



OUR MISSION:
To provide quality childcare 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
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www.CourtCare.org

COURT CARE FOR THE PIKES PEAK REGION **2021–2022** **Report to the Community**

**Court Care celebrates caring for more than
70,000 children since opening in 2003**

Each of the 1,966 children who walked through the doors of Court Care in 2022 was experiencing adversity and disadvantage. Whether that adversity was poverty, a contentious divorce, domestic violence, witnessing a crime, or exacerbated family conflict, the availability of Court Care allowed each child a time of respite from the stresses of their lives.

Children who are exposed to abusive and neglectful circumstances in other parts of their lives are able to just be children and play during this time.

Court Care allows for vulnerable, at-risk families to no longer have to find alternative childcare or risk missing a court or probation date. Judges and magistrates are able to pause a hearing and ask 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 minds of the children who sit there watching.

Care is extended while parents' complete probation or court-mandated parenting or

Story continued on page 2

Court Care allows for vulnerable, at-risk families to no longer have to find alternative childcare or risk missing a court or probation date.

Story continued from page 1

substance abuse programs. By supporting families and keeping children safe, parents are more likely to keep appointments, improving opportunities for family independence, safety, and livelihood.

Valerie first came to Court Care in 2018. With the absence of her daughter as a responsible caregiver, Valerie began caring for her four grandchildren. Long work hours compelled her to rely on help from neighbors. The couple across the street frequently volunteered to watch the children. What seemed like a positive relationship was disrupted when the 4-year-old granddaughter became hesitant to go to their home. Eventually, she broke her silence and reported having been sexually abused by the neighbor. Grandmother immediately alerted authorities and the child was taken to a hospital for a sexual assault evaluation.

Lengthy evaluations and evidence gathering led to a court hearing that ended with the offender receiving a four-year probation sentence in a plea

agreement. Outraged, Valerie initiated what would become a four-year court proceeding. Over time, other victims came forward and the case was re-opened.

Court Care became the children's place of respite each time Valerie would go into court. "Without Court Care, I would not have been able to attend proceedings, to make sure the man who had hurt so many young girls went to prison. The staff of Court Care became like extended family. These hearings were so stressful for our family, and yet, I would watch the kid's faces transform from tearful frowns to big smiles when they walked into Court Care. The staff have been a vital part of our support system, supporting and nurturing each child during each visit."

Like Valerie's story, more than 45% of families who attend Court Care will return as cases are continued.

Court Care is there for the new mom leaving her baby for the first time, as well as the parent struggling through a court case over an extended period of time. Returning children and

“I was afraid to leave my baby and the women of Court Care became an invaluable part of my support system. I was able to focus on court proceedings without being distracted and worrying about my baby’s safety.”



families have the opportunity to develop nurturing, encouraging relationships with staff. Without Court Care, these parents would flounder to find drop-in, secure childcare. Although the program cannot change family circumstances, it can help build self-esteem and increase resilience as their families navigate complex legal and traumatic issues.

The impact of brief and positive caregiving interactions cannot be underestimated.

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 Learning Centers, Court Care welcomes children ages 6 weeks to 14 years and offers a safe, secure, and nurturing environment conveniently located inside the courthouse. While children learn and play at Court Care, parents give their undivided attention to their legal proceedings.



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Letter from the Co-Presidents

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Thank you for helping make 2021–2022 another successful year for Court Care! This year we greeted 1,966 children into the bright colorful space we know as Court Care. We also hit the milestone of having cared for 70,000 children since Court Care first opened its doors in 2003. Instead of subjecting them to further trauma of the court room, Court Care has let them continue to be kids and play, while the adults handle business.

With the support of the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners and Colorado's 4th Judicial District, Court Care is now the only onsite, drop-in childcare center in the state. The program provides not just a safe haven for children, but a truly joyful and fun experience! For parents and caregivers, it provides assurance that their children will be isolated from the contentious, traumatic conflict that goes on in courtrooms every day.

Our partnership with 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 electronic registration and data collection 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, 2022 through Indy GIVE! your gift will be matched by our generous matching grant sponsors.

Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate the importance of each thoughtful contribution to protecting our children.

Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Lauren Ragland' and the signature on the right is 'Emma Webster'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lauren Ragland
Co-President

Emma Webster
Co-President



Make a Difference this Holiday Season It's the 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 ways to invest in Court Care:

- ~Return a check in the enclosed envelope
- ~Donate online at www.CourtCare.org/donate
- ~Support Court Care in the Give! Pikes Peak Campaign www.givepikespeak.org/ccppr
- ~Colorado Gives Day December 6, 2022 www.coloradogives.org/CCPPR

If you choose to donate through the Give! Campaign, your contribution will be matched by our generous matching grant sponsors.



