

PROGRAM APPLICATION
2010-2011 Grant Process

SECTION 2

(If you are seeking funding for more than one program, complete a separate program application for each)

Program Name **The Growing Place Working Parent Program**

Address (Program Location) Families of children attending our Working Parent Program at all locations

Phone 610-681-5486

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Primary Contact for Program Lisa Eick

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Website www.thegrowingplacecenters.org

Name the targeted community concern addressed through this program (i.e. youth delinquency)
Strengthening Families

Provide a brief written summary of the program seeking funding in 2010-11

The Working Parent Program provides high quality early care and education services for children from infancy through school age. The United Way funds are used in this program to reduce the weekly tuition of families that qualify. Families are required to complete an extensive United Way application when requesting assistance. One of the requirements is that families apply for all other funding available through the county, state and federal agencies to ensure that there is no current assistance for which the family would be eligible. If the family is found eligible for county, state or federal assistance but there is a waiting list, the United Way funding would assist this family through the wait list period to enable the family to remain employed. If a family is found to be slightly over income for other assistance programs or they have a special circumstance which has created significant financial hardship the United Way funding would be used to assist a family. All families are required to provide a copayment and be working toward becoming self sufficient.

What is the target population(s)? Give supporting demographic need information and source.

The target population for this program would be working families who fall between 250 and 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. These families are typically just a slight bit over income for state and federal funding. Many times there are families where there are two or more children. If these families pay full childcare tuition they would fall below the federal poverty guidelines for a family of four and above. It is important to understand that there is no funding for a family in this category. The United Way assistance program is the only one of its kind in Monroe County. The assistance program is targeted to assist families who live in Ross, Eldred, Polk and Chestnuthill townships in the Pleasant Valley School District and children in Hamilton Township who attend the Hamilton Elementary School in the Stroudsburg School District.

Describe how the program improves the lives of the targeted population

With this United Way funding, families are able to remain employed and provide for their children. They are not becoming a burden to the county or state welfare system and are able to keep their homes. The children are participating in a nationally accredited early care and education program which is preparing the young children to enter school ready to learn. The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning created a Program Reach and County Risk Assessment Report and stated that only two in ten children are participating in high quality early education programs. The Growing Place is considered by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning to be of the highest quality with a Star four rating. The Growing Place is able to assist between 8 and 10 families yearly with approximately 1,500 per family. Due to the economy in the past few years we have maxed out the funding within the first six months of the program year. At this time there are at least 5 families that we were not able to assist. The Growing Place is unable to assist working families a reduced tuition without the United Way funding. This program has an excellent return on investment not only for the children and their families but also for the Monroe County community.

Complete Program Outcome Worksheet (attach using UWMC template)

Complete Program Financial Form (attach using UWMC template)

