



Tara and Alexis in 2001 (far left) and today (left)

As part of our 40th anniversary celebration, we asked for testimonials from some of the families we have partnered with through the years. Tara Cronin heard the appeal and replied right away. As you will read, CCCD played a very significant role in where she is today.

Thirteen years ago Tara Cronin was a young mom with a two year-old daughter wondering where to turn. "I was without hope. My marriage abruptly ended, I had a small child, no car, no house, nothing."

"I can't recall how I found my way to Cape Cod Child Development but I know it saved our lives," Tara shared over the phone. Alexis' first placement was at the age of 2 ½ in pre-school in a home setting. Through the years she moved through the program spending time at the Pearl Street location. While enrolled in public school she continued on in the after-school and summer programs at Founders Court. Tara added, "We loved it. There were so many activities and I can't say enough about the programs. There were field trips, movies and lots of time just being outdoors with friends and caring adults."

Hope Restored

– The Cronins Story –

"I can't recall how I found my way to Cape Cod Child Development but I know it saved our lives."



"As a single mom there was NO way I could afford full-price childcare. To have a sliding fee structure in those early days saved us. You hear the term childcare and it is important for you to share with others that it was so much more than just supervised care—it was years filled with happy memories and great experiences."

Having her daughter enrolled in CCCD programs released many of the financial and emotional worries that allowed both of them to move forward and grow. With Alexis in a caring learning center, Tara was able to find a job and then moved on to complete an undergraduate degree from Suffolk University. Today she serves as marketing director at the A.L.S. Family Charitable Foundation.

"Ultimately I was able to buy my own home. That would have been impossible if I were paying for full-time care on my own. CCCD's sliding fee scale gave me a chance to build a strong, permanent foundation for us. That was clearly one of the most important facets of the program that made this possible for us," added Tara. That, and a strong-willed, single Mom with a lot of determination, a sense of hope and a tenacious pursuit of a dream.



A Message from the Executive Director

Mary Pat Messmer

Dear Friends,

The year 2011 marks an exciting milestone in the life of our organization as we celebrate 40 years of service to the community. Our reach over the years has been strong and deep, marked by a demonstrated commitment to the development of sustainable, high quality programs and services for families and children across the region. We have effectively responded to a myriad of social, political and economic trends, always keeping the needs and preferences of the families we serve in the forefront of our minds.

The stories that you will read in this newsletter put a real face on the work that we do each day. In our cover story, a family reflects on the impact our services had on their lives. Tara Cronin shares with us

the hardships of her early years as a parent and how the availability of affordable, high quality child-care kept her and her daughter on a path to success. She was motivated and determined but she needed a little help—and we were there to provide the care, the support and, most importantly, the hope for a better future. Simply put, we were there when she needed support.

To the Cronins and the thousands of other families and children we have served over these forty years, we feel privileged to have been part of your life, your story and your success. Guided by a clear mission, a talented and dedicated workforce, and a host of community partners, we look forward—with optimism—to the next decade.

