



REPORT OF GIVING 2026

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear CCC Community,

This past year was one of the most meaningful in Concord Children's Center's history. As we commemorated CCC's 50th Anniversary, we paused to honor the vision of our founders, Deborah Begner and Christine Gerzon. We also celebrated the dedication of generations of educators, and highlighted the thousands of children and families whose lives have been shaped by this community. At the same time, we continued building the foundation for CCC's next fifty years. None of that would have been possible without your generosity.

One of the year's proudest accomplishments was earning NAEYC Accreditation+, the highest level of recognition from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This distinction reflects the extraordinary quality of care and education happening in our classrooms every day and affirms what our families already know—that CCC is a place where children are known, nurtured, challenged, and inspired. Your support makes it possible for us to maintain these exceptional standards year after year.

This year also marked an important investment in the people who make CCC so special—our educators. Through the generosity of our community, we have been able to expand professional learning opportunities and establish the Director of Training and Development position, dedicated entirely to supporting educator growth. From coaching and mentoring to curriculum development and ongoing training, this role strengthens our teaching practice every day, ensuring that CCC's educators continue to learn, grow, and provide the exceptional experiences our children deserve.

Your gifts also created lasting improvements for our children. This year we completed the beautiful new Infant-Toddler playground at our West Concord campus, transforming the outdoor environment into a space that encourages exploration, movement, curiosity, and joyful play. Every day, children are climbing, discovering, imagining, and building confidence in a space designed specifically for their developmental needs. It is a wonderful example of how philanthropy directly enriches children's everyday experiences.

Perhaps the most meaningful example of your generosity can be found in CCC's Tuition Assistance Program. In FY26, we were able to provide tuition assistance to 15% of our students—the highest level in our history. Families experiencing financial hardship were able to remain part of the CCC community because of your support. At a time when these families needed stability most, their children continued to learn, grow, and thrive in the caring environment they had come to know and love. Thank you for making a CCC education possible for these families and for ensuring that financial circumstances never stand in the way of a child's opportunity to experience the joy, belonging, and care that define Concord Children's Center.

As we celebrated fifty years of CCC, we also took important steps to ensure the next fifty years are just as strong. During our anniversary year, we launched the **1975 Society**, recognizing those who choose to include CCC in their estate plans and other planned giving initiatives. It is an honor to serve as a founding member of the Society alongside CCC co-founder Chris Gerzon, past Executive Director Pat Nelson, and past educator and administrator Joanne Saideh, helping build a legacy of support that will benefit generations of children and families to come. We have also started planning an endowment initiative dedicated specifically to educator compensation and look forward to sharing more information with you as these plans take shape.

As we look toward the future, I am filled with hope and gratitude. Every gift you make is an investment in a child's curiosity, a teacher's growth, and a family's sense of belonging. Together, we are ensuring that the values on which CCC was founded fifty years ago will continue to shape the lives of children for generations to come. Thank you for your partnership, your generosity, and your unwavering belief in the power of exceptional early childhood education.

With gratitude,

Suzie Kornblum, *Executive Director*

2025-2026

**CONCORD CHILDREN'S CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Christina Anderson
Chair

Sarah Sample
Vice-Chair

Elie Adam
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Julia Abreu
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CCC staff rep

Andrew Locke

Katherine Manning

Laura Will

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn.



2025-2026 EVENTS



Bookshop Fundraiser

After not having our annual Bookshop Fundraiser in the fall of 2024, we were thrilled to return to the Concord Bookshop for this community event on November 22. The day raised \$1,218 for CCC. We are grateful to the Concord Bookshop for its continued generosity.

Night at the Discovery Museum

Our third CCC Night at the Museum took place on Sunday, February 1, at the Discovery Museum in Acton. A worse-than-usual winter illness season resulted in attendee numbers being down this year, with around 100 people attending the evening... however, the attendees had fun exploring the Museum's many exhibits and installations!



Social

Our traditional fall social this year was held in the spring due to our 50th anniversary celebrations taking place in October. Around 75 people attended the social, which took place on March 27 at the home of CCC Board Chair Christina Anderson and her husband, James. Guests had the chance to admire and bid on our beloved classroom creations (bringing in over \$2,300 for CCC!) in addition to sampling wines and craft beers selected by West Concord Wine & Spirits.

