Enriching Child Care for Working Families

Whether making a pre-dawn drop-off on the way to the ferry, parting with a toddler for preschool instruction, or ensuring a pre-teen has ongoing after-school supervision and support, local parents have trusted our quality child care for more than forty years. Bainbridge Island Child Care Centers is renowned for our professional and nurturing staff, creative and enriching programs, and strong and supportive community connections. Through recent acquisitions and improvements, BICCC is also on the cusp of being further distinguished by our attractive and contemporary facilities.

OUR MISSION

BICCC, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located on Bainbridge Island, serves the community and its families by providing affordable, accessible programs for preschool and school-age children where fun and learning are promoted in a creative, nurturing, and safe environment.

OUR NEED: SECURING A PERMANENT HOME FOR SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS

BICCC is launching a capital campaign effort to fund improvements of the two-and-a-half-acre campus we purchased on High School Road after we were unable to renew our lease on school district property. The modifications, made through remodeling and new construction, will allow us to meet state licensing and program needs, and will provide a permanent home for BICCC’s school-age programs.
Here for the Community

BICCC began as Berry Day Care in 1974, founded by Meg Hagemann and Joyce Veterane to address the emergent need for care of the young children of migrant workers employed in the island’s famed strawberry fields. Meg and Joyce’s program soon expanded to serve other local families in need of quality child care outside the home, and their vision for a program based on solid curriculum in a nurturing, safe environment continues to inspire BICCC’s mission today.

After more than forty years serving local families, BICCC’s earliest alumni have begun to have children of their own, and some local families now have a multi-generational connection to our programs.

BICCC co-founders Joyce and David Veterane, top photo, helped inspire BICCC’s vision. Bottom photo: Bainbridge strawberry fields, circa 1974, when BICCC was founded to serve migrant workers. (Image courtesy Bainbridge Island Historical Museum)

“The love and community spirit that Joyce and Meg poured into founding BICCC still infuse our programs today.”

— Shelley Long, BICCC Executive Director
Multi-Generational Connections

Lily Karsten and her daughter, Olivia, visit BICCC’s Children’s Center with Lily’s father, Porter Condon. In the late 1980s, Porter would bring Lily to the same preschool to which Lily brings Olivia today.

Lily Karsten and her mother, Barb Brewis (center) confer with lead teacher Anne Campbell about the upcoming enrollment of Lily’s younger daughter, Gemma. Anne was Lily’s own teacher when she was a Children’s Center student and mentored Lily when she later worked there as a caregiver.

“I wanted my daughter to have the same creative and fun experience that I had at BICCC’s Children’s Center.” — Lily Karsten, Parent
Quality Care and Education

BICCC offers three programs tailored to children’s specific stages of development. Children’s Center provides part-day and full-day care and preschool instruction to children ages 2 ½ to 5 years old. Big Kids provides before-school, after-school, and full-day summer care to children in kindergarten through second grade, while Kids Club offers that same care to third through sixth graders.

All three programs are distinguished by the remarkable longevity of their staff, many of whom count their service in decades rather than years. In addition to adhering to state licensing and training requirements, our staff develops enriching curriculum and promotes social-emotional growth through creative expression, abundant outdoor activities, and clear boundaries.

BICCC boasts remarkable staff longevity. Left: Together, Kids Club Program Director Brigitte Wilson, Big Kids Program Director Bridgette Springer, and Children’s Center Lead Teacher Anne Campbell have more than eight decades of combined service at BICCC. Above: Valerie Dee leads Kids Club students in a strategy game.
Strong Values – and Value

“The Big Kids and Kids Club programs don’t just provide supervision for my kids—they offer valuable opportunities for social development and community connections.”

— Peter O’Connell, Parent

One of BICCC’s most valuable benefits for local parents is how the seasoned staff engages students in a way that benefits the whole child. Our staff members plan themes, meals, and activities with an eye toward developing compassion, cooperation, and curiosity.

Peter O’Connell gathers with his children (from left) Ericka, Tehya, and Abraham in front of Big Kids. Even though Peter is now retired, he and his wife, Kathleen, continue to have their younger kids attend BICCC to benefit from the program’s strong social and community interaction.
Responsible Stewardship

BICCC’s administration and board of trustees have carefully managed our resources over the decades, fostering strategic community partnerships and making sound reinvestments in our facilities to ensure we can continue to serve the community. Through the fiscal responsibility of our administration and board, we have consistently been able to meet our operational expenses through tuition income.

In 2011, we embarked on a major remodel of our Children’s Center facility on Cave Avenue, which BICCC owns. The project came in on schedule and under budget, and resulted in a bright, welcoming environment that reflected the Center’s vibrant program.

For more than two decades, BICCC partnered with the Bainbridge Island School District to house our two school-age programs. As a testament to BICCC’s strong reputation for quality care, the school district allowed us to build Big Kids’ iconic “little red schoolhouse” on Ordway Elementary School property, charging a nominal fee for the land lease, and provided us with dedicated classroom space for the Kids Club program. When the school district foresaw the need to use these spaces, it worked with our organization to keep the school-age programs on school district property while we found a new home that could meet our needs.
Preparing Tomorrow’s Leaders

“At BICCC, my daughter felt loved and included and found comfort that would last her well into young adulthood. She still has the friends she made at BICCC.”

— John Fossett, Parent

BICCC’s strong curriculum and nurturing support not only ensure quality care for today’s children, they also provide the foundation for the success and contentment of tomorrow’s adults.

Many members of BICCC’s board of trustees are parents of current or former BICCC students.