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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.*

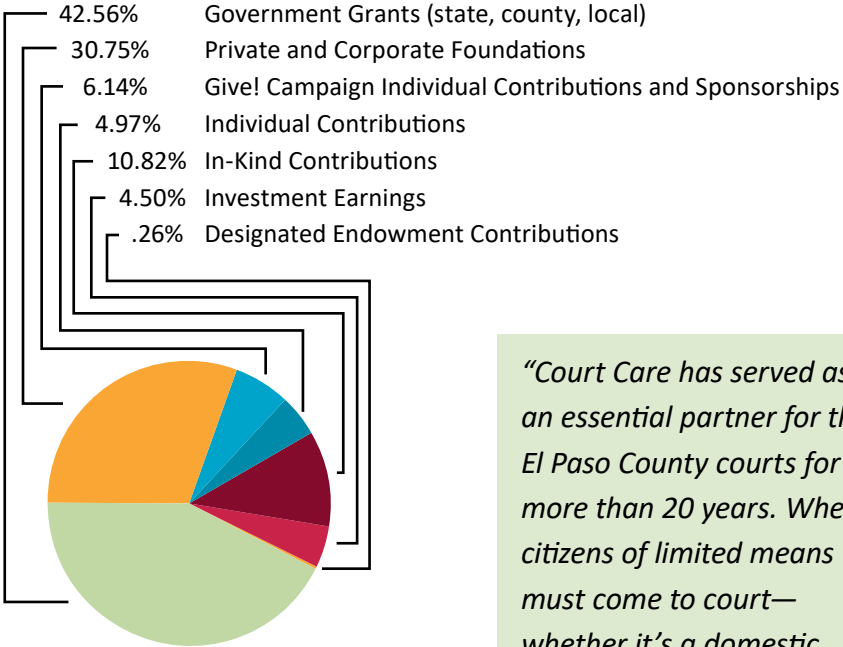


Court Care Financial Summary

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

TOTAL INCOME \$393,682

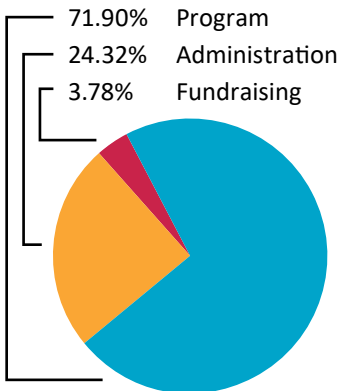
Sources of Income



“Court Care has served as an essential partner for the El Paso County courts for more than 20 years. When citizens of limited means must come to court—whether it’s a domestic violence victim petitioning for a restraining order, a juror doing jury duty, or a parent seeking child-custody orders—Court Care makes it possible for them to focus on their cases while their children are cared for by a highly-qualified and professional staff.”

—4th Judicial District Court Chief Judge William Bain

TOTAL EXPENSES \$306,543



NET INCOME 87,139

Community Impact

- 1,966 children from 1,352 families were served in FY22.
- Each child is encouraged to select a book from Court Care's library of donated books to build their home library.
- 91% of Court Care households are single parent homes.
- 45% of families will return for more than 1 visit.
- 45% of parents report that they would have brought their children to court if Court Care were not available.
- More than 80% of children are living at or below the Federal Poverty Level.



"I am forever grateful to Court Care for the sensitivity and genuine care we received. I arrived at Court Care with my 1 ½ year old daughter. We are both deaf. The Center Director and I communicated in writing, and I left for my court appointment assured that my daughter would be well cared for. As we left the center, I embraced the director as the best way I know to express how much this experience meant to me."

Consider a Legacy Gift to Court Care

In celebration of Court Care for the Pikes Peak Region's upcoming 20th Anniversary, please consider an investment in The Protect the Children Endowment Fund at the Pikes Peak Community Foundation.

With thoughtful consideration for Court Care's financial sustainability and diversification of funding sources, this endowment is dedicated to the future 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 info@courtcare.org or (719) 661-3628.

Court Care's 10th Annual Protect the Children 5K Run/Walk

Court Care hosted the 10th annual 5K at Legacy Loop Plaza in Monument Valley Park on August 27, 2022. Special guests included Ziggy, the mascot for the Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC, and members of GoTeam Dogs.

Special recognition goes to the committee, sponsors, and race logistics organizers, Pikes Peak Roadrunners, for our most successful race to date with 150 participants, and for raising more than \$20,000. Seasoned runners, walkers, and families all contributed to the success of this year's race.

With appreciation to our sponsors:



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Thank you to our 2021–2022 Donors*

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Denise Peacock

As a family law attorney, I am grateful for Court Care's drop-in childcare. It gives caregivers peace of mind knowing that their kids are safe in a warm, nurturing environment. But most importantly, it gives the kids a vibrant fun place to play where they are sheltered from the trauma of the courtroom.

—Attorney Emma Webster

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Save-the-Date

Protect the Children 5K Run/Walk

Join us for our 11th Annual Protect the Children 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, August 26, 2023

Legacy Loop Plaza in Monument Valley Park.

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