S·A·L COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUPPORT. ADVOCACY. LEARNING.

Annual Report 2025-2026

SAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUPPORT. ADVOCACY. LEARNING.

About Us

Mission

SAL Community Services strengthens children, families, and individuals to build and enhance thriving communities.

Who We Are

Founded in 1970, we have a history of listening to the needs of our community and responding. We have grown from an organization focused on providing quality child care to low-income working families to one that meets a wide variety of needs from early care and education to crisis assistance and stabilization services.

Today, SAL has a bi-state, 17-county regional footprint from the Quad Cities to the Peoria area. We advocate with and for the people we support, the communities we serve, and the solutions we champion.

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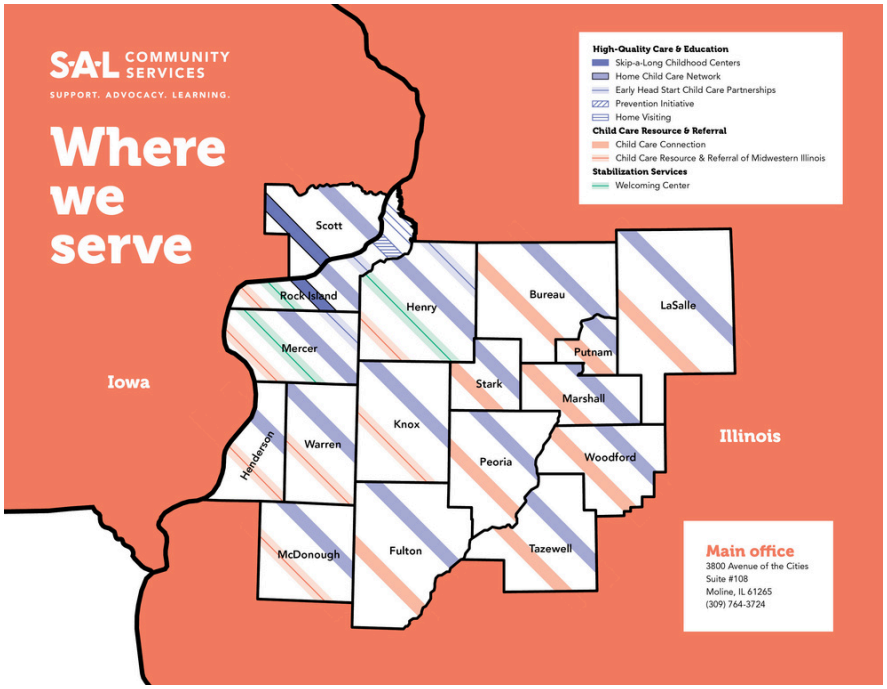


Contact Us

3800 Avenue of the Cities, Suite 108
Moline, IL 61265

(309) 764 - 3724

info@salcommunityservices.org

www.salcommunityservices.org

From the CEO's Desk

Dear Team Members, Partners, and Supporters,

As we reflect on another remarkable year at SAL Community Services, I am filled with gratitude for the people who make our mission possible. Together, we continue to strengthen children, families, and individuals, creating lasting opportunities and building thriving communities across the many regions we serve.

This year has been one of growth, innovation, and celebration. We proudly marked 55 years of service, broke ground on our new Rock Island cmapus, and continued investing in our workforce through enhanced employee benefits, professional development opportunities, and an Apprenticeship Program that supports the next generation of early childhood educators. Our staff members earned new credentials, advanced their education, received community recognition, and demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the families we serve every day.

Our partnerships have continued to strengthen our impact. Collaborations with organizations including Goodwill of the Heartland, United Way Quad Cities, Quad City Symphony Orchestra, and many others have helped expand opportunities for children, families, educators, and communities. Through grants, community engagement, and shared initiatives, these partnerships have allowed us to address emerging needs while building a stronger foundation for the future.

Across our programs, we celebrated significant achievements. Our Skip-a-Long centers maintained nationally accredited, high-quality learning environments while serving hundreds of children throughout Illinois and Iowa. The Home Child Care Network celebrated 30 years of service and continued supporting providers on their path to licensure and professional growth. Our Early Head Start, Prevention Initiative, Home Visiting, and CCR&R programs extended critical support and resources to families throughout our service area. The Welcoming Center remained a trusted resource for individuals and families navigating new opportunities, providing support, guidance, and connections that foster long-term success.