Special Friends Day

We welcomed our students' special friends and grandparents to both of our sites the morning of May 8. Special friends visited classrooms and shared snack with the children before enjoying a musical performance at West Concord and outside time with the children at East Concord.





Allison Begner Cole, Deborah Begner, Pat Nelson and Joanne Saideh at CCC East Concord.



Penni Hensley Wagner, Anne Williams, Joanne Saideh, Deborah Begner, and Allison Begner Cole at CCC West Concord.



CCC wrapped up its 50th anniversary celebrations with a gala weekend from October 17-18 celebrating 50 years of **Care, Curiosity, and Community**. We were thrilled to welcome back CCC co-founders **Deborah Begner** and **Christine Gerzon** for the festivities.

For Deborah, the celebrations began on Thursday, October 16, when she and her daughter (and CCC alumna) **Allison Begner Cole** enjoyed a tour of our West Concord site from recently retired CCC staff members **Joanne Saideh** and **Penni Hensley Wagner**. The next day, Penni and Joanne together with past Executive Director **Pat Nelson** toured Deborah and Allison around our East Concord site.



FOUNDERS' RECEPTION

Around 50 CCC community members from the school's first 25 years, together with leadership donors, administration, and current and past Board members, gathered at Concord Art on Friday, October 17, to honor CCC co-founders Deborah Begner and Chris Gerzon and the first 50 years of the school that they established. The evening featured introductory words from past staff member and past parent **Joanne Saideh** (standing in for Executive Director **Suzie Kornblum** who was ill) and Friendship Circle co-chair **Matthew Fishbein**, before Deborah and Chris took the floor to share their memories of establishing CCC 50 years ago.



CCC50, CCC's 50th ANNIVERSARY GALA

Around 175 CCC community members, including current and past parents and staff, grandparents, corporate partners, and even past students gathered at the Nashawtuc Country Club on Saturday, October 18, to celebrate CCC's 50th anniversary. The evening raised over \$41,000 for CCC and featured:

- a live auction and raffle,
- the premiere of the CCC 50th anniversary video,
- a slideshow of class photos from CCC's first 50 years, and
- a StoryWalk through the first 50 years of CCC history

Watch the 50th Anniversary
video [here](#):



We are grateful to the following individuals who shared their time, expertise, institutional memory, and love for CCC to ensure the success of our 50th anniversary celebrations.

50th ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kathleen Bailey
Erika Gutermuth
Suzie Kornblum
Natalia McCloud
Pat Nelson
Joanne Saideh
Jennifer Saxe
Penni Hensley Wagner
Richard Wells
Yumi Yasutake

50th ANNIVERSARY HISTORY COMMITTEE

Kathleen Bailey
Tiffany Boisvert
Susan Folgar
Suzie Kornblum
Joanne Saideh
Jennifer Saxe
Penni Hensley Wagner
Richard Wells
Jordan Zirkel

PROFILE OF GIVING: The Horgan Family



Stuart and Carolyn Horgan with Thea (in front) and Charlie (being held by Carolyn).

Carolyn and Stuart Horgan and their daughter, Thea, joined CCC in fall 2023 when Thea started at East Concord.

"As working parents with a child in full-time daycare, we wanted a childcare environment that felt like an extension of home," recalls Carolyn. "We found that place at CCC. From the beginning, we have felt CCC's commitment to creating a warm, loving, and stimulating experience for Thea and our son, Charlie [who started at CCC in summer 2024]. They look forward to going to school every day and are often reluctant to leave the playground at pickup time!"

"The CCC teachers and administrators have become trusted resources and collaborators for Stuart and me," Carolyn continues. "They have helped us navigate challenging developmental stages, provided guidance and reassurance, and made themselves available whenever we had questions or concerns. And most importantly, CCC's educators see and celebrate each of our kids for exactly who they are."

Stuart agrees, adding "We have been amazed by our children's social and emotional growth in CCC's care: learning to advocate for themselves and their friends; developing confidence to climb to the top of a climber or go say 'hi' to a new friend; and putting CCC's value of 'all are welcome' into practice at home."

The Horgans have chosen to support CCC in several ways. In addition to being Friendship Circle donors, Carolyn joined the Finance Committee last year and was elected to the Board in June.

