

Parent and Child Development Services, Inc. records

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Parent and Child Development Services, Inc. (Savannah, Ga.)
Title:	Parent and Child Development Services, Inc. records
Dates:	1840-1988
Extent:	16.0 cubic feet (17 boxes, 4 oversize volumes, 1 oversize folder)
Identification:	MS 1920

Biographical/Historical Note

The Parent and Child Developments Services, Inc. is located in Savannah, Georgia and is a private social service agency that strives to provide comprehensive programs within the area of family and child care. It is a multi-service agency that offers pre-school, maternity day and residential care, youth services, and adoption and foster care. The roots of Parent and Child Development Services originate in Savannah's early awareness of social concern.

Their Youth Services program was originally the Savannah Female Orphan Asylum and then the Savannah Home for Girls, but has always been a charitable organization to educate, clothe, support children as orphans or whose parents were unable to support them. The Savannah Female Orphan Asylum had originally been part of the Bethesda Orphan Home in Savannah, which was organized by the Union Society of Savannah in 1750 and admitted both sexes, but became a separate organization in 1801 with a Board of Managers made up of women. In 1951, their name was changed to the Savannah Home for Girls. This organization became a part of United Way in 1940 and a member of Savannah Children's Center in 1971, which was a division of Parent and Child Development Services.

Their Maternity Services program was originally the Florence Crittenton Home which offered a haven for 'wayward girls.' It was a home that provided shelter, medical care, and employment for pregnant teenage girls and unmarried women. Women usually stayed in the home until the baby was born and either went back to live with their families or the Home helped them to find a permanent home and job. From this service, the adoption service evolved. It was originally called Child Placement Services and was chartered in 1947. This organization was founded by the Savannah Junior League as the first professional adoption and foster care service in Savannah.

Parent and Child Development Services' preschool and daycare programs have its origins with the Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten program. This program was founding in Savannah by the children of Kate A. Baldwin as a memorial to her. It was incorporated in 1899 as a "benevolent and charitable institution for the free training, instruction, and education of young children under the kindergarten system of education, so as to inculcate in them habits of industry and morality and fit them for entrance into institutions of higher education." It operated kindergartens (as many as five at one time) and a training school (also referred to as the Normal Department) for kindergarten teachers. In 1946, the Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten program became a child care center and was called the Savannah Nursery School.

It was between 1971 and 1973 that Parent and Child Development Services absorbed all of the aforementioned agencies and they continue to work as a non-profit organization serving those in need in the Chatham County, Georgia community.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains administrative records, financial records, correspondence, photographs, clippings, reports, scrapbooks, and other miscellaneous materials regarding Parent and Child Development Services, Inc. in Savannah, Ga. and related organizations from 1840 to 1988. Other organizations included within this collection, which later were absorbed by Parent and Child Development Services in 1973 are the following: the Florence Crittenton Home, Kate

Baldwin Free Kindergarten, Savannah Children's Center, Savannah Family Welfare Society, Savannah Female Asylum, and Savannah Home for Girls.

Majority of these records are regarding the Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten program in Savannah from 1899-1940. These records include scrapbooks, pamphlets and articles on the growth of education, public schools, and kindergarten programs in the United States, teacher records, reports, and the correspondence of Hortense M. Orcutt (d. 1936), who served as the supervisor of the Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten program in Savannah.

Records of particular interest are the admission books, discharge books, treasurer records, visiting committee records, and other important records from the Savannah Female Asylum, later called the Savannah Home for Girls, and the Florence Crittenton Home for young unwed mothers from the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into 17 boxes, 4 oversize volumes, 1 oversize folder:

Box 1: Florence Crittenton Home board manual, Savannah Children's Center board manual and meetings, Parent and Child Development, Inc. board manual and minutes, Survey of Family and Child Care Services in Chatham County, 1962-1980

Box 2: Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten scrapbooks Volumes 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 1899-1915

Box 3: Clippings on George Johnson Baldwin's death, correspondence and reports from Hortense Orcutt, teacher reports, annual reports, accounts, clippings, letters, pamphlets, brochures all relating to the Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten, The Huntingdon Club bylaws, articles on education, certificates, 1908-1936

Box 4: Photographs, magazines, Hortense Orcutt correspondence, pamphlets on education and kindergartens, Kindergarten Magazine, Kindergarten Review, 1900-1940