Best Wishes, *Mary Pat Messmer*



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New Development Director

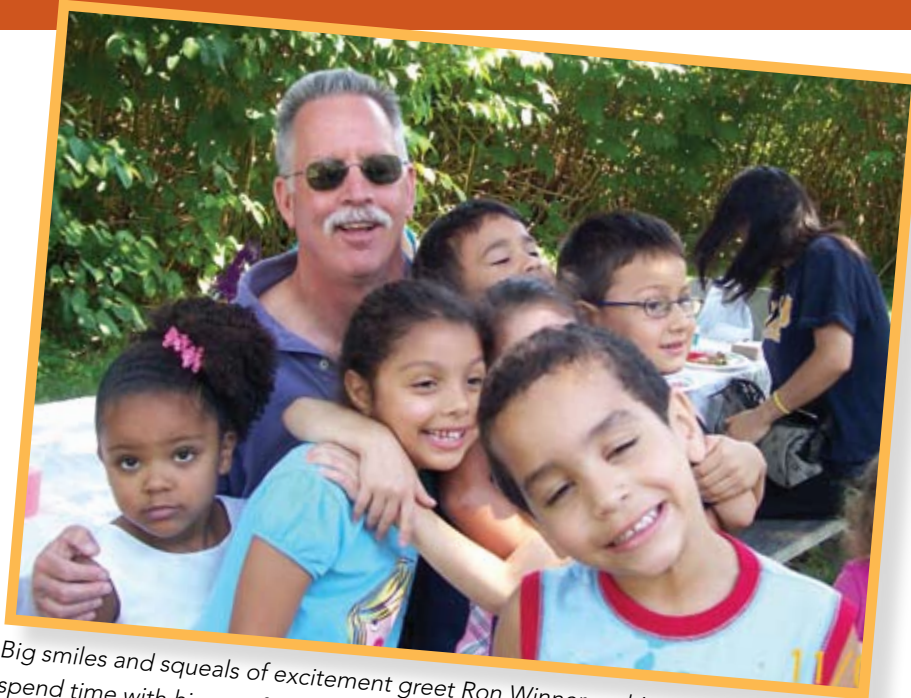
We would like to welcome Sue Daggett as our new director of resource development. She will be responsible for securing corporate, foundation and individual contributions, grant writing, major gifts, annual giving and related programs and events. Sue most recently worked for five years as the development director for Habitat for

Humanity of Cape Cod. "I am delighted to be joining this remarkable organization with its rich history of service and care for our children and families across the Cape and Islands. Moreover, I am looking forward to meeting our community friends and partners to not only convey our thanks but also to enrich our partnerships in mutually beneficial ways

to advance our mission and capacity." Sue is a graduate of Ithaca College and holds advance degrees from Syracuse University. She lives in Harwich Port and currently serves on the Harwich School Committee and on the board of Cape Cod Volunteers.

The Gift of Showing Up

"It's Mr. Ron!" shouted a small cluster of preschoolers gathered at picnic tables. Up the grassy hill they soared to greet their favorite visitor. For the past three years, Ron Winner has volunteered once a month in one of the Cape Cod Child Development's Head Start classrooms.



Big smiles and squeals of excitement greet Ron Winner on his monthly visit to spend time with his new friends.

"Why do I do it?"

The kids are simply amazing. To be a part of their day and to watch their progress and growth is a plus." he said, "If you really want to know who is important here, it is their three classroom teachers who are truly amazing. I'm just here for an hour of their day."

Besides sharing his time in the classroom, Ron also shares his talents and treasures in other ways. For the past few years he has sponsored an annual class trip. Concerned that music and theater are all too frequently reduced or eliminated in today's schools, Ron's gift was to expose the class to the arts at one of the Cape's summer landmarks each year. In these and other ways, Ron is making a difference in the lives of Cape children.

Ron's involvement began several years ago, after hearing Executive Director Mary Pat Messmer speak about Cape Cod Child Development students and families with players in the Shepley Open Golf Tournament. Then and there a fire was started.

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I'm going to miss my teachers but I'm going to miss Mr. Ron the most.

- Kayleigh, on going to kindergarten this fall

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In this community there are many amazing people and Ron is one of them. He is a blessing to the families and he always has a positive story to talk about their child. - Miss Roz

"I called and asked if I might visit with another golfing pal. I figured we would be assigned a classroom together and spend a little time reading. Well, I ended up in this amazing classroom and I was hooked!" Ron explained.

Ron is a steady, reliable, stand-up guy. And that's his biggest gift to Cape Cod Child Development: showing up. In the lives of a handful of kids, many of whom have had a lot of uncertainty in their lives, Mr. Ron is the man. To show up by sharing one's time, talents and treasures is Mr. Ron's gift for all of us. It is amazing how easy it can be to make a difference.

Could you make a difference?

Please complete the enclosed envelope and join with us and Mr. Ron as we celebrate Cape Cod Child Development's forty years of outstanding service. Show up and send it in today!

Art because it's important!

Art is important for children especially during their early development. Research shows that art activities develop brain capacity in early childhood. Art engages children's senses in open-ended play and develops cognitive, social-emotional and multi-sensory skills. As children progress into elementary school and beyond, art continues to provide opportunities for brain development, mastery, self-esteem and creativity.

