



2012 - 2013



COMMUNITY REPORT

Ensuring ALL Orange County children enter school ready to learn.

A GLANCE AT OUR COMMUNITY



33%

Enter school unprepared for kindergarten.

40%

3rd graders are not proficient in reading.



50%

8th graders are not competitive in math.

*Florida Office of Early Learning, Orange County Public Schools and Department of Education

8,000

Monthly average of those on the waiting list to receive child care services.

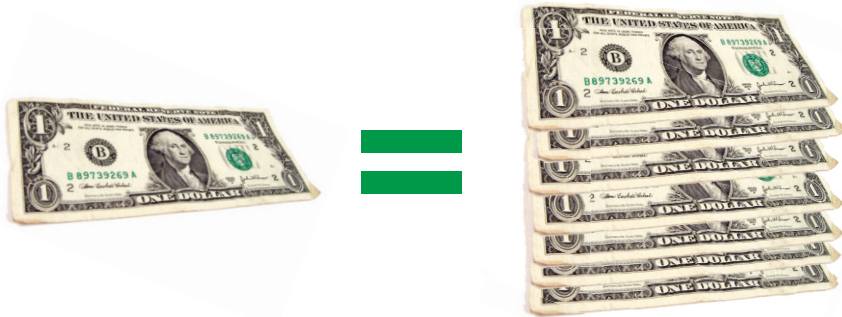


2,000

Employers have employees who receive child care subsidies from the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County.



HOW EARLY EDUCATION HELPS



For every \$1 invested in high-quality preschool, taxpayers save an average of \$7 in future costs for remedial education, loss of labor productivity, and incarceration.

*Age 21 Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Title I Chicago Child-Parent Center Program

With early learning services children are 70% less likely to be arrested for a violent crime.

No Early Learning



With Early Learning



70%

*Age 21 Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Title I Chicago Child-Parent Center Program

Children who attend quality early learning and education programs are more likely to enter school ready to learn than those who have not.



With early learning services children are 30% more likely to attend college.

*Age 21 Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Title I Chicago Child-Parent Center Program

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Orlando Christian Prep

Dr. Ines Schmook

Orange County Public Schools

Dawn Steward

Orange County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc.

Ilene Wilkins, Ed.D

UCP of Central Florida

Tyra Witsell

Orange County Citizens' Commission for Children

Colleen Gallagher

Community Coordinated Care for Children (4C)



Special Thanks to our Community Partners

- City of Orlando
- Community Coordinated Care for Children (4C)
- Community Foundation of Central Florida
- Department of Education, Florida Office of Early Learning
- Florida Blue
- Florida Hospital
- Heart of Florida United Way
- Orange County Citizens' Commission for Children
- Orlando Magic Youth Foundation
- Orlando Sentinel Communications
- Ready, Inc.
- Seminole State College
- Valencia State College
- Walt Disney World
- Winter Park Health Foundation

An additional thank you to our parents and local early care and education providers.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Dear Friends,

Since 1999, the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County has worked to promote future academic success for the children of this community. This focus is embodied in the Coalition's framework, our mission and vision. It drives our continued commitment to regain an economically healthy Orange County which begins, in part, with high-quality early learning access available to all of our community's children.

Of course, this mission doesn't come without challenges. We are working with limited resources while the need for quality early care and education programming increases. However, we still move forward with the help of community partners, business leaders, corporations, foundations and policymakers everywhere who support, encourage and inspire us. We don't do it alone.

We will proceed to build strong, strategic partnerships and be advocates for quality early care and education with the help of volunteers, such as our board of directors, and community partnerships focused on early learning outcomes. We are proud of our accomplishments and we look forward to continue meeting the needs of Orange County's youngest citizens.

Richard Morrison

Regional VP, Florida Hospital
Board Chair

Karen Willis, CNDP

Early Learning Coalition of Orange County
Chief Executive Officer



MISSION

The mission of the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County is to provide unified leadership, support and guidance to ensure that the children of our community have the opportunity to reap the benefits of developmentally appropriate, research-based school readiness and VPK programs, respecting the role of the parent as their child's first teacher.

VISION

All Orange County children will be fully prepared to enter school, ready to learn.

IT'S WHO WE ARE



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

In Orange County, approximately **\$66 million** in federal, state and community supports are invested to provide early care and education, School Readiness and VPK services.



CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL

The Child Care Resource and Referral Program is a service funded by the Coalition and operated by the Community Coordinated Care for Children (4C).

The program provides families with a customized list of early learning providers based on the family's needs.

More than **20,000** requests were received for child care referrals in 2012-2013.

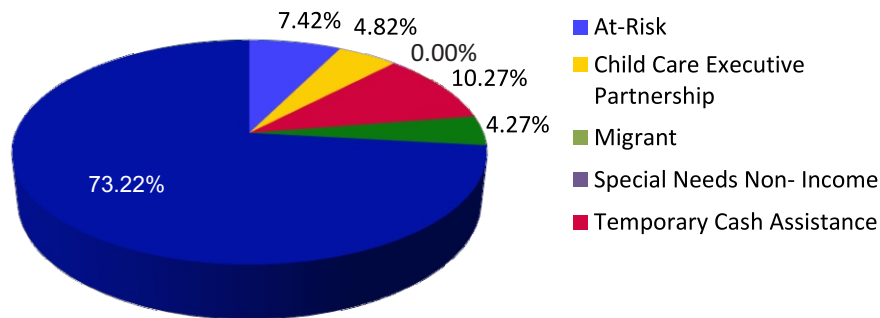
For more information please call: (407) 522-2252

PROGRAMS

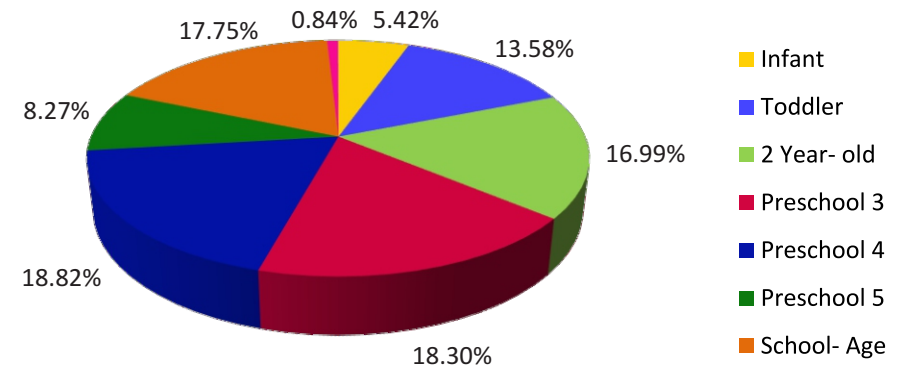
SCHOOL READINESS

The School Readiness Program allowed more than **8,200** families per month to receive safe, affordable and reliable child care for more than **14,000** children. Child care is the key to helping low-income parents get off of public assistance, get jobs and keep jobs, creating an annual **savings for Florida taxpayers of \$3,900 per family.**

Percentage of Payments by funding category



Percentage of Payments by care level



* 2003 The Economic Impact of Child Care in Florida Report by the Children's Forum

VOLUNTARY PRE-KINDERGARTEN (VPK)

More than **12,800** children benefitted from VPK offered by more than **400** providers, providing them with the necessary skills in self-management and emergent literacy skills critical for future academic success. Parents have the option of selecting from either a school year program with 540 instructional hours or a summer program that includes that includes 300 instructional hours.



Call the VPK hotline (407) 532-4254 for more information

CHILD CARE EXECUTIVE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Florida Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) creates a unique partnership by offering an additional benefit to corporate partners and their employees by providing them with financial assistance towards child care tuition. Employers can be partially reimbursed by the coalition for providing this service to their employees who fit eligibility requirements. Tax benefits, increased employee morale, and increased productivity, make this an exciting work-life benefit for all participating partners.

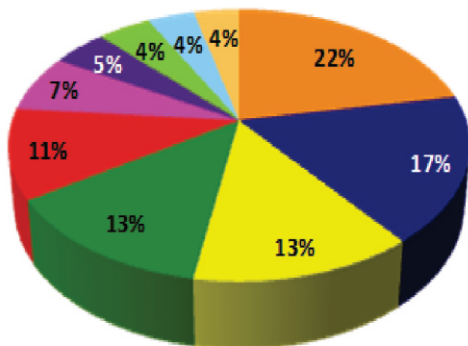


EARLY INVESTMENT MAKES SENSE

We contract with more than **625** local providers, infusing more than **\$4.5 million a month** into our small business community. For every **\$1 invested** in early care and education, School Readiness and VPK, **more than 86 cents is spent** directly on children in early childhood programs.