Box 5: Books, card index to Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten scrapbooks, Savannah Children's Center minutes, reports, Florence Crittenton Home minutes, scrapbooks, 1897-1988

Box 6: Clippings, correspondence, books, pamphlets, reports, progress books, and scrapbook Volumes 4 and 8 for Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten, 1901-1929

Box 7: Photograph albums and scrapbooks of the Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten, payroll book, sheet music, 1907-1982

Box 8: Clippings, photographs, books, scrapbooks, birth records, minutes, expense logs, monthly reports, negatives, 1907-1983

Box 9: Hortense Orcutt correspondence, reports regarding public opinions to kindergarten, Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten monthly reports and teacher reports, pamphlets, clippings, photographs, 1901-1925

Box 10: Clippings, reports, photographs, correspondence, and articles regarding the Florence Crittenton Home and their adoption agency and day care, 1970-1977

Box 11: Savannah Female Asylum admission books (1841-1879, 1880-1888, 1888-1904, 1895-1906), minute books (1843-1867, 1867-1889, 1902-1905, 1905), treasurer's book (1840-1846), receipt book (1857-1876), visiting committee records (1868-1893), discharge book (1887-1890), matron's reports (1904-1906), sundry reports (1904-1906), finances (1903-1914), 1840-1914

Box 12: Savannah Home for Girls reports, financial statements, correspondence, bylaws, board member lists, audits, minutes, reports on child welfare services, 1946-1956

Box 13: Savannah Female Asylum indentures, correspondence, leases, bylaws, bills of sale, articles of incorporation, 1871-1951

Box 14: Savannah Family Welfare Society reports, financial records, minutes, correspondence, 1923-1937,

1980-1986

Box 15: Savannah Family Welfare Society reports, financial records, minutes, correspondence, 1925-1951

Box 16: Family Service of Savannah reports, financial records, minutes, correspondence, 1953-1966

Box 17: Savannah Family Welfare Society scrapbooks, pamphlets, clippings, 1933-1961

Oversize volume 1: Florence Crittenton Home admission book, 1902-1961

Oversize volume 2: Savannah Female Asylum minutes, 1905-1921

Oversize volume 3: Savannah Female Asylum admission and discharge book, 1873-1903

Oversize volume 4: Savannah Female Asylum visiting committee book, 1906-1913

Oversize folder: Clippings, architectural drawing for the proposed additions to the Florence Crittenton Home, photograph, pencil drawing, circa 1930s-1984

Index Terms

Accounts.
Administrative records.
Adoption agencies--Georgia--Savannah.
Annual reports.
Architectural drawings (visual works)
Articles of incorporation.
Articles.
Audits.
Baldwin, George Johnson, 1856-1927.
Bills of sale.
Birth records.
Books.
Brochures.
Bylaws (administrative records)
Card indexes.
Certificates.
Child welfare--Georgia--Savannah.
Clippings (information artifacts)
Day care centers--Georgia--Savannah.
Education--Georgia--Savannah.
Family services--Georgia--Savannah.
Financial records.
Florence Crittenton Home (Savannah, Ga.)
Huntingdon Club (Savannah, Ga.)
Indentures.
Kate Baldwin Free Kindergarten (Savannah, Ga.)
Kindergarten--Georgia--Savannah.
Leases.
Letters (correspondence)
Magazines (periodicals)
Manuals (instructional materials)
Minutes (administrative records)
Negatives (photographic)
Orcutt, Hortense M., d. 1936.
Orphanages--Georgia--Savannah.
Pamphlets.

Parent and Child Development Services, Inc. (Savannah, Ga.)
Payroll records.
Photograph albums.
Photographs.
Public schools--Georgia--Savannah.
Reports.
Savannah Children's Center (Ga.)
Savannah Family Welfare Society (Ga.)
Savannah Female Asylum (Ga.)
Savannah Home for Girls (Ga.)
Scrapbooks.
Sheet music.
Teenage pregnancy--Georgia--Savannah.
Unmarried mothers--Georgia--Savannah.

Administrative Information

Processing Information

This collection is processed at the Basic Level (or collection level). There is no detailed inventory for this collection as it is not fully processed. To request that this collection be added to our priority list of collections to be fully processed as staffing and funding allow, please contact the Library and Archives staff.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Sponsorship

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