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Sincerely,

Dear Friends:

What a great year! Thanks to the dedication and commitment of the staff and the board of directors, the agency continued providing quality services to families and childcare providers and we ended the fiscal year with a positive fund balance.

This past year the agency expanded its work through the oversight of the Wayne Oakland Macomb Resource Center. The Resource Center is responsible for quality improvement, support and professional development for all childcare providers in the tri-county communities. Leaps and Bounds Family Services is the organizational lead on this initiative. This effort doubles the agency staff and operating budget.

Through the American Recovery Plan Act, childcare providers were eligible to provide for grants to support quality. The Resource Center staff assisted 3,465 childcare providers in the three counties apply for and receive over $254 million in grant dollars.

Through our professional development work with childcare providers, 145 individuals received their national certification: The Child Development Associate and over 4,000 childcare providers participated in 357 training sessions.

Our work with parents and their young children remains part of the agency’s core mission: this past year, over 590 home visits were provided to families in Macomb and Wayne counties with children under 5 years of age. Additionally, these families received learning materials, new children’s books and parents received other supports to aid them in being their child’s first and best teacher.

None of this work would be possible without your continued support of our agency. I am deeply moved by your generosity. Thank you!

I hope each of you have healthy, joyful and peaceful holidays and a wonderful 2023!

Sincerely,

Denise
Children Provider Training, a Workforce Development Success Story

Through the Early Learning Communities, we provide training to home and childcare center staff. Trainings are free, approved by the State of Michigan and include a focus on early child development, classroom behaviors, family supports, appropriate practices and curriculum for multi-cultural and multi-racial environments, health and safety. 4,614 providers received training.

The Resource Center staff worked closely with 817 licensed childcare providers with those providers having the licensing capacity to serve 39,000 children. Providers received coaching and support to improve quality.

The Agency is one of only two organizations in Michigan who have attained the CDA Gold Standard from high quality training. This year, 145 individuals participated in the national credential training.

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners approved a grant to Leaps and Bounds to provide CDA training to an additional 100 childcare providers starting in October 2022 for 1 fiscal year.

The Resource Center and the three Early Learning Communities (ACCESS, Oakland Family Services, and Leaps and Bounds Family Services) held a full day, in person conference for childcare providers at Macomb Community College in August. 100 childcare providers registered for the day which included a keynote and 4 workshop sessions.

Maintaining a Steady Course

The agency was again able to end the fiscal year within our operating budget thanks to generous contributions from our donors and ongoing grants and contracts. To maintain communication with parents, childcare providers and others, the agency sent 8,878 emails, 5,929 phone calls/texts. Monthly training schedules and information about special events/ opportunities are emailed to over 2,000 childcare providers. The agency posts information and weekly tips for childcare providers on its Facebook page.