Strides

CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS
TOGETHER WE MAKE STRIDES

Vol. 1 | 2026

Building a Safer, More Inclusive Child Care Ecosystem

Language should never be a barrier to safety. Thanks to the generosity of donors supporting the Peggy Liuzzi Fund, Child Care Solutions (CCS) is breaking down that barrier this summer by launching bilingual Health and Safety and CPR training. Our Health Care Consultant, Roselis Canete Hernandez, has officially achieved her trainer certification, ensuring that every educator in Onondaga and Cayuga counties has the tools to provide the highest standard of care.

"There is a fundamental need for training in Spanish for our growing community of Spanish-speaking providers," said Roselis, "and it is essential to give them the tools to provide excellent care."



Roselis leading a weekend training session for early childhood care professionals at our Child Care Solutions training center.

Fueling Confidence and Quality Care

Roselis brings an extraordinary depth of experience to the classroom. A physician in her home country of Cuba, she later transitioned into nursing upon moving to the United States, where she earned her license as a Registered Professional Nurse (RN). Since joining the CCS team in 2025, she has utilized her extensive medical background to assist child care providers with complex health topics. Her passion for teaching is fueled directly by the educators she supports.

"As a trainer, it brings me so much joy when providers tell me they've gained new insights and feel more confident in their work," Roselis shares. "Knowing I've shared meaningful knowledge is deeply fulfilling; it drives me to constantly improve."

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A Message of Gratitude to Our Donors

When asked what she would say to the donors who support the Peggy Liuzzi Fund, Roselis is clear: "Your support helps make these opportunities accessible, empowering educators to grow professionally and continue providing high-quality care and education for local children and families."

At Child Care Solutions, our goal is to partner with our region's educators through practical training and reliable resources, so they can focus on what they do best; caring for children. Thank you for investing in the Peggy Liuzzi Fund and making this vital community expansion possible!

Help support professional development opportunities for CSS staff. Donate to the Peggy Liuzzi Fund today at:

childcaresolutionscny.org/donate

Syracuse Office: 1101 Erie Blvd East, Syracuse, NY 13210
Auburn Office: 100 North St. Suite 3, Auburn, NY 13021
Call: (315) 446-1220 | CCSCNY.org

HIGHLIGHTS

*Data from Sept. 2024-August 2025 Annual Report.

23 New Family Day Care Programs Registered

184 Additional available slots for children

Our Registration team ensures that local childcare programs meet and exceed NYS health and safety standards. We work side-by-side with providers to build the secure environments every child deserves as well as assist those who are looking to open programs in Onondaga and Cayuga County.

144 = Programs/Individuals

734,937 USDA-compliant, nutritious meals & snacks

Through the federally funded Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), our team ensures children receive the nutrition they need to thrive. We monitor and educate providers, helping them instill healthy habits that serve as a foundation for a lifetime of wellness.



2,232 Families asssited with customized referrals and consultations.

Our Parent Services Department helps families navigate childcare by going beyond simple lists and offering expert guidance, evaluation tools, and financial resources to secure safe, affordable, and high-quality care.

501 Children up to age five, where served

Extending across 14 counties in NYS Region 3, our Mental Health Consultants partner with early childhood care professionals to foster calm, productive learning environments through behavioral support, developmental screening tools, customized classroom plans, and essential family resource connections.

55

101 Total in-person and on-site trainings.

CSS supported the local early childhood sector by delivering technical assistance sessions and specialized classroom trainings covering OCFS categories, business requirements, and regional requests for early childhood care professionals. Through the CCQI initiative, educators also gained essential safety equipment, technology, and certifications like CPR, First Aid, and MAT, equipping them to successfully implement enhanced social emotional curricula and classroom resources.

