

Child and Family Development  
&  
Child Care Resource and Referral Services

DELAWARE OPPORTUNITIES INC.

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Annual Report  
2010



## Delaware Opportunities Inc. Child Care Services Staff

<b>Janelle Montgomery</b> .....	Child and Family Development Director
<b>Judy Velten</b> .....	Child and Family Development Coordinator
<b>Shirley Foreman</b> .....	Senior Day Care Specialist
<b>Mary Hoyt</b> .....	Day Care Specialist
<b>Laurie Kenny-Dolezel</b> .....	Day Care Specialist
<b>Susan Whitney</b> .....	Day Care Specialist
<b>Lisa Calaci</b> .....	Child and Family Development Assistant

## Child Care Resource and Referral Services

Delaware Opportunities Inc. is the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency for Delaware County. New York State has a statewide network of CCR&R's funded by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

Delaware Opportunities Inc's CCR&R offers information about child care to parents, providers, employers and to the community.

### **CCR&R services to Parents**

- Through parent and consumer education on child care issues, our staff assists parents in developing a child care plan.
- Parents may receive assistance in locating child care through referrals to local child care providers. A data base of Delaware County child care providers is maintained to include information about the licensing status of providers, the age groups they serve, schedules of care, and number of spaces available.
- The CCR&R also has information available regarding a child care program's compliance history. Parents may contact the CCR&R for information about New York State's child care regulations, eligibility for a child care subsidy and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and other types of family services.

### ***In 2010:***

- ***252 requests for either referrals and /or assistance regarding childcare were provided for 405 children;***
- ***2,982 units of technical assistance were given to childcare providers, parents and community members.***

## CCR&R Services to Child Care Providers

The CCR&R develops new and supports existing child care providers by offering:

- individualized technical assistance;
- information about professional development, child care regulations, best practices for providing child care, and business information;
- individuals seeking to become a registered or licensed family or group family day care start-up grants;
- health and safety grants to those family or group family day care providers seeking to renew their registration or license and to those legally exempt providers caring for the children of families who receive a child care subsidy;
- health care plan consultancy services;
- enrollment and approval of legally exempt providers.

### ***In 2010:***

- ***54 child care professionals and potential child care professionals received individual enhanced technical assistance trainings;***
- ***490 units of technical assistance were given to legally exempt providers serving subsidized families;***
- ***6 renewing family and group family day care providers were given a New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYS OCFS) health and safety grant;***
- ***12 family day care providers who applied for a registration or license were issued a NYS OCFS start-up grant;***
- ***12 legally –exempt providers were issued a NYS OCFS informal support grant;***
- ***7 programs were provided with health care consultancy services;***
- ***157 legally exempt child care providers were enrolled and approved.***

## CCR&R Services to Employers

Employers can maintain a reliable workforce by taking advantage of the CCR&R's outreach program. During onsite visits employees learn about and have access to the CCR&R's child care information services. Delaware Opportunities CCR&R is able to provide technical assistance to employers in implementing employee child care programs.

## CCR&R Services to the Community

The CCR&R supports the entire Delaware County community through public education on child care issues, through the collection, analysis and sharing of child care supply and demand data and in engaging in collaborative community planning for child care services.

### ***In 2010:***

- ***1198 newsletters and bulletins were mailed to licensed and registered providers, legally exempt providers, and interested community members. Information in the newsletters and bulletins covered such topics as NYS day care regulations, the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), training opportunities and children's activities. The Newsletter is mailed quarterly and is available on our website along with the Annual Report. [www.DelawareOpportunities.org](http://www.DelawareOpportunities.org)***

To further meet the child care needs of parents, children, employers and the community and assist child care providers to further improve the quality of their programs the Delaware Opportunities, Inc CCR&R in 2010 collaborated with the following agencies and partnerships:

- **A.O. Fox Hospital**
- **Asthma Coalition of The Southern Tier**
- **CDO Work Force**
- **Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County**
- **Delaware County Sheriff**
- **Delaware County Department of Health**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Child/ Family Health Plus**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Healthy Families**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Head Start Advisory Council**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Employment and Training**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Parent Aide Program**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Safe against Violence (SAV)**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Service Coordination**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. TASA (Teen Age Services Act)**
- **Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Advisory Board**
- **Delhi Fire Department**
- **Delhi Telephone Company**
- **Early Care and Learning Council**
- **Eat Well Play Hard Partnership**
- **Hancock Community Center**
- **Healthy Start Partnership**
- **Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council**
- **Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network of South Central New York**
- **National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies**
- **National Association for the Education of Young Children**
- **NYS Infant/Toddler Regional Child Care Resource & Referral**
- **Parents As Leaders**
- **Red Cross**
- **SUNY Delhi Campus Child Care Center (DC4) Board of Directors**
- **Southern Tier Independence Center**
- **United Ministry of Delhi**