"We support CCC because we want to give back to this amazing program," Carolyn explains. "As a Finance Committee member, it's been eye opening to see all the hard work behind the scenes to make CCC such a vibrant place for families, teachers, and children."

"We've also learned how much the Fund for CCC helps support teachers, tuition assistance, and special programs. As parents, it's exciting that CCC continues to expand and enrich its offerings with programs like Farm to School, art instruction in collaboration with Emerson Umbrella, and Soccer Stars. We are happy knowing that CCC's teachers are receiving ongoing training in early childhood education. CCC continues to invest in our children's experience, which has motivated us to give back however we can."

"This year, we made our donation to CCC via a stock gift, which enabled us to amplify our contribution," notes Stuart. "We were new to this process, but it was surprisingly easy, requiring only a short online form from our broker. Donating stock allowed us to avoid incurring capital gains taxes, so the full value of the stock went to support CCC."

Carolyn and Stuart conclude: "CCC has given us so much more than great childcare. Thea and Charlie have built genuine friendships with their classmates, and we've built relationships with other families and with teachers who know our kids deeply. Our nephew recently joined CCC as well, and we've loved seeing how the kids care for and look out for each other, values instilled in them at CCC. We look forward to seeing how our children continue to learn and thrive in the care of CCC."



FUND FOR CCC

This year's Fund for CCC raised \$97,201.08 – we are grateful to our community for its generosity. Each donation makes a difference for our children, our educators and staff, and our school.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

CCC honors donors who contribute \$1,000 or more to the Fund for CCC by designating them members of the Friendship Circle. Years of consecutive giving at the Friendship Circle level indicated in parentheses where applicable.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SOCIETY, GOLD LEVEL (\$5,000+)

Kara and Phil Barr** (6)
Pam Gannon and Dave Douglas** (7)
Carolyn and Stuart Horgan* (3)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SOCIETY, SILVER LEVEL (\$2,000+)

Christina+ and James Anderson* (4)
Jacquelin and Robert Apsler*** (5)
Amantha+ and Jason Butler*** (5)
Althea and David Kaemmer***
Laura Will+ and Dave Nicholson*
Dawn and Jon Rennert*** (4)
Sarah+ and Ryan Sample* (6)

CURRENT FAMILIES

Romy Nehmé and Elie Adam+ (3)
Camille and Scott Barnard
Lindsay Dudgeon and Kevin Belmonte (6)
Sarah Stanton and David Bradshaw
Juliet and Evan Brender+
Jacqueline Milne and Andrew Locke+

Katherine+ and Matthew Manning (2)
Katherine and Jared Toman
Erica and Anthony Ullo

ALUMNI FAMILIES

Kathleen Bailey and Richard Wells
Holly Rothermel and
Michael Dettelbach (2)
Kelly and Thomas Doherty (7)
Mary and Jonathan Ells (6)
Joan and John Ferguson*** (3)
Jackie+ and Matthew Fishbein (5)
Betsy and Ryan Keller
Grace Giles and Patrick Sedney (4)
Shannon Sweeney and Tyson Seely (6)
Carolyn and Eric Stein (6)
Yumi and Jeff Suarez (7)

EDUCATORS AND STAFF

Jennifer Saxe and
Andrew Fletcher*** (5)
Suzie and Rob Kornblum** (3)

GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS

Steve and Sara Zirkel (5)

Years of consecutive giving at the Friendship Circle level indicated in parentheses where applicable.

+ Board member

* CCC current family

** CCC alumni family

*** CCC grandparent/special friend

DONORS

CURRENT FAMILIES

Nina and Jason Abelowitz
Gretchen and Coleman Adams
Zhaleh Safikhani and Pouya Amini
Venice Sacco and Jonathan Baldi
Casey Leathers and Leo Balsom
Jocelyn Krauss and Sheehan Barlow-Layne
Kristin and Bob Belisle
Nora and Rick Callahan
Sarah and Toby Callahan
Maggie Russell and Nick Chigas
Renee and Donald Coburn
Emily and Ilya Degtev
Jamie and Chris Dutton
Annemarie and William Ellicott
Emma and Sean Fanning
Catie and Nate Franklin
Sarah Franzen and Andrew Stevens
Isabel Jerchel-Furau and Calin Furau
Emily and Robert Gallagher
Whitney Gallivan and Meghan Hinds
Peter Gazzara and Kathryn Smith-Petersen
Emily Simons and Joseph Gester
Elena Colman and Karl Goethert
Elizabeth Stone and Jordan Gowen
Christine and Jon Grabenstatter
Jessica and Quentin Hart
Carly and Jesse Heller
Elizabeth and Sean Hetherman+
Marianna Zak Hill and Thomas Hill
Sara Bempkins and Jeff Holman