Be our next Big Thanks hero; and give at childcaresolutionscny.org/donate

Bridging the Gap: Child Care Solutions Secures Excellus BCBS Grant for Medical Equity

In Cayuga and Onondaga counties, families are currently navigating a "medical child care desert," a reality that forces many parents to face an impossible choice between their child's health needs and their own livelihood. While it is estimated that 18% of children under age five require medication, our current home-based infrastructure is often legally unable to meet this essential need. A stark disparity highlights this issue: while 46% of larger Day Care Centers are Medication Administration Training (MAT) certified, only 4.6% of home-based early childhood care professionals, who account for 76% of our regional providers, can legally administer life-saving medications. In Cayuga County, this number unfortunately drops to 0%.

To address this critical infrastructure gap, Child Care Solutions is proud to announce that we have been awarded a $10,000 Health and Wellness Award from Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. This generous funding will launch the CNY Medical Child Care Access Initiative, an innovative effort designed to "unlock" care slots for families by removing the clinical and financial barriers currently holding back our home-based professionals. By leveraging the expertise of our staff Registered Nurse, we are implementing a "Shared Medical Director" model to support 12+ home-based early childhood care professionals.

Excellus

A nonprofit independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

This project will subsidize 100% of MAT training and RN oversight fees to build necessary clinical confidence, provide "Liability Bridge" stipends to assist these small business owners in transitioning to comprehensive child care liability coverage, and equip them with essential medical safety kits, including locking cabinets and first-aid supplies.

This initiative is about more than just medical administration; it is a commitment to the professionalization of these predominantly women-owned small businesses. By providing the resources to deliver inclusive care, we ensure that children with chronic conditions have equitable access to safe, high-quality environments. This work is a vital step in stabilizing our local workforce, and we are deeply grateful to Excellus BlueCross BlueShield for recognizing the importance of this mission and for their investment in the health and security of our community.



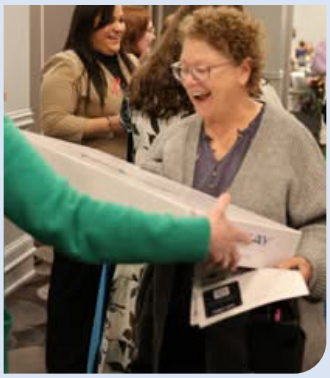
BIG THANKS

We are absolutely thrilled with our beautiful new building at 1101 Erie Blvd East in Syracuse, which we moved into earlier this year, and we owe a massive debt of gratitude to the team at Clark Construction. Their immense talent, skill, and tireless hard work brought our vision to life in a way that exceeded every expectation. Beyond their professional excellence, we were incredibly moved by Jared Clark's personal generosity in giving back to our mission after the project was complete. Clark Construction truly lives up to its values, proving that it doesn't just "deliver excellence"; it genuinely cares for its partners and the communities it serves. We are so grateful for your partnership and for the lasting, positive impact you've made on our organization.

Be our next Big Thanks hero; and give at childcaresolutionscny.org/donate

CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS
1101 Erie Blvd East, Suite 100
Syracuse, NY 13210

Advocacy, Action, and Community Connection



We solidified an in-kind donation of 250 filtered kitchen faucets from Zurn Elkay ($164k value!) to help local home-based early childhood care professionals provide clean, filtered water for the young children in their care.



Carrying the voice of CNY straight to the capital! Proud to stand with our local advocates fighting for early childhood care policies.



Proud to stand with McMahon Child Advocacy Center for child abuse prevention awareness!



Taking our mission to the mound! Thrilled to throw out the first pitch at a Syracuse Mets game.



Celebrating this milestone from January, our official ribbon-cutting for our new office space on Erie Blvd East in Syracuse!



Supporting provider growth: From home-based care to center-based success!



Being strategic to grow our community impact. Here is our setup at SCSD Staff Fair!



Official Syracuse resolution recognizing May 8, 2026, as Provider Appreciation Day!



CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS
Navigating the way to high quality child care

Child Care Aware® OF AMERICA

Early Care & Learning Council
United to Promote Quality

UNITED WAY Central New York

UNITED WAY Cayuga County