

Administration Office

CCS Early Learning  
2060 E Industrial Dr.  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907) 373-7000

[www.ccesalaska.org](http://www.ccesalaska.org)Find us on  
Facebook

Center Locations

Chugiak Center  
18530 Old Glenn Hwy  
Chugiak, AK 99567  
(907) 688-2660

Meadow Lakes Center  
7362 W Parks Hwy #752  
Wasilla, AK 99623  
(907) 373-7165

Sutton-Palmer Center  
11672 Wright Way  
Sutton, AK 99674  
(907) 746-4483

Wasilla Center  
2100 E. Foundry Way  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907) 373-7795

Early Head Start  
2100 E. Foundry Way  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907) 373-7736



# CCS

## EARLY LEARNING

### "Change The World"

Eric Clapton released a song back in 1996 entitled, "Change The World." In it he describes what he would do if he could change the world—which in his song basically would involve making sure that someone important understands how much they are loved. Our day to day work at CCS Early Learning really is changing the world! We are incredibly fortunate to play a role in helping individual children learn about the world around them, to help them understand how to interact and communicate with those around them, and to help establish a lifelong love and appreciation for learning.

While our work with children is very important, perhaps just as important in our effort to change the world is our work with families. All families have unique strengths and challenges. Our job is to assist families to build upon these strengths and to help families turn challenges into opportunities for growth. When we are able to help a family meet their goals of becoming a better parent, finding better housing, getting a better job, or just learning about their child, the world is changed for the better.

While we are on the topic of change... we have lots of changes on our horizon! CCS has received two new federal grants that will drastically alter our services in the 2017-2018 school year. The first change is that our Wasilla Head Start Center will almost double the number of child contact hours next year. Children at this center will now attend 5 days a week, instead of 4, the length of the day will be increased from 4 to 6 hours, and the school year will be extended to match the school district calendar. We will also offer optional before and after school care to these Wasilla children and families who need it.



The other big change coming to our world is that we will be increasing the number of Early Head Start—Center Based slots that we have available. We currently have 16 of these slots available, but we will be increasing this to 48 over the course of next school year! With this many new babies and toddlers being enrolled, we will be looking to move our Early Head Start program into its own facility sometime in 2018. We are excited about how these two big and positive changes will improve services and change the world for children and families!

Changing the world takes hard work and dedication, and the wonderful staff at CCS Early Learning do it every single day. Our teachers and aides, our cooks, and family advocates, the janitors, the bus drivers, those who smile when children walk in and those who comfort the upset child—the people of CCS are the sunlight in our universe. On behalf of children and families, and a grateful community—thank you for changing the world!

*Mark Lackey—Executive Director*

~ CCS Early Learning Mission Statement ~



Making a difference in the lives and families of young children within our communities



CCS offers many opportunities for children ages 0 to 5 to grow and develop the basic skills needed throughout their lives. Parents and families are encouraged to engage with their children, teaching them each day as they prepare to become strong community members in later years. We believe that the role of Early Head Start and Head Start is to assist the family in establishing a strong foundation that will support the child's growth and development.

CCS serves families and children throughout their early years. Early Head Start serves prenatal to age 3 and Head Start serves children ages 3 to 5 years. Our primary work with families is to help them become stronger advocates for their children and to assist them in setting family goals. We also partner and assist families in developing plans and taking the steps necessary to reach their self-identified goals. Families gain skills and experience by volunteering in the classroom, working with the Parent Center Committee, the Policy Council, and the Board of Directors. We also offer parenting classes and parent interest workshops such as nutrition information, finance, and budgeting. "Family Fun Nights" are also part of the CCS family engagement opportunities and provides activities for the entire family.