This year also brought exciting progress toward our vision for the future. The groundbreaking of the new Rock Island campus marks a transformational investment in children, families, and our community. We remain deeply grateful to ever donor, advocate, volunteer, foundation, and community partner who has supported this effort. Your generosity is helping create a space where future generations will learn, grow, and thrive for years to come.

At SAL Community Services, our legacy is built on compassion, collaboration, and a commitment to meeting community needs with purpose and care. Thank you for believing in our mission and for walking alongside us as we continue creating brighter futures together.

With gratitude and hope,
Marcy Mendenhall
CEO/President, SAL Community Services

Workplace & Staff Achievements

At SAL, not only are we committed to serving our communities, we're committed to our employees! That's why we work hard to offer a welcoming, inclusive environment for all.

Workplace

- Live Work Rock Island (DARI) partnership allowed staff member to purchase a home in 2025
- We continue to support professional development and education for staff through our Apprenticeship Program, learning opportunities like conferences and events, fellowships, and more!

ADDITIONAL PAID TIME OFF

- Closed offices between Christmas and New Year's for early care and education staff, stabilization programs, and business admin staff.
- Honored additional holidays throughout the year for child care resource and referral program staff

37.5

hour work week maintained with **PAID** 30-minute lunch break for staff working a scheduled 8-hour shift

Our staff work hard driving change for our local communities. In FY26, a number of our staff members achieved new career accomplishments, were honored in the community, or were selected for mentorship programs.

Marcy Mendenhall
President & CEO of SAL

Honored with as a Champion of Early Childhood Education with the Lifetime Dedication Award from the Early Childhood Coalition

Loredia Nunn-Dixon
Director, Welcoming Center

Presented a free class on "Strong Minds, Strong Lives: Understanding Poverty and Mental Health" at Black Hawk College through their Professional and Continuing Education department.

Brenda Lee Smith
Director of Child Care Connection of Central Illinois

Nominated for the 2026 Women's Fund Leader Luncheon Awards

Angela Anderson
Apprenticeship Mentor

Presented at ECEPTS Conference in San Diego about SAL's Apprenticeship Program.

Partnerships & Development

Community & Partnerships

At SAL Community Services, we know that community work takes more than just one organization. That's why we continually seek to work alongside organizations, partners, and officials to share services and resources, expand opportunities, and advocate for our communities.

SAL continued a partnership with the **Illinois Latino Policy Forum** to facilitate a research project at Skip-a-Long Childhood Center Rock Island.

SAL hosted a Annan Liu, an early childhood development professional from China, for a three-week fellowship to explore our programs through the **NCUSCR Professional Fellows Program**.

SAL hosted our first intern, Alexus, studying Occupational Therapy from **St. Ambrose University**. She worked on providing mental health and self-care projects for families and staff.

SAL partnered with **East Moline Public Library** to offer weekly drop-in hours at the library. Parents and guardians could seek assistance with a variety of child care and enrollment needs, free of charge.

SAL's Home Child Care Network partnered with **Birth to Five Illinois** and **YMCA Canton** to present Together We Grow: Families First Festival.

SAL continued our partnership with **Goodwill of the Heartland** to support our families through vouchers and expand access to Goodwill's employment support pathways.

SAL partners with **Family Resources** to provide referrals for children or families needing services for abuse, crime, foster care, adoption, mental health & counseling, and more.

SAL Community Services partnered with **United Way Quad Cities** to host a United Way Week that raised money for both United Way and SAL.

Partnered with **Quad City Symphony Orchestra** as a CAP Partner. This allowed SAL to provide free symphony tickets to staff members and anyone utilizing our services throughout the season.

Continued our partnership with the **Regional Office of Education** through our early care and education programs.

Participated in multiple community outreach events, success fairs, and more throughout the year to reach community members who might need our services or are seeking employment.

SAL Community Services continues to strengthen our brand through shared marketing and partnering across SAL programs to grow our coordinated community outreach and increase visibility and community awareness.