SECTORS WHERE PARENTS RECEIVING CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE ARE EMPLOYED

- Hospitality
- Education & Health Services
- Government
- Construction
- Wholesale
- Professional Services
- Retail
- Financial
- Other
- Manufacturing



86%



ADDED BENEFITS...

Children who receive quality child care and pre-k services enter kindergarten ready to learn, **avoiding millions of dollars in remedial education.**

The early care and education industry in Florida **generates \$3.87 billion in total revenue and provides parents information about child development and family well-being.** For every \$1 spent, Nobel peace prize, economist Dr. James Heckman places the **return on investment at nearly \$9** when the program's graduates complete their education and start contributing to our Nation's economy.

* 2003 The Economic Impact of Child Care in Florida Report by the Florida Children's Forum

"High-quality early learning guarantees a reduction in spending on entitlements, welfare and incarceration. It also lowers obesity rates, helping to reduce healthcare costs." **U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna, R. - New York**

"We're not preparing our kids for school. Our kids are falling behind. Now America is falling behind. We need to invest in young children." **Actress and Ambassador Jennifer Garner**

*****You can make a difference by supporting the Coalition. For every \$1 invested, it is matched by \$15.67!*****

EARLY INTERVENTION COUNTS

Screening young children enables professionals to identify problems and start treatment during the years when a child's body and brain are quickly developing.

Hearing and Vision Screenings

In the first few years of life, hearing is a critical part of kids' social, emotional, and cognitive development. Even a mild or partial hearing loss can affect a child's ability to speak and understand language.

The good news is hearing problems can be treated if they're caught early — ideally by the time a baby is 3 months old. It is vital to get your child's hearing screened early and evaluated regularly.

Inclusion Services strategize with parents and providers to ensure children with special needs receive the necessary tools to remain in quality child care environments.

Last year, 253 Orange County early care and education providers were visited for inclusion services.

There were 617 total inclusion referral follow-ups extended to child care centers and homes that included observations, consultations, technical assistance, and progressive checks for children with potential developmental delays or behavioral concerns.

465 specific inclusion and 4C referrals were followed up on for children with potential developmental delays or behavioral concerns.



“One out of six children is estimated to be affected by developmental delays, learning disorders, behavioral or social-emotional problems.”

* Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000

QUALITY SUPPORTS



LET'S GET LICENSED! LET'S GET ACCREDITED!

In 2012-2013, one home child care center received their accreditation and four received their licenses to become quality early care and education providers.



GOLD is an ongoing child assessment tool that is web-based and has built-in tools for parental involvement and curriculum planning.

- Over 175 providers participated in GOLD training
- 2,703 children have been observed using Teaching Strategies GOLD

CLASS is an observation tool that focuses on the effective interaction between teachers and children. More than 130 providers participated in CLASS trainings. Concentration is focused in the areas of:

- Emotional Support
- Classroom Organization
- Instructional Support

Hearing and Vision Screenings

- 3,277 children ages 3-5 were eligible for hearing and vision screening.
- 1,008 children passed both the hearing and vision screens
- 1,078 were referred for further testing
- 513 referral confirmations were returned from parents

Early Literacy Enhancement Project

The Early Literacy Enhancement Project (ELEP) was created to assist VPK providers in increasing the number of children entering kindergarten in Orange County with the reading readiness skills necessary to promote future reading success.

The Early Literacy Enhancement Project uses a reliable standardized literacy screening tool to assess over 870 VPK students of whom 49% were determined to be eligible for intervention services.

Using the research-based Nemours BrightStart! curriculum, 34 trained VPK teachers provided twenty weeks of targeted instruction to children in small groups.

ELEP Results:

- 26 VPK providers participated
- 876 children were screened
- 49% of children screened were considered “at-risk” (range 17 – 70%)
- Three centers are no longer low performing providers
- One center showed a 49 point increase in their score
- More than half of the centers showed an increase in their scores
- Overall, VPK providers showed almost 10 point increase in VPK kindergarten readiness rates from 50.3 to 60.2

INVESTING IN OUR EDUCATORS



We provided scholarships to 26 child care teachers and directors receiving their Associates Degrees in Early Childhood Education and/or Florida Child Care Professional Development.

