach Parent Specialists also support the work that we do for Step Up to Quality by partnering with child care programs to host family education sessions on topics such as addressing challenging behaviors, parenting styles, and supporting early language and literacy.

In addition to programming for parents, the YWCA CCR&R assists families in locating high quality child care programming through our personalized child care searches. YWCA CCR&R Outreach Parent Specialists are trained to assist families looking for care for children with special needs, those with limited English speaking skills, and families dealing with homelessness. They are familiar with local initiatives so they can appropriately provide community resources to families in need.
The YWCA CCR&R continues to actively collaborate with the University of Toledo on the Project Open House grant. This project will allow our team to better assist child care providers in working with children and families with special needs.

YWCA CCR&R staff have collaborated with local Boards of DD to provide trainings for child care providers on topics related to inclusive practices. In the past year we have been able to offer a variety of brand new trainings, such as:
- Successful Environments for all children
- Engaging with Families and Professionals to Support Children with Special Needs
- The Best Recipe for Inclusion

In the coming year we will continue to increase our training offerings on these topics as we support providers in serving all children.

The YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral staff reaches out to local employers to illustrate how our services can assist employees in locating reliable child care. In addition to collaborating with members of the local business community to support their workforce, our staff also engages with a wide variety of community organizations. We are able to share the message of the importance of high quality child care for all children through each of these collaborations, while also ensuring that members of the community are familiar with the services that we provide.

**LOCAL OUTREACH**

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<td>The YWCA CCR&amp;R office in Toledo has been heavily involved in the Toledo Universal PreK initiative. Our role has been to serve as advocates for child care providers and parents throughout the planning process, to ensure that their voices are heard as we move forward towards the implementation of the project.</td>
<td>Mobile Learning Labs are opportunities for CCR&amp;R staff in Mansfield to deliver to families in Crawford County. Staff are able to share information about the importance of school readiness with adults while children participate in hands-on activities. This initiative is supported through the Crawford County United Way.</td>
<td>The YWCA CCR&amp;R office in Lima continues to support early learning skills through monthly Family Fun Learning Group sessions funded by United Way of Greater Lima, and Baby Talk events. Staff are able to provide educational materials and parent education information to assist with preparing children for kindergarten.</td>
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Over the past four years, the YWCA CCR&R has worked tirelessly to develop a comprehensive network of child care business supports. In 2019-2020 the CCR&R offered two rounds of the Business Success Institute with participation from center based and Family Child Care administrators and owners, representative of all 3 regional delivery areas. The Starting a Child Care Program training series has been continually offered in all three offices throughout the past year.

For the first time, child care providers in Northwest Ohio were able to receive in-depth support specifically designed for the unique challenges that child care businesses face. The YWCA CCR&R team is proud to serve as the “go-to” resource for child care program owners and administrators, whether they are new to the field or have decades of experience.

**Starting A Program**
Those interested in opening a child care program, FCC or center, can attend one of our regularly scheduled trainings to learn about the process of becoming licensed.

**Business Trainings**
Regularly scheduled business trainings that are tailored to the needs of child care providers. All trainings are Ohio Approved. An assortment of training levels are available for owners and administrators with different degrees of experience.

**Business Success Institute**
A participant-guided training experience that allows administrators to network with peers while strengthening their business skills and earning 22 hours of Ohio Approved training.

**Business Success Summit**
Attendees at the annual Business Success Summit receive access to brand new seminars on regularly requested topics. They also have the opportunity to network with other program owners and administrators, community agencies, and local business professionals.

**Business Technical Assistance**
Specialized technical assistance in the areas of business management and program operation is available for those interested in one-on-one support. This is an ideal opportunity for programs who have identified specific needs.
“The YWCA has helped me immensely throughout the entire process of achieving 5 Stars. They helped me get my education on track to ensure I would qualify for 5 stars. They had my back with any and all of my needs throughout the entire process. I had a team behind me in the YWCA.”

Melissa Canada
Family Child Care Provider
5 Star Rated
FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services
United Way of Crawford Co
United Way of Lima
United Way of Greater Toledo
Greater Toledo Community Foundation
The Andersons
PNC Bank
Stranahan Foundation
Promedica
Center for Non Profit Resources

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