## Child Care Subsidy Program

Delaware Opportunities Inc. offers the Child Care Subsidy Program funded by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. This program is for Delaware County residents who are income eligible and need child care to be able to work. Delaware Opportunities CCR&R staff will assist parents in determining their eligibility for a child care subsidy and in applying for a subsidy to help meet the costs of child care.

### ***In 2010:***

- ***232 families including 363 children received day care assistance.***

## Training and Professional Development

As a professional, a child care provider must keep abreast of new developments in early childhood research and actively strengthen his/her skills. To maintain a registration or license to provide child care or to work in a child care program in New York State a provider must keep current in required areas of study. To earn enhanced child care subsidy rates a legally exempt child care provider must complete ten hours of study each year.

One of the goals of Delaware Opportunities, Inc. Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) is to offer readily accessible training options for child care providers. Through a contract with the SUNY Research Foundation we participate in, at our Hamden office, free videoconferences that are designed for child care providers. Delaware Opportunities CCR&R also works closely with individuals and other agencies to facilitate training options for providers in first-aid/CPR, medication administration, child development, nutrition, child care program development, child abuse and maltreatment, parent/provider communication, business management, shaken baby syndrome, health and safety competencies, and the statutes and regulations pertaining to child care. We distribute information to child care providers about distance learning courses and scholarship grants through the SUNY Educational Incentive Program.

### ***In 2010:***

- ***4 training workshops were held at Delaware Opportunities Inc. 62 participants attended;***
- ***8 co-trained SUNY Early Childhood Education and Training program videoconferences were presented by the CCR&R with 101 childcare and community participants;***
- ***17 participants attended the Health and Safety Class with each receiving 15 hours of training credit.***

## Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded entitlement program that provides reimbursement for meals and snacks served in all types of regulated or approved day care settings. The program promotes the health and well being of infants, children up to age 18, and adults in day care, by ensuring that day care providers serve nutritious and safely prepared meals and snacks.

Delaware Opportunities, Inc. is the sponsoring agency for the Child and Adult Care Food Program for registered family day care programs, licensed group family day care programs and eligible legally exempt family child care programs in Delaware County.

The CACFP helps providers to pay for the meals served to children in their care. Monitoring and training conducted by Delaware Opportunities staff help to educate providers on how to plan and serve meals that meet child care standards for nutrition and make mealtime an enjoyable and educational experience for the children. Parents also feel confident that their child is getting nutritious meals and are learning about healthful eating habits.

**In 2010:**

- **52 child care providers participated in the CACFP;**
- **153 CACFP monitoring visits were completed;**
- **12 new participants were enrolled in the CACFP;**
- **463 claims were processed on the CACFP covering Family Day Care, Group Family Day Care and Legally-exempt Day Care homes.**

**Delaware County  
Family Day Care and School Age program  
Registration and Inspection**

Delaware Opportunities Inc. is the registrar of family day care and school age programs in Delaware County. As a general rule, any day care program planning to serve three or more children for more than three hours a day on a regular basis must obtain a license or registration certificate. To obtain this certificate, the applicant must show that the day care program meets requirements that New York State has established to help ensure the health and safety of children in care. The staff at Delaware Opportunities CCR&R provides support and assistance to people and organizations that are interested in starting a day care program.

As the registrar, the Day Care Staff:

- receive and process all initial and renewal applications for Family Day Care (FDC) and School-Age Child Care (SACC) for Delaware County;
- provide all applicants with the support and technical assistance needed to complete the application/renewal process;
- conduct inspections on programs to ensure regulatory compliance before an initial registration certificate is issued;
- complete inspections on 50% of the registered family day care programs and school age programs in Delaware County each year;
- is responsible for investigations of any complaints received on registered programs in Delaware County. Investigations may involve an inspection of the child care program as well as working with local police authorities and Child Protective Services.