Jill and Fazal Hussain
 Allison Jones and Runar Bjarnason
 Yvonne Chan and Justin Kahler
 Suzanne** and Ken Kaufmann
 Karen Kieser and Daniel Green
 Jeffrey Kirby and Connie Lin
 John Guilinger and Rebecca Kowaloff
 Morgan and Robert Lacy
 Daniel Lazewatsky and Hayley Moore
 Shannon and Matthew Leland
 Katie Boyle and Ronen Levy
 Lauren and Sabato LoRusso
 Louisa Lovell and Andrew McNamara
 Sarah Woods and Javier Lugo
 Meredith and JB Lynch
 Carmen Welton and Samuel Malcolm
 Eliza and Devin McGrath
 Rob and Erin McGuine
 Molly and David McKenna
 Kathryn and James McKenna
 Kellie and Vincent McSweeney
 Farhanah Sheets and Evan Milstein-Greengart
 Desiree and Ricky Misiaszek
 Jenny Sharp and John Moran
 Kristen and Christopher O'Brien
 Ingrid Orvedal
 Rebecca Schmidtberger and Kyle Arean-Raines
 Lauren and Tom Ruby
 Elizabeth and Robert Scanlon
 Cailly Carroll and Dan Serna
 Susan and Steven Serrano
 Yulia and Daniel Shea
 Lily and Jonathan Sonis
 Anna Srapionyan and George Stepanian
 Carole Harbison and Albert Swiston
 Tatiana Klinoff and Mark Veilleux
 Meryl Ayres** and Max Wall

ALUMNI FAMILIES

Kenneth and Lynda Anderson***
 Kellie and David Anjoorian
 Demi Ayres***
 Annie and Ben Bailey
 Donna Balmuth and Keith Loris
 Adam and Kayte Bellusci
 Cory Ferguson and Mike Besserer
 Katie and Nate Carr
 Maura Clarke and Kareem Talhouni
 Michelle and Drew Clemens
 Sharlene and Greg Dorothy
 Hao Feng and Jenny Wang
 Christine and Robert Gerzon
 Hannah Jones and James Gosset
 Susan and Pete Masters
 Carol Meenan
 Jamie and Nick Morris-Kliment
 Patty and Chris Popov
 Naomi and Michael Rosenfeld
 Wade Rubinstein and Jill Block

FACULTY AND STAFF

Julia Abreu+ * **
 Lillian Albanese
 Doris Ascencios
 Marcela Bean**
 Ghada Bitar
 Tiffany Boisvert*
 Ruth Bruneau
 Brinna Conley* **
 JC Conti**
 Emily D'Arcy* **
 Melissa Gorgenyi**
 Erika Guteruth
 Audrey Jemlich
 Annie Kolff
 Isabelle Lechauve+ **
 Nicole Lentine
 Jennine Giaquinto Lesser**

Anna Marini
 Natalia McLoud
 Anna Morreale
 Sashi Qualitz*
 Karen Quaranto
 Shannon Saywell
 Lynn St. Germain**
 Holly Swanson
 Nassima Tizi-ougdal
 Jennifer Turini**
 Carmen Warren
 Andrea Whitney
 Anne Williams
 Jordan Zirkel

GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS

Patricia and Michael Abelson
 Eliza and Mike Anderson
 Ann and Frontis Clark
 Laurie DiMartino
 Robert Dutton
 Ana and Andy Flaster
 Janine and John Gliddon
 Kathy Johnson
 Peter Koerber
 Nancy and Gerald Maxwell
 Erin Mountain
 Pat and Peter Nelson
 Penni Hensley Wagner and John Wagner

+ Board member
 * CCC current family
 ** CCC alumni family
 *** CCC grandparent

*This listing includes Fund for CCC donations received between **July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026**. Every effort has been made to ensure that each of our donors is listed accurately. Should you find any errors or omissions, please accept our sincere apologies and notify CCC Development & Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Saxe on (978) 505.4030*



