

# BLOCKS 2020 Annual Report

**BLOCKS is ... Building Links between Offices of emergency management, Childcare, and the community for Kids Safety.**



# Who We Are

## Vision

Childcare programs and individuals are prepared for all hazards and children remain safe until reunited with their families.

## Mission

Our mission is to keep children safe by preparing child care programs and individuals to face and recover from disaster.

## Values

Focus. Our goal is to help make/keep children safe. They are the future and our number one priority.

Commitment. We dedicate assets, time, and resources to the safety of children.

Integrity. We remain true to our mission and are honest stewards of donor support.

## What a Year!

COVID-19 made 2020 a year to remember! As a result, many of our program focuses and successes are different than previous years. Our Early Prepare Earthquake campaign completed its fourth year, but with significantly smaller results. We are proud to say that since its inception, we have still trained over 1,300 children and their caregivers on what to do should an earthquake occur.

This year we expanded our reach to developing curriculum and activities for children on disaster preparedness topics and reached over 46,000 kids!!

# Accomplishments



## National Childcare

We have a lot to celebrate this year! Sycamore Tree Preschool in Bremerton, WA was our first childcare in Kitsap County to be certified!

See below to learn more about the certification program or to contact us directly. Fees are minimal (only a few dollars per child) and certification is valid for two years.

## Disaster Readiness

## Certification

We still have grant money from the Bremerton Elks Lodge #1181 to support paying for two child care programs in Kitsap County.

<https://blocksusa.org/certification>

## Program and News

Additionally, we are setting aside \$1,000 from our Rite Aid Foundation grants to fund **any** other childcare interested in certifying. This funding essentially waives the application fee, the only monetary cost to you for certification.

Check out our Emergency Operations Plan resources and tools available to you here.

<https://blocksusa.org/resources>

We will walk you through the program. We want you to be better prepared.

Our certification program is for any childcare, preschool, day care, head start, or before and after care program across the country.

Our goal - the safety of your child care providers and the children you take care of.



## YouTube Video Trainings and Preparedness Resources



Click below to view video on YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhY6QRzKt34>

This year BLOCKS compiled a list of children's books about various disaster topics and other preparedness tools for providers and parents. There are a variety of different resources listed on our web page and we encourage you to explore. If you have ideas for additional items to add, please let us know. You can check out our current resources and book list here. <https://blocksusa.org/resources-1>

Even more exciting, we launched our YouTube channel! Our first video was on germ fighting for kids. We hope to have more up soon and we can't wait to get your feedback! Please visit our YouTube channel to watch this video and for links to other videos about preparing children for disaster.  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLP1mIlFuRYJwpJ8P\\_Vbg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLP1mIlFuRYJwpJ8P_Vbg)



## Support BLOCKS for Pennies

BLOCKS is part of the 2020 Rite Aid Foundation "Kids Cents" program. We are so grateful to Rite Aid's generosity and their provision of \$15,000 in grant money to help further our mission. You can support just by shopping at Rite Aid and joining the Kid Cents round-up program. Sign up at Rite Aid or online.

Programs like Kid Cents, Amazon Smile, iGive, and other programs donate on your behalf at no cost to you. Please check out all the ways you can support BLOCKS on our Ways to Help web page.  
<https://blocksusa.org/ways-to-help>



## Disaster Readiness Curriculum Development

This year BLOCKS was asked to develop ten K-2 disaster preparedness curriculum and activities topics that served almost 47,000 students within a public school district. The topics we covered included:

- Emergency related volunteerism
- Fire safety
- Cyberspace Safety
- Personal Safety
- Safety at Home
- Severe Weather Safety
- Traffic Safety
- Recovery and Building Resiliency
- What to do in an emergency
- Water Safety

Email us at [contact@blocksusa.org](mailto:contact@blocksusa.org) if you would commission us to develop a specific curriculum for you.

## National Speaking Engagements and Getting the Word Out

As part of our public education and office of emergency management (OEM) integration programs, we continue to work to educate the public, emergency managers, and policy makers about childcare disaster preparedness and recovery status and obstacles. Last year our President & CEO, Dr. Heather Beal, CEM, presented virtually at the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) annual conference, the ResCon International Conference, and the Partners in Emergency Preparedness conferences.

Several speeches given by BLOCKS leadership and articles about what we do are available on our In the News web page.  
<https://blocksusa.org/in-the-news>

# Childcare as Critical Infrastructure



**Issue** Childcare and child support services are critical to community resiliency and recovery efforts, yet they are not supported in our current National Response Framework community lifelines or the critical infrastructure sectors.

**Why Is It Important to Act?** Child support services like childcare provide critical services. These services enable children's recovery through the restoration of routine post-disaster. Equally critical, childcare and other child support services enable parents to work. If parents cannot return to work, a community cannot recover.

