

Edmonton Northwest Child Care 2008 Annual Report

Enrollment

The centre has been full all year with a long wait list. The greatest demand is for infant and toddler spaces.

Children's Programs

Dawn from Rainbow Music came each month to offer a music program to each classroom.

Heather, from the Edmonton Public Library, came four times to do a reading program.

Charlene, from Charlene's Cuisine, volunteered five times to teach children about nutrition and do cooking activities.

A Seeds of Empathy program was offered in the sunshine room. A parent brought her baby in for a visit each month. The children learn empathy by the program taught by the staff.

Building Toddler Communication Skill was offered six times in the toddler and upper rooms. A speech assistant observed the children and taught staff strategies to improve speech. On June 24, a speech pathologist was at the centre to talk to parents and answer their questions.

The children enjoyed many field trips including the Zoo, John Janzen Nature Centre, Borden and Hawrelak Parks, Museum, Telus World of Science and Woodcroft Library.

Parent Functions

Our Family Picnic was held on June 26, 2008 with 83 people in attendance.

The fall party, on Oct. 22, offered supper and activities. 85 people attended.

The festive dinner was held at Inglewood Community League on December 17. Many families and staff volunteered and enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner.

Parent Workshops

Nov. 19, a workshop was offered on Positive Guidance. Resource support provided the workshop, supper and child care. It was well attended by parents and staff.

Professional Development

Jan. 14, staff attended a workshop on Reflective Program Planning.

April 19, staff attended a Reggio Workshop that we organized but held at MacEwan College so we could see their studio and day care centre.

Nov. 1, staff enjoyed a teambuilding workshop, True Colors.

Staff bought many books using the professional development money. Many took courses, attended conferences and paid membership fees for Alberta Child Care Association.

Fulltime staff can use \$1,000.00 a year. We received about \$14,000 to cover these expenses.

Students

Four Early Childhood Education students from MacEwan College did their practicum's here.

Nursing students, from the University of Alberta, did a presentation on hand washing. Students from CDI practiced using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale.

Maintenance

Some of the walls and furniture were painted in neutral colors. We want to provide a natural looking environment.

Playground equipment was painted.

A new chain link fence was put in to replace the old wooden one.

Windows were replaced throughout the building.

Volunteers

1,450 hours were volunteered in 2008. This benefits the program for children and families and is really appreciated.

Reaccreditation

We began the process of getting ready to be reaccredited by March 31, 2009.

Summary

In 2008, our staff worked as partners with parents to help our children reach their full potential.

Dorothy Korbut,
Program Director