

## Community Engagement

12 Community Engagement Group Committees are within the northeast region. These groups are charged to:

- Develop and implement a community outreach plan to educate the community about early learning and education issues and programs. There were approximately **883** community outreach events and activities held with about **34,000** attendants. PA Promise Materials were distributed at all events.
- Facilitate linkages between school districts and early learning and education practitioners. There are **49** school districts involved in collaboration with the Community Engagement Groups with **289** Transition events and activities. 5 Community Engagement Groups had Transition grants.
- **12** Community Engagement Groups representing 14 counties each posted a report card to share accomplishments and goals on the PA Keys website.
- Leverage resources and support in the community.

For more information about the Community Engagement Group in your county please contact the Northeast Key or visit the PA Key website.

## Service Area

In July 2009, the Northeast Region transitioned from serving 15 counties to 13 counties. 50 programs in 2,732 square miles (111,000 population) were transferred from our Northeast Key to the Central Key and 200 programs in 607 square miles (598,000 population) were added from Bucks County.

The counties being served are:

Berks	Pike
Bucks	Schuylkill
Carbon	Susquehanna
Lackawanna	Wayne
Lehigh	Wyoming
Luzerne	
Monroe	
Northampton	



## Partners

The Northeast Key works in partnerships with the following organizations to deliver programs in the Northeast Region:

Child Care Providers/Goodwill Industries  
Keystone College  
Lackawanna College  
Lehigh Carbon Community College  
Marywood University  
Northampton Community College  
Penn State Cooperative Extensions

In addition, there are many individual consultants and Children and Youth organizations who have assisted in providing professional development within the region.

## Northeast Key Staff

Director: Raine Neal

Assistant Directors: Kim Bastian, Ivy Reynolds

STARS Managers/Coordinators: Debby Terfinko, Kathleen Kurharchik, Marge Kovacs, Ginny Nash, Angie Somogyi, Leah Tout--Puissant, Sue George, Siyheda Harris, MaryKay Mahar, Louisa Esser, Jenna Baker

STARS Designator: Sheri Roth

ECMH Consultants: Mary Jo Mastriani, Kelly Miller

Grant Specialists: Sue Stahler, Kathy Scarpa

Professional Development Coordinator: Susan Ritter

Professional Development Specialist: Sheila Rapchak

Database Specialist: Beth Gambone

Technical Assistance Manager: Diane Milia

A program operated by

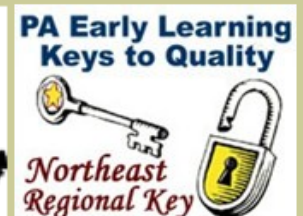
Community Services For Children, Inc.

Northeast Regional Ky  
1520 Hanover Avenue  
Allentown, PA 18109  
www.cscinc.org

Phone: 610-437-6000  
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## Northeast Regional Key 2008-2009 Program Outcomes

Reaching higher together for quality early learning.



## Keystone STARS



Keystone STARS is a statewide initiative of OCDEL to improve, support and recognize the continuous quality improvement efforts of early learning programs in Pennsylvania. Keystone STARS is supported through a set of

standards, professional development, technical assistance, resources and financial awards. Approximately **34,088** children daily have benefited from the programs offered by the **739** STARS sites. Families from all communities benefit from the Key-

STAR LEVEL	JUNE 2007	JUNE 2008	JUNE 2009
Start with STARS	163	157	100
STAR 1	253	305	290
STAR 2	141	159	175
STAR 3	42	47	91
STAR 4	66	73	83
<b>TOTAL STARS SITES</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>739</b>

## STARS Financial Awards

STARS sites may be eligible for financial awards on an annual basis. The funds are used to assist sites in enhancing their programs, supporting professional development needs and awarding staff based on their credentials and service. **\$5,256,744** was awarded in grants to 528 programs ranging from **\$315** to **\$63,000**. Programs used these funds to provide Education and Retention Awards, Staff Training and college courses, and program resources and materials.

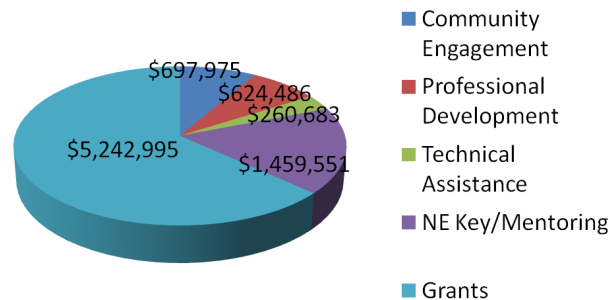
## Technical Assistance

Over the year, there has been a **47%** increase in utilization of technical assistance. Three types of technical assistance have been offered to programs.

- **90** programs participated in STARS Technical Assistance. This program offered individual consultation services to programs to assist them in meeting the STARS Standards.
- **89** programs took advantage of an on-site Health and Safety on-site consultation visit. A consultant visited the program and provided the program with a summary report of their health and safety concerns and materials to assist them in enhancing their program.
- Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation served **69** children in **48** programs. **76%** of the sites have continued to provide educational services to the referred child.



## How Did We Get These Results?



## Professional Development

During the year, over **43,000** hours of professional development activities have been offered in the region. **14,506** participants took part in these professional development activities. These workshops, seminars and college courses are designed to assist practitioners move on the Career lattice and meet the professional development Keystone STARS Standards. **450** teachers have taken advantage of the college courses at the Associate, Bachelor and Masters level. **99%** of the teachers and directors rated the training opportunities as good to excellent.

## Environmental Scale

206 programs were visited by an Assessor. The Environment Rating Scales rate the interactions in a classroom between children and teachers, interactions between the children and the materials and activities and the supports related to these activities. The Environmental Scales are a nationally recognized standard tool used to assess the quality of programs. The average overall score of the Individual Environmental Rating Scales are below:

TYPE OF SCALE	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
ECERS	5.11	5.24	5.41
ITERS	4.80	4.90	5.03
SACERS	5.43	5.43	5.58
FCCERS	N/A	4.42	4.75