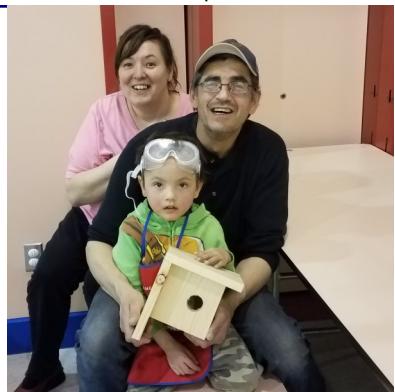
Education and training are high priority at CCS. 933 hours of training for staff were completed during the 2015-2016 program year with 86% of the teachers in Head Start and Early Head Start having either an AA Degree or a BA Degree and the remaining teachers actively working on an AA Degree. Parents at

CCS are also acquiring skills by volunteering in the classroom. This experience qualifies them for jobs at CCS. Thirty-eight percent of our staff are current or past Head Start parents. Parents and teachers work together to teach social skills, as well as phonemic awareness, book knowledge, science, early math, and early literacy skills. Children receive age appropriate health and developmental screening

early in the year to determine if there might be barriers that will prevent them from learning. Through the Parent/Teacher partnership, families work on goals that they want to accomplish throughout the school year. They learn to set goals both for their children, for themselves and the entire family. These goals are then used by the parent, as guides to measure the steps they take towards success. Each step that a family reaches further strengthens the likelihood that both the child and the family will reach their full potential.

Parents of very young children are offered a home based education or center based education for their 0 to 3 children through the CCS Early Head Start (EHS) Program. In the home based option, a teacher visits in the home each week to offer new activities that strengthen education goals based on the child's needs and development. The parent and child also attend gatherings of other 0 to 3 children in a socialization session held at the CCS Center or at a community location in their area.

The EHS center based option allows children the opportunity to learn in groups of 4 with a teacher who provides developmentally appropriate instruction based on the goals that parents and teachers have identified. In both options, the EHS teacher and parent work together to provide pre math, pre literacy and language opportunities, as well, as social and emotional support throughout the 0 to 3 years.



At age 2 years 6 months, EHS children start to transition into their next appropriate placement. If this is Head Start, they will join this program at age 3. Transportation is provided to our Centers in Chugiak, Meadow Lakes, Sutton-Palmer, and Wasilla. Parents are welcomed into the center daily to work with their child in an enriched preschool educational environment.



CCS assesses children's individual growth by observing and documenting their development within the classroom setting. Assessments occur throughout the school year and across all domains including social emotional, language and literacy, physical development, approaches to

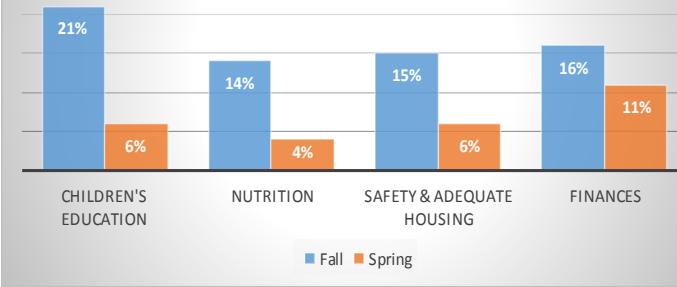
learning, and math. All assessments and observations are shared with families so progress can continue to be monitored at home and at school. Children are observed in the regular classroom settings and notes are recorded to track the data. The child's progress is formally examined three times a year, when teachers and parents discuss the child's needs and revisit the family and education goals. Existing goals can be left in place or strengthened; or additional goals can be established in a new area as the team feels is needed.

