



Providing advocacy, resources and support to early childhood educators and the children they serve.



Educating Community



Educating Providers

Educating Children



Edward Street Child Services

2008 Annual Report

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Edward Street Child Services is a private, non-profit agency that has a long tradition of promoting quality care for all pre-school age children. Edward Street is dedicated to promoting the growth of children and strengthening the family by improving the delivery of early learning services in greater Worcester through interagency collaborations, resource development, and direct funding of programs designed to address the social, intellectual, emotional, and physical needs of each child.

Edward Street Child Services will focus its efforts on six issues that it deems to have significant importance in the delivery of quality childcare:

- Family involvement and empowerment
- School readiness
- Strengthening child care centers
- Teacher training and education
- Community education and advocacy
- Integrated community services related to child care



Message from the President

As President of the Edward Street Child Services Board of Directors, it is with honor and pleasure that I prepare this 2008 Annual Report.

The past few years have been transformative for Edward Street. The agency has moved from being seen as a competitor in the childcare community to being a partner and resource instrumental in moving childcare forward for the benefit of the children being served as well as the Worcester community as a whole.

As the field has made strides to improve the quality of care provided through meeting more rigorous NAEYC accreditation standards, Edward Street has been in the forefront in assisting centers in that endeavor. As an agency we have invested in accreditation support to help agencies reach the higher bar set by NAEYC, a goal that many thought would not be attainable. Under these new, tougher standards 16 out of 32 childcare centers in our area have achieved accreditation. Worcester area childcare centers have demonstrated their commitment to providing the highest quality early childhood education in the Commonwealth as exhibited by the fact that 37% of the centers in our area have achieved accreditation compared to only 20% in Springfield and Boston as of May of this year.

A major focus this past year has been in addressing one of the most daunting challenges set forth in the new accreditation standards; workforce development. Area agencies need staff to complete bachelor degrees in order to maintain accreditation and to be eligible for certain funding. Edward Street staff worked closely with centers to determine what the educational needs of their staff were and with area colleges to develop flexible curriculum to address these needs. To this end, we have applied for a Workforce Development Trust Fund grant and have worked with the Colleges of Worcester Consortium and Youth Works to coordinate the higher education needs of our early childhood educators. This work will address the needs of individual teachers at each agency as well work with students in the Youth Works program who have expressed interest in the field of Early Childhood Education. This will improve the credential of the current early childhood workforce as well as grow the number of qualified early childhood educators in the community.

Another area of focus for Edward Street has been the development of the link between the business and the childcare communities. This effort has been focused on working with business leaders to stress the relationship between the education of the youngest members of society and the current and future economic development of the community. Our Early Learning Leadership Advisory Council hosted a forum on October 31st at Mechanics Hall featuring Rob Grunewald from the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis entitled Early Education: An Economic Development Strategy where he shared data that demonstrated the effectiveness and economic returns of high-quality early childhood education. This forum was sponsored and attended by a number of our prominent area business leaders.

We have had a year of significant impact in the childcare community and have made considerable progress in achieving our agency's objectives, yet there is still a lot of work to do. I would like to thank the members of the Board for their time and dedication over this past year and I would like to thank the Executive Director and the Director of Partnership Development for their tireless efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

George A. Joseph, President
Edward Street Child Services



Message from the Executive Director

Education is the theme of Edward Street's work this year. We have worked to educate the community, educate the teachers and ultimately educate the young children of our community.

In the 1955 Annual Report, the Executive Director of Edward Street wrote, "Day care is not understood in our own community, therefore our aim for the coming year can well be helping industry and the community to understand the need for and the value of good day care to the community." Over fifty years later, that statement remains true.

To best advocate for early childhood educators and the children they serve we must educate the community about the importance of early childhood education; as it impacts the community today and in the future by preparing tomorrow's workforce. To that end, Edward Street hosted a forum with Rob Grunewald, Associate Economist from the Minneapolis Federal Reserve who discussed his research on the economic impact of high quality early education. The public return on investment is 16%.

To achieve such a high rate of return, we must assure that our children receive high quality early education and care. Edward Street has invested in improving the quality of education provided to our young children. Accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children is considered the gold standard of quality. Edward Street has assisted centers to achieve accreditation under the new higher standards of quality through consultation support.

