



Arlington Area Childcare, Inc.

An Early Childhood Education Center

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ARLINGTON AREA CHILD CARE ANNUAL REPORT 2024

As the new Executive Director of Arlington Area Childcare Inc., I am excited to write this Annual Report for you. It will highlight the center's fantastic accomplishments and explain our current areas of need.

In 2024, 77 students from Arlington, Sunderland, Sandgate, and neighboring towns attended our program part-time or full-time. These children (aged six weeks to twelve years) attended our Early Education program, Afterschool program, and Summer Camp.

Accomplishments-

- Maintained our 4 STARS with the State of Vermont.
- Maintaining SEED AND SEW accreditation.
- Family Advocacy Program- Our program continued its diaper and wipes bank and our food shelf and Christmas wish program that helped assist five local families with Christmas essentials for their families. We added Holiday meals to our programs, giving a total of 6 families and 30 people complete holiday meals at both Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Fundraisers—Our center has worked hard in the last year to continue our essential annual fundraisers, such as the Mac and Cheese, Pizza, and Cheesecake fundraisers, which benefit the children within our program. We added a restaurant fundraiser, a 50/50 raffle, and a school support fundraiser. Our staff, board, and families all unite to make these fundraisers successful.
- Staff Growth—We currently have 11 teachers enrolled in CCV, either in college courses or the Fundamentals for Early Childhood Professionals course, to further their education. We also offer half- and full-day training to help our current staff members earn 30 professional development hours annually. We currently have all qualified staff working in-house. We have been able to offer our staff more competitive pay and time off as well.

- Camp Community Connections—This past Summer, we were excited to have our School Ageders for the entire summer with around 25 campers per day. The campers engaged in many different enrichment programs. To highlight one, the Music Junk Man taught the children how to repurpose materials and make music. They all participated in a concert that was featured in the Bennington Banner. Our camp remains the only one in our area for summer with a waiting list (a mile long).
- We are currently partnering with many different community and state programs, such as First Children Finance, Let's Grow Kids, VTAEYC, Vermont Afterschool, Building Bright Futures, the Directors group of Bennington County, Arlington Area Alliance, NAEYC TEACH, and CCV, and we are growing our connection with Stratton Mountain Foundation and other partners.

Sandgate's contribution has remained the same for many years and will be all we seek this year as well.

Again, thank the area communities for supporting our program, special events, and fundraisers. We couldn't keep the program running without you!

Ginelle Hunter, ECMH-E®
Executive Director
Arlington Area Childcare Inc.