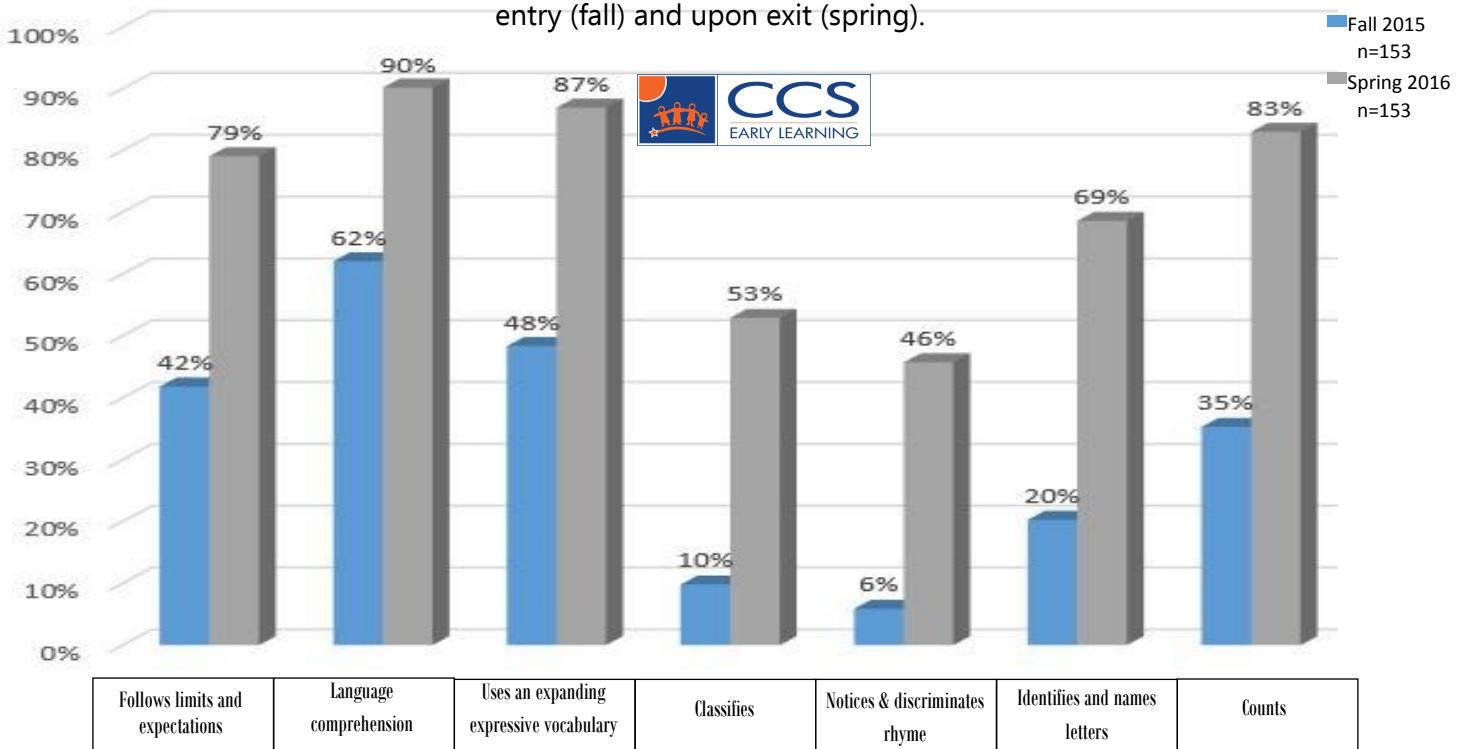


As our children and families leave CCS we know that they move forward with adults who are partners in their learning. Children are interested in their environment, know how to interact with others, and have a strong educational foundation to help them be successful as they move on to Kindergarten

*Donna Johnson Program Director*

## Top Family Needs 2015-2016 School Year





"I am very pleased with Wasilla CCS. They have gone above and beyond anything I may have expected. I really enjoy the one day I do lending library. The adults are awesome, helpful, polite and caring. Hope to be volunteering more in future (soon) Grateful that we are able to attend CCS and wish that every child was able to get everything CCS offers." - CCS Parent

"I love CCS and everyone who works here or volunteering here is amazing and are doing an amazing job. I could not be happier to have my daughter here. All the staff and teachers are very friendly and teaching my daughter a lot and she loves coming here every day. She always is looking forward to the next day. Very pleased with everyone and I volunteer a lot I am very comfortable here." - CCS Parent

### CCS Enrollment Information

In our last program year we served a total of 426 children and 8 pregnant women. Of these:

- 426 (92%) were eligible based on family income, homelessness, or foster child status
- 32 (8%) were over income (Head Start allows 10% over income enrollment)

CCS had funding to provide slots for 320 children. We were fully enrolled each month that we were in operation.