More importantly, Edward Street recognizes that teacher education is a critical component of program quality. We have set the ambitious goal of assuring that all teachers in our early childhood programs earn their Bachelor's degrees. Working with the Colleges of Worcester Consortium, the colleges that offer degrees in Early Childhood Education, YouthWorks and the Worcester Technical High School we developed a community-wide plan that will not only educate our current teachers but will develop a pipeline of new teachers ready to enter the field.

As we look to the future, we have many challenges to overcome. Most notably, the current economic outlook for the Commonwealth will negatively impact our sector. Early Childhood Educators already poorly compensated for their incredibly difficult and incredibly important work. To encourage further education we must solve the compensation issue. That will require continued community education. Business and community leaders must understand that early investment will pay handsomely. Providing every child in our community with the foundation that will prepare them for success in school and in life is not only the right thing to do, it is an economic investment that will benefit our community both now and in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "dianne bruce". The signature is written in a cursive, lowercase style.

Dianne Bruce
Executive Director

Highlights



The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Playground at Trinity Lutheran Children's Preschool



Edward Street Partnered with UMassMemorial to provide Medication Administration Training to 76 early childhood educators



Early Childhood Education:
An Economic Development Strategy with High Public Return

Left to right: John Bassett, President of Clark University and Chair of the Edward Street Child Services Early Learning Leadership Advisory Council; Paul Reville, Secretary of Education Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Dianne Bruce, Executive Director of Edward Street Child Services; Margaret Blood, President of Strategies for Children; and Rob Grunewald, Associate Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.



WPI students pose after a job well done. To prepare for a licensing visit the playground needed new mulch.



Volunteers from South High School enjoy some refreshments after remulching a playground to prepare for an accreditation

The Year at a Glance

Area	Activities	Actions
Family Involvement and Empowerment	TFK Family Involvement Subcommittee	Working with Parent Liaisons from 4 childcare agencies to increase parent involvement, communication, and parenting skills. Assisted with planning the implementation of the Second Step curriculum at 2 TFK centers to test the efficacy of the parent involvement component. Assisted with the development of a Parent Sensitivity Training to help center staff develop more empathy for the families they serve.
	Worcester Community Connections Coalition	Serve on the Steering Committee to assist local families to advocate for supports and services for families and children. Projects included a Family Resource Guide and the development of a by parent for parent resource center.
	Family Ties	Serve on the Steering Committee. Initiative focuses on increasing maternal education and parenting skills.
	Fathers and Families Network	Remain involved in strategic planning process which includes coalition sustainability.
School Readiness	Together For Kids	Serve on the Steering, Public Policy, and Executive Committees of the project. Advocacy work has resulted in social and emotional development language being included in the guidelines for the new Department of Early Education and Care.
	Early Education for All	Working with Strategies for Children to encourage proactive community planning for the eventual implementation of Universal Preschool in Worcester.
Strengthening Childcare Centers	Capital Fund Project	<p>Obtained funding for the installation of new fencing and carpeting at Worcester Comprehensive Child Care Services.</p> <p>Working with Boy Scout Troop to reinstall access ramp at Elm Park Center on Burncoat Street.</p>

		<p>Recruited student volunteers from WPI and South High School to remulch playgrounds at 2 centers to prepare for accreditation and licensing visits.</p> <p>Recruited students from WPI to provide technology support to agencies.</p> <p>Conducting a UPK Facilities Readiness Study in collaboration with CEDAC/The Children’s Investment Fund and the IQP Project Center at WPI.</p>
Teacher Training and Education	<p>NAEYC Accreditation</p> <p>Strategic Technology Plan</p> <p>Brudnick Brain Institute</p> <p>Coalition for Early Education Careers</p>	<p>Participate in accreditation support groups for agencies. Developed the NAEYC page of the website to allow agencies to share documents they develop to assist with accreditation documentation. Providing additional dollars to provide accreditation consultation for organizations.</p> <p>Provided training specific to completing NAEYC accreditation worksheets. Working with a technology consultant to develop task specific training (i.e.: mailing lists, brochures, etc.) based on agency requests.</p> <p>Participate in the Community Education Committee to bring brain development information to agencies.</p> <p>Convened early education providers, local colleges, Worcester Technical High School, EdCentral, and United Way to develop a community-wide strategy to get all early childhood educators to a bachelor’s degree. Received grant funding through the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund to implement the plan.</p> <p>Partnered with Dr. Erin McMaster from UMassMemorial to provide Medication Administration Training to 76 early childhood educators.</p>
Community Education and Advocacy	Workforce Solutions Council	<p>Continued to work with local partners to advocate for additional funding for Adult Basic Education, English for Speakers of Other Languages, and specific career development activities for low-income adults. The funding will benefit parents as well as child care workers.</p>

