

Community Representatives

Jacqueline Amor-Zitzleberger—Penn State Cooperative Extension
Steve Berfield—Clarion Jefferson Head Start
Lisa Buchwitz—Family Day Care Provider
Nicole Cable—DZ Kids Day Care Center
Bibiana Chestnut—Penn State Cooperative Extension
Darlene Constantine—Gateway Health Plan
Joyce Cooper—Punxsutawney Elementary Schools
Rhonda Dressler—Jefferson County Children and Youth Services
Lori Fulton—Jefferson County Department of Health
Paula Fye—Punxsutawney Area Hospital
Russ Henry—Jefferson County CareerLink
Michelle Hetrick—Child Care Information Services
Debra Juart—Family Day Care Provider
Janine Lesser—PA Head Start State Collaboration Project
Tammy Liebert—Crayon Castle Child Care Center
Eukie Lolley—North Clarion Family Center
Erin McLaughlin—Brookville YMCA Learning and Caring Center
Deanna McLean—Creative Kids Learning Center
Paula Quick—Playhouse Children's Center and Pre-School
Gina Radaker—Passages, Inc.
Kim Rhodes—Mentor Parent Program
Chris Rodgers—Child Care Resource Developers
Sarah Seigel—Choice Enterprises Family Program
Linda Slater—Family Day Care Provider
Linda Smith—Playhouse Children's Center and Pre-School
Denise Storer—Creative Kids Learning Center
Janet Swartzfager—Swartzfager Child Care Center
Melissa Travis—Infant Stimulation Program
Robyn Young—The Robyn's Nest

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Who Is Watching the Children?

Early Care and Education

Clarion and Jefferson Counties

Program Year
July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

A project of Clarion-Jefferson
Community Action, Inc.



JEFFERSON COUNTY

The following information summarizes the status of early care and education in Jefferson County.

EARLY EDUCATION

- 8 Head Start facilities
- 274 Children are enrolled in Head Start Programs in the bi-county area
- 5 nursery and pre-schools (separate from day care providers)

EARLY CARE

- 5 new child care facilities, 4 family day care homes and 1 group, opened between July 2003 and June 2004
- 2 Family day care homes closed

There are a total of:

- 23 family day care homes equaling 138 slots
- 2 group day care homes equaling 24 slots
- 5 child care centers equaling 383 slots
- 83 relative/neighbor providers equaling 249 slots
- 794 child care slots are available for Jefferson County children

Keystone Stars Program Participation

- Brookville YMCA Learning and Caring Center has achieved Star 1
- Playhouse Children's Center and Pre-school has achieved Star 1
- 5 providers received First Step to Stars Grant funds from Child Care Resource Developers to improve the quality of care they offer

KEY SUCCESSSES

The Transportation Subcommittee reached an agreement between a child care facility, Area Transportation Authority and the school district to resolve a busing issue that had plagued the county for several years.

CLARION COUNTY

The following information summarizes the status of early care and education in Clarion County.

EARLY EDUCATION

- 6 Head Start facilities
- 274 children are enrolled in Head Start Programs in the bi-county area
- 4 nursery and pre-schools (separate from day care providers)

EARLY CARE

- 4 new child care facilities, 3 family day care homes and 1 center, opened between July 2003 and June 2004
- 2 family day care homes and 1 group home closed

There are a total of:

- 11 family day care homes equaling 66 slots
- 3 group day care homes equaling 36 slots
- 12 child care centers equaling 646 slots
- 60 relative/neighbor providers equaling 180 slots
- 928 child care slots are available for Clarion County children

Keystone Stars Program Participation

- Creative Kids Learning Center has achieved Star 1
- Clarion University's Siler Center has achieved Star 4
- 5 providers received First Step to Stars Grant funds from Child Care Resource Developers to improve the quality of care they offer

KEY SUCCESSSES

3325 families in the bi-county area were directly reached through outreach efforts that included trainings, events and mailings.