## Background:

The National Commission on Children and Disasters (NCCD) was an independent, bipartisan body established in 2010 by Congress and the President to identify gaps in the Nation's disaster preparedness, response, and recovery for children and make recommendations to close the gaps.

What we are focusing on is their Recommendation 6.2: Congress and Federal agencies should improve capacity to provide child care services in the immediate aftermath of and recovery from a disaster. The recommendation call for the following actions...

Congress Desired Actions...

- Congress: Codify child care as an "essential service of a governmental nature" in the Stafford Act.
- Congress: Authorize a grant funding mechanism, such as an emergency contingency fund, to repair or rebuild private, for-profit child care facilities, support the establishment of temporary child care, and reimburse States for subsidizing child care services to disaster-affected families.

Federal Agency Desired Actions...

- DHS/FEMA: Revise Public Assistance regulations to codify child care as an essential service.
- DHS/FEMA, HHS, SBA: Federal agencies should incorporate child care as an essential service in the National Response Framework, the National Disaster Recovery Framework, the National Disaster Housing Concept of Operations, and Disaster Housing Practitioners' Guide.

## What Is BLOCKS Doing?

BLOCKS has presented a letter to the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) asking for emergency managers and child care organizations to request Congress and FEMA created a new critical infrastructure sector "Child Support Services" that takes into account the criticality of childcare to all other community preparedness, response, and recovery programs.

**BLOCKS Recommendation** Work with emergency management and child support service stakeholders to achieve the following...

- Creation of a new Critical Infrastructure Sector: Child Support Services
- Creation of a National Response Framework Lifeline that acknowledges the critical nature of childcare and child support services as enablers of all other lifelines
- Fully realize NCCD Recommendation 6.2



## **Save the Date!! 20 April 2021 is the Kitsap Great Give**

The Kitsap Great Give is 24 hours of online giving hosted by Kitsap Community Foundation (KCF). KCF's "Bonus Pool" boosts every dollar you donate! This usually results in at least a 12% donation bump up as well as multiple opportunities to win hourly bonuses!

We will be in contact with more information about how to stretch your contribution with multiple matching dollar opportunities!

Click below to learn more about this fantastic donor contribution program.  
<https://www.kitsapgreatgive.org/faq>



## **FEMA Course Updated with BLOCKS Input!**

This spring BLOCKS was asked to be part of the revision team for FEMA's Independent Study Course: IS-36 (Multi Hazard Planning for Childcare).

Thanks to our input the course has been significantly revised and is now available as IS-36A (Preparedness for Child Care Providers).

This is a really useful class that introduces emergency management and planning for childcare. You can access it on FEMA's training website below.  
<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-36.a>

# 2020 Financials



*Building Links between Offices of Emergency Management,  
Childcare, and the Community, for Kids Safety*

## End of Year Accounting Statements

End of Year Report

### Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended: Thursday, December 31, 2020

#### Revenues

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
1100 - Program Revenues	\$ 12,585.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,585.00
1200 - Fundraising Programs	\$ 0.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.90
1300 - Contributions	\$ 23,926.94	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 24,426.94
1400 - Interest / Dividends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
1700 - Released from Restrictions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85.00	\$ 85.00
1800 - Grants & Restricted Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
1900 - Tax Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 36,512.84</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 415.00</b>	<b>\$ 36,927.84</b>

#### Expenses by function

4000 - Disaster Preparedness	\$ 99.23	\$ -	\$ 1,030.14	\$ 1,129.37
5000 - Public Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
6000 - OEM Liason	\$ 97.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 97.50
7000 - Not Used	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
8000 - Reserves	\$ 8,493.06	\$ 8,493.06	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,689.79</b>	<b>\$ 8,493.06</b>	<b>\$ 1,030.14</b>	<b>\$ 1,226.87</b>
2000 - Fundraising and Marketing	\$ 825.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 825.00
3000 - Management & General Operations	\$ 1,719.21	\$ 125.00	\$ -	\$ 1,844.21
9000 - Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 11,234.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,368.06</b>	<b>\$ 1,030.14</b>	<b>\$ 3,896.08</b>

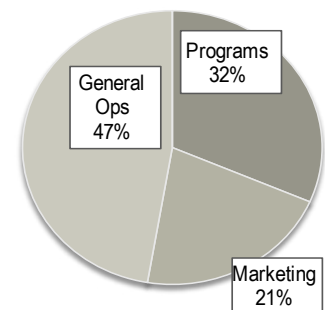
Net assets, beginning of period

Change in net assets

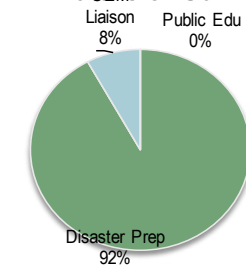
**Net assets, end of period\***

\$ 597.81	\$ 8,828.85	\$ 1,130.14	\$ 10,556.80
\$ 25,278.84	\$ 8,368.06	\$ 615.14	\$ 33,031.76
<b>\$ 25,876.65</b>	<b>\$ 17,196.91</b>	<b>\$ 515.00</b>	<b>\$ 43,588.56</b>