PARENT INITIATIVES



The Parramore Kidz Zone Baby Institute has completed its third year, supporting the parents and children from birth to 5-years-of-age residing in the Parramore Heritage community. The nine-week Baby Institute is designed to help parents of young children build knowledge and skills that result in better parenting, which will lead to better school readiness outcomes for children. In 2012-2013, 37 parents graduated from the Baby Institute that served over 100 children who participated in the nine-week program. The PKZ Baby Institute was made possible by the funding and resources from the following.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Central Florida



BLOCKFest™

- BLOCKFest offers a three-hour training for early childhood teachers that supports children and families understanding of early math and science through exploration of block play.
- Hands-on instruction was offered to providers and parents to increase young children's math potential and interest.
- Children's knowledge of math concepts when they enter school is a strong predictor of later achievement, even stronger than early reading ability. (Society for Research in Child Development, 2008.)

* Corporations interested in partnering should contact (407) 259-2468



SPECIAL INITIATIVES



Thanks to the Orlando Magic Youth Foundation, 395 babies and toddlers received better care as a result of their teachers participation in the OMYF Infant/Toddler CDA Coaching Program. In 2012-2013 this program offered 80 hours of specific infant/toddler training to early childhood teachers, creating the following outcomes:

- Nineteen infant/toddler teachers were awarded their national infant/toddler Child Development Associate credential
- 89.5% of teachers from the 2012 OMYF program remain with their centers
- 100% of teachers are now online with the Teaching Strategies Gold assessment
- Twenty-four infant/toddler teachers are currently in training to receive their CDA credential in 2013-2014

"[This program] will change things long-term. If you look at a young infant/toddler teacher who is going to be in the profession another 10 to 20 years and look at the number of children that will benefit, they are impacting more lives than they realize."

-OMYF Child Care Center Director



FOOD SECURITY TASK FORCE

Ensuring our Babies and Toddlers will Thrive in Life, Strive in School and have a Lifelong Drive to Succeed!

This task force engages individuals and agencies working with young children and their families to look at ways of providing collaborative services around issues of food security and young children's nutritional needs. Bringing the early learning community together with other agencies such as ROCK, WIC, Nemours and Second Harvest, the task force is making a great impact.

As a result of this task force and its leadership, Benefits Connection has been able to share information with hundreds of early childhood providers in Orange County and has established a collaborative venture with 4C which will enable greater food security in hundreds of centers.

*Studies have found that food insecurity and poor nutrition have been associated with health problems for children that may hinder their ability to function normally and participate fully in school and other activities. Babies and Toddlers, from birth to five, need a **reliable source of nutritious food** to support healthy development so they enter school ready to learn.*

-Feeding America, 2013

PRESCHOOL AMBASSADORS

The Preschool Ambassadors volunteer program was established in partnership with the Adult Literacy League to provide supplemental literacy activities to children in VPK classrooms and engage families in early literacy activities.

The Ready Reader volunteer initiative saw over 20 volunteers working at over 20 VPK sites throughout Orange County contributing over 1200 hours of volunteer service reading to young children.

BASKETS FOR BOOKS

The Orlando Magic, as part of their "Baskets for Books" program provided more than 890 backpacks with age-appropriate books for infants, toddlers, preschool and school-age children at 14 child care centers.

In addition, several child care centers were selected to receive a specially decorated Orlando Magic Reading Corner in their program with additional books to better support family engagement in reading.



SIGNATURE EVENTS



Title Sponsor:



Over 365 friends of early care and education attended the 3rd annual The First Five Years Gala held Saturday, June 22, 2013 at Disney's World Showplace Pavilion at Epcot hosted by the Early Learning Coalitions of Orange and Osceola Counties.

For every dollar raised at this event, match contributions provided an additional \$15.67. Over \$80,000 was raised bringing in more than \$1,200,000 for early learning programs supporting children in Orange and Osceola Counties.