Partnerships & Development

Development & Fundraising

SAL Community Services wrote & received several grants to support our programs and community:

- **Tyson Foods Grant**
  - Supported purchasing supplies and equipment to open a new preschool-age classroom at Skip-a-Long Davenport
- **IL District 72 Grant**
  - Supported purchasing supplies to reopen an Infant classroom at Skip-a-Long Moline
- **Brissman Foundation Grant**
  - Supporting field trips & programming for school-age programs at Skip-a-Long Milan
- **Better Health Foundation - Capacity Building Grant**
  - Supporting the hiring of an in-house Mental Health Therapist for children and family support
- **ICJIA R3 - Restore, Reinvest, Renew Grant**
  - Supporting the new intergenerational program opening Fall 2026 at Skip-a-Long Rock Island
- **Rock Island Rotary - Community Grants**
  - Supported purchasing essential classroom supplies at Skip-a-Long Rock Island
- **Junior Board of Rock Island Grant**
  - Supporting our back to school backpack brogram (operating in FY27)
- **Quad City Community Foundation - Capacity Building**
  - Supporting the design and development of a new set of websites for SAL Community Services and various programs (operating in FY27)
- **Early Head Start Renewal**
  - Renewal of our Early Head Start Child Care Partnership grant to continue offering the program in our Illinois-based Skip-a-Long sites, partner centers, and home providers
- **United Way Community Impact Grant**
  - Renewal of our United Way Kindergarten Readiness grant to support scholarships and financial assistance programs in our early care and education programs

We received grants supporting the new Skip-a-Long Rock Island / Welcoming Center Capital Campaign from **Modern Woodmen Foundation**, **Hubbell-Waterman Foundation**, **Bechtel Trust**, and **Moline Regional Community Foundation**.

LITTLE BOGEY'S GOLF CLASSIC

A sold-out crowd of **144** golfers came together for a beautiful day of golf and community to raise over **$43,900** to be reinvested into SAL's early care and education programs. Funds are used for summer programming and essential supplies for classrooms and services.

UNITED WAY WEEK

A multi-site effort to engage in community and support over the span of a week. Staff, families, and children participated in Spirit Week, raffles, staff shoutouts, and more. Over $6,500 was raised to be reinvested in United Way and SAL Community Services' programs.

Program Snapshot

Program	Children	Families	Providers	Immigrant or Refugee
Skip-a-Long Davenport	139	107	-	-
Skip-a-Long Milan	113	81	-	-
Skip-a-Long Moline	183	149	-	-
Skip-a-Long Rock Island	166	No Data	-	-
Home Child Care Network	416	No Data	89	-
Prevention Initiative	106	No Data	-	-
Early Head Start	217	188	-	-
Home Visiting	91	61	-	-
Child Care Connection of Central Illinois	617	344	4,382	-
Child Care Resource & Referral of Midwestern IL	264	172	1,954* Might not be comprehensive	-
Welcoming Center	-	-	-	948
Apprenticeship Program	-	-	35	-
Totals	**2,312**	**1,102**	**6,460**	**948**

Total Served in FY26: 10,822

Program Highlights

SAL Community Services celebrated 55 years of serving the community since opening in 1970.

Skip-a-Long Davenport maintained Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4k) Rating Level 4 (of 5)

Skip-a-Long Milan, Moline, and Rock Island maintained ExceleRate Gold Circle of Quality Rating

SAL Community Services broke ground on a new Skip-a-Long Rock Island / Welcoming Center campus on 11th Street in Rock Island (replacing the existing center in Fall 2026).

SAL Community Services received DARI High-Five for new Rock Island campus project

Home Child Care Network celebrated 30 years serving families and providers

SAL awarded a $4.3 million renewal for **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership** program.

Skip-a-Long Centers voted #2 in Child Care by Locals Love Us

Apprenticeship Program

SAL Community Services is part of the Smart Start Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program that is being piloted by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Division of Early Childhood (DEC). SAL also runs a pilot apprenticeship program at Skip-a-Long Davenport in Iowa through funding from the Regional Development Authority.

