



reach  DANE

2016 Annual Report

Educating Underserved Children
in Dane County Since 1968

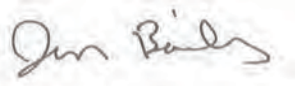
Welcome to Reach Dane!

In 2016 Reach Dane provided high-quality early childhood services to 1,353 children ages 0-5 in Dane and Green County through center based and home visitation programs. Our mission is to change the lives of underserved children and families through education and supportive services. Our staff work tirelessly every day to reach the most vulnerable children and families in our community, and the need for our services is growing. The number of infants and toddlers experiencing homelessness enrolled in our programs has tripled over the last four years.

Reach Dane is the only agency in Dane County offering Early Head Start and Head Start, which provides a comprehensive system of support for families including physical and mental health, dental services, nutrition, and transportation. All of Reach Dane's 17 centers are rated 5 stars in Young Star (Wisconsin's child care quality rating system). This means Reach Dane's classroom staff have a solid foundation in early childhood development, children have meaningful classroom experiences, and parents are involved with programming. Last year Reach Dane enrolled 36% of all the Dane County children attending 5 Star centers who received a state child care subsidy.

Reach Dane offers a variety of program options designed to meet the individual needs of families. In fact, one program, Satellite, is so unique that there is no other program of its kind in the country. Satellite provides city accreditation to family child care providers in the City of Madison, ensuring that providers have the support and resources they need to provide the highest quality programming for the children in their care.

I invite you to learn more about our programs and services and welcome the opportunity to speak with you about the future of Reach Dane.



Jen Bailey,
Executive Director

Reach Dane, formerly Dane County Parent Council, Inc., has been an active, non-profit agency in this community since 1968.



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We Support the Entire Family to Ensure Long-Term Success and Independence.

Reach Dane understands the importance of serving the whole family. Essential health, education, and workforce programs are often structured to serve either adults or children, rather than focusing on the entire family together. To maximize the impact of high-quality early childhood education, we have adopted a systemic, holistic approach to programs and policies to better meet the needs of low-income children and parents. This means Reach Dane assists parents with accessing and obtaining employment, safe housing, healthcare, and other vital services.



I had my first child when I was seventeen. Early Head Start was not available at that time but I knew that as soon as my child turned three I wanted him to be part of Head Start. My Family Outreach Worker (FOW), Mary Lou, is a huge part of the Stoughton community, and the reason I wanted to work at Reach Dane.

I was a single mom in an abusive relationship. I was working in a childcare, making six dollars an hour. I wanted to succeed but I didn't know how. I had nothing. I had to leave the man who had been abusing me and my babies, but I didn't know where I was going to live or how I would afford anything.

During a home visit, my FOW told me about Section 8 housing. I had so much anxiety about making the call that she stayed and made it with me. I got housing that day because of her. This visit was supposed to be a regular, half-hour home visit to set some goals, but she sat with me for hours. She also helped me get furniture, pots and pans, and house-hold necessities from St. Vinnie's. I could tell you what I was wearing that day; I could tell you what she was wearing; because it was such a significant moment for me. I knew that day, that I wanted to be her and make a difference for others.

I am now a FOW. I'm really transparent with the families I meet. I tell them, "I was you. I have been in your shoes. I have overcome this. If I can overcome this, you can overcome this." This job is part of my dream to change my community. The great thing about working in my own community is I can walk into the grocery store and I see somebody who gives me a hug and says, "Because of you, I am here today. Because of you, my child's hearing is where it should be. Because of you, we still have a dental home."

I tell people, "I work for a great agency where families come first; where parents are their child's first teacher. I work for a great agency that is going to help you succeed and help you meet your goals. It will provide bussing and two meals a day for your child. It will provide you with family services." I tell them, "If you're struggling, I'm here to help."

Angi Fettes
Stoughton Family Outreach Worker

High-Quality Care Begins with Highly Qualified Staff

- 94% of Preschool Teachers have a Bachelor’s Degree or Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education.
- 30% of Infant and Toddler Teachers have a Bachelor’s Degree and 50% have an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education or Child Development.
- 71% of Teacher Aides have a Preschool Credential, Associates or Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education.
- 29% of Teacher Aides are enrolled in the Preschool Credential or Associates Degree programs.



United Way funds a high-quality training program for parents of children who attend Head Start and Early Head Start programs. This collaborative project between United Way, Reach Dane and Madison College empowers parents to gain job skills within the early education field.