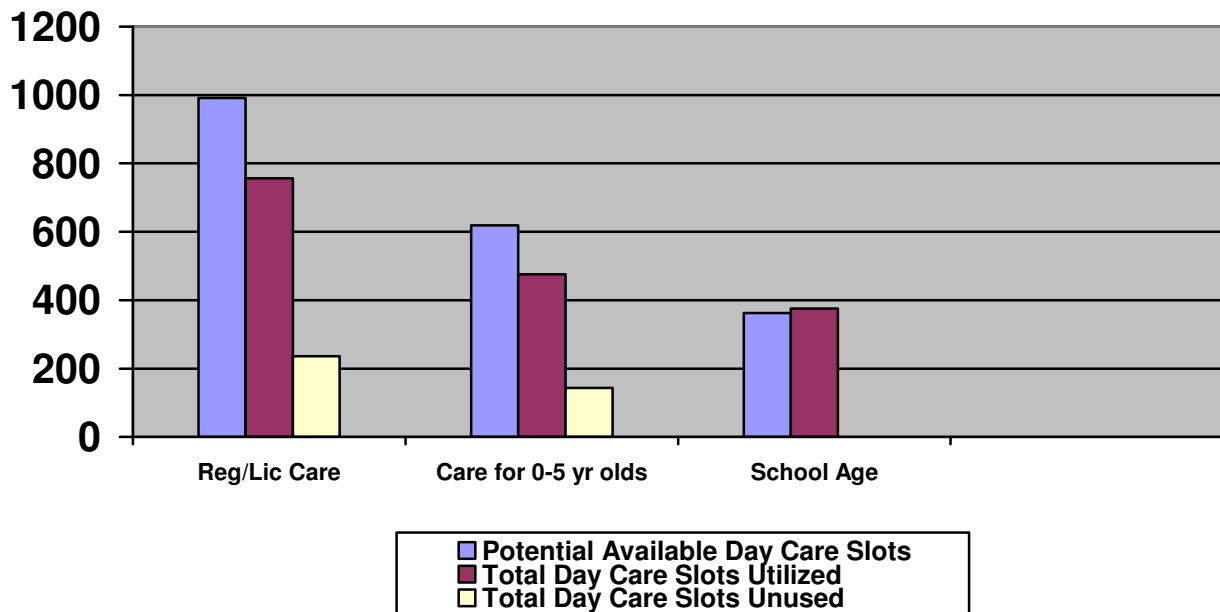
**In 2010:**

- **16 new family day care providers reached their goal of becoming registered;**
- **19 existing family day care providers and 2 School Age Programs completed the renewal process;**
- **126 family child care and school age program inspections were successfully completed;**
- **11 complaints covering Family Day care, School-Age Care and illegal child care were investigated.**

## Child Care Supply 2010

- 67 Registered and licensed day care programs were surveyed for the total number of potential slots available within Delaware County for a total of 992. Of those 992 potential child care slots, 756 were filled. Thus, 76% of the total available day care slots in Delaware County were being utilized.
- 67 Registered and licensed day care programs were surveyed for the total number of potential 0-5yr old slots available in Delaware County for a total of 619. Of those 619 potential child care slots, 476 were filled. Overall, 77% of the 0-5yr child care slots in Delaware County were being utilized.
- 67 Registered and licensed day care programs were surveyed for the total number of potential 6 yr -12yr old slots available in Delaware County for a total of 363. Of those 363 potential slots, 376 were filled. Thus 103% of the 6yr-12yr old slots in Delaware County were being utilized. (Some of the Delaware County School-Age programs care for children only when school is in session.)
- 5 Licensed day care centers were surveyed for the total number of potential slots available within Delaware County for a total of 299. Of those 299 potential child care slots 232 were filled. Thus, 78% of the licensed day care slots were being utilized.
- 53 Registered family day care programs were surveyed for the total number of potential slots available within Delaware County for a total of 423. Of those 423 potential slots, 333 were filled. Thus, 78% of the registered family day care slots in Delaware County were being utilized.
- 7 Licensed group family day care programs were surveyed for the total number of potential slots available within Delaware County for a total number of 100. Of those 100 potential child care slots, 113 were filled. Thus, 113% of the available licensed group family day care slots were being utilized.