Early Childhood Registered Apprentices

Illinois	Iowa
27	9

Program Updates & Successes

- Continued partnerships with IowaWorks, Mississippi Valley Workforce Board, and American Job Center to support youth apprentices and on-the-job training
- Continued pre-apprenticeship program with United Township High School's Area Career Center - 2 pre-apprentices graduated from high school in May 2025
- Secured annual grant to assist teachers with unexpected costs associated with tuition and/or enrollment
- One apprentice received their associate degree and two received their CDA in FY26

Skip-a-Long Childhood Center Davenport

Skip-a-Long Davenport is our only Skip-a-Long center located in Iowa. Situated on Crow Creek Road on the border between Bettendorf and Davenport, this center primarily serves residents of Scott County with a handful of children from Clinton County and Rock Island County. Skip-a-Long Davenport serves children 6 weeks through 6 years old through full-time care for Infants, Toddlers, and Two-Year-Olds, Preschool, and the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program.

Served 139 children across 107 families

IQ4K
IOWA QUALITY FOR KIDS
Building quality environments one block at a time

Maintained Level 4 (of 5) on Iowa Quality for Kids Rating Scale

Program Updates

- Attended preschool fairs throughout the year hosted by Bettendorf Library and Davenport Library to support family enrollment
- Partnered with Estes Construction to sponsor families over the holidays. This year, Estes graciously provided food baskets to numerous SAL sites in addition to Davenport.
- Offered classroom field trips throughout the year, including a field trip to Estes Construction in December to share songs with their team.

Program Success

A nearby child care center announced plans to close their site. Families reached out to our Skip-a-Long Davenport center with worries about losing their access to child care. We were able to enroll four families immediately, ensuring there was no gap in their children's high-quality early care and education journeys.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- Two staff members achieved their CDA (Child Development Associate) credentials through our registered apprenticeship program, with seven more in process.
- Family Service Provider (FSP) attended annual Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) conference to share valuable resources with our program.
- Two preschool teachers participated in Child-Teacher Relationship Training (CTRT), a three-phase process over several weeks to support the classroom environment. This series is offered from a partnership with a Mental Health Consultant from EveryChild.

GRANTS

- Received "Growing Iowa Grant" through Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral to purchase equipment and materials with a focus on health and safety.
- Received a Tyson Foods grant for materials and equipment to open a new preschool classroom.

CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

- Opened a new Preschool classroom
- Launched new website to better serve our community
- Added wood and rubber mulch to the playgrounds
- Replaced Infant/Toddler gate
- Replaced fencing on Preschool playground after the removal of a tree

Early Care & Education Programs

Skip-a-Long Childhood Center Milan

Skip-a-Long Milan has two campuses located on 1st Street in Milan, just off of US Hwy 67. This center primarily serves children located in Milan and the surrounding areas. Skip-a-Long Milan serves children 6 weeks to 12 years old. Programs include full-time Infant, Toddler, and Two-Year-Old care, Full Day Preschool, Preschool for All Program, and School-Age Programs.

Served 113 children across 81 families

Program Updates

- Campus 1 successfully received an updated National Accreditation Commission (NAC) accreditation through 2028
- Hosted nine Preschool for All/ROE family nights, two PI events, and a Touch a Truck event for families during fall break
- Partnered with the Rock Island Library for weekly center visits for stories and activities
- Partnered with the Rock Island County Police Department to hold Emergency Preparedness and Active Shooter Training

Program Success

With the help of Brissman Foundation funds, we have been able to provide children enrolled in our school-age programs with several educational field trips, classroom visitors, and expanded programming opportunities.

Campus 1 maintained the Gold Standard ExceleRate Illinois Circle of Quality

Campus 2 maintained the Bronze Standard ExceleRate Illinois Circle of Quality

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- Several teachers completed their CDA (Child Development Associate) credentials throughout FY26
- Many teachers continued on to higher education learning to continue improving quality and high standards in teaching

CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

- Created a new nature yard
- Added new play materials and garden box to nature yard
- Added a new music wall to playground

GRANTS

- Received the Brissman Foundation Grant for to send school-age children on several field trips and host several visitors throughout the school year and summer
- Received Quality Improvement Grant from Child Care Resource & Referral to help update items in the School-Age Classroom.

Early Care & Education Programs

Skip-a-Long Childhood Center Rock Island

Skip-a-Long Rock Island is located on 4th Street in Rock Island. This center primarily serves children located in Rock Island and the surrounding areas. Skip-a-Long Rock Island serves children 6 weeks to 12 years old. Programs include full-time Infant, Toddler, and Two-Year-Old care, Full Day Preschool, Preschool for All Program, and School-Age Programs.

