



MORRIS COUNTY ECE SHARED SERVICES ALLIANCE IMPACT REPORT

2024



WHAT IS SHARED SERVICES?

Meaningful and substantive changes take time and flexibility. Thus, it's crucial to navigate Shared Services Alliance initiatives with flexibility, assessing the structure of projects routinely, and adjusting as needed.

CFR has created and supported an organic support network for the Shared Service Alliance members through facilitation and collaboration, as well as professional development provided for specific identified needs. As each community has their own challenges, varying demographics, and identified needs, so do the childcare facilities that operate within these communities.

Raising awareness for programs needed within the community or programs currently operating within the community is part of the consumer education CFR provides. Connecting childcare centers through programs like the Strengthening Families Initiative and GROW NJ Kids are a couple of examples.

Partnering with the New Jersey Department of Human Services' (DHS) Division of Family Development (DFD), Strengthening Families (SF) works closely with Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agencies to conduct trainings that build on the SF approach in childcare centers and family childcare providers, throughout the state.

Is This a Repeatable Model?

It has already been repeated. Across the country, communities have created Shared Services Alliances to strengthen their early childhood education programs and support their local workforce. Childcare providers, many of whom are small business owners, are able to offset the financial burden of numerous administrative tasks through centralizing operations in collaboration with other centers.

Business leaders in communities with Shared Services Alliances are afforded a distinct opportunity to lend a helping hand to childcare providers. They can play a critical role by:

Investing in the Development of Shared Services Alliances, Providing or Funding a Space to Establish Alliance Operations, Contributing Time, Office Supplies, Furniture, Services, or Expertise

What Are the Program Results?

For childcare providers in Morris County, access to the Alliance has been instrumental in providing high-quality childcare. By implementing childcare management software programs, providers are seeing an increase in both time and cost savings, valuable resources that are re-invested into their businesses. This outcome is especially valuable for childcare centers operating in low-income neighborhoods, where increased revenues allow for business growth once unattainable.

TOGETHER WE ARE THE MORRIS COUNTY ECE SHARED SERVICES ALLIANCE



**Carmen Isabel Araujo
Elida Johanna Arango
Jenny Montoya
Katherine Brid Calvo
Liza Costain
Luz Angela
Maira Silva
Marleny Silva
Nancy Jimenez
Bridges to Learning
Dover Child Care
Little Bears - Dover
Little Bears - Pompton Plains
Millie's House
Mountain Lakes Country Day
Parsippany Child Day Care Center**



Funding Provided by NJ Department of Human Services



A NOTE FROM CHILD & FAMILY RESOURCES

Greetings Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

We are proud to update you on the Fiscal Year 2024 Morris County Shared Service Alliance Impact Report. Providing a deep dive into our business and social impact over the past year, highlighting our accomplishments, the people, projects and Morris County business leaders that are our driving progress—for our Alliance, our clients, our communities, our staff and our organization, is such an accomplishment.

While NJ has seen advancements this year surrounding minimum wage, accountability for gun traffickers, New Jersey's Safe Haven Infant Protection Act expansion, grants to help get more uninsured eligible children enrolled in NJ FamilyCare, investments in child care to support working families and providers combined with a challenging economic environment and the global geopolitical tensions testing our collective capacity to adjust, adapt and prosper have all been at the forefront. Financial institutions have been claiming that economic growth was likely to decelerate in 2024 as the effects of monetary policy take a broader toll and post-pandemic tailwinds fade, but we have not seen evidence.

We are grateful for the support of our community, support organizations, grant opportunities, funders, and donors. Without them, our response to our families, childcare professionals, and staff would not have been possible. Childcare professionals continued to receive cash grants to help support the development and creation of child care infants and toddlers slots and provide technical assistance to providers for the expansion of child care spaces, purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment that will contribute to health, safety and accessibility and/or high-quality learning environments.

