

# **SOUTHERN KENNEBEC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 2021 ANNUAL REPORT**



*Celebrating 55 Years of Service  
Providing Early Care and Education Programs to Children and Families*



Dear Friends,

We are pleased to provide our Annual Report for 2021.

This year, SKCDC celebrates 55 years of service to the children and families of Southern Kennebec County. These photographs from days gone by remind us of SKCDC's long history of early childhood education and comprehensive family services. We are honored to support families and recognize the daily efforts of our staff, volunteers and community partners to provide the highest quality services to children and families participating in SKCDC programs.

SKCDC's child development programs represent services for over 260 children and their families in southern Kennebec County. Over the past year, early care and education programs were provided in ten centers, including seven public preschool collaboration classrooms. A new partnership classroom opened in Somerville in September 2020. In addition, SKCDC supports Family Child Care Homes in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program and serves as an authorized Car Seat Distribution Center.

We look forward to this next program year and rededicate ourselves to offering quality programs, in partnership with families and the community, to improve opportunities for children and to support their public school readiness and success.

Onward!

Sincerely,

Staci Fortunato  
President, Board of Directors

Cristina Salois  
Agency Director



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Staci Fortunato, President
- Janet Slade, Vice President
- Brent Hall, Treasurer
- Theresa Violette, Secretary
- Angela Hamlin
- Laurie Glidden
- Sandy Niles
- Amy Abbott
- Nancy Hale
- Nancy Provost
- Linda Riley

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- Kiera Lower
- Danielle Lane
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- Jen Austin\*

\*= Community Representative   #= PC Representative to the Board of Directors



Kennebec Journal / JOE PHELA

Linda Kennedy picks up her son Patrick from the Head Start program offered by Southern Kennebec Child Development Corp. in Augusta.

## United Way-supported agencies help single mom fulfill a dream

*"There is no way I would have been able to keep my job without SKCDC"*  
– Annual Family Survey 2021



## Program Descriptions

### Head Start

Head Start provided comprehensive services for 167 preschool children, ages 3–5 years old, and their families. Services for children included a daily classroom program, nutritious meals, medical, dental, mental health, nutrition and specialized services for children with disabilities. Social service, advocacy, and support services were provided based on families' goals.

Family engagement opportunities included a robust fatherhood program, program planning on the Policy Council, Board of Directors; Center Committee activities; parent training and networking opportunities.

Head Start services were available for income eligible families in ten Centers, including five public school prekindergarten partnerships.

Home based Head Start services were provided throughout the southern Kennebec region, with a socialization site located in Gardiner.



### Early Head Start

The Early Head Start Program provided comprehensive services for 82 infants, toddlers and their families. Early Head Start incorporates all of the Head Start program content areas into a comprehensive program for younger children, ages 6 weeks to 3 years, operating year round. Early Head Start supports an integrated, continuum of care for children and families. Early Head Start was provided in three Centers: Augusta, Gardiner and South Gardiner.

Home Based services were provided throughout the southern Kennebec region, with a socialization site located in Gardiner.



### Child Care

Full day full year early care and education programs were provided for 70 children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old. Families eligible for child care subsidies pay a reduced fee for service.

Full day, full year programs were available at the Magic Years center located in Augusta and the Plummer Street Center in Gardiner.

### Services for Expectant Families

Fourteen expectant families participated in this home visiting program. It is designed to offer education and support for expectant parents to gain skills and to utilize resources to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.

Enhancing parent/child relationships, ensuring healthy outcomes for children, promoting child growth and development, teaching problem solving skills, improving the family's support system, and establishing trusting and nurturing relationships are some of the goals of the program. Families had access to SKCDC's full year, center based or home based program options for their babies, following the birth of their children.

*"My daughter has become so comfortable and has developed such great relationships, social skills, and more!"*

*– Annual Family Survey 2021*

## EARLY CARE & EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

### Public Prekindergarten Programs

We collaborate with Chelsea, Windsor, Monmouth, Somerville, and Winthrop Schools to offer Department of Education approved public Pre-K programs.

### Child and Adult Care Food Program

Early care and education centers and family childcare homes, sponsored by SKCDC, participated in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program, providing nutritious meals for all children at no cost to families. SKCDC is reimbursed for meals served in centers based on the income level of families. Family childcare providers receive payments for meals based on a rate set by USDA. SKCDC sponsors 28 Family Child Care Homes in Kennebec and southern Somerset Counties.