Served 166 children across all classrooms

Program Updates

- Partnered with Knights of Columbus for Coats for Kids distribution and Underwear Because We Care Program to provide essential clothing and outerwear to children
- Participated in the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive
- Our families awarded help from United Way of the QC Wishlist
- 3M provided holiday gifts for families
- Successfully received an updated National Accreditation Commission (NAC) accreditation

Renewed Gold Circle of Quality by ExceleRate

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- Five staff members graduated from Black Hawk College
- Two staff members awarded their CDA (Child Development Associate) credentials
- 14 staff members participated in the registered Apprenticeship Program

GRANTS

- Received Quality Improvement Grant from Child Care Resource & Referral to help update furniture in preschool classrooms

NEW CENTER UPDATES

SAL Community Services hosted an official groundbreaking ceremony for the new Skip-a-Long Rock Island center on October 3, 2025. Estes Construction began work in August 2025 and we expect to open in the Fall of 2026.

The new center is located on 11th Street and 21st Ave in Rock Island adjacent to Friendship Manor. Every inch is designed for exploration and growth, from naturally lit classrooms and fully equipped learning spaces to seamless outdoor play areas and an indoor gym that keeps kids moving year-round. Added classrooms will bring the capacity to 192 children and create 12 additional jobs.

It's more than a building, it's a community hub. Our partnership with Friendship Manor will create a powerful intergenerational learning experience bringing together seniors and children daily. It's the first of its kind in the Quad Cities and only the third in Illinois. Intergenerational programming is a rare and proven model that improves mental, physical, and emotional health for seniors while helping children develop communication skills, empathy & patience, and a deeper connection to the community.

Early Care & Education Programs

Skip-a-Long Childhood Center Moline

Skip-a-Long Moline, located on 60th Street in Moline, primarily serves children located in Rock Island County. Skip-a-Long Moline serves children 6 weeks to 12 years old. Programs include full-time Infant, Toddler, and Two-Year-Old care, Full Day Preschool, Preschool for All Program, and School-Age Programs.

Served 183 children across 149 families

Maintained Gold Circle of Quality by ExceleRate

Program Updates

- Continued partnerships with Early Head Start, Prevention Initiative, and the Regional Office of Education

CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

- Parking lot underwent concrete repairs
- Preschool for All classroom playgrounds updated with added equipment and shade umbrellas
- Replenished art materials and supplies
- Purchased books for our Parent Lending Library in foyer
- Added cabinets to staff and office bathrooms
- Added supply cabinet to office

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- 14 teachers continuing their education in the Early Care and Education field through CDA credentials, associates degrees, Bachelor's Degrees, and Master's Degrees.

GRANTS

- Received the IL District 72 grant to support reopening an Infant classroom in April, offering 8 additional slots
- Received Quality Improvement Grant from Child Care Resource & Referral to help update supplies and equipment in the School-Age Classroom.

Skip-a-Long centers served 601 children in FY26

	Davenport	Milan	Moline	Rock Island
Children	139	113	183	166
Families	107	81	149	N/A

Early Care & Education Programs

Home Child Care Network

The Home Child Care Network (HCCN) serves 17 counties from the Quad Cities to Peoria. It works to support families needing non-traditional care and providers with a home-based child care business. For families, HCCN offers non-traditional hours of care (1st, 2nd, 3rd shifts, weekends, holidays, and overnights) as well as rural locations so that children in licensed home child care settings receive the same high-quality care as children in center-based settings. HCCN also offers free support, supplies, training resources, and more to licensed home child care providers and supports porential providers through the licensing process. We have offices in Moline, Galesburg, and Peoria.

Served 416 children and 89 child care providers

30 YEARS OF THE HOME CHILD CARE NETWORK

The Home Child Care Network started in 1996 with just a handful of providers and children in the Quad Cities. From expanding to Peoria in 2009, opening our Galesburg office in 2025, and launching a non-traditional pilot program last year, the network continues to grow alongside the families and communities we serve. HCCN staff and providers celebrated at the annual contract compliance meetings held in June in each city.

NON-TRADITIONAL PILOT PROGRAM

HCCN was awarded a grant in FY25 for a 3-year pilot program supporting Non-Traditional Care. Providers receive an add-on rate for offering non-traditional care hours and special needs care.

