



Collaborative for Colchester's Children

HEALTHY, HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN

What's New!

Obtained \$40K Discovery grant to continue C3 work

Early Literacy Partnership grant continues with \$50,000 grant

Support from Town of Colchester with \$5K in the BOS budget

Bookmobile visited neighborhoods throughout the year as well as childcare centers and Park and Rec camp in the summer of 2013—Thank you Evamarie Young!

Colchester Learning Foundation and Colchester Lion's Club donated for C3 programming

Family programming and workshops—over 100 sessions offered

Annual Report July 2013 – June 2014

C3 Play & Learn Groups Supporting Families

Not only do children need to play and learn but their caregivers do too. With this in mind, we offer a variety of C3 Play and Learn Groups to provide a place where children and their caregivers can come together to...well, play and learn! C3 Play and Learn Groups are offered in partnership with TVCCA, Colchester Public Schools, and Cragin Library and are designed for families with children ranging from birth to 5 years old. In our "Sign and Play" class families learn to use American Sign

Language (ASL) through songs, games, activities and encouragement. Using sign language with children promotes early speech, literacy and social skills and the curriculum for this program is based on the award winning Baby Signing Time® series. In "Joyful Noises" each session includes some free play and socialization for the children then children and caregivers explore music through song, instrument play, and musical games. The "Be Kind and Unwind" class is a Mamoga KalmKids

Yoga program inspired by 10 Mindful Minutes and the MindUp curriculum. It is a time for children and their caregivers to enjoy a story and gentle movement with guided relaxation together. In 2013-14, 90 families participated in 83 Play and Learn Group sessions and 82% of surveys returned say they will or are thinking about changing their attitudes or actions as a result of participating in a class! We look forward to providing more Play and Learn classes for our families in 2014-2015!

The Power of Partnerships

This year C3 partnered with the Quinnebaug Valley Engineers Association & the Colchester Historical Society to hold our annual Family Fun Day event at beautiful Zagray Farm. On June 21st of 2014 we enjoyed a bright, sunny day on the grounds, which fit perfectly into this year's focus on physical activity and nutrition. Twenty-three community organizations came out to support our

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

event providing local families with great information on nutrition as well as activities ranging from soccer skill instruction to Taekwondo. Healthy snacks and water were also available. Visitors were treated to hayrides and got to meet some farm animals up close. There was even a visit from a real live banana! With over 250 attendees, the event was a success and we look forward to next year!

Kate Byroade
Board Chair

Staff

Cindy Praisner
Coordinator

Dawn LePage
Office Professional

Michele Morgan
Communication Coordinator

Tammy Stolzman, Program
Accountability Coordinator

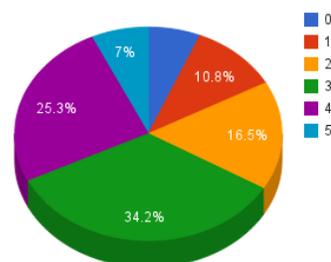
We use the following indicators to see if we are getting results...

We want Colchester children to be healthy.

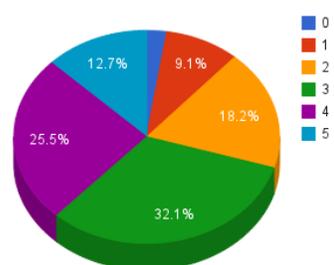
Did you know?

- Colchester Public Schools were able to conduct physical fitness tests for grades one and two this year with a new format. Children were tested for abdominal strength (curl-ups), arm & shoulder strength (push-ups), cardiovascular fitness (quarter mile run), agility (shuttle run), and flexibility (sit & reach). 32.3% of first graders and 38.2% of second graders passed at least 4 out of 5 of these tests.
- Colchester Public Schools calculates the Body Mass Index (BMI) of children in grades K-3. Children with normal BMI levels (between the the 5th and 85th percentile) are considered to be at a healthy weight. For the 2012-13 school year 69% of our children were at healthy weight, slightly down from 70% in 2011-12.