### CAR SEAT DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

In partnership with the Bureau of Highway Safety, SKCDC acted as an authorized Car Seat Distribution Center with two Certified Car Seat Technicians on our staff. Forty-six families received car seats over the past year. Distribution was limited due to COVID restrictions.

### EARLY CARE & EDUCATION CENTERS

- **Chelsea Pre-K Partnership**  
Chelsea Elementary School  
566 Togus Road, Chelsea
- **Gardiner Center**  
12 Plummer Street, Gardiner
- **Lake Region Center**  
165 Lakeview Drive, China
- **Magic Years**  
25 Industrial Drive, Augusta
- **Monmouth Pre-K Partnership**  
Henry L. Cottrell School  
169 Academy Road, Monmouth

- **Somerville Pre-K Partnership**  
Somerville Elementary School  
71 Patricktown Rd, Somerville
- **South Gardiner Center**  
721 River Road, South Gardiner
- **Webster Center**  
34 Franklin Street, Augusta
- **Windsor Pre -K Partnership**  
Windsor Elementary School  
366 Ridge Rd, Windsor
- **Winthrop Pre-K Partnership**  
Winthrop Grade School  
23 Highland Ave., Winthrop

*"I just want to commend the staff. In a world of complete chaos, you have maintained some normalcy for these children. Thank you!"*  
– Annual Family Survey 2021

### HEAD START – BY THE NUMBERS

#### SKCDC Families and Staff - Partners in Quality

- 223 parents were involved in their children's programs through family goal setting, home visits, program planning, training, and direct participation.
- 82 fathers participated in Head Start and Early Head Start activities throughout the year, including one father who served on the Policy Council.
- 60 families received SKCDC case management services.
- In collaboration with our Medical Home Collaboration partners at Kennebec Pediatrics, SKCDC offered research based parenting classes – **Positive Solutions** to 12 families.

- Four classrooms, 46 children and their families participated in Health Care Institute training focused on "Eat Healthy, Stay Active". The Health Care Institute is based on the knowledge that increased health and wellness leads to increased school readiness.
- 85 children received early intervention or special education services.
- SKCDC facilitated 80 referrals for community mental health services in support of enrolled children and families.
- 308 hours of Mental Health Consultation support, training, and technical assistance were provided to families and staff.
- 41,353 healthy meals and snacks were served to children from June 2020 - May 2021.
- 99% of Early Head Start and 95% of Head Start children had health insurance.
- 10 children received prescription eyeglasses as a result of our SPOT vision screening this year.
- 98% of Head Start children completed a well-child check.
- 82% of Head Start children received preventive dental care.

### **COVID Response**

SKCDC staff rose to the challenge of serving the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The learning and family supports never stopped:

- Using the YouTube platform, staff developed lessons, stories and learning opportunities for families. ([SKCDC's YouTube Channel](#)).
- SKCDC received generous contributions from the community which allowed us to provide families with needed essentials. 350 food packages were distributed to SKCDC families.
- Staff delivered books, learning materials, diapers, wipes, health supplies and food to front porches and back doors. Social distancing practices kept everyone safe.
- Support with housing, technology, and mental health needs kept families safe and connected.

*"I love that my child gets the chance to interact with others and grow in a comfortable setting"*  
*-Annual Family Survey 2021*



## **Enrollment**

Over the 2020-21 program year, SKCDC served a total of 167 preschool aged children and 96 infants, toddlers and expectant families. With the significant impact of the Public Health emergency, enrollment in Head Start averaged 57%, and in Early Head Start averaged 71%.



## **The Need for Head Start and Early Head Start**

Nationally, approximately 36% of eligible children receive Head Start services. Using data from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, it is estimated that the number of potentially eligible children aged birth through five years in our service area is 526. SKCDC served a total of 249 children during the 2020-21 program year- 47%.

*"I like that the program partners with my family to develop learning goals for my child and shares updates on my child's progress"*  
– Annual Family Survey 2021

## **Federal Head Start On-Site Review results**

The Office of Head Start (OHS) awarded SKCDC a non-competitive five-year grant award to operate the Head Start program.