Childcare relief funds and the Morris County Shared Service Alliance have provided critical support for stabilizing childcare programs and preventing more programs from permanent closure, but these funds are just the beginning of what's needed to recover and rebuild after decades of underfunding. We must commit to building a better system. Building a better system should be centered around parent choice because not all childcare looks alike. To support all families, we need a mixed-delivery system that gives them the opportunity to choose childcare that meets their needs and is affordable, accessible and of high quality. Through Shared Services the Child Care Centers of Morris County can better serve and support the families within our community.

You, our partners, and supporters, have given generously, acknowledging the challenges of this time, and entrusting us to deploy resources where they are needed. Collaborations have increased through desperate necessity to better serve families in need. Our families and providers demonstrated patience and understanding while we stumbled through an ever-changing continuous landscape of state-mandated rules and regulations. Through Shared Service Alliance, we have continued to be responsive to our community's evolving demands. We have ensured low-income families access to free diapers enabling family-serving organizations statewide to address this dire need.

One thing remains unchanged and that is our commitment to our mission and vision. We will always support our families and the people they entrust - early care educators - to ensure our youngest learners thrive!

Thank you for partnering with us on this journey!

Rebecca Sherrod Capozzi
Rebecca Sherrod Capozzi
Executive Director

Charlene O'Brien
Charlene O'Brien
CCR&R Services Coordinator

Peggy Rauscher
Peggy Rauscher
Shared Services Specialist



Funding Provided by NJ Department of Human Services



MCECE SSA SAVINGS BREAKDOWN BY QUARTER

QUARTERS 1 & 2

Quarter 1 - 2024 Total Savings \$2,832.49	Cost	Shared Services Specialist Time
Diaper Bank Distribution	\$1,460.73	\$288.00 (12 hours)
Sensory Tiles and Calming Posters	\$483.76	\$96.00 (4 hours)
NJ CITE Membership	\$120.00	\$96.00 (4 hours)
Employee Medical Insurance Survey	\$0.00	\$288.00 (12 hours)
Subtotals	\$2,064.49	\$768.00 (32 hours)

Quarter 2 - 2024 Total Savings \$5,396.26	Cost	Shared Services Specialist Time
Diaper Bank Distribution	\$742.26	\$144.00 (6 hours)
NJ CITE Conference & Membership	\$660.00	\$144.00 (6 hours)
Grow Garden State	\$0.00	\$48.00 (2 hours)
S.H.I.N.E. Gala	\$1,786.00	\$288.00 (12 hours)
MHHM Sprouting Spuds	\$204.00	\$288.00 (12 hours)
Therapeutic Art Program - Little Bears, Dover	\$900.00	\$192.00 (8 hours)
Subtotals	\$4,292.26	\$1,104.00 (46 hours)

MCECE SSA SAVINGS BREAKDOWN BY QUARTER

QUARTERS 3 & 4

Quarter 3 - 2024 Total Savings \$1,432.44	Cost	Shared Services Specialist Time
Diaper Bank Distribution	\$160.44	\$96.00 (4 hours)
NJ CITE Conference Attendance - April 13, 2024	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grow Garden State	\$48.00	\$0.00
CITE Membership	\$60.00	\$24.00 (1 hour)
MHHM Sprouting Spuds	\$0.00	\$96.00 (4 hours)
Therapeutic Art Program - Little Bears, Dover Report Updates	\$900.00	\$48.00 (2 hours)
Subtotals	\$1,168.44	\$264.00 (11 hours)
Quarter 4 - 2024 Total Savings \$11,452.70	Cost	Shared Services Specialist Time
Diaper Bank Distribution	\$118.18	\$288.00 (12 hours)
Diaper Bank Drive & Purchase	\$1,906.52	\$288.00 (12 hours)
Antibacterial Hand Soap Distribution (3 pump hand soaps distributed to 3 FCC Providers at \$3 each)	\$27.00	\$72.00 (3 hours delivery time and coordinating)
Back to School Event	\$4,800.00 (64 children served at approx. \$75 each)	\$384.00 (16 hours)
MHHM Sprouting Spuds Program	\$1,000.00 (5 PD Hours at \$200/hour) \$155.00 - materials	\$240.00 (10 hours coordination and scheduling)
PMCH Keep Me Lead Free Program	\$800.00 (4 PD Hours at \$200/hour)	\$240.00 (10 hours coordination and scheduling)
Director's Conference Tickets	\$390.00	\$192.00 (8 hours)
Spanish Provider's Conference Tickets	\$360.00	\$192.00 (8 hours)
Subtotals	\$9,556.70	\$1,896.00 (79 hours)