Providers	Children
43	**158**
Providers offering 2nd/3rd shift, holiday, & weekend care	Children using 2nd/3rd shift non-traditional care

Program Successes

Families and Children

- Hosted 12 family events in FY26, with 4 in each office location (Moline, Galesburg, and Peoria)

Providers

- 58 Providers received the Smart Start Grant
- 10 Providers received their ExceleRate Bronze Circle of Quality rating
- 3 Providers received their CDA (Child Development Associate) credential
- Home Child Care Network staff offered 25 training courses for providers and their assistants

Provider Type	#
Providers Enrolled in Network	70
Potential Providers - Already Licensed	4
Potential Providers - Unlicensed	15
Total	89

Early Care & Education Programs

Prevention Initiative

Prevention Initiative (PI) works with parents and families with children aged birth to three to provide comprehensive and evidence-based child development and family support services to help build strong educational foundations that will prepare children for later school success.

Served 106 children across child care centers and family settings

Program Updates & Successes

For Families and Children

- Hosted monthly parent education opportunities and partnered with EHS quarterly on topics such as potty training, dental health, screen time, arts and mental health, healthy meals and snacks, and more.
- Family Advocates supported families with learning to set and accomplish goals to improve family's quality of life
- Family Advocates found resources such as clothing, furniture, and household items for families in need.
- Continued well-rounded home visit plan to offer 2 home visits per year to each family.
- Continued offering online ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE to families

For Providers

- Offered training to teachers and family child care providers (on topics such as Conscious Discipline, Culturally Responsive Teaching, Active Supervision, and Illinois Early Learning Guidelines in their lesson plans)
- Curriculum and Assessment Specialist supported three family child care providers during their CDA process. All three received their CDA.
- Curriculum and Assessment Specialist supported numerous hours of 1:1 training with teachers and family child care providers to create high quality services

Enrolled Location	# Children
Child Care Centers	86
Family Setting	20
Total	**106**

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum and Assessment Specialist received second Master's Degree in Adult Education and Training.

9 Prevention Initiative teachers are enrolled in the Apprenticeship Program seeking degrees in Early Childhood Education.

PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Hosted two 5-week parenting workshops with EHS.

24:7 Dads and Moms Group

The Basics with Ready by 5

FAMILY EVENTS

Hosted multiple family events throughout the year both independently and in collaboration with Early Head Start and the Home Child Care Network.

Early Care & Education Programs

Early Head Start Child Care Partnership

Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (EHS) provides individualized services to low-income infants and toddlers up to age 4, as well as pregnant parents and their families, living in Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island counties. It's a comprehensive program that empowers families to meet the emotional, cognitive, and social needs of children so they can grow into self-sufficient and thriving adults.

Participants by Location	
Location	Number
Skip-a-Long Centers (Milan, Moline, & Rock Island)	167
Aledo YMCA Children's School	7
Bull Frogs & Butterflies	5
Small Hands, Big Hearts	15
Little Blessings Home Daycare	9
WIU Bilingual Early Learning Center	21
Kindercare	15
Home Based Option	66
Total Served*	**305**

*Total served at each location may include the same child twice if they changed locations or EHS options during the program year

Program Updates & Successes

- Provided housing crisis support to 25 families
- Provided health & disability services and mental health services to children and families
- Hosted staff wellness events and reflective learning groups to promote staff mental health and well-being, including Teacher Appreciation Week
- 26 teachers hold a CDA, Associate's Degree, or Bachelor's Degree
- Planned multiple socialization events for home-based families to come together and interact

Served 217 children across 188 families & 10 locations

FAMILY EVENTS

Hosted four events with PI and HCCN

Day at the Zoo | Fall Family Day | Family Fun Festival | Touch-a-Truck

PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Hosted two 5-week parenting workshops with PI

24:7 Dads and Moms Group

The Basics with Ready by 5

Family Satisfaction

100% of families surveyed would recommend participating in EHS

Special Needs Learners

EHS served 19% of children with special needs during FY26.

Early Care & Education Programs

Home Visiting

Home Visiting launched in FY25 as an expansion of the existing EHS home-based services through IDEC. Home Visiting supports pregnant people and parents with young children aged birth to 5 who live in Rock Island County. This program is free to families who qualify and provides free, individualized visits for families from pregnancy until children enter kindergarten, reflecting each family's needs, goals, and schedule.