Raising the Quality of In-home Child Care

For parents who prefer in-home care for their children, finding quality care can be difficult. Reach Dane’s Satellite program provides accreditation through the City of Madison to family child care providers to achieve a 4 or 5 star rating through Young-Star (Wisconsin’s child care quality rating system). This allows parents a greater selection of providers who offer quality care. Last year approximately 80 child care providers were members of Satellite and cared for 584 children in the Madison area.



Meeting the Academic Needs of Every Child

Children from low-income families often experience trauma which can result in increased hyper-vigilance and a lowered ability to be available for learning. Reach Dane offers 100% individualized programming to prepare children for Kindergarten success. We meet every child at their stage of development in every area of learning.

“Being part of Head Start Policy Council has allowed me to help make decisions that positively impact the learning that is happening in the classroom.”

Kim Kearbey,
Head Start Parent



Percentages of Children Meeting or Exceeding Expectations in Areas of Development

Area of Development	Beginning of Program Year	End of Program Year
Fine Motor	86%	95% ↑
Gross Motor	77%	93% ↑
Social-Emotional	71%	91% ↑
Cognitive	69%	91% ↑
Language	63%	84% ↑
Literacy	62%	84% ↑
Mathematics	51%	78% ↑

Accommodating All Children

13% of children at Reach Dane have a **diagnosed disability**. We care for and educate children which other agencies are financially or physically unable to accommodate. To accomplish this, Reach Dane provides adaptive equipment and one-on-one support for children who need extra assistance. A disabilities specialist develops individual education plans and mental health consultants develop behavior plans and offer social-emotional support in classrooms.



Gabriel has a hearing impairment so he was provided a FM system. This system allows him to distinguish the teacher's voice from other sounds in the classroom making it easier for him to learn.

“The playground adjustment is AWESOME. Jaz is now able to go all the way down to the play area in her walker and travel all the way back up. The brick ramp has and will make a difference in the lives of my daughter and future students.”

Martha Siravo,
Head Start Parent

Healthy Kids Can Learn

Reach Dane is the only early childhood educational program in Dane County that includes comprehensive health services. Physical health, mental health, dental, and nutrition are all components that make a healthy child.



	Start of Program	End of Program
EHS children up-to-date on immunizations.	89%	96%
HS children up-to-date on immunizations.	95%	99%
EHS children up-to-date on their medical exams.	18%	97%
HS children up-to-date on their medical exams.	23%	95%
EHS children who received dental care.	77%	99%
HS children who received dental care.	18%	95%



Families with medical assistance struggle to find a dentist who will accept them as patients. Reach Dane collaborates with a local dentist office which closes three days per year to exclusively care for Early Head Start and Head Start students.



Engaging Parents

Reach Dane recognizes the parent as a child's first and most important teacher. This is why we identify, partner, and collaborate with community organizations to support family well-being and promote self-sufficiency. We also provide opportunities for parents to connect with peers, build a sense of community, and engage parents to be leaders and advocates for their children, themselves, and their community.



Chara Taylor has been the chairperson of Head Start Policy Council (HSPC) since 2015 and throughout her tenure has helped the agency target goals and develop meaningful community partnerships that benefit children and families. Chara strengthens our programs and community by encouraging parents to participate in their children's education and take leadership roles within HSPC.