John Fossett reminisces with Brigitte Wilson, the former teacher of his children, Ellen and Jacob. John, who believes BICCC contributed to his kids’ well-being as young adults, chose to serve as a trustee for the nonprofit.
Phase One: Purchase of School-Age Campus

**STATUS: COMPLETE**

**COST: $352,000**

After learning the school district would not be able to renew our land lease for Big Kids’ little red schoolhouse, we began the process of seeking a new, permanent home for our school-age programs. Fortuitously, in 2016 Montessori Country School was consolidating its programs and preparing to put its High School Road campus on the market. Citing a commitment to pass the property on to another educational nonprofit, Montessori’s board decided to sell us the property at a below-market rate, allowing us to purchase it out of the cash reserves we had built up for just such an opportunity.

The High School Road property comprises two-and-a-half gently sloping, pastoral acres. Of its three buildings, one was highly suitable to our programs with moderate modifications to extend its longevity and meet our licensing and program requirements.

At long last, our families and staff would have a permanent home for our school-age programs, on a property ideally suited to the enriching indoor and outdoor activities that help our students thrive.

“As a parent and a trustee, I was thrilled we were able to acquire this property and grateful for the funds that made it all possible.”

— Kimberly Paulson, President of BICCC’s Board of Trustees
Phase Two: Improvement of Existing Classrooms

STATUS: EXPECTED COMPLETION SPRING/SUMMER 2018
ESTIMATED COST: $250,000

After purchasing the High School Road property, we engaged the services of a local architectural firm to help us assess the property’s two buildings and one ancillary structure for their suitability to our programs. The larger modular building was determined to be sound enough to stay in service with improvements while the smaller, former residence was considered unsalvageable.

To extend the usable life of the larger building, align it to state licensing requirements, and allow it to fit our programming needs, we engaged a contractor to improve and modify the building while our Big Kids and Kids Club programs remained on school district property.

The improvements and modifications include replacement of the roof, deck, gutters, and siding; seismic improvements; addition of a restroom and modification of existing restrooms; installation of exit lighting and replacement of ceiling lighting fixtures; replacement of flooring and ceiling tiles; and interior and exterior painting.

BICCC secured a construction loan to complete this phase, with the intention of paying off this loan over the next two years through charitable gifts.
Phase Three: Construction of New Classroom Building

STATUS: EXPECTED COMPLETION WINTER 2018  ESTIMATED COST: $700,000

Although the larger building was determined to be suitable for improvement and modification, it did not provide sufficient square footage to meet licensing requirements for enrollment. Additionally, it did not contain the kitchen, storage, or administration spaces needed to meet programming needs.

After considering all options, our administration and board determined that modular construction of a new classroom building would be the most cost-effective and time-saving solution. After reviewing modular construction builders, we identified a company with experience building similar structures and, critically, dealing with the unique circumstances of transporting modular buildings to our island. The building’s open floor plan and abundance of natural light will complement the design of the campus’s improved classroom buildings.

BICCC is seeking grants and charitable gifts to fund this new construction over a period of five years. We are also planning to secure a new construction loan to allow completion of the multi-use building in time for our programs to be in place during the 2018–19 academic year.

“BICCC is the only organization to offer before-school care on the island. This service is a life-saver for parents like me who need to catch an early ferry to work.”

— Jana Lien, Parent
Preliminary site drawings and conceptual digital sketches of BICCC’s proposed new classroom building.
Partnering With BICCC

In order to continue to provide families of school-age children the best possible care, we need to make our newly purchased High School Road campus meet licensing and programming requirements to provide service for 90 children. While we have consistently been able to meet our operational expenses through tuition income, the only way we will be able to make these critical capital improvements is through the generous support of our community partners. While any amount will help, we have mapped out a gift plan to achieve our capital campaign goals.

METHODS OF GIVING

- Cash gifts
- Gifts of appreciated securities, retirement plan assets, real estate, and other assets
- Charitable lead trusts

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Grants $100,000 $1,145,000
Misc. Events, etc. $25,000 $1,170,000
Phase One Funds Raised $352,000 $1,522,000

BICCC’S LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE CAMPAIGN GOAL: $1,522,000
## BICCC’s Capital Campaign Budget

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Purchase of property at 8225 High School Road, Bainbridge Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remodel of existing school building and portables</td>
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<td>Construction of new school-aged program building</td>
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<td>Outdoor play structure</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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“The care and enrichment my daughter received at BICCC reflected the kinds of choices I made for her at home and in her education.”

— Joanna Leinaweaver, Parent
BICCC’s Leadership

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Kimberly Paulson, President
James Shepard, Vice President
Sarah Morgans, Secretary
Patrick Randall, Treasurer
Frank Farach, Trustee
Russell King, Trustee

BICCC MANAGEMENT
Shelley Long, Executive Director
Rebecca Weiser, Finance Director
Brigitte Wilson, Kids Club Program Director
Bridgette Springer, Big Kids Program Director
Anne Campbell, Children’s Center Lead Teacher

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE
Frank Farach, Committee Chair
Kimberly Paulson, Trustee
Sarah Morgans, Trustee
Shelley Long, Executive Director
Rebecca Weiser, Finance Director
Brigitte Wilson, Program Director
Bridgette Springer, Program Director

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Michele Bombardier
Barbara Brewis
Rachelle Castleberry
Porter Condon
Julie Evans
Joie Olsen
Kellie Randall
Kristan Weller

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO...
Elsa Watson, Karen Molinari, and Peter Raffa for their expertise and knowledge, vision, and support that are carrying us through our journey.

Matthew Coates, Patrick Banks, and Bob Miller-Rhees of Coates Design; Todd Cain of Wing Point Construction; Dick Barnes at Kitsap Credit Union; and the Aries Design Team for making this concept our reality.

It takes a village and we are grateful!