



Child Care Resource

January 4, 2016

Selectboard
Town of Charlotte
P.O. Box 119
Charlotte, Vermont 05445

Dear Selectboard Members:

Child Care Resource would like to request \$750 in support from the Town of Charlotte. Below is a description of what we do and highlights of the services we have provided to Charlotte residents in the past year.

Child Care Resource has a 30 year history in our community. Since 1984, CCR has been helping families find child care and supporting the growth of child care options in Chittenden County. Today, CCR provides a full range of important services to families, educators, child care business owners, school districts, and communities. As a result, children are more likely to have basic needs met and be healthy as they grow and learn. Through all of this work, CCR strives to ensure that children, birth through age twelve, are developing to their full potential and are well-prepared for school and for life.

In Charlotte, full-time child care options for children ages birth through 5 age are limited. Charlotte Children's Center is the only child care center and has the capacity to serve 59 children birth through age 5. This includes only 12 children under the age of 2. Charlotte Children's Center is recognized for high quality by Vermont's STARS program and its tuition is the highest in Chittenden County.

Since last year, the number of family child care programs in Charlotte has declined from 3 to 2. The two remaining programs have a total capacity of 16 children including 4 children under the age of 2. One family child care program is participating in STARS and has one STAR. One is not participating.

Child Care Resource supports Charlotte children in the child care location of their family's choice which is often outside the Town of Charlotte. We do this in many important ways.

We help Charlotte residents find child care throughout Chittenden County. In our FY15 (July 2014 to June 2015), one low-income Charlotte family, who had used our referral service 4 times since her child was born, came to our office with an urgent need to find care because she had lost her child care and needing to find new care right away so that she wouldn't lose her job. She needed care starting at 6:00 in the morning. We were able to provide her with 15 programs that had an opening for the child and could accommodate her work schedule.

- Twenty-one child care educators, who live or work in Charlotte participated in group professional development opportunities offered through Child Care Resource. In total they participated in 333 hours of professional development.
- Eleven Charlotte children had nutritious meals in child care through our sponsorship of the Child and Adult Care Food Program. In total, 7,920 meals were served and \$10,743 was drawn down from the federal government to reimburse child care providers for the cost of these meals.

In addition, we offered professional consultation and coaching for program staff and families, especially those caring for children with special needs. All of these services and more make Child Care Resource the one-stop shop for child care for Charlotte and for Chittenden County.

Our services are sustained by a diverse array of funding sources that change over time. Our currently operating budget is \$2 million. We are requesting \$750 from the Town of Charlotte to help support all of our services.

Please let me know if you need any other information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Meyer".

Elizabeth Meyer
Executive Director