COURT

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Our Mission: To provide quality child care in a safe, family-friendly environment for the children of individuals who have court-related business.

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Court Care for the Pikes Peak Region P.O. Box 68 Colorado Springs, CO 80901 (719) 452-5499 <u>info@courtcare.org</u> <u>www.CourtCare.org</u>

COURT CARE FOR THE PIKES PEAK REGION

2020–2021 Report to the Community

The Importance of Brief but Positive Caregiving Interactions Cannot be Underestimated

In fiscal year 2020–2021, Court Care had the privilege of inviting 623 children into the welcoming, nurturing childcare center we know as Court Care. As the courthouse maintained limited access to in-person appearances and jury trials, Court Care remained available to all who needed a safe, protected facility to care for their children while appearing in court. These families were engaged in hearings related to contested custody, domestic violence, child abuse, and crimes of violence. Although census numbers were down, Court Care welcomed 18% more children who had been exposed to or witnessed a traumatic event or crime. This trend continues as deferred hearings and jury trials resume.

The impact of Court Care underscores that these vulnerable, at-risk families no longer have to find alternative childcare or risk missing a court or probation date. Judges and magistrates can pause a hearing and ask that parents take a child to Court Care where they will be insulated from intense arguments over divorce, child custody, restraining orders and more. Parents can give full focus to their legal matters without igniting fear and confusion in the hearts and

"Even though children may not have the words to express what they are experiencing, they are sensitive to the emotional climate." –Dr. Bruce Perry

Story continued from page 1

minds of the children who sit there watching.

Steve, a single dad, and his 20-month-old son, Jamie, were addressing a life changing issue. His wife, the child's mother, had a history of mental health issues, had refused her medications and had moved to Pueblo. Her lack of responsibility and unpredictable actions became an increasing worry for Jamie's safety. Steve's decision to move-in

with his parents was the logical next step to protect Jamie and provide the continuity of care he so deserved. Steve engaged an attorney and they agreed that he would file for permanent custody and a restraining order. Court appearances were scheduled during the time of COVID isolation. Jamie's interaction with other children was limited and he had never been separated from his immediate family. Advised to take Jamie to Court Care, the family was understandably worried he would be distressed when separated from them in an unfamiliar space. They soon learned that they had nothing to fear.

> Court Care staff welcomed him with smiles as they showed him to the infant/ toddler room. Jamie was more than content to stay and play. Jamie returned to Court Care three times. Each visit was more



comfortable as he recognized staff and settled into the routine. As he said goodbye, he selected a book from the Court Care donated library to take home. Grandma and Dad were exceptionally pleased with the experience and Jamie's comfort in the setting. "Court Care was beyond any expectation we could have had."

Dr. Bruce Perry writes in his book, *What Happened to You? Conversations on Trauma, Resilience and Healing,* "Even though children may not have the words to express what they are experiencing, they are sensitive to the emotional climate." It is through this lens that Court Care's success impacts the experience of each family and child who enters our doors.



About Court Care:

Court Care for the Pikes Peak Region is a 501(c)(3) that provides free, licensed, drop-in childcare to families that have court-related business in the Fourth Judicial District (serving El Paso and Teller Counties) and in Colorado Springs Municipal Court. In partnership with Early **Connections, Court Care** welcomes children ages 6 weeks to 14 years to a safe, secure, and nurturing environment. Conveniently located inside the courthouse, children learn and play as parents are able to give undivided attention to their legal proceedings. Since its founding in 2003, Court Care has cared for more than 69,000 children.

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Letter from the Co-Presidents

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Thank you for helping make 2020-2021 another successful year for Court Care! Court Care continues to be one of only two dropin childcare centers located in courthouses in the state. Each of these children is experiencing adversity and disadvantage, whether poverty, a contentious divorce, domestic violence, witnessing a crime, child abuse, or exacerbated family stress.

Court Care is the safety net that prevents these children from re-experiencing their trauma inside the courtroom. The program provides not just a safe haven for children, but also a truly joyful and fun experience! For parents and caregivers, it provides assurance that their children will be safe and well-cared for. Additionally, a survey of judges, magistrates, and judicial personnel this year confirmed the necessity and significance of Court Care. They affirmed that the presence of children is distracting and inappropriate during court proceedings.

Early Connections Learning Centers continues to be an asset to the program. Their leadership has enabled Court Care to provide the highest level of health and safety regulations, an amazing staff, and implement an all new electronic registration system.

We ask you to join with us in sharing the story of Court Care with others so that we can make this year even stronger. Please help protect children by making a gift today. Your continued support for the important work of Court Care makes a difference in the lives of hundreds of children each week. Plus, if you make a tax-deductible donation from now through December 31, 2021 during Indy GIVE! at <u>www.indygive.com/ccppr</u> your gift will go even further because it will be matched by our generous matching grant sponsors.

Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate the importance of each thoughtful contribution to protecting the minds and hearts of innocent children.

Sincerely,

Lauren Raglana

Lauren Ragland Co-President Emma Webster Co-President



It's Best Time of Year to Give!



Court Care relies on the generous support of individuals, corporations, foundations, and governmental grants to provide childcare services. For every \$50 donated, a child can be kept safe and protected at Court Care while their parents are in court.

There are four easy ways to invest in Court Care this year.

~Return a check in the enclosed envelope

~Donate online at www.CourtCare.org/donate

~Support Court Care in the Indy Give! Campaign now through December 31, 2021 www.indygive.com/ccppr

~Colorado Gives Day December 7, 2021 www.coloradogives.org/CCPPR

Thanks to our sponsors for generously matching donations made to Court Care through the Give! Campaign.





David & Sandy Parrish and Jarrod & Molly Stuhlsatz

Court Care's Board of Directors | Weiland Family Foundation



Howard Black and Janet Kerr

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*Donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Your donation may be eligible for the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit. Please consult your tax advisor for eligibility and more information.

Court Care Financial Summary

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

TOTAL INCOME \$374,152

Sources of Income

38.87%	Government grants (state, county, local)
30.68%	Private and Corporate Foundations
6.72%	Give Campaign Individual Contributions and Sponsorships —
4.05%	Individual Contributions —
1.59%	Designated Endowment Contribution
11.17%	In-Kind Contributions
6.92%	Investment Earnings —

TOTAL EXPENSES \$268,029



Net Income \$106,123

Financial Overview

Although activity within the courthouse was limited during 2020–2021 due to precautions during COVID 19, Court Care maintained regular hours.

Community engagement increased with the addition of "In the Kitchen with Brother Luck," and a successful 5K Race to Protect the Children. Government grants alongside corporate and private foundations continue to provide the majority of program funding.

A generous grant from Keysight Technologies provided funding for the introduction of an electronic registration and data reporting system.

Court Care is grateful for the continued generosity of El Paso County Commissioners, local businesses, and our community donors.

For more information, please contact Nila Baum, Board Treasurer at (719) 590-9555 /lla. Seum

What's Cooking in Brother Luck's Kitchen?

It's Taco Tuesday, December 7, 2021 from 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Celebrity chef, Brother Luck, is teaming up with Court Care for the second annual virtual cooking class.

Join us for a festive evening of taco creations with Brother Luck LIVE in your kitchen.

\$80 includes a complete cooking kit for a group of 4.

- Add a bottle of an accompanying wine for \$20.
- Vegetarian options will be available.
- Children are invited.



Register on the Court Care website: <u>www.CourtCare.org</u>



Consider a Legacy Gift to Court Care

With thoughtful consideration for future financial sustainability and diversification of funding sources, Court Care for the Pikes Peak Region launched a campaign in 2018 to build the *Court Care Protect the Children Endowment Fund*.

The **Protect the Children Endowment Fund** at the Pikes Peak Community Foundation is reserved for the expansion of services as needs arise or for other projects approved by the Board of Directors to further promote the mission of Court Care.

Your donation is fully tax deductible and may be eligible for the Child Care Contribution tax credit.

For more information about including Court Care in your estate planning or to make a donation, please contact Beth Byer at <u>info@courtcare.org</u> or (719) 661-3628.



Court Care's 9th Annual Protect the Children 5K Run/Walk

Court Care hosted the annual 5K at Legacy Loop Plaza in Monument Valley Park on August 28, 2021. Ziggy, the mascot for the Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC, joined the crowd, entertained the kids, and kicked off the race. Joined by new and returning participants, new sponsors, and at a new location, Court Care celebrated a banner year for the event.

——— Thank you to our sponsors ——— who contributed to the success of the Race.









Weiland Family Foundation

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Colorado Springs Business Journal The Colorado Springs Independent Southeast Express Pepsi Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC

We Appreciate You!

Thanks to our Valued 2020–2021 Donors*

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Other Ways YOU Can Support Court Care

Most wanted donation items

- Washable art supplies like markers, crayons, and paints
- Construction paper
- Diapers or pull-ups in any size
- Baby wipes

Each child is invited to select a book to take home from our donated book library. Donate your gently used children's books or organize an office or school book drive.

For more information, please email <u>info@courtcare.org</u> or call us at (719) 452-5499



PO Box 68 Colorado Springs, CO 80901

COURT

Save-the-Date

Protect the Children 5K Run/Walk

Join us for our 10th Annual Protect the Children 5K

Saturday, August 28, 2022

Legacy Loop Plaza in Monument Valley Park.

Check our website for details. www.CourtCare.org/5k