The most recent monitoring review: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Head Start (OHS) conducted a *Focus Area One* monitoring review during the 2019-20 program year. SKCDC was found to be performing in compliance with the requirements of the Head Start Program Performance Standards, Public Law 110-134, Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, and other applicable regulations.

## **Parent Satisfaction Survey**

In the spring of 2021, 72 parent satisfaction surveys were completed.

- Overall parents are extremely satisfied with the quality of program services.
- Parents strongly feel they and their children are welcome and respected.
- Many parents commented that programs/staff are very helpful and supportive, and that they appreciate the friendly environment, attention to detail and individualized supports for their children.



*"The teachers are great. They are so kind and loving to the children. My son loves to go to school and that makes me feel good"*  
– Annual Family Survey 2021

## SCHOOL READINESS

During the 2020-21 program year, SKCDC Head Start classrooms provided instruction using the *Opening the World of Learning (OWL)* curriculum. Early Head Start classrooms and home based programs implemented the *Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos*. OWL is a comprehensive, integrated curriculum that supports developing language and early literacy skills through content rich in all domains of early learning. The *Creative Curriculum® for Infants, Toddlers & Twos* is a comprehensive curriculum that offers daily support, guidance, and inspiration to teachers and caregivers of the youngest learners. All classrooms implemented the research based Pyramid Model for supporting social and emotional development in young children.

Home learning packets were provided to families for times when the weather or the public health situation required a closure.

### 2020-2021 School Readiness Results:

Teaching staff monitor children's developmental progress through the use of the Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG) assessment system. TSG is an authentic, ongoing observational system for assessing children from birth through kindergarten. Teaching Strategies GOLD progressions have color-coded bands that show widely held expectations for children's development and learning



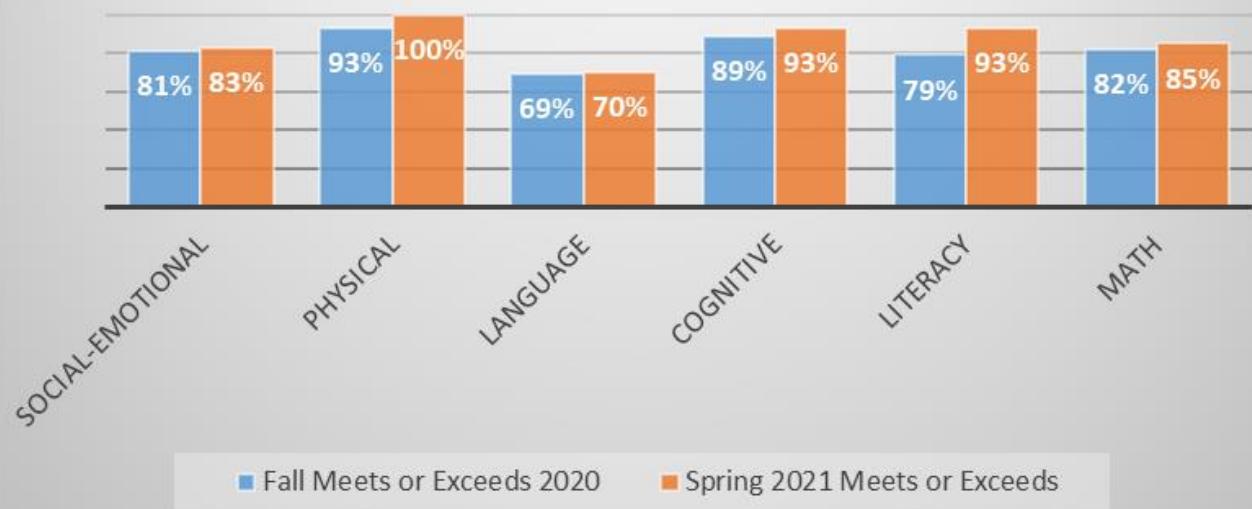
*"The agency has excellent educators, who provide individual attention and a willingness to communicate with the child and parent/guardian"*

-Annual Family Survey 2021



## 2020-2021 SCHOOL READINESS RESULTS

### Early Head Start (EHS)- Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment (TSG) Results



### Head Start (HS)- Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment (TSG) Results



## **YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Congratulations to the following employees for their dedicated service to improving the lives of children and families:

Carly Lowell – 5 years	Lena Mason – 5 years	Sasha McAvoy – 5 years
Linda Kempton – 5 years	Buster Ellis – 5 years	Crystal Connors – 10 years
Joan Lavoie – 15 years	Lisa Veilleux – 15 years	Clay Hoffman – 20 years
Tammy Osborne – 30 years	Monique Morin – 30 years	Vonnie Coron – 35 years
Gisela Coyne – 35 years		

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

SKCDC celebrates the educational achievements of the following employees:

### **Child Development Associate Credential (CDA)**

Catherine Marquis, Webster Assistant Teacher Preschool CDA

Amber Tilley, Gardiner Assistant Teacher, Preschool CDA

Sarah Hickey, South Gardiner Teacher, Infant-Toddler CDA

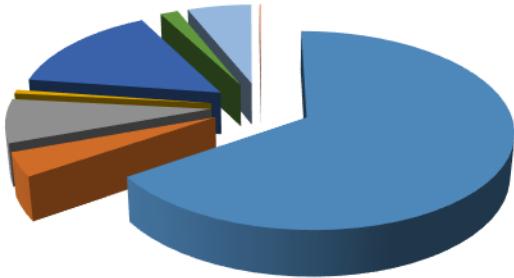
Cathy Upton, Magic Years Assistant Teacher, Infant/Toddler CDA

*"I always tell anyone who is looking for help, SKCDC is the way to go, the best!"*  
-Annual Family Survey 2021



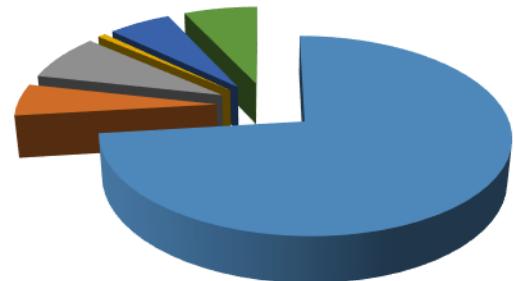
## 2020 – 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

### Funding



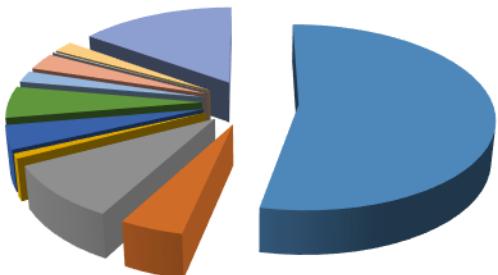
- Federal Funds 65.5% - \$3,990,492
- State Funds 4.0% - \$241,169
- Client Fees 7.3% - \$442,936
- United Way .6% - \$39,583
- In Kind Contributions 15.0% - \$912,596
- Program Income 1.7% - \$100,748
- COVID Relief 5.9% - \$360,096
- Interest Income .1% - \$8,751

### Expenditures by Program



- Head Start/Early Head Start 73.1% - \$4,441,190
- CACFP 5.4% - \$328,088
- Private Child Care 7.9% - \$478,050
- Other Unrestricted 0.7% - \$45,423
- COVID Relief 5.9% - \$360,096
- Administration 7.0% - \$422,513

### Expenditures by Category



- Personnel 53.3% - \$3,240,481
- Payroll Taxes 4.6% - \$276,496
- Fringe Benefits 9.4% - \$573,030
- Equipment .9% - \$51,880
- Contractual 4.1% - \$250,619
- Occupancy 5.5% - \$333,951
- Food 2.0% - \$122,486
- Supplies 3.0% - \$180,373
- Travel .2% - \$14,041
- Miscellaneous 2.0% - \$119,407
- In Kind Contributions 15.0% - \$912,596

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation  
Farmingdale, Maine

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation (a nonprofit corporation), which comprise the statements of financial position as of May 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Corporation's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation as of May 31, 2021 and 2020, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Report on Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying statements of revenues and expenses by program on pages 14 and 15 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

*M. L. Larson, Michael L. Larson*

Waterville, Maine  
October 28, 2021

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## SOUTHERN KENNEBEC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