	<p>Early Learning Leadership Advisory Council</p> <p>WAAEYC</p> <p>Common Pathways</p>	<p>The Council sponsored a community education event at mechanics hall with Rob Grunewald, Associate Economist, Minneapolis Federal Reserve, Paul Reville, Secretary of Education Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Margaret Blood, President of Strategies for Children to highlight the public return on investment of early childhood education for business and community leaders.</p> <p>Coordinated a legislative breakfast to educate the local delegation of the importance of early childhood education and to advocate for increased compensation for teachers.</p> <p>Serve on the Support Team and Community Indicators committees to bring the early childhood education perspective to the work of the initiative to improve the quality of life in the community.</p>
<p>Integrated Community Services Related to Childcare</p>	<p>Website</p> <p>Access to Services</p>	<p>The Early Childhood Central website was redesigned to accommodate family and agency needs. The addition of the NAEYC Accreditation page brought attention at a national NAEYC event.</p> <p>With Community Connections Coalition, advocated with the Department of Transitional Assistance to streamline voucher process for families.</p>

Edward Street Day Care Center, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2006 and 2005

	<u>Assets</u>	
<u>Current</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Cash	5,497	26,478
Grant Receivable	5,000	-
Prepaid Expenses	4,359	1,875
Investments	<u>3,399,900</u>	<u>3,153,231</u>
Total	<u>3,414,756</u>	<u>3,181,584</u>
<u>Property and Equipment</u>		
Equipment	3,359	3,359
Furnishings	<u>1,160</u>	<u>1,160</u>
	4,519	4,519
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>2,038</u>	<u>1,134</u>
Net	<u>2,481</u>	<u>3,385</u>
<u>Other</u>		
Security Deposit	<u>1,060</u>	<u>1,060</u>
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>3,418,297</u>	<u>3,186,029</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
<u>Current</u>		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	<u>6,670</u>	<u>807</u>
<u>Net Assets</u>		
Unrestricted	3,405,711	3,185,222
Temporarily Restricted	<u>5,916</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	3,411,627	3,185,222
<u>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</u>	<u>3,418,297</u>	<u>3,186,029</u>

Edward Street Day Care Center, Inc.

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006

Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Support and Revenue		
Grants and Donations	1,526	20,383
Investment Income	110,960	101,606
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	313,868	56,613
Net Asset Released from Restrictions	5,084	-
Total	<u>431,438</u>	<u>178,602</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program Services	91,502	86,042
Management & General	82,725	76,983
Fundraising and Development	<u>36,722</u>	<u>27,044</u>
Total	<u>210,949</u>	<u>190,069</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>220,489</u>	<u>(11,467)</u>
Changes in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets		
Grants and Donations	11,000	-
Net assets Released from Restrictions	<u>(5,084)</u>	<u>-</u>
Increase in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<u>5,916</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</u>	226,405	(11,467)
<u>Net Assets, Beginning</u>	<u>3,185,222</u>	<u>3,196,689</u>
<u>Net Assets, Ending</u>	<u>3,411,627</u>	<u>3,185,222</u>

Edward Street Day Care Center, Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Increase (Decrease) In Cash

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	226,405	(11,467)
Adjustments to Reconcile Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities:		
Depreciation	904	677
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	(313,868)	(56,613)
Increase in Grant Receivable	(5,000)	-
Increase in Prepaid Expenses	(2,484)	(25)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	<u>5,863</u>	<u>(1,302)</u>
Total Adjustments	<u>(314,585)</u>	<u>(57,263)</u>
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	<u>(88,180)</u>	<u>(68,730)</u>
<u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</u>		
Capital Expenditures	-	(2,269)
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	1,350,999	1,550,163
Purchase of Investments	<u>(1,283,800)</u>	<u>(1,471,162)</u>
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	<u>67,199</u>	<u>76,732</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(20,981)	8,002
Cash, Beginning	<u>26,478</u>	<u>18,476</u>
<u>Cash, Ending</u>	<u>5,497</u>	<u>26,478</u>