Thanks to our additional 2013 Gala sponsors: Florida Hospital, Orlando Sentinel, Charles Schwab, Orlando Health, Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc., CenturyLink, Darden Restaurant Group, Nemours, Orlando Utilities Commission, Osceola County School Board, Baggage Airline Guest Services, Inc., Barfield & Associates, CenterState Bank of Florida, City of Winter Park (Commissioner Sprinkel), City of Orlando (Commissioner Ings), Concord Management, Heart of Florida United Way, IPRG, Inc., Kaplan Early Learning Company, Ladybird Academy, Lake Nona Institute, Lakeshore Learning, Mears Transportation, Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando Magic, Osceola County Commissioners, Osceola County School Board, Osceola County Sheriff's Office, Patricia and Roy Ambinder, SeaWorld, SunTrust Bank, University of Central Florida, Universal Orlando, Valencia State College, and Westgate Resorts Foundation

Join us June 21, 2014 by calling 407-377-1212 or visit www.firstfiveyearsgala.org

Third annual State of Early Care and Education

In February 2013, More than 200 local business leaders and educators attending the third annual State of Early Care and Education breakfast forum, "Focused on the First Five Years." The interactive panel discussed ways to promote the use of math and science for young children.

According to the Florida Chamber of Commerce's Florida Scoreboard, there were more than 33,000 jobs in science, technology engineering and mathematics (STEM) that were unfilled. That number is expected to be nearly four times that amount by 2018.

Since today's infants and toddlers are tomorrow's business leaders, we hope you join us February 26, 2014 for our fourth annual State of Early Care and Education.

To find out more, please visit our website, www.elcoc.org

Thanks to our 2013 SECE sponsors: Nemours Children's Hospital, PNC Bank, Sir Speedy, Teaching Strategies, Inc., and Walt Disney World



COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Best Business Practices Task Force

Task Force works in conjunction with various partners to collaborate and facilitate provider access to professional business training, education, and best practices from the child care network.

Jaime Pinero
CenturyLink

Colleen Gallagher
Community Coordinated Care for Children, 4C

Lorna Henry
Orlando Sentinel

Joyce Hinton
Workforce Central Florida

Rendy Bethel Avila
Bethel-Avila Family Childcare Home

Lois Smith
ELCOC Staff Liaison

Board Governance Committee

Committee is responsible for implementing action steps in five areas to enhance board service: Roles and Responsibilities, Composition, Knowledge, Effectiveness, and Leadership.

Betty Martinez Lowery, Chair
Walt Disney World

Tyra Witsell
Orange County Citizens' Commission for Children

Patricia Ambinder
Community Volunteer

Jaime Pinero
CenturyLink

Lorna Y. Henry
Orlando Sentinel

Karen Willis
ELCOC Staff Liaison

Executive Committee

Except for the power to amend the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Executive Committee shall have all of the powers and authority of the Board of Directors in the intervals between meetings of the Board of Directors, subject to the directions and control of the Board of Directors.

Richard Morrison, Chair
Florida Hospital

Betty Martinez Lowery, Vice Chair
Walt Disney World

Laura Kroupa-Williamson, Treasurer
Darden Restaurants

Robert C. Wheeler, Secretary
Robert C. Wheeler CPA, CFE

Ilene Wilkins, Ed.D. At-Large
UCP of Central Florida

Karen Willis
ELCOC Staff Liaison

Finance Committee

Committee is responsible for developing and reviewing appropriate accounting and fiscal procedures and internal controls; reviewing and recommending an annual budget and subsequent modifications thereof; and conducting oversight in the selection of the audit firm and completion of the audit.

Laura Kroupa-Williamson, Chair
Darden Restaurants

Lonnie Bell
Orange County Board of Commissioners

Dawn Steward
Orange County Healthy Start Coalition

Robert C. Wheeler
Robert C. Wheeler CPA, CFE

Dr. Marilyn Doyle
Orange County Public Schools

Janine Duhon
ELCOC Staff Liaison

Food Security Task Force

This Task Force works through partnerships and collaborations to facilitate parent and provider access to food assistance and nutrition education to assure the essential growth and development of Orange County children.

Patricia Ambinder, Chair
Community Volunteer

Gabriele Bloodworth
Orange County Health Department

Kimberly Grabert, CPM
Florida DCF, Circuit 9

Dr. Jacquelyn Jenkins
Orange County Head Start

Colleen Gallagher
Community Coordinated Care for Children, 4C

Pam Piorowski
Orlando Christian Prep

Dr. Cindy Jurie
ELCOC Staff Liaison

COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Fund Development Task Force

Task Force is Responsible for developing and building a solid and sustainable diversified funding plan to cover program and general/administrative costs of the organization and to provide support for signature initiatives and special events.