### Utilization Rates in Delaware County

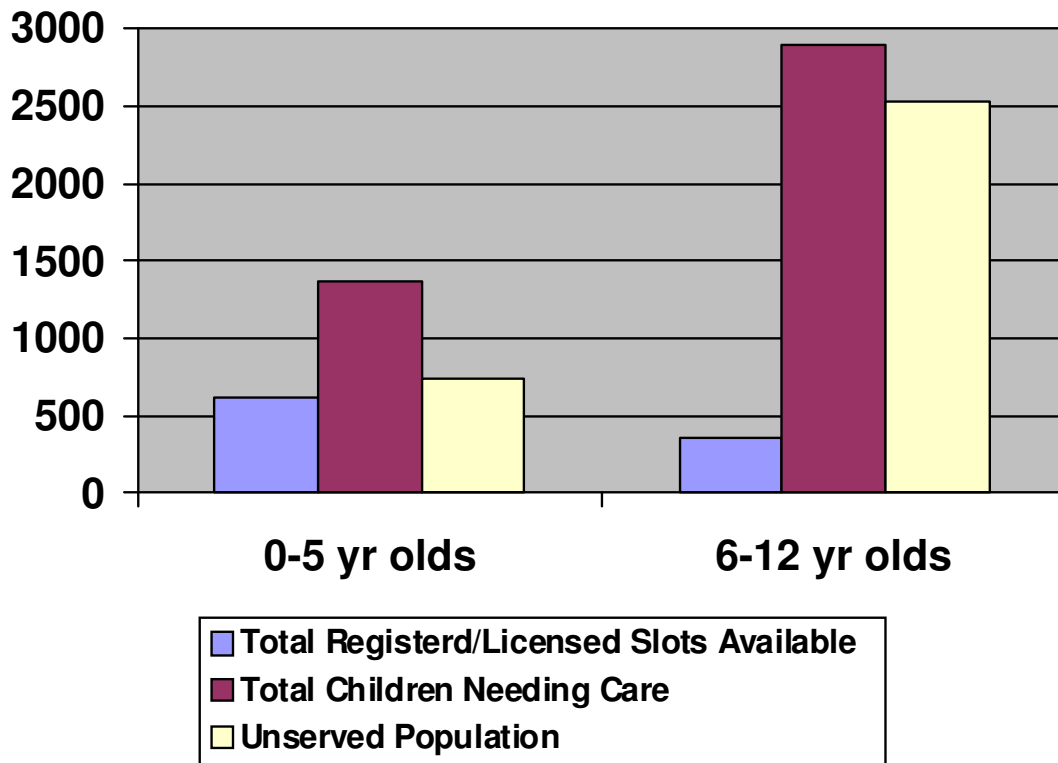


## Child Care Demand 2010

- The total number of licensed and registered 0-5yrs old child care slots available in Delaware County is 619.
  - The total number of 0-5 yrs olds in need of care in Delaware County is 1358.
  - The number of 0-5 yrs olds un-served by licensed/registered child care is 739.
  - 46% of children ages 0-5yrs old will have an available slot in registered /licensed day care programs.
- The total number of registered and licensed school-age (6yr –12yr olds) slots available in Delaware County is 363.
  - The total number of school-age children in need of care in Delaware County is 2,886.
  - The number of school-age children un-served by licensed/registered child care is 2,523.
  - 13% of school-age children (6yrs –12yrs. old) will have an available slot in registered/licensed day care programs.

To determine the demand for child care, the CCR&R uses the 2000 census data, along with the Kids Count 2000 labor force statistics, which state the percentage of parents who are active in the labor force.

### CHILD CARE DEMAND IN DELAWARE COUNTY



## MISSION STATEMENT OF DELAWARE OPPORTUNITIES INC.

Delaware Opportunities is a not for profit corporation, dedicated to improving the lives of the residents of Delaware and, in some cases, surrounding counties.

Specifically, the purpose of the agency is, and shall be, to help people become self sufficient and/or attain a better quality of life.

Services shall be directed to the entire needy population. These services shall include advocacy to assure that needy persons receive services they require, program development, to assure that services are available, public information, to assure that the public is aware of ways in which their needs can be met, coordination and collaboration with other service providers to assure that service delivery is maximized and made as efficient as possible, and the operation of programs which meet the daily needs of the citizenry.

Delaware Opportunities is a Community Action Agency, deeply committed to helping everyone to attain self sufficiency and a better quality life. The agency shall be directed toward assisting all those with needs to maintain a sense of community values, and community activism, self and family development, and a general improvement in the standard of living for all.