FY 2024 COST SAVINGS HIGHLIGHTS

How much has being part of this Alliance saved our programs this year?

Shared Service estimated administrative technical assistance of 168 hours on special projects with a cost savings result based on average Director's salary of \$30.00 per hour,

Grand Total - \$80,640.00

(168 hours x 16 centers at \$30 per hour)

Shared Service administrative technical assistance coordinating monthly meetings for Directors and FCC Providers (24 meetings, Spanish & English), prep time to develop Power Point presentations (2 hours each, 48 hours), Six in person meetings with additional prep and food / additional 6 hours, gathering resources, guests and delivery: 72 hours total at SS Specialists salary - \$1,872.00 or

Director's salary \$2,340.00 (prep and delivery to coordinate monthly Alliance meetings)

Access to diapers, wipes, and pull-ups; matching funds raised, Grand Total - \$4,387.69

(distributed diapers and wipes total \$2,481.17, plus alliance diaper drives and funds raised with CFR match total \$1,906.52)

Special projects as captured in Quarter Cost Savings,

Grand Total - \$16,726.20

(minus diapers and wipes, distribution and funds matched)

All above Captured: \$104,093.89 Grand Total Savings!



Funding Provided by NJ Department of Human Services



CAPTURED MOMENTS





UPCOMING PROJECTS FOR 2025

Projected Project Highlights FY2025

- Macculloch Hall, Sprouting Spuds – Karina Filipowski
- PCMH – Anais Smith, Lead workshops
- Family Success Center – Collaboration
- JBWS – Collaboration
- The Housing Partnership – Collaboration and workshops
- Therapeutic Art Program Expansion Pilot – Walter Rodriguez
- Zufall Health/SNAP-Ed – Seeds, resources, collaboration and professional development
- Morris County Sheriff's Office - Emergency Preparedness, gun safety and Eddie the Eagle program
- Morris County Department of Health – professional development, emergency preparedness
- Business Administration Scale/Program Administration Scale with providers. The Specialist will provide technical assistance scoring and reviewing with each center, month by month, section by section of the tool.
- Inclusive Classroom Profile - The Specialist will provide technical assistance scoring and reviewing with each center, month by month, section by section of the tool.
- Morris County Park Commission - Collaboration, Denise Lanza
- Back to School Event - Summer 2025
- Seek Donations from local organizations such as Lowes, Home Depot, Walmart Garden Center, etc.

Revolving Assistance to Support the Alliance:

- Data collection
- Technical assistance
- Emails / Phone calls
- Surveys to Alliance Members
- Survey computation and data collection
- Quarterly Meetings with DFD
- Meetings with Alliance Members
- Meetings with Alliance Steering Committee / Stakeholders
- Reporting to DFD
- Grant applications
- Community Partnerships
- Review of Data Testing, Grant Outcomes & Reporting YTD

We would like to thank you all for being here with us today and for your interest in collaborating as we work toward expanding our Alliance Member benefits as well as membership. We look forward to working together to make the Morris County ECE Shared Services Alliance one that is diverse, meaningful, impactful, and truly beneficial to not only our Alliance Member Programs but more importantly to the Children and the families that they serve!

"Individually we are one drop...together we are an ocean" -Albert Einstein



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