Robert C. Wheeler, Chair
Robert C. Wheeler CPA, CFE

Laura Kroupa-Williamson
Darden Restaurants

Dawn Steward
Orange County Healthy Start Coalition

El Cabrel Lee
ELCOC Staff Liaison

Literacy & Reading Task Force

Task Force works to identify strategies which offer the best possible opportunity for children to read on grade level by the end of third grade.

Dr. Jacquelyn Jenkins
Orange County Head Start

Adult Literacy League Representative

Rendy Bethel Avila
Bethel-Avila Family Childcare Home

Lois Smith
ELCOC Staff Liaison

Gabriele Bloodworth
Orange County Health Department

Dr. Timothy Blair, Ph.D
University of Central Florida

The First Five Years Gala Steering Committee

Committee serves as the leading body for the fundraising and donor solicitation, logistical planning and execution of the annual The First Five Years Gala.

Charlie Rogers
Florida Traditions Bank

Rufus Barfield
Barfield Communications

Robert C. Wheeler
Robert C. Wheeler CPA, CFE

Laura Kroupa-Williamson
Darden Restaurants

Betty Martinez Lowery
Walt Disney World

Karen Willis
Orange County Staff Liaison

Angie Sola
Walt Disney World

Susan Sunka
Osceola County Staff Liaison

Victor Salgado
Wild Palms Productions

El Cabrel Lee
Orange County Staff Liaison

Quality Initiatives Committee

Committee is responsible for overseeing the identification, prioritization, development and implementation of all quality initiatives undertaken by the Board of Directors.

Dr. Jacquelyn Jenkins, Chair
Orange County Head Start

Nicholas Bekas
Valencia College

Rendy Bethel Avila
Bethel-Avila Family Childcare Home

Dr. Marilyn Doyle
Orange County Public Schools

Pamela Piorkowski
Orlando Christian Prep

Ilene Wilkins, Ed.D.
UCP of Central Florida

Lois Smith
ELCOC Staff Liaison

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Early Learning Coalition of Orange County in collaboration with many organizations and companies participated in more than 30 outreach events to promote School Readiness and VPK services including but not limited to . . .

**Back to School Fair - Orlo Vista Park
Back to School Fair - Taft Neighborhood Center for Families
Back to School Fair - Barnett Park
Back to School Fair - Jones High School
Back to School Fair - Church of God Winter Garden
State of Early Care and Education
Parramore Kidz Zone Baby Institute Parent Group
Pinwheels for Prevention Press Conference to raise awareness and combat child abuse
Orange County Early Care and Education Provider Appreciation Recognition
Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!
Florida Children's Week Family Fun Day
Hispanic Expo
Valencia Learning Day
Spring Fiesta in the Park
The First Five Years Gala
WDW Magic Kingdom Cast Community Resource Event
Young Fathers of Central Florida Conference**