CORPORATE MATCHING AND GIVEBACK GIFTS

AbbVie
Analog Devices
Bayer
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Citizens Bank
The Concord Bookshop
CVS Health
Google
Holden Advisors
Income Research + Management
JPMorgan Chase
Liberty Mutual
Manulife
Microsoft
Morgan Stanley
Nike
Pfizer
Red Hat
ServiceNow
Thoughtforms
Westwood Holdings

1975 SOCIETY

In honor of CCC's 50th anniversary celebrations last fall, the 1975 Society was established to honor community members who contribute to our legacy by naming CCC in their wills. We are grateful to the following inaugural members of the Society:

Christine and Robert Gerzon
Suzie and Rob Kornblum
Pat and Pete Nelson
Joanne and Skip Saideh

CCC REIMAGINED

We are grateful to the following community members who have made multi-year capital contributions to our strategic project CCC Reimagined.

Faith and Stephan Bader
Kathleen Bailey and Richard Wells*
Eileen Gebrian and Tim Barberich*
Aubrey Bout*
Heather Bout*
Gloria and Chuck Clough
Pam Gannon and David Douglas*
Joan and John Ferguson*
Carolyn and Reed Holden
Kathy Dwyer and David Holdorf
Betsy and Ryan Keller*
Carrie and Jonathan Rankin
Naomi and Michael Rosenfeld*
Siobhan and Campbell Rowe*
Meg and Bruce Seely*
Shannon Sweeney and Tyson Seely*
Carolyn and Eric Stein*
Carol and Chris Wilson*

* Donation made in honor of former CCC Executive Director Pat Nelson on her retirement in 2023



Many thanks to this year's Fund for CCC volunteer team for contributing their time and talents to this year's Fund.:

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Camille and Scott Barnard
Jackie and Matthew Fishbein

CURRENT FAMILIES

Carly (Fund for CCC Chair) and Jesse Heller

Kristin and Bob Belisle

Jamie and Chris Dutton
New families

Allison Jones and Rúnar Bjarnason
Departing families

Morgan and Rob Lacy
Departing families

Tatiana Klinoff and Mark Veilleux

ALUMNI FAMILIES

Kellie and David Anjoorian
Demi Ayres



PROFILE OF GIVING: The Stein Family



Natalie, Lena and Audrey Stein in their CCC days.

Carolyn and Eric Stein joined the CCC community in 1996 when they enrolled their oldest daughter, Lena, at Ripley.

"We loved the atmosphere from our first visit to Ripley – the interactions between the teachers and kids and the kind of play that was going on," recalls Carolyn. "We also appreciated the flexible schedule offered."

The Steins' second daughter, Audrey, started at CCC in 1999, and their youngest daughter, Natalie, started in 2001.

"I always loved coming in and seeing the girls at play at a water or shaving cream table," recalls Carolyn. "I loved seeing them and their classmates at play in the dress-up and blocks areas. My kids were always drawn to imaginative play. I loved Halloween and Friendsgiving. And I loved the way the parents would work together to put on occasional Saturday morning events like a musician or storyteller, a little bit as a fundraiser but mostly for a fun family activity."

The CCC community came to play an important role for the Steins.

"We made wonderful friends with other families," says Eric. "Some of the teachers and administrators became lifelong friends."

Carolyn quickly got involved, volunteering for the auction in her first year as a CCC parent. "By the next year, I had been pressed into service as an auction co-chair," Carolyn laughs. "I went on to serve on the Board, including as Chair."

One of Carolyn's most important roles on the Board was helping to lead the fundraising for CCC's West Concord site during its construction from 2001-2002.

"With West Concord we had no choice but to fundraise," explains Carolyn. "The Town needed the Harvey Wheeler space [where CCC's West Concord program was housed at that time], which left us with no home. Because suitable space was impossible to find in Concord, we embarked on a plan to build a new school at 1300 Main. A terrifically dedicated group of Board members and other parents worked with the staff and administration, all led by then-Executive Director Kathy Reticker, to make it happen. And that included a capital campaign with a \$1 million dollar goal when our fundraising to date had been an annual auction earning low 5-figures and bake sales. But we needed to succeed, and people really stepped up in terms of the work on the project and their financial support."