**To Enroll Your Child  
Visit Our Website  
[www.ccsalaska.org](http://www.ccsalaska.org)**



Our goal is to better equip both our children and our families for success in school and in life. Sometimes we do this by building on strengths, and other times we help identify and overcome challenges - but it's always done in partnership with families.

Head Start and Early Head Start programs are designed for low income families, homeless children, children in foster care, and children with disabilities.

Nutrition: Every day at school CCS prepares a well balanced, nutritious breakfast and lunch for CCS children.

Volunteers: CCS encourages parents and community members to volunteer! Volunteer hours count as in-kind donations and help us to meet our matching requirements for our federal grants.

I appreciate the cleanliness of the center, joyful welcoming and farewell approach, encouraging staff. I can see the child development regulations and teaching everywhere I go and know the children are loved. The child I care for feels safe and welcomed. I very much appreciate and am grateful for this program and staff in Wasilla. CCS Foster Parent

The head start program has been fantastic for giving my kids the best possible start entering school. It has had a large impact on my family and my children's success.  
—CCS Parent

My grandson is ADHD along with other behaviors symptomatic of trauma. Attendance in Head Start greatly improved behaviors. Other behaviors have become more evident and I am thankful for the interest and professionalism of Head Start Staff for being on top of these things. My granddaughter is also a child of trauma and Head Start helps her socially and educationally to adjust in a supportive atmosphere.  
—CCS Grandparent

Love the positive environment and healthy food options for breakfast. I also like that they teach about fire safety, dentist/Dr. visits so the child isn't terrified when they visit them. I also love how they take time to brush teeth after breakfast.  
—CCS Parent

CCS parents,  
foster parents  
and grandparents  
tell us their  
thoughts...

Being a grandparent of two children who live with you full time. CCS has been a blessing since day one they provide so many for all families in the program.  
—CCS Grandparent

Without this school, I wouldn't be able to afford Pre-School. I am so grateful for CCS.  
—CCS Parent

This has been an excellent program for all three of my sons! My 11 year old is an amazing student and he started at Head Start! —CCS Parent

CCS has really helped my kids develop social skills and become ready for kindergarten. Also taking the smart connections classes and other ACEs training has helped me become a better parent at home.  
—CCS Parent

The scientific name is *Lumbricus terrestris*, they do not live in deserts or regions where there is permafrost or permanent snow and ice.

Earthworms' bodies are made up of ringlike segments called annuli. Which are covered in small bristles, which the worm uses to move and burrow.

An earthworm can eat up to a third of its body weight in a day.



**Are you interested in being a CCS Volunteer?** There are many opportunities to help.

- 1) Classrooms: reading to children, playground friend, assist the teacher
- 2) Classroom Prep: cutting, laminating, making play dough etc.
- 3) Front Office: shredding, mailings, etc.
- 4) Maintenance: handyman/woman, painting, playground clean up, yard maintenance
- 5) Donations: Non-toxic washable paints, Art boards of all sizes, Canvas in all sizes, Art supplies, Popsicle sticks, Pompoms, Chenille sticks, Feathers, Ribbon, construction paper, crayons, etc. Also - look for CCS Early Learning projects that you can help with on [www.donorschoose.org](http://www.donorschoose.org)

**To be a volunteer or make a donation, please contact our Administrative Office at 373-7000.**

## Financial Summary

Revenue	Actual FY16	Budget FY16
Federal (FHS, EHS)	2,748,839	2,829,062
State Head Start	619,654	567,099
Local Support	166,037	165,026
Grant, Food Program	120,865	86,760
Program (CACFP)	194,244	223,134
Donations/Fundraising	102,863	42,081
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,952,502</b>	<b>3,913,162</b>

Expenditures	Actual FY16	Budget FY16
Salaries and Fringe	2,766,840	2,676,781
Occupancy	273,069	232,942
Staff Support	79,437	60,334
Student Travel (Bus)	366,337	450,153
Supplies	183,779	157,766
Contractual	64,962	64,962
Insurance	28,066	28,066
Advertising	13,397	30,850
Equipment	13,008	78,440
Other Direct Costs	107,448	132,868
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,896,344</b>	<b>3,913,162</b>

In-Kind for FY16: \$311.567

Audited Financial Statements Available Upon Request

## Results of our Head Start & Financial Reviews

The Office of Head Start (OHS) does various on-site program audits to determine if Head Start grantees are meeting all of the Federal Performance Standards.