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2006 and 2005

Investments

The following is a summary of cost and fair values of investments at June 30, 2007:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Money Market Funds	168,343	168,343
U.S. Government Debt Securities	236,445	225,738
Corporate Debt Securities	794,940	790,289
Equity Securities	1,660,690	2,215,530
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,860,418</u>	<u>3,399,900</u>

The following is a summary of cost and fair value of investments at June 30, 2006:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Money Market Funds	107,569	107,569
U.S. Government Debt Securities	318,934	303,747
Corporate Debt Securities	426,487	414,355
Equity Securities	2,045,897	2,327,560
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,898,887</u>	<u>3,153,231</u>

Edward Street Day Care Center, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2006 and 2005

	<u>Assets</u>	
<u>Current</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Cash	26,496	5,497
Grant Receivable	-	5,000
Prepaid Expenses	3,611	4,359
Investments	<u>2,933,352</u>	<u>3,399,900</u>
Total	<u>2,963,459</u>	<u>3,414,756</u>
<u>Property and Equipment</u>		
Equipment	3,359	3,359
Furnishings	<u>1,160</u>	<u>1,160</u>
	4,519	4,519
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>2,942</u>	<u>2,038</u>
Net	<u>1,577</u>	<u>2,481</u>
<u>Other</u>		
Security Deposit	<u>1,060</u>	<u>1,060</u>
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>2,966,096</u>	<u>3,418,297</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
<u>Current</u>		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	<u>256</u>	<u>6,670</u>
<u>Net Assets</u>		
Unrestricted	2,965,840	3,405,711
Temporarily Restricted	<u>-</u>	<u>5,916</u>
Total	2,965,840	3,411,627
<u>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</u>	<u>2,966,096</u>	<u>3,418,297</u>

Edward Street Day Care Center, Inc.

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended June 30, 2007 and 2006

Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Support and Revenue		
Grants and Donations	1,052	1,526
Investment Income	120,563	110,960
Net Realized Gain on Sale of Investments	203,791	44,933
Net Unrealized Gain (loss) on Investments	(551,729)	268,935
Other Revenue	302	-
Net Asset Released from Restrictions	<u>15,916</u>	<u>5,084</u>
Total	<u>(210,105)</u>	<u>431,438</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program Services	114,379	91,502
Management & General	69,549	82,725
Fundraising and Development	<u>45,838</u>	<u>36,722</u>
Total	<u>229,766</u>	<u>210,949</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>(439,871)</u>	<u>220,489</u>
Changes in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets		
Grants and Donations	10,000	11,000
Net assets Released from Restrictions	<u>(15,916)</u>	<u>(5,084)</u>
Increase in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<u>(5,916)</u>	<u>5,916</u>
<u>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</u>	(445,787)	226,405
<u>Net Assets, Beginning</u>	<u>3,411,627</u>	<u>3,185,222</u>
<u>Net Assets, Ending</u>	<u>2,965,840</u>	<u>3,411,627</u>

Edward Street Day Care Center, Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended June 30, 2004

Increase (Decrease) In Cash

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<u>(445,787)</u>	<u>226,405</u>
Adjustments to Reconcile Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities:		
Depreciation	904	904
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	347,938	(313,868)
Increase in Grant Receivable	5,000	(5,000)
Increase in Prepaid Expenses	(747)	(2,484)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	<u>(6414)</u>	<u>5,863</u>
Total Adjustments	<u>346,681</u>	<u>(314,585)</u>
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	<u>(99,106)</u>	<u>(88,180)</u>
<u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</u>		
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	1,721,846	1,350,999
Purchase of Investments	<u>(1,601,741)</u>	<u>(1,283,800)</u>
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	<u>120,105</u>	<u>67,199</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash	20,999	(20,981)
Cash, Beginning	<u>5,497</u>	<u>26,478</u>
<u>Cash, Ending</u>	<u>26,496</u>	<u>5,497</u>

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2008 and 2007

Investments

The following is a summary of cost and fair values of investments at June 30, 2007:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Money Market Funds	46,174	46,174
U.S. Government Debt Securities	181,811	182,572
Corporate Debt Securities	980,075	899,509
Equity Securities	1,719,286	1,805,097
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,927,346</u>	<u>2,933,352</u>

The following is a summary of cost and fair value of investments at June 30, 2007:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
Money Market Funds	168,343	168,343
U.S. Government Debt Securities	236,445	225,738
Corporate Debt Securities	794,940	790,289
Equity Securities	1,660,690	2,215,530
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,860,418</u>	<u>3,399,900</u>