"Kathy was the force behind the success of the 1300 Main project," continues Carolyn. "She had the vision, the can-do attitude, and the infectious enthusiasm that allowed us to enlist our alumni and current families in the hard work of getting the building designed and constructed and raising the necessary funds. She met every challenge – and there were many – with positivity and creativity. On a personal level, she made my participation in the process a real joy and I learned a tremendous amount from witnessing her leadership."

The Steins have been generous supporters of CCC over the years. They were lead donors to the fundraising campaign for 1300 Main Street, have been Friendship

PROFILE OF GIVING: The Stein Family *(continued)*



(l-r) Michael, Lena and Jack Beckham, Audrey and Emmett DeLaney, and Carolyn, Eric and Natalie Stein at Audrey and Emmett's rehearsal dinner in 2025.

Circle donors for several years, and were also generous supporters of *CCC Reimagined*, the fundraising campaign for CCC's East Concord site. When asked why supporting CCC is a priority for them, the Steins point to the value of the CCC program.

"High quality childcare and early childhood education are among the most important assets of any community," states Carolyn. "We are so fortunate to have Concord Children's Center which is a fantastic childcare/early childhood education center by every measure."

"Our family has always supported and will continue to support CCC to ensure that the incredible early childhood experience our children had there will continue to be available for years to come," adds Eric.

And the Steins' hopes for CCC as the school starts its next 50 years?

"I hope," Carolyn shares, "that the school continues to thrive and to carry on offering terrific care and education to our community's youngest members. The world grows ever more complicated and challenging, making those foundational years critically important. I hope, too, that the school can continue and even expand its support of families with the tuition assistance they may need to put CCC in reach."



CONCORD CHILDREN'S CENTER GRANTS

Concord Children's Center is fortunate to receive funding from outside grant-making organizations. We are grateful to the following organizations for their support this year.

GRANT-MAKING AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Analog Devices Foundation:

a grant to support Concord Children's Center programs.



Concord-Carlisle Foundation:

a grant to help provide tuition assistance to qualifying families. The Foundation (formerly the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest) has been supporting CCC since 1991.



**CONCORD CARLISLE
FOUNDATION**

founded in 1947 as the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest

Trinitarian Congregational Church:

a grant to help provide tuition assistance to qualifying families.



Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3):

center-based grants to support:

- educators and staff, including in the areas of bonuses, incentive pay, and staff wellness;
- facilities improvements.

Concord Public Schools:

a grant to support staffing in classrooms with children with high needs.

PROFILE OF GIVING: Deborah Begner



Deborah in the fall of 1976 (back row, center) with one of her first CCC classes.



Deborah with her daughter, Allison Begner Cole, at CCC's 50th anniversary gala last October.

Anyone who attended either of CCC's 50th anniversary events last October – the Founders' Reception or CCC50, our 50th anniversary gala – or who was a part of the CCC community between 1975 and 1990 is familiar with Deborah Begner, one of the two women who established CCC in 1975 (although the work started in 1974, as Deborah is quick to tell you!).

"The decision to start CCC was not monumental," Deborah recalls. "It was something that I had to do. For years I had been a middle-income mother with two small children who couldn't find full-time childcare. So I thought there was a need and this

was something that I had done before. I knew all the bells and whistles. And I was so lucky to find a group of staff members who came along with me. Chris McVinney [Gerzon – CCC's other co-founder] and I were a good team. The Children's Center has always been a joint effort, and the people have always been its strength – the staff, the parents, and the Town of Concord."

"We had a philosophy called progressive education of letting children learn through play," explains Deborah. "Letting children learn themselves. Teachers are not teachers, they're facilitators. The children have to do it their way, and the adults have to let them do it. Don't get in their way. Let them go."

During Deborah's 15 years at CCC, the Center expanded to three sites (Harvey Wheeler, Ripley, and Emerson)

serving 200 children, including Deborah's children, Allison and Stephen, who attended Afterschool. Deborah left CCC in 1990 when she realized that the Center now needed a whole new skill set that she didn't have.

"I could never have built two buildings – that was not within my skill set at all. The program needed way more than me. And the right people came along, bless their hearts. They cared as much as I did"

When Deborah returned to CCC last fall for the 50th anniversary celebrations – her first visit since the 25th anniversary – she quickly realized that, while CCC looked different 50 years on, at its heart, it was the same.