The results of our most recent reviews are as follows:

Oct 2015 - Fiscal, Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance Review. No findings of non-compliance.

Mar 2016 - Pre-K Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Review.

- Emotional Support - CCS 6.41 (2016 National Mean - 6.04)
- Classroom Organization - CCS 5.88 (2016 National Mean - 5.76)
- Instructional Support - CCS 3.11 (2016 National Mean - 2.74)

May 2016 - Environmental Health and Safety Review. No findings of non-compliance

Our last fiscal audit covered the year ending July 31, 2016 and was performed by Foster & Company. This audit identified no areas of material weakness, instances of significant deficiency, or instances of non-compliance material to the financial statements. In addition there were no state or federal findings or questioned costs, nor were there any findings or questioned costs in the prior year.

CCS Early Learning was determined to be a low-risk auditee.

**Medical Exams**  
CCS works hard to remove all obstacles that may interfere with school success. In our last program year we had 336 (79%) children receive all medical screenings (including: blood pressure, developmental, growth assessment, mental health, hearing, language, nutrition, speech, vision, hemoglobin, lead blood level, and physical exam). Of these, 28 children were identified as needing medical treatment and 23 received the recommended treatment.

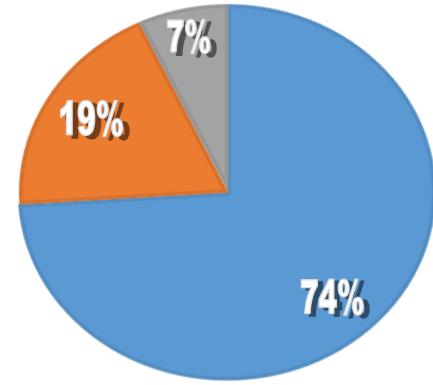
### Dental Exams

A total of 240 Head Start children (78%) completed an oral health examination. Of these, 51 children were diagnosed as needing dental treatment and 18 received the treatment recommended during our program year.

### CCS Early Learning Revenue Sources

2016

- Federal Support
- State Support
- Local Support



## Alaska Head Start Association Award 2016 Winners from CCS:



From Left to Right

**Bonnie Monson (Chugiak Center)**  
Associate Administrator of the Year

**Cathy Gruver (Administrative Office)**  
Leadership Award

**Jasmine Dirkes**  
Bus Driver of the Year

*"The head start program has been fantastic for giving my kids the best possible start entering school. It has had a large impact on my family and my children's success."*