### How we use our Funds



### Nature of Our Programs



R

PE

FE

MGE

TX

TE

(PE+MGE+FE+TX)

BNA

C

(R - TE)

ENA

(C + BNA)

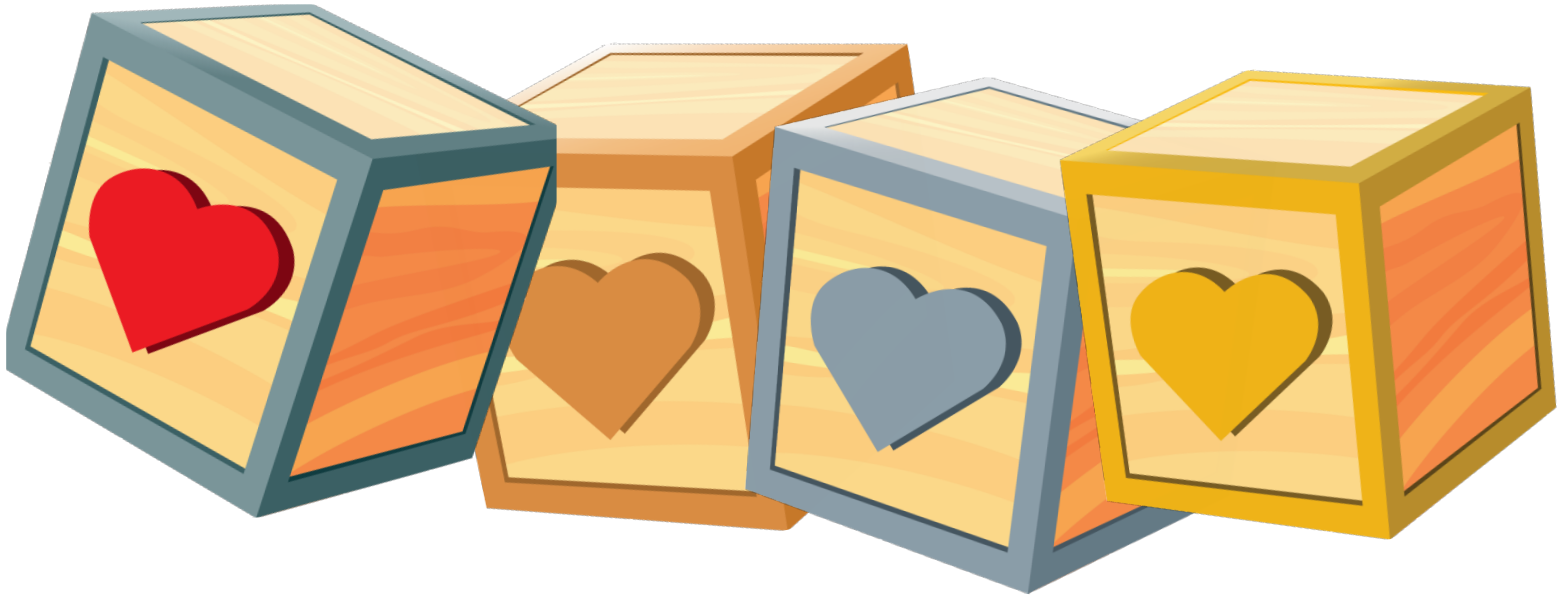
\* Amounts on this line must agree to those reported on the Statement of Financial Position **Form S22**.

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of the Statement of Activities.



## Supporters and Partners

Here at BLOCKS we consider all our supporters to be partners.  
Not unlike the adage “it takes a village to raise a child”  
we believe it takes one to protect and prepare a child as well.  
It’s a team effort and we want you on our team.



### **Platinum Sponsors (\$10,000 and above)**

The Rite Aid Foundation/Kidcents +  
Train 4 Safety Press +

### **Silver Sponsors (\$1,000 and above)**

Bremerton Elks Lodge #1181 +  
Puget Sound Energy Foundation

### **Bronze Sponsors (\$500 and above)**

4inprint one by one +  
Benevity +  
Iannina Cimorelli +  
Constellation, an Excelon Company  
Malynda Green +  
Duane Hagelgans  
Pattijean Hooper +  
Dr. Rebecca Patchin +  
Howard Pierpont +  
Poulsbo Rotary Club  
The Schiff Group, LLC +

+ Active sponsors and partners as of December 31, 2020.

# Our Team

## Board of Directors

Howard Pierpont  
Chairperson of the Board. The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association (DERA) Board Chair and Solutionist - DERA Institute for Preparedness and Resilience, Greeley, CO; Member since March 2016.