We are fortunate to live in a region where the arts are alive from the moment you cross the bridge to the tip of Provincetown. Thanks to strong community support, Cape Cod Child Development is able to provide children with access to and an appreciation for the arts across all our core programs.

Introducing the arts into children's lives does more than develop their creative skills and allow time for free expression, it teaches them to keep their eyes open, develop their passions and supports their academic growth and success. Each day Cape Cod Child Development brings art, music, dance and drama in the lives of all the children we serve whether it's through a music and movement class for children ages 3 to 5, through the therapeutic use of the arts in our work with infants and young children suspected of or diagnosed as having a disability, or in group dance class offered in our after-school program.



Developing artistic knowledge and ability is a central part of a young child's development and an integral focus on school readiness in the early childhood classroom. Arts provide an inner sense of expression and communication, as well as empowerment. Through art, children observe, organize, and interpret their own experiences. They make decisions, take actions and see their world through many perspectives. The arts, whether visual or other forms of artistic appreciation such as music, dance, and drama can motivate and provide a way to build competence and confidence in youngsters.

For many years, the M. Patrick Butler Charitable Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation, the Ward Family, and the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod have donated tickets to the TD Bank Pops by the Sea concert for local pre-school children and their families enrolled at Cape Cod Child Development. We know that a love of the arts may be the driving



Welcome, Linda

Following a recent board meeting, we sat down with Linda Alhart for a brief interview to garner insights and learn of the hopes she has for the next few years of service as Cape Cod Child Development's newest member of our Board of Trustees.

Could you tell us a little about your background and interests as they relate to serving on the CCCD board?

I was a teacher for 26 years teaching children in grades K through 12. The later part of my career was spent as a reading specialist, teaching children and adults with dyslexia and training teachers in methods to help dyslexic students at The Reading Disabilities Unit at MGH in Boston. I have two adult children and five grandsons. I am currently enrolled as a student with The Institute of Children's Literature to learn more about writing books and articles for children and teenagers.

What most interests you about joining the board? I love children. Every child is special and is our future. I want to ensure that children who live on Cape Cod experience a good education and a rich environment in which to grow. I hope to help make that happen as an involved board member.

Anything else you think we ought to share with our readers? I am honored and excited to begin work in the capacity of a Cape Cod Child Development board member. It is a wonderful organization.



force for a young person to stay in school in the years to come. With your support we are planting the seeds for a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Our center-based programs, serving over 700 youngsters, rely upon grants and community fundraisers to bring the arts to our children. A \$40 for 40 Year donation could bring three school-age children to a local play or purchase art supplies for an entire classroom. Please send in your gift of support today!

Some of the Benefits Children Gain through the Arts



- Expressing their feelings and emotions in a safe way
- Practicing and gaining fine motor control and strengthening eye-hand motor coordination
- Developing perceptual skills and awareness of color, shapes, forms, lines and textures
- Providing the opportunity to make choices and solve problems
- Seeing that others have differing points of view and ways of expressing themselves
- Sharing materials, cooperating with peers, assuming responsibility and other valuable social skills
- Experiencing success

Day of Caring

Volunteers from Eastern Bank work together to provide an early fall clean up and landscaping effort to the Pearl Street compound during the Cape and Islands United Way Day of Caring.

Several energetic volunteers from Eastern Bank, led by Amanda Sullivan, gathered this fall to spend the day working on an array of outdoor project. The bank employees donated their time and talents by landscaping the entranceway that greets our staff, children and families each day.

Thank you for all your hard work!



Photo by Steve Heaslip/Cape Cod Times

Big Shoes for Little Souls Race Recap

On Sunday, May 29th, 31 runners and walkers took part in the Great Hyannis Road Races as part of Cape Cod Child Development's first annual Big Shoes for Little Souls charity running team.

Thanks to a strong show of community support, participants raised \$10,850 by completing either the 5K, 7.25 mile or half-marathon race.

We look forward to making this event a tradition at Cape Cod Child Development as we continue to promote health and wellness to our families, staff and community.

Team sponsors, including Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, The Law Offices of John C. Manoog III, Rockland Trust, and Sanders, Walsh & Eaton, LLC, each donated \$500 and B.A. Event Promotions, the race organizer, supported their efforts by waiving registration fees.

