



Strategic Priorities

ECA will enhance its training services to include organizational capacity building and business planning.

ECA will utilize its early education centers as models for advancing knowledge in the areas of instruction, curriculum, teacher training and facilities use.

ECA will strengthen its advocacy role in the region by: Educating consumer families; Supporting community coalitions; Informing policy makers; and Engaging the private sector.

32,273	children impacted by ECA programs and services across its service delivery area
1,916	requests from families looking for child care
921	child care providers assisted (in ECA database)
178	providers coached; 75 of those programs advanced a level in Paths to QUALITY™*
55	programs enrolled in Paths QUALITY; 44 of those advanced a level
232	high quality programs (Levels 3-4 Paths to QUALITY)
351	children in year-around care in ECA Learning Centers, including school-age care
50	On My Way Pre-K four-year-olds enrolled in ECA Learning Centers
98%	families accessing quality care in ECA Learning Centers with tuition assistance
1,858	in-home visits through Parents as Teachers (PAT) impacting 251 children (165 families)
219	children attending 188 Book Buddies sessions (142 families)
3,847	children impacted through 196 ECA-sponsored CACFP** programs

*Indiana's quality rating & improvement system

**Child & Adult Care Food Program



2017 Highlights

Early Childhood Alliance (ECA) impacted more than 32,000 children in 2017... with your help. Support from individuals, foundations, partners and businesses plays a critical role in making a difference in the lives of children, families, and early childhood professionals across ECA's 10-county service delivery area. That support, together with the dedication of ECA staff, is Building Better Futures for Children. Listed are a few highlights from 2017.

- **On My Way Pre-K**, the state supported pre-k child care program to enroll four-year-olds in high quality programs, was expanded to 15 additional Indiana counties in its second year, five of those in ECA's service delivery area. ECA added a second Pre-K Program Manager to work with families and programs in Elkhart, Kosciusko, Marshall, and St. Joseph Counties, with another manager in Allen and DeKalb.

- **Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R)** hosted a provider conference for nearly 300 child care providers from across northern Indiana to network and share ideas. The conference featured presentations on topics related to the keynote, "Rethinking Challenging Behavior: Building a Framework for Success."

- **Family engagement services** included distribution of more than 3,000 gift bags to families of newborns (Allen County). Additional information was provided through follow-up mailings and during well-baby check ups with pediatricians. This initiative was designed for parents of newborns, encouraging parents' involvement in talking with their babies starting at birth to develop baby's language and social skills.

- The **Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)** staff introduced the USDA's new meal pattern requirements through trainings and on-site technical assistance. This is the first major realignment of the federally funded program.

continued p. 2

Highlights (cont'd)

Changes included new reimbursement allowances for foods/beverages with a focus on developing healthier eating habits. CACFP is designed to ensure nutritious meals and snacks for children in child care.

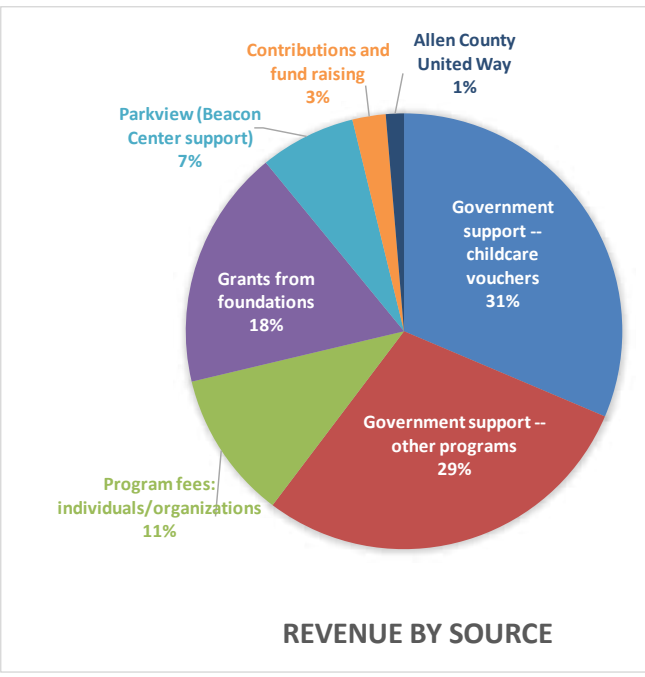
- The **Adopt a Classroom** program was introduced as an opportunity for individuals and businesses to invest in children by meeting needs in a classroom at ECA's two Learning Centers. The "adoption" involved funding specific equipment and materials for the year, chosen by teachers to enhance learning environments -- with an invitation to engage with the adopted classroom. Nine of ECA's 23 classrooms were adopted.
- ECA's two **Learning Centers introduced Brightwheel**, an app that allows teachers and parents to have real-time connections for updates about their child's day. The program enables teachers to input data from their classroom observations, eliminating most paper forms. Overall it improves parent-teacher communication,

makes daily record keeping more efficient, and enhances Center security.