Grade 1 number of tests passed



Grade 2 Number of Tests Passed



We want Colchester children to be happy.

Did you know?

The best indicators we have for happiness are:

- A measure of economic security and stress— students eligible for receiving free and reduced lunch. The number of children eligible in 2012-13 continued to climb to 406 students or 14.1% of the student population.
- A measure of need for support— C3 has been piloting the Behavior and Emotional Screening System (BESS) in grades K-2 to determine the level of student need at CES.

% of Colchester children eligible for free/reduced price meals (lunches)

Data Source: sdeportal.ct.gov / CTData.gov

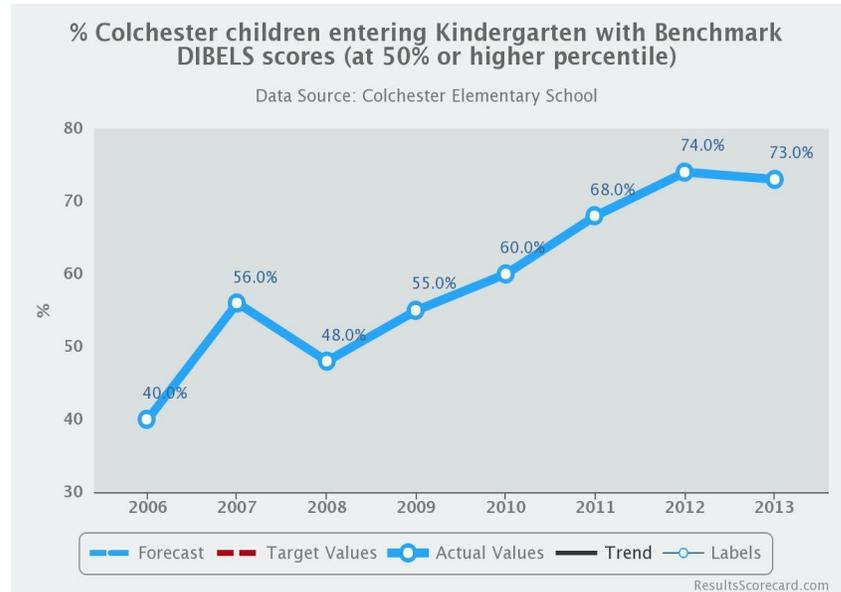


ResultsScorecard.com

We want Colchester children to be successful.

Did you know?

- Participation in a quality early childhood program can help prepare children for later schooling and life. DIBELS (a set of measures for assessing basic early literacy skills) scores of our children entering Kindergarten have been steadily climbing, reflecting the value of early foundational learning and quality preschool experiences.
- The percent of children attending preschool remained high in 2013 at 87%, though it has declined from our peak of 93% in 2009.
- Academic success is measured using standardized tests to assess student proficiency in reading, writing, and math. Connecticut is in the process of transitioning from using the Connecticut Mastery Tests (CMTs) to a new set of standardized tests aligned with the Connecticut Core Standards. Colchester participated in the use of the Smarter Balanced Field Test for testing in 2013-14.



We want a Collaborative that is effective and strong.

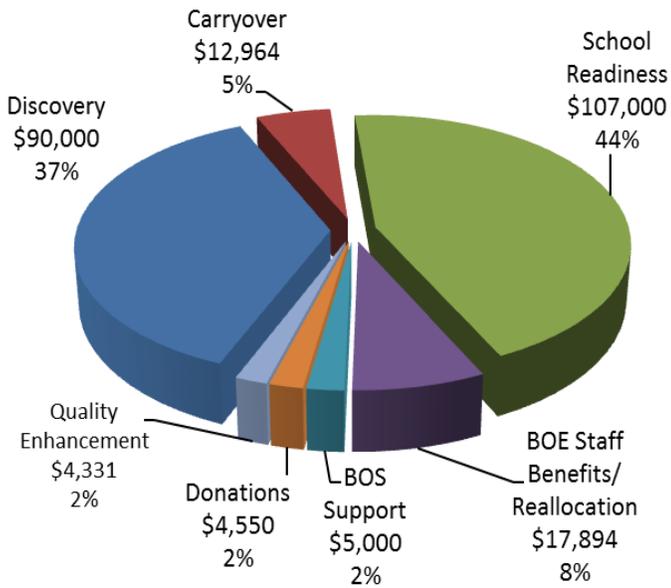
Did you know?