"It was just wonderful talking with people at CCC last fall because so much sounded familiar, which was just incredible 50 years later. CCC and its ideas are still as important today as 50 years ago. I don't think it would still be going if these ideas had been abandoned along the way.

Today, 50 years after CCC was founded, Deborah is a generous supporter. She has been a Friendship Circle donor for several years and this year donated to CCC's endowment effort, before its official launch. "If I have the means to support CCC in some way — and luckily I do — I'm going to do so. I feel right about supporting it. And 50 years of enthusiasm? How can you beat that?"

"I think it is very rare in life to be a part of something that really matters. CCC was a gift to me, and I am just grateful."



2025-2026 CCC FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

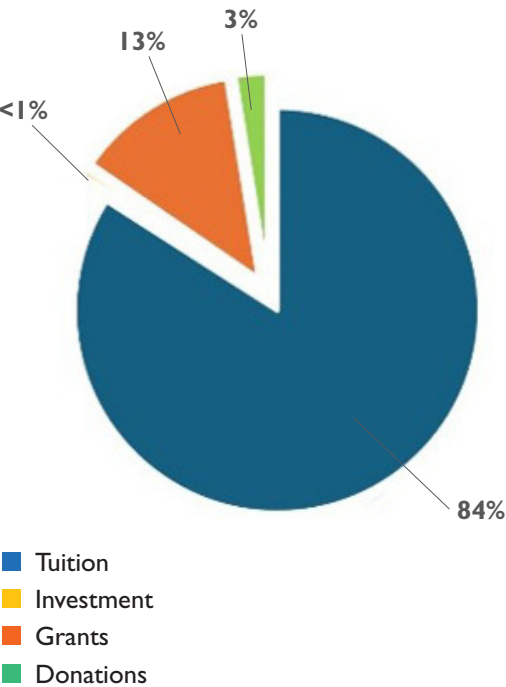
FY26 saw a slight drop in operating receipts from FY25. Operating receipts were over \$4.4 million. Donations and grants of over \$700,000 continue to provide strong financial support.

CCC served 158 children from 135 families from 15 towns, with 74 percent of our children coming from Concord. We are proud that CCC provided tuition assistance to 15 percent of our families, the highest level ever, enabled by participating in the state’s Child Care Financial Assistance program and thanks to the generosity

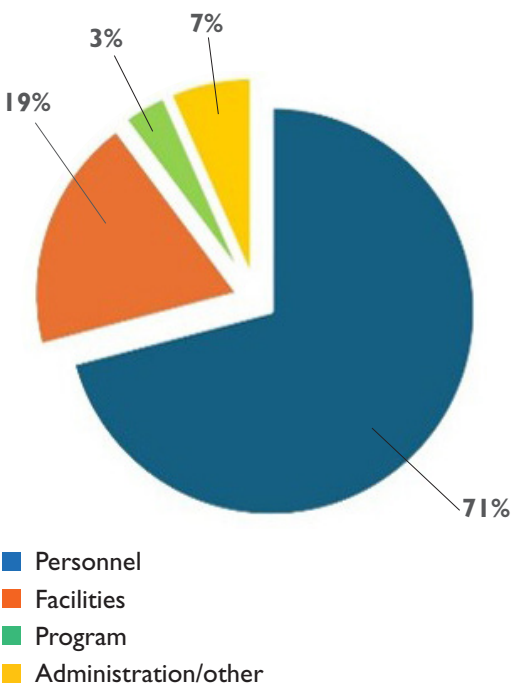
of donations from the Concord Carlisle Foundation, the Trinitarian Congregational Church, the Concord Public Schools, and private donors. All private donations are 100% matched by CCC. At the same time, strong giving to the Fund for CCC as detailed in this report rounded out our revenue sources.

FY26 featured higher occupancy costs as compared to FY25 in part to due to snow removal costs at our East Concord facility. We continue to monitor our occupancy and other expenses as we enter our third year in our reconfigured spaces.

CCC FY26 OPERATING INCOME



CCC FY26 OPERATING EXPENSES



Numbers are for ongoing operations excluding one-time items.



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East Concord Program • 250 Old Bedford Road, Concord MA 01742
West Concord Program • 1300 Main Street, Concord MA 01742 (*mailing address*)
Telephone: 978.369.6790 • concordchildrenscenter.org