- **Play it Forward to Spark a Future**, ECA's annual fundraising event raised more than \$119,000 to support high quality early education.
- Three members of ECA's Board of Directors attended the **BoardSource Conference**, thanks to a Foellinger Foundation Barbara Burt Leadership Development Fund grant. The Directors presented ideas and best practices of leadership and governance at a follow-up Director's retreat.



ECA Financial Summary



Mission
Building better futures for young children by promoting and providing quality early childhood education and services for families, early childhood professionals and the community.

Statement of Financial Position as of December 31

	2016	2017
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and short-term investments	\$1,208,547	\$1,115,570
Claims receivable	580,547	548,336
Contributions receivable	353,000	372,100
Prepaid expenses & other receivables	<u>27,655</u>	<u>59,856</u>
Total current assets	2,169,749	2,095,862
Long-term investments at market value	350,369	390,638
Cash restricted to investment in fixed assets	41,626	4,668
Fixed assets - net	<u>1,509,587</u>	<u>1,438,568</u>
Total assets	\$4,071,331	\$3,929,736
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	330,549	151,361
Accrued expenses/payroll deductions	<u>312,113</u>	<u>353,418</u>
Total current liabilities	642,662	504,779
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	2,423,589	2,537,832
Temporarily restricted	<u>1,005,080</u>	<u>887,125</u>
	<u>3,428,669</u>	<u>3,424,957</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	\$4,071,331	\$3,929,736

Statement of Activities for year ended December 31

	2016	2017
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Government grants	\$3,590,013	\$3,902,509
Program service fees	1,665,879	1,832,140
Contributions	1,264,917	1,245,345
United Way	107,500	137,833
Fundraising events	128,899	117,276
Investment income	10,514	18,297
Miscellaneous revenue	6,487	3,985
Gain on investment & fixed assets	<u>13,782</u>	<u>38,256</u>
Total support and revenue	6,787,991	7,295,641
EXPENDITURES		
Program expenses	6,378,097	6,844,211
Fundraising and administration	<u>513,403</u>	<u>455,142</u>
Total expenditures	6,891,500	7,299,353
Change in net assets	(\$103,509)	(\$3,712)

This financial summary is based on audited statements.

2017 Donors

Thank you for your generous investment in Building Better Futures for Children.

Gifts of \$100,000+

English, Bonter, Mitchell
Foundation
Foellinger Foundation

Gifts of \$50,000-\$99,999

Dekko Foundation
Parkview Health
United Way of Allen County
United Way of Elkhart County

Gifts of \$30,000-\$49,999

Community Foundation of
Greater Fort Wayne
Early Learning Indiana
Lincoln Foundation
United Way St. Joseph

Gifts of \$5,000-\$29,999

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Gifts of \$2,500-\$4,999

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Vision:

For every young child to
succeed and for families to
be self-sufficient as a result
of quality early childhood
care and education.

Gifts of \$1,000-\$2,499

Arnold Foundation
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Sandy & Tom Beaver
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Gifts of \$500-\$999

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Gifts of \$100-\$249

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Christ Child Society
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Suzanne Ehinger
Kathryn Eubank
Family Connection of St. Joe

Affiliations

- National Association for the Education of Young Children (accreditation)
- Indiana National Associations for Child Care Resource and Referral
- Member of Chambers of Commerce

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Gifts Up to \$99

Melanie & Kenneth Baumeister
 Mark & Dia Bock
 Cecile Brewer
 Bethany Burgun

Pictured are children enrolled in ECA's Learning Centers. Thank You.



Legacy Society

ECA's Legacy Society - Building Better Futures for Children, honors and recognizes those who have designated Early Childhood Alliance as a beneficiary through a planned gift to benefit ECA in the future. Planned gifts include: bequests of cash, stock or personal property made through a will or estate plan; life insurance bequests; charitable trusts, including life-income trusts retirement plan assets; or charitable gift annuities. Planned gifts support the services of ECA, and it is as simple as completing a Change of Beneficiary form.

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*As of December 2017