During 2013-14, our part-time staff and volunteer members accomplished the following:

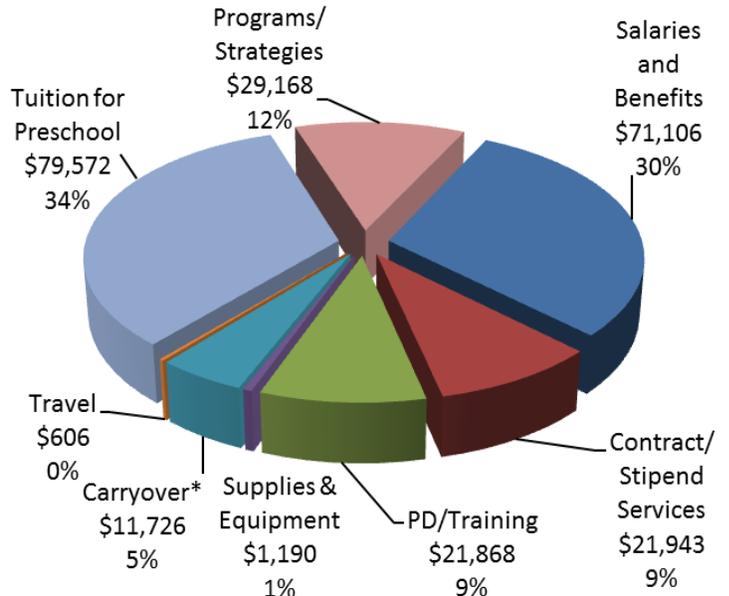
- Continued to procure much needed funds in private and State grants which are used to strengthen our organization, subsidize preschool tuitions, and provide programs and services to young children and their families.
- Offered programs and workshops for families with young children through our C3 Play and Learn Programs in partnership with TVCCA. 101 adults and 110 children participated in over 100 sessions this year!
- Hosted our first Family Fun Day at Zagray Farm, where 250 attendees received information on physical activity and nutrition.
- Extended the Bookmobile service into the summer of 2013, visiting at least 75 children who checked out over 228 books.
- Reached out to the community through our facebook page—with 133 “likes” so far!
- Hosted another successful Preschooler’s Expo in partnership with the MOMs Club of Colchester/Lebanon where about 150 attendees were able to receive information and participate in a free developmental screening.
- Subsidized tuition for 27 preschool spaces through our School Readiness grant.
- Screened 118 preschoolers through the work of CECP PreK team and the School Readiness Council.

Financial Information for 2013-2014

Monetary Revenues Total: \$242,364



Expenses Total: \$237,179



*Carryover includes \$12,500 for a Sustainability Consultant

*Carryover includes \$3,500 for a Sustainability Consultant; remaining funds are reallocated in 2014-15 budget

We need you! Contact Cindy Praisner at cpraisner@colchesterct.org to find out how you can help!

Thank you to our supporters!

Grantors:



William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund

Connecticut State Department of Education



Partners with MOUs*:

- C.A.S.T.L.E.
- Colchester Board of Education
- Colchester Board of Selectmen
- Colchester Elementary School PTO
- Colchester Parks and Recreation
- Colchester Youth & Social Services
- Cragin Memorial Library
- TVCCA
- UCFS
- William W. Backus Hospital

* Memorandum of Understanding

Visit our new website online at:
www.colchesterC3.org



Like us on facebook!



Collaborative for Colchester's Children
315 Halls Hill Rd
Colchester, CT 06415
860.537.0717