- CCS Parent

# CCS Early Learning would like to thank our supporters who partnered with us in 2016:

Program Attachment G  
Annual Report

VALENTINE SPONSORS		First Choice Physical Therapy	Valley Performing Arts	Laurie Faubert	Debra Schnebel
Matsu Health Foundation		Gail Toci	Wasilla CCS Parent Policy Council	Christina Garcia	Joseph Schroeder
Mud Busters		Garden Gate	Wasilla Lube Express	Roberta Gardiner	Susan Schroeder
Ptarmigan Pediatrics		Gold Rush Jewelers	Wishing Wellness	Dennis Gradel	Andrew Scudder
MTA		Grandview Inn & Suites	Zulu Nyala Experience	Redona Grazio	Amos Secoy
Valley Business Machines		Great Alaska Pizza Co. In Palmer	UNITED WAY	Michelle Greco	Olive Secoy
Wilson Agency		Handmade by Rachel	Serfio Acena	Rachel Greenberg	Bret Sisco
Wells Fargo		House of Bread Humdingers	Pia Beckers	Laraysha Gumfory	Melanie Sisco
First National Bank Alaska		HunniBee Gift Solutions	First National Bank Alaska	Storilyn Gumfory	Kristi Smethers
Turning Leaf		IHop	Jean Kincaid	Susan Hale	Nicole Spinner
Enstar		Jessica Block	Charity Lawrence	Jakob Hansen	Joseph Stoltze
VALENTINE DONORS		Just Imagine Toys	Michelle Schilling	Abigale Hensley	Jeremy Taylor
Alaska Aces		K2 Aviation	Jessica Svetkovich	Vicki Herman	Therese Tomasoski
Alaska Garden Gate B&B		Knik River Lodge	Vernell Whitney	Kayleen Hetrick	Aya Travis
Alaska Mint		Kurt & Tammy Brehm	May Ramirez-Xiong	Zia Hetrick	Britney Travis
Alaska Rail Road		La Hacienda	Heather Burgess	Christopher Jette	Daq Travis
Alaska Sea Life Center		Larson Chiropractic	PICK CLICK GIVE	Nicole Justice	McKinley Travis
Alaska Splendor Limousine		Last Frontier Brewing Company	Lea Ann Alger-Abernathy	Jean Kincaid	Robert Trudeau
All I Saw Cookware		Learning Essentials	Abigail Allen	Joann Kohler	Terri Trudeau
Allen & Petersens		Locals	Jonathan Allen	Brennan Lackey	Lynn Vreeland
Avon through Tammy		Luke Lofgren	Richard Allen	James Lackey	Jason Ward
B.Bella in Palmer		Marcy Elton-Meeks	George Armstrong	Luke Lackey	Toni Warth
Back and Neck Center		Matanuska Electric Association	Braxton Baker	Mark Lackey	Kenneth Westrope
Balanced Body Therapeutic		Matanuska Music	Candice Baum	Rhonda Lackey	Ayden Wilder
Bass Pro Shop		Midas	Rose Bauman	Rickarla Lane	Carsen Wilder
Bionic Chiropractic		Mr. Lube	Michelle Beamish	Karl Lund	Gavin Wilder
Bouncing Bears		Non-Essentials	Crystal Bird-Ravsten	Kristin Mallett	Amanda Worthington
Brew Haha		Northrim Bank	Jennifer Burkmine	Melissa Mallett	Bailey Worthington
CamKDesigns		Numzan Safari Hunt	Michael Burkmine	Kelsey Mayer	James Worthington
Cathy Gruver		Oopsie Daisey	Deshawn Campbell	Bonnie Monson	Kayla Worthington
Chena Hot Springs		Paradise Tanning	Francisco Campbell	Aase Morin	Kristin Wouk
Chepos		Pat Cockrell	Kathleen Campbell	Cecelia Morin	FUNDERS
CIRI		Pia's Custom Framing	Mya Campbell	Stacie Morin	State of Alaska-DEED
Clean Slate Tattoo		Red Robin	Myles Campbell	Polly-Beth Odom	ACF-Office Head Start
Cold Stone Ice Cream		Mark & Rhonda Lackey	Jake Chapman	Jeremy Peterson	United Way of Mat-Su
Coming Attractions		Riverboat Discovery	Ann Cockrell	Andrea Pigott	United Way of Anch.
Country Cuts		Shane Lamb	Melena Cockrell	Rhiley Poteet	Bishops Attic
Cover Ups		Sharon Bulawa	Patrick Cockrell	Theron Powell	Mat-Su Health Foundation
Cutting Crew		Silvertip Design	Kimberly Cooley	Izak Punturo	Fred Meyer Comm. Foundation
Danielle Howard		Sportsmans Warehouse	James Denman	Vickie Reese	Amazon Smile
Diane Cooper		The Gallery	Jasmine Dirkes	Daniel Rhoten	Chugiak Eagle River Foundation
Evangelos		The Tub House	Mary Dooher	Alan Roy	Rasmuson Foundation
Fireside Books		Turning Leaf	Zoe Duran	Brooklin Sadkowski	



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