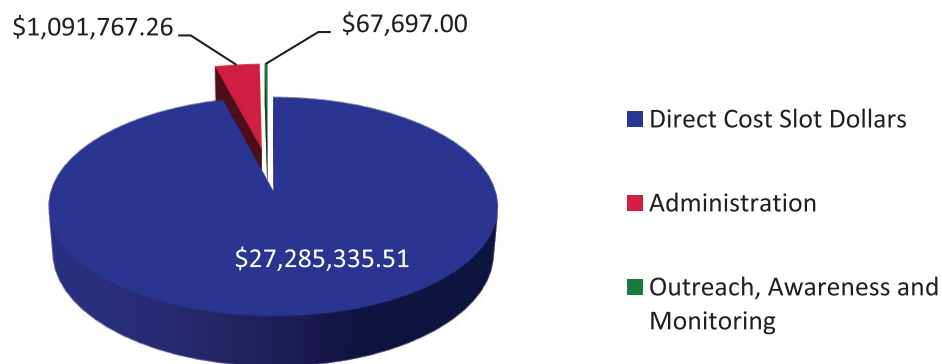


FISCAL SUMMARY



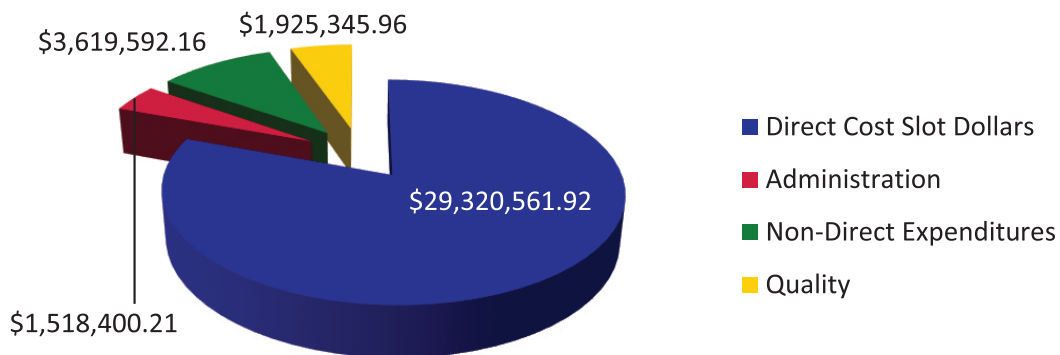
During the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Coalition's total Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program budget was \$28,757,794

VPK Expenditures by Category

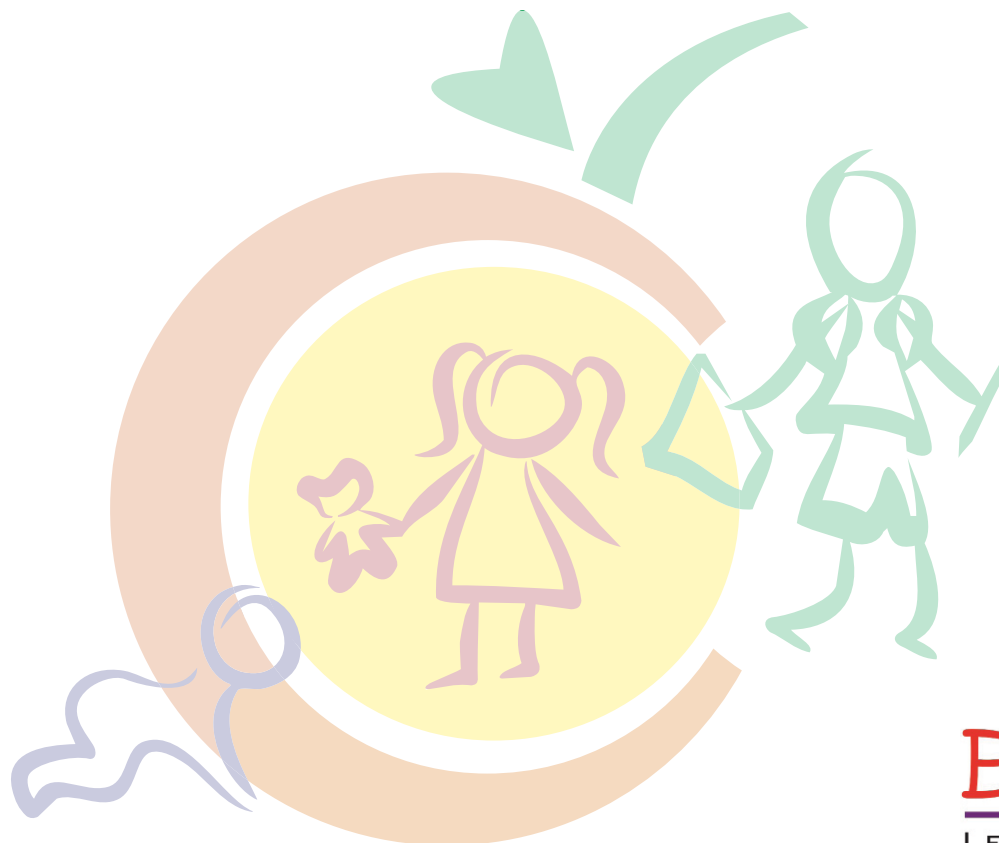


During the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Coalition's total School Readiness Program operating budget was \$36,390,263.

School Readiness Expenditures by Category



A special thank you to Image Graphics for donating printing services for this report.



OFFICE OF
Early Learning
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

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to view our website



www.elcoc.org