May 31,

#### ASSETS

	<b>2021</b>	2020
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 354,986	\$ 365,434
Short-term investments - other	587,388	578,866
Accounts receivable	37,035	29,702
Grants receivable	364,228	279,702
Prepaid expenses	68,080	49,789
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,411,717</b>	1,303,493
 <b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
Land	130,000	130,000
Building and improvements	1,196,224	1,196,224
Equipment	395,454	416,461
Leasehold improvements	268,776	232,876
Vehicles	109,786	109,786
	2,100,240	2,085,347
Less - accumulated depreciation	(1,077,992)	(1,026,162)
<b>Net Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>1,022,248</b>	1,059,185
 <b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,433,965</b>	\$ 2,362,678

#### LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS

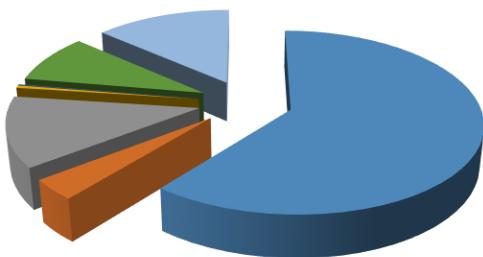
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 96,268	\$ 61,625
Accrued payroll	74,511	58,777
Accrued compensated absences	90,857	100,739
Accrued payroll taxes	5,852	4,626
Refundable advances	63,639	37,722
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>331,127</b>	263,489
 <b>Net Assets</b>		
Without donor restrictions	2,102,838	2,099,189
 <b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,433,965</b>	\$ 2,362,678

See independent auditor's report.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

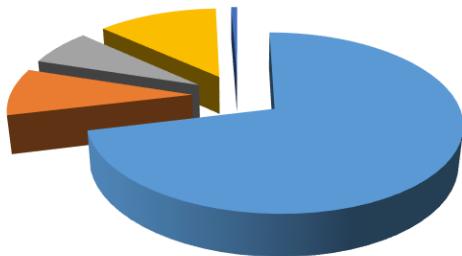
## 2021 – 2022 BUDGET

### Funding



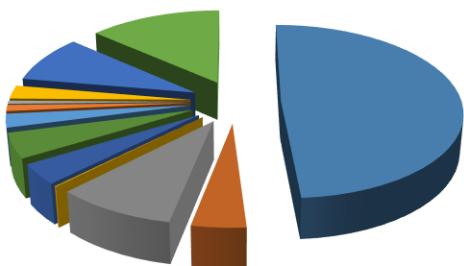
- Federal Funds 60.9% - \$4,083,050
- State Funds 3.7% - \$245,464
- Client Fees 12.6% - \$843,281
- United Way .5% - \$31,000
- Program Income 0.1% - \$10,000
- COVID Relief 8.8% - \$589,451
- In Kind Contributions 13.5% - \$906,126

### Expenditures by Program



- Head Start/Early Head Start 71.2% - \$4,776,091
- Federal/State COVID Funding 8.8% - \$589,451
- CACFP 6.8% - \$458,549
- Private Child Care 12.6% - \$843,281
- Other .06% - \$41,000

### Expenditures by Category



- Personnel 48.9% - \$3,280,951
- Payroll Taxes 4.2% - \$281,472
- Fringe Benefits 9.3% - \$624,766
- Equipment 0.1% - \$10,000
- Contractual 3.8% - \$251,802
- Occupancy 4.6% - \$311,580
- Food 2.5% - \$169,376
- Supplies 1.1% - \$76,104
- Travel 0.6% - \$39,732
- Miscellaneous 2.5% - \$167,012
- Federal/State COVID expenses 8.8% - \$589,451
- In Kind Contributions 13.5% - \$906,126

## SOUTHERN KENNEBEC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

337 Maine Avenue, Farmingdale, ME 04344

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E: [info@skcdc.org](mailto:info@skcdc.org) W: [www.skcdc.org](http://www.skcdc.org)

"The staff are friendly and knowledgeable. My child looks forward to school every day. He has developed relationships with new peers. He has made great strides thanks to the education he has received"

-Annual Family Survey 2021



United Way  
of Kennebec Valley  
Community Partner

*An Equal Opportunity – Affirmative Action Employer*

Funded in part by the Maine Department of Health & Human Services, and the Federal Administration for Children & Families

In complying with the letter and spirit of applicable laws and pursuing its own goals of pluralism, the Southern Kennebec Child Development Corporation shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin or citizenship status, age, disability, or veterans status and shall comply with Section 504, Title IX, and the ADA in employment, education, and all other areas of the Agency.