Families Served	Children Served
61	91

Home Visits Conducted

841

Program Successes:

- A child with development delays became potty trained.
- A family that had paused services re-engaged and is ready to resume visits.
- One family began using community resources shared by their Family Educator.
- One family scheduled children's eye appointments after previously delaying care.
- One family re-enrolled their children in school.
- A family began family counseling and play therapy and has shown positive growth.
- One parent preparing to transition from the program independently found a welcoming food pantry.
- One family explored housing options while staying in Rock Island County to continue services.
- A parent improved communication with daycare teachers to support her child's development.
- One parent practiced active listening to improve communication with her spouse.
- The program welcomed three healthy newborns to the caseload.

These successes reflect family progress in health care access, child development, education, mental health, relationships, self-sufficiency, and community engagement.

SOCIALIZATIONS

Home Visiting hosted 21 group connections and socializations where families come together and engage in parent/child activities

53 Families connected to resources

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Home Visiting is fully staffed with four Family Educators and one Home Visiting Manager. Staff credentials include two Master's degrees, one Bachelor's degree, and two Associate degrees. Two staff members are working towards bachelor's degrees.

Child Care Resource & Referral

Child Care Connection of Central Illinois

Child Care Connection of Central Illinois (CCCCI) is one of two Child Care Resource & Referral programs under SAL Community Services. These programs are part of a statewide network of agencies funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS). CCCCI serves the counties of Bureau, Fulton, LaSalle, Marshall, Peoria, Putnam, Stark, Tazewell, and Woodford.

CCCCI supports families needing quality, affordable child care through Child Care Assistance Program and Child Care Referrals. By contacting our office, families can receive assistance finding an early care and education program that meets their needs through personalized referrals and support.

Additionally, licensed and license-exempt child care centers and family child care providers can access a variety of free and low-cost resources through our office. We offer free support from our quality team, year-round training sessions and workshops, technical assistance, start-up information for providers looking to provide child care, and on-site resources that will help them offer the best care possible to the families they serve, including funding opportunities.

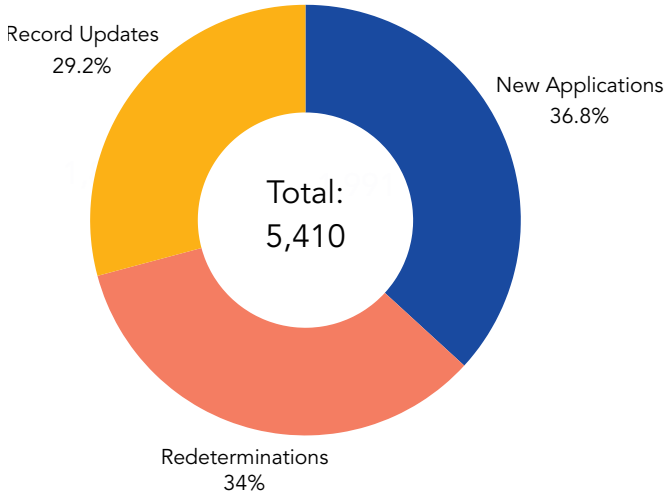
Our Outreach Department aims to ensure our nine counties are aware of the resources available to them. By attending and hosting community events and serving on important early childhood committees, we can advocate for families and the early childhood field.

FAMILY SERVICES

344
Families received referrals for child care

617
Children served through referral services

CCAP BREAKDOWN



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

43
community events attended where...

43
Community partners engaged

27,122
Community residents engaged

PROVIDER SERVICES

Provider Support Team assisted child care providers through various grant applications and renewal support—totaling over **$7.5 million** in funding and resources.

91
provider trainings offered (in-person, hybrid, virtual) with **660** participants

111
providers assisted in accessing higher education resources, **43** face-to-face

3,539
provider consultations by Quality Team

72
environment monitoring visits

Child Care Resource & Referral of Midwestern Illinois

Child Care Resource and Referral of Midwestern Illinois (CCRRMI) is one of two Child Care Resource & Referral programs under SAL Community Services. These programs are part of a statewide network of agencies funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS). CCRRMI serves the counties of Henderson, Henry, Knox, McDonough, Mercer, Rock Island, and Warren.

CCRRMI supports families needing quality, affordable child care through Child Care Assistance Program and Child Care Referrals. By contacting our office, families can receive assistance finding an early care and education program that meets their needs through personalized referrals and support.

