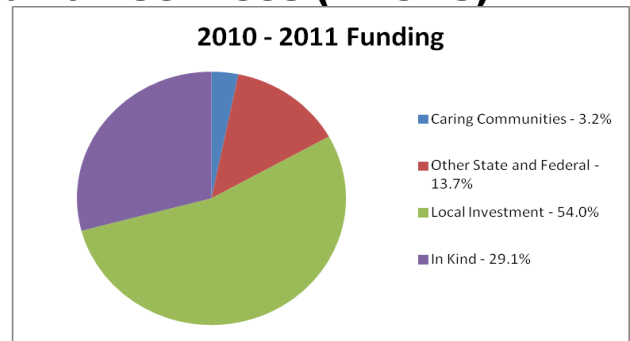
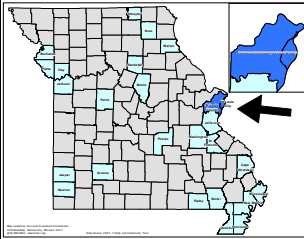


Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHS)

Established: 1995



FY2011 Result Achievement: Children Ready to Enter School

September 2011

FY2011 Community Profile:

ARCHS is the community partnership serving the Greater St. Louis Region (2.7 million residents).

ARCHS has an 18 member board and 31 employees. ARCHS is a strategic funding management organization responsible for federal, State of Missouri and private grants with a FY2011 economic impact valued at \$47.4 million that includes:

- \$8.2 million in grants and revenues
- \$21.8 million in funds managed for other not-for-profits
- \$17.4 million in funds/resources provided by ARCHS' partners (including 92,000 volunteer hours)

ARCHS is known for applying business management expertise to social enterprises through a network of 400 funding and program partners with a focus on lifelong learning (Pre-K, K-12 & Family/Community Education).

A sampling of programs supported by ARCHS include:

- Early Childhood, Educare
- After School, Gang Prevention
- Youth and Adult Mentoring/Lifeskills
- Vision Screenings, MO HealthNet
- Prisoner Reentry
- USDA Summer Food

For the past 10 fiscal years (2002-2011) ARCHS' financial statements have earned unqualified, or "clean," audits from independent auditors. Learn more at stlarchs.org.

ARCHS' FY2011 Educare

Parents have the right to choose the child care setting most appropriate for their family. To ensure all children receive quality care, the Missouri Department of Social Services invests quality improvement dollars to support child care in all settings.

Educare primarily provides onsite training and technical assistance to unlicensed, unregulated Family, Friend and Neighbor Care as well as License Exempt Programs (both of which are not required to meet minimum standards for health, safety or care). Licensed Homes/Group Family Homes are served on a space available basis.

ARCHS' FY2011 Educare Accomplishments:

Table 1: Total Educare Programs Served by Setting	
Family, Friend and Neighbor Care (4 or fewer children in a registered/unlicensed home/residence)	102
License Exempt Programs (church, school)	0
Licensed Family Homes (10 or fewer children in state licensed child care located in a home)	24
Licensed Group Homes (20 or fewer children in state licensed child care located in a home)	1
TOTAL Unduplicated Educare Programs Served	127

ARCHS expanded the service area to Educare programs in St. Louis City to the 6 counties listed below. Increased access to home programs from less than 30 in FY2010 to **127** in FY2011.

Table 2: Total Educare Programs Served by City/County	
Franklin County	5
Jefferson County	5
St. Charles County	7
St. Louis City	38
St. Louis County	69
Warren County	2
Washington County	1
TOTAL Unduplicated Educare Programs Served	127

ARCHS' Educare

ARCHS primarily works with providers who run unregulated, unlicensed child care programs in their primary residence. These providers are not required by the state to meet any educational requirements, attend trainings to improve the quality of care or comply with health and safety regulations to protect the children in their care.

Services ARCHS' Educare Provides:

- Assessment of program quality using the "Quality Instrument for Informal Child Care" (QIC) tool including three areas:
 - ♦ Health, Safety & Caregiving
 - ♦ Learning Environment
 - ♦ Social Environment
- Completion of the Home Safety Checklist including six areas:
 - ♦ Indoor Safety ♦ Outdoor Safety
 - ♦ Kitchen Safety ♦ Bathroom Safety
 - ♦ Car Safety ♦ Firearms
- A minimum of 600 minutes of on-site training and technical assistance, using research-based curriculum and training tools for family home providers.
- Review of "Strengthening Families Protective Factors and Strategies to Support Families," a self-study tool for child care providers proven to reduce factors that lead to child abuse/neglect.

Supporting Educare Providers through Education:

- ARCHS' "Fall Early Childhood Institute" (6 clock hours of training on issues including business practices, special needs, diversity, hands-on activities, CPR and pediatric first aid).
- "Power of Family Home Care Conference" (6 clock hours of training on issues specific to care for mixed age groups in a family home setting).
- ARCHS' "Spring Science & Outdoor Learning Institute" (6 clock hours of training on issues including cooking, gardening, nature, sensory development, gross/fine motor development and other science topics).
- "Support Group Meetings" (2 clock hours each on topics such as business, marketing, tax issues, organizational skills, and managing stress).

In addition to required elements, ARCHS provides additional support to its Educare programs as they work to increase the quality of their services.

Quality Improvement Planning on Key Issues:

- Educational/Training Goals
- Program Quality
- Business Skills & Practices
- Supporting Families

Incentives to Participate in the Voluntary Educare Program

- Free admission to ARCHS' two learning institutes.
- \$50 in scholarships/per provider to attend local conferences.
- \$300/per provider to purchase items to improve the learning environment, business practices, health, safety and care of children.

Additional ARCHS' Educare Highlights

- 6 unlicensed/unregulated family child care homes voluntarily licensed their programs.
- 1 program received a Start Up and Expansion grant to work on licensing their home in FY2012.
- 1 licensed home received a Start Up and Expansion grant to open a child care center in a high-poverty neighborhood.
- 18,699 volunteer hours were donated to the child care home providers working with ARCHS.
- \$89,711 was leveraged by child care home providers to increase the quality of care in their programs.

ARCHS' Educare Community Partners

- Missouri Department of Social Services
- ARCHS' Start Up and Expansion and Accreditation Departments
- Child Care Aware® of Eastern Missouri
- Child Day Care Association Health & Nutrition Office
- Harris-Stowe State University
- St. Louis Community College
- Local Community Health Departments
- Local Community Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies – Inclusion Specialist
- Local Community Libraries & Community Centers
- Local School Districts/Parents as Teachers Providers
- First Steps Organization