



223 S.E. "M" Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526-3133

Phone (541) 479-1929 • FAX (541) 471-9403

www.cfk-gp.org

Coalition for Kids, Inc. – Board Prospectus

Becca Zacha
President, Board of Directors
rzacha@botc.com

223 SE M Street
Grants Pass, OR 97526

Gina Marie Agosta
Executive Director
gina@cfk-gp.org

Phone: (541) 479-1929
Fax: (541) 471-9403

Mission & History

Coalition for Kids (CFK) is committed to “create and support community partnerships that empower families in Josephine County to thrive.” CFK was founded in 1991 by a group of community leaders and its first project was the establishment of the Family Resource Center (FRC). The FRC is a 25,000 square foot “one-stop shop,” serving families needing counseling/mediation, crisis intervention, parenting support, family literacy services and early childhood education.

In 1994 CFK began operation of a certified child care center in the FRC. In addition to being one of only 6 centers in Josephine County that offers infant/toddler care, we also offer wrap-around care for children served by other agencies in the FRC.

Over the years CFK has managed many other programs in and outside of the FRC, including parent support groups, a teen career fair, an in-school mentoring program for at-risk elementary school children, and parenting classes. Loss of funding has resulted in elimination of many of those programs, but a goal for the organization as it moves forward is to increase the variety of services and programs available to families at the FRC.

To create and support community partnerships that empower families in Josephine County to thrive.

Our Work

In a community facing high unemployment and shrinking resources for schools, county and social services, Coalition for Kids helps children and families meet diverse challenges and flourish despite the odds.

We enable collaborative partnerships to create a positive learning environment for children and families - while encouraging them to be healthy, educated and self-sufficient.

CFK programs include:

- **Family Resource Center** - Co-location of multiple nonprofit agencies in addition to CFK. Reduced costs resulting from shared partner expenses are estimated to save partner agencies 110-120 thousand dollars a year in rent that can instead be used for direct services.
- **Quality Child Care** - CFK has provided quality child care for 14 years, ensuring that children are “ready to learn” when they enter kindergarten. We serve children ages 6 weeks to 5 years.
- **Holiday Caring** - Sponsored by local businesses and individuals in the community, the Holiday Caring program provides holiday gifts and meals for nearly 100 children each year.
- **Coats for Kids** - CFK has serves as a drop off and pick up point for this program. Hundreds of coats are distributed to the families served in the FRC as well as elsewhere in the community.
- **Referrals and Activities Calendar** - CFK provides referrals to other social service agencies as appropriate. CFK also sponsors a monthly ad in the Grants Pass Daily Courier highlighting kid and family friendly activities and events.
- **Money Smart Financial Literacy Program** – An AmeriCorps member will be placed with CFK in February 2010 to launch a new financial literacy program. The AmeriCorps member and volunteers will work with people on an individual basis and in classes to establish good financial habits and skills.

Looking to the Future

Building on the well-established foundation of our core programs, Coalition for Kids looks forward to expanding the resources and services we provide to the families we serve. One goal is to continue developing the Family Resource Center to reclaim our status as a “one-stop shop” for families accessing a variety of services. This will entail evaluating the capacity of our facilities as well as potential partnerships with other organizations.

Meanwhile, CFK must stabilize its funding and operations by strengthening and expanding its Board of Directors.



The Board

Board members are elected at two times during the year for three year terms which take effect on either July 1 or January 1 following the election. Regular Board Meetings are held monthly, on a weeknight, during the evening from 4-6pm.

The mission of the Board is to promote growth and development of CFK by:

- Encouraging excellence in its program
- Assuring the continuing financial health and reputation of the organization
- Being ambassadors for the organization, seeking out opportunities to make friends for the organization and inform others about it
- Supporting individuals, children and families served by our programs.

The Board executes its mission by:

- Establishing long-term goals for CFK and creating policy and planning frameworks that will help to achieve the goals
- Supervising and supporting the Executive Director, ensuring s/he has adequate staff and resources to meet goals
- Monitoring financial and operating performance to assure conformance to mission and plan (approving the annual budget)
- Establishing procedures for Board governance and self-assessment, for qualification and nomination of new directors and for periodic review, rotation and replacement of Board members.
- Representing CFK to the public, raising public awareness and support for CFK's mission and activities.
- Raising funds to ensure that the organization has adequate financial resources to carry out its mission and activities.

New Board Members Being Sought

Coalition for Kids is at a key transitional point in its development. After a period of leadership change, CFK now needs to expand its board to include people with a wider range of expertise, and from diverse backgrounds – people who can provide knowledge and resources to guide CFK into the future and who can help the current members undertake the multiple demands of board membership.

Expertise that would be particularly beneficial at this time is described below. CFK particularly welcomes individuals who would look forward to assuming leadership roles on the Board over time.

- Business Planning: real estate development, accounting, fiscal overview, taxes
- Fundraising: corporate philanthropy, capital campaigns, annual giving
- Marketing & Communications: advertising, branding
- Legal Services: nonprofit law, employment law, contract law, construction law
- Education: school district representative
- Publicity, media representative

Responsibilities of a Board Member

Board members of Coalition for Kids are expected to:

- Attend Board meetings, serve on committees and contribute to the execution of the Board's responsibilities; board members are expected to attend most meetings.
- Have a genuine commitment to CFK's mission, and become knowledgeable about its programs, strengths and needs.
- Be an ambassador, both in heightening awareness of CFK among business, community and government leadership—and in bringing to the organization information from its various constituencies that is vital for planning.
- Be available for consultation and willing to use expertise at a level that will enhance the organization.
- Support staff fundraising efforts by informing CFK about opportunities for funding or program development, identifying individuals in the community for volunteer or funding support, and personally supporting the organization financially at an appropriate level.
- Maintain and improve the professional image of the organization.