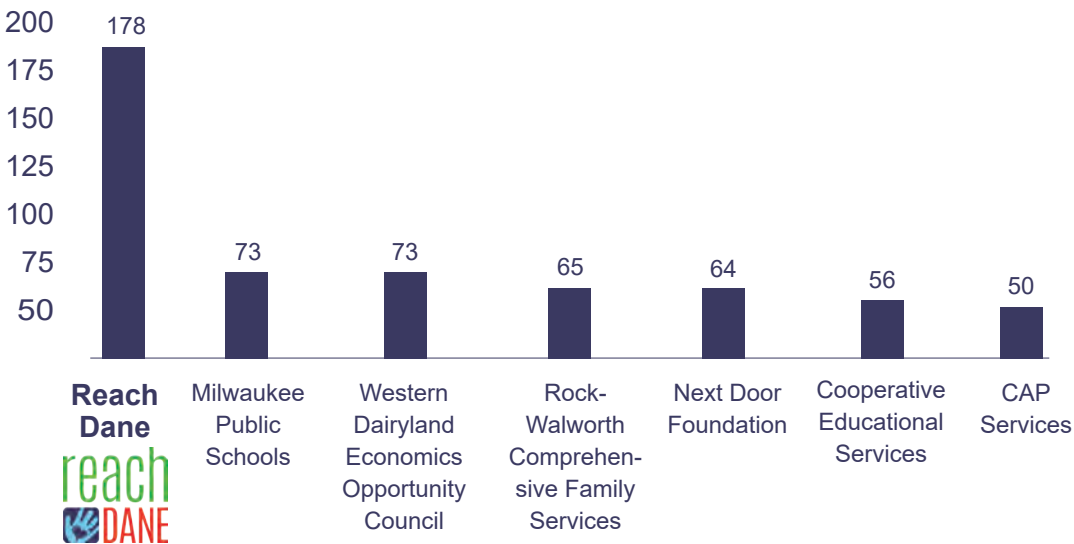
There are children in our community who struggle to learn because **their basic needs are not met**. Thanks to the support of a generous donor, Reach Dane is able to provide ongoing case management services for homeless families and support emergency needs of shelter, food, and clothing. Our goal is to help families become stable so they can be **successful students and productive members of this community**.

32% of Our Infants and Toddlers are Homeless

The effects of homelessness on children are devastating. 75% of homeless children have at least one major developmental delay, 40% have two or more major developmental delays, and 20% have extreme emotional distress warranting professional intervention.



Homeless Children Served in Wisconsin Early Head Start and Head Start Programs



Source: Wisconsin Head Start Association

Engaging Our Community to Reach Our Goals

Research shows the amount of time children spend in high-quality care is key to supporting growth in all areas of early childhood development. Reach Dane’s goal is to expand the extended day program. To do so, Reach Dane will need to convert programs from 3.5 hours per day to 6 hours per day. This will require 13 additional Head Start classrooms and staff which has an estimated annual cost of \$2,290,703.

Estimated Annual Cost for Head Start Extended Day Classroom	
\$ 220,000	13 Additional Classrooms
\$ 691,751	13 Additional Teachers
\$ 914,790	26 Additional Teacher Aides
\$ 253,562	6 Additional Family Outreach Workers
\$ 210,600	Cost Impact on Bus Drivers and Cooks
\$2,290,703	Estimated Annual Cost



Reach Dane would like to say **thank you** to all the volunteers, community partners, and companies for their generous support. During the program year, 114 volunteers generated \$560,041.52 in-kind dollars.

To reach our goals and continue providing the highest quality care to the underserved children and families in our community, we need the support of donors and volunteers who believe in Reach Dane’s mission.

Please visit www.reachdane.org and donate today!



Communities recognize \$12.90 in returns for every \$1 invested in early childhood development programs.

Source: 40 Year High/Scope Perry study

The 2015-16 agency-wide audit received an unmodified opinion with no findings and continued determination of a low-risk grantee status.

2015-16 Revenue	
Grants	9,019,771
Childcare	2,449,518
4K Partnerships	1,562,376
CACFP Reimbursement	536,458
Donations	20,743
United Way	4,820
Other	273,763
In-Kind Contributions	1,984,946
Total	15,852,395

2015-16 Expenses	
Salaries	7,688,160
Benefits	2,459,967
Contractual	1,152,028
Occupancy	595,595
Transportation	339,474
Supplies	924,080
Depreciation	320,568
Child Care Support	404,922
In-Kind	1,984,946
Total Expenses	15,869,740

2016-17 Budget	
Salaries	7,700,000
Benefits	2,463,755
Contractual	1,150,000
Occupancy	600,000
Transportation	325,000
Supplies	925,000
Depreciation	325,000
Child Care Support	400,000
In-Kind	1,985,000
Total Expenses	15,873,755

2015-2016 Board of Directors

Tom Buresh	President
Reg Emshoff	Vice President
Jim Nabak	Treasurer
Jonathan Bader	Secretary
Sue Wagner	ECE Representative
Colleen Dunahee	HSPC Representative
Denise Mirkin	Satellite Representative
Annie Odom	Community Representative
Charlene Zabawski	Community Representative
Ellen Foley	Community Representative
Jeff Knutsen	Community Representative

2015-2016 Head Start Policy Council

Chara Taylor	Chairperson
Cherie Holweg	Co-Chair
Katana Robinson	Secretary
Megan Rogan	Treasurer
Colleen Dunahee	BOD Representative
Ashley Vossekuil	WHSA Representative

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