Additionally, licensed and license-exempt child care centers and family child care providers can access a variety of free and low-cost resources through our office. We offer free support from our quality team, year-round training sessions and workshops, technical assistance, start-up information for providers looking to provide child care, and on-site resources that will help them offer the best care possible to the families they serve, including funding opportunities.

This year, CCRRMI demonstrated broad fiscal-year impact through high-volume service delivery, responsive provider support, expanded outreach, workforce development opportunities, recruitment efforts, and targeted investments that strengthened quality and access across the service area.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

28
Community outreach events attended

2,002
Community residents engaged

FAMILY SERVICES

172
Families received referrals for child care

264
Children served through referral services

2,700
CCAP applications processed

PROVIDER SERVICES

Workforce Development

78
training courses offered with 1,011 participant hours completed

Provider Support

1,690
Technical Assistance contacts completed

Navigator Outreach

48
events attended with 147 event participants

Recruitment

56
active recruitments with 9 new providers listed in DTP

Professional Development Funds

29
applications, with 28 eligible applications

$6,773
invested in credentialing, renewal, and workshops

Quality Improvement Funds

$96,064
invested through Quality Improvement Funds, including cohort, stipend, and start-up grant programs

Crisis Assistance & Stabilization

Welcoming Center

The Welcoming Center is a one-stop human service center designed to provide accessible services to local immigrants, refugees, and those whose first language is not English. Services are offered in 8 languages including English, French, Spanish, Swahili, Burmese, Haka Chin, Kimbembe, and Lingala.

Through our services, the Welcoming Center continues our commitment to empowering immigrants, refugees, and LEP members by providing compassionate, culturally responsive support that promotes self-sufficiency, stability, and long-term success. We find that our top-five case management needs were translation, employment, housing, food, and advocacy.

Program Updates & Successes

- Welcoming Center staff distributed essential items, including clothing, food, diapers, and hygiene products, to meet clients' basic needs across the year.
- **Immigration**: A visually impaired, disabled, and widowed client faced significant language and health barriers while pursuing US citizenship. With support from our staff and a trusted community partner, the client successfully completed their naturalization process and became a US Citizen at an Oath of Allegiance Ceremony at Augustana College in November.
- **Employment**: A recent immigrant sought employment assistance after facing language barriers and limited work experience. Through our employment workshops, ongoing case management, and a referral to a local employer willing to provide training, the client successfully interviewed and was offered a job.
- **Housing**: A customer facing a large, unexpected housing balance after losing her job turned to our program for support and advocacy. Crisis intervention funds and a negotiated payment agreement with her housing complex helped her avoid displacement and remain safely housed while navigating her employment loss.

Served 948 individuals

Client Breakdown

New	Returning
890	58

Avg: 18.2 clients/week

Welcoming Center Activities	Totals
Individuals Receiving Case Management Services	437
Crisis Interventions	120
Total Case Management Services	1,028
Unduplicated Referrals	333
Outreach Activities Conducted	40
Education Workshops Offered	12

SUPER SATURDAY

Hosted our annual Super Saturday event in June where families came together for food, fun, and fellowship. Attendees enjoyed free food, games, clothing giveaways, raffles, and activities for children. Over 100 in attendance.

Photos from the Year

Skip-a-Long Rock Island
RIFD - July 2025

Tie-Dye Picture Day (courtesy of Royal Neighbors of America)
August 2025

HCCN Quad Cities
Fall Festival - Oct. 2025

Skip-a-Long Rock Island - 11th Street Center Groundbreaking
October 2025

Skip-a-Long Milan
Fall Play - November 2025

Annan Liu Fellowship
Fall 2025

Skip-a-Long Rock Island
Lego Time! - Dec. 2025

Skip-a-Long Davenport
Block Play - January 2026

Skip-a-Long Moline
Cup Walking - Jan. 2026

DARI High-Five
January 2026

Skip-a-Long Davenport
Balancing - March 2026

Skip-a-Long Rock Island
Pinwheel Garden - April '26

SAL Touch a Truck
May 2026

Welcoming Center Super
Saturday - June 2026

S-A-L COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUPPORT. ADVOCACY. LEARNING.

www.salcommunityservices.org
(309) 764-3724