Duane Hagelgans  
Vice Chairperson of the Board. Associate Professor at Millersville University, Millersville, PA; Member since April 2015.

Robert Patchin  
Board Secretary and Treasurer. Active Duty United State Navy Officer, Bremerton, WA; Member since April 2015.

David “Schiffy” Schiff  
Board Member. Owner of The Schiff Group, Rockville, MD; Member since January 2016.

Heather Beal  
Board Member. BLOCKS Corporate President and Chief Executive Officer, Bremerton WA; Member since April 2015.

Cindy Swearingen  
Board Member. U.S. Department of Education Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center (REMS-TA) and FEMA Emergency Management Institute Instructor, Beggs, OK; Member since March 2016.

Malynda Green  
Board Member. Emergency Management and Outreach Manager for Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Facility, Bremerton, WA; Member since January 2018.

Laura Jull  
Board Member. Emergency Management Business Consultant, Bremerton, WA; Member since January 2018.

Dr. Robert Mitchell  
Board Member. Director of Community Disaster Medicine, Disaster Medicine Project, Edmonds, WA; Member since January 2018.

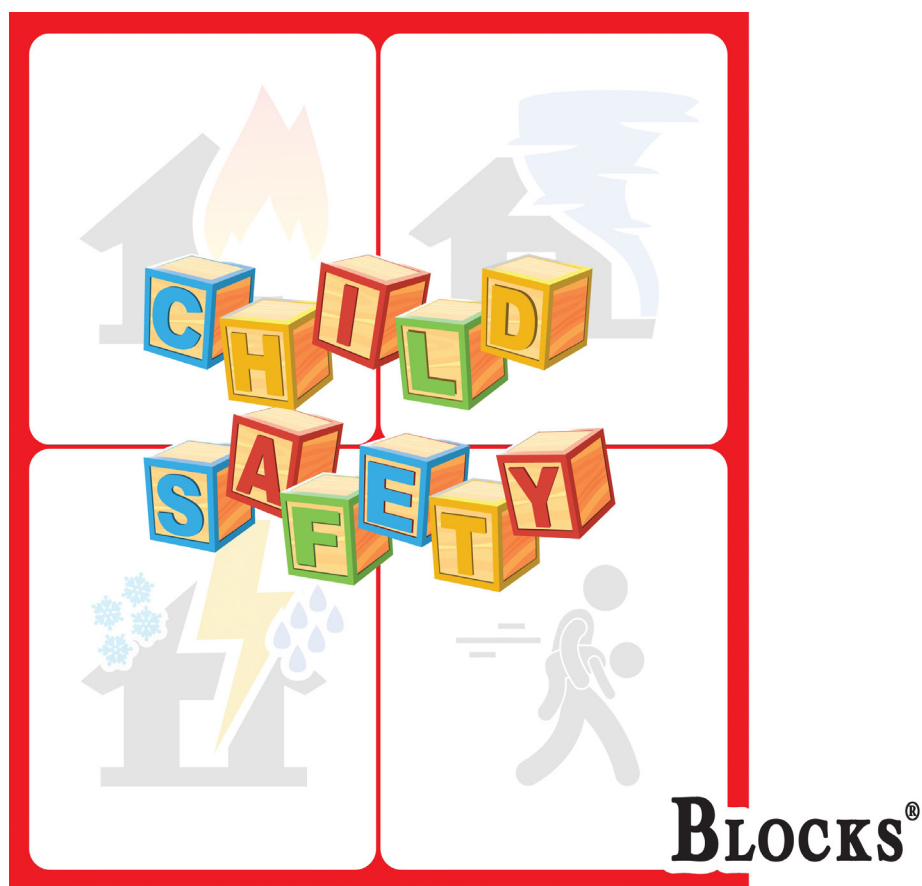


**Heather L. Beal, PhD, CEM**  
**President & CEO**

Dr. Beal is a military veteran with 23 years of distinguished Naval service. Dedicated to self-improvement, she obtained Masters degrees in Asian studies, conflict resolution, cyber security policy, and emergency management. She is qualified as a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) and holds a PhD in Public Policy and Administration / Emergency Management focusing specifically on child care recovery.

As a working parent of two, she became aware of just how much of a gap existed in childcare emergency preparedness training & resources and vowed to use her experiences, education, and more importantly, motivation, to fill the gap. Her desire to bridge the emergency management and childcare communities culminated in the founding of BLOCKS. BLOCKS is the manifestation of that desire to help keep our children safe.

You can contact her directly at [president@blocksusa.org](mailto:president@blocksusa.org)



**THANK YOU!  
BLOCKS HELPS  
KEEP CHILDREN SAFE BECAUSE  
OF YOUR  
GENEROUS SUPPORT.**

BLOCKS  
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