Other local businesses showed their support by sponsoring the team at the \$200 level and includes: Bank of Cape Cod, Brazilian Grill, by Design Salon, Camp Wingate*Kirkland, Dysart Creative, Gargiulo/Rudnick, LLP, Hanlon's Shoes, Hyannis Foreign Auto Repair, M.J. Nardone Carpentry, NeuEon, Inc., Nutter McClennen & Fish, LLP, Pyramid Printing & Digital, Shepley Wood Products, former board president Sheryl Walsh, TD Bank, The Law Offices of Juliane Soprano, Trevi Café, Wm. Borhek Insurance Agency, Inc., Women's Workout Co., and Wynn & Wynn, P.C.

Additional team sponsorship and support was provided by AAA Southern New England, Bank of America, Cape Cod Beer, Eight Cousins Books, Scargo Café, Stephenson & Brook, and the Island Merchant. ***Thank you!***



Leslee Netto, the 2011 Cathy Young Scholarship award winner



Cathy Young Scholarship

Congratulations to Leslee Netto, the 2011 recipient of the Cathy Young Memorial Scholarship. Leslee graduated from Falmouth High School this spring and will be pursuing a degree in Elementary Education in the fall. Thanks to generous donors who give in memory of Cathy Young—an outstanding teacher at Cape Cod Child Development for 17 years—the organization is able to honor her commitment to children and families with this scholarship.

The scholarship committee considers many aspects of an applicant's story and Leslee had a compelling one to tell. Her father passed away her freshman year of high school and despite taking time off her sophomore year, Leslee maintained her studies through online classes offered through her school. She came back with a renewed commitment to her class work and not only maintained her high GPA but became actively involved in school committees and clubs. In addition to her hard work at school, takes care of her mother who recently suffered a heart attack and stroke significant illness and is unable to work.

Congratulations Leslee and best of luck in your future studies!

“Leslee is resilient and her ability to hold true to who she is resonates in everything she does.”

*Lindsay Ruthven,
Guidance Counselor*

A Special Thank You...

Thank you to the many business and community sponsors for raising over \$50,000 for Cape Cod Child Development during the summer.

The Davenport Companies and **Seaside LeMans Fund** of Cape Cod Foundation for the \$31,250 award from the 11th Annual Seaside LeMans race for the Cape Cod community in support of general operations (*photo right*)

Botello Lumber Company for donating proceeds in the amount of \$12,500 from the Botello Lumber Company 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Inaugural Bob Buotte Memorial Golf Tournament

50% of the proceeds to benefit our Preschool/Head Start program in memory of Bob Buotte—a 28-year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard and a loyal supporter of Cape Cod Child Development's Head Start program
Lead Sponsors: Brian Quinn, Nantucket Pharmacy and Custom Benefits

Shepley Wood for donating \$3,000 from the 16th Annual Shepley Wide Open Charity Golf Event toward our core programming



New Grants

BJ's Charitable: \$5,000 award toward the Adult Dental Clinic for Head Start families

The Peter & Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation: \$23,962 award supporting Preschool/Head Start

The Makepeace Neighborhood Fund: \$7,280 award promoting science in the classroom in Wareham program

TD Charitable Foundation: \$3,000 award supporting school-aged education



83 Pearl Street, Hyannis, MA 02601
800-974-8860 or 508-775-6240
www.cccdp.org

Caring for Children and Families in Our Community

Mission Statement

Our mission is to serve as a community resource that provides child-care, educational and developmental intervention, and family support services. We offer child-focused, family-centered programs that are affordable, accessible and of the highest quality. The agency staff and associated professionals work in partnership with families and others in the community to build on each child's unique strengths, ensuring positive growth and development.

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Editor: Sue Daggett, sdaggett@cccdp.org

Associate Editor: Emily Scissons, escissons@cccdp.org

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Moving? Send your change of address to: Cape Cod Child Development Mailing List, 83 Pearl Street, Hyannis, MA 02601 or email it to: info@cccdp.org.

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Our 40th Anniversary!

Join us today by sending in your \$40 for 40 Years reply card.

Your gift helps support over 3,000 children and their families throughout the year. For more information on how you might support our mission, please contact the Development Office at **508-775-6240** ext. 305.