



2021-
2022

Campus Child Center Annual Report

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CAMPUS CHILD CENTER ANNUAL REPORT

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Campus Child Center Mission:

The Campus Child Center provides quality care and education in an environment where all are valued for their unique abilities and ideas. Appreciation and respect for individuals, relationships, and the community are at the foundation of our practice.

Our Philosophy:

Campus Child Center, a place

...where children are valued for their sense of wonder, their genuine curiosity and need to explore, and their natural desire to learn.

...where staff are valued for their ability to work together for the benefit of the children, for their commitment to continual program evaluation and improvement, for their energy and enthusiasm, for their ability to design and implement well-planned curriculum, and for their capacity to build relationships with and make use of resources within the community.

...where families are valued for the support they provide their children, for the partnerships they build with our staff, for their eagerness to help and for their willingness to entrust their children into our care.

...where all are valued for their unique abilities and ideas, for their ability to play, for their lover of laughter, for the respect they give one another, and for their capacity to trust, lean on and learn from one another.

Our Goals:

...establish and maintain...

- a safe and healthy environment for the children
- partnerships with parents and links to community resources

...encourage children to...

- explore, manipulate and use the tools and toys around them
- think critically
- solve problems
- gain confidence
- build friendships

...support children's need for...

- creative expression
- increased independence
- closeness, warmth and compassion

...extend children's knowledge through...

- books
- field trips



classroom visitors
meaningful conversations and discussions
a variety of activities and experiences

...weave into the program...

a sense of respect for others and the world around us
opportunities to express kindness and cooperation
an appreciation for nature and the arts



Goals for 2021-2022

1. By May 30, 2022, Campus Child Center professional staff will complete the Wisconsin Model Pyramid Training to build a team of individuals who are trained to implement a culturally responsive, equitable system of support to enhance social and emotional competence of young children.
2. By March 31, 2022, to provide student staff members with professional development in an area of interest, Campus Child Center will implement a training related to best practices in classroom management, as measured by an increase in student staff member's perceived level of comfort in providing classroom management.
3. By February 15, 2022, Campus Child Center will add 50 additional children's books related to children's home languages, gender diversity, and/or family structures to the center library to increase the children's access to a wider variety of diversity.

Points of Pride:

Our Staff:

Dawn Hays, Director
Jodi Strong, Four-Year-Old Teacher
Mackenzie Cumbers, Interim Three-Year-Old Teacher
Angela Dingel, Two-Year-Old Teacher
Elena Mueller, Two-Year-Old Teacher
Kim Amundson, One-Year-Old Teacher
Melissa Walbrun, Float Teacher

Our professional teaching staff has a combined total of 92 years of service to UW-La Crosse and over 100 years of service in the field of Early Care and Education.

Our teaching assistant staff was comprised of 66 different UWL students during the course of the year. What students are saying:

“I love developing relationships with the children and working in a supportive environment.” – Melanie S.

“I really like being a part of the Campus Child Center team because I feel like I am supported and a valued member of the team. I also feel like we are a team that genuinely loves and cares for all of our students and who wants to see them grow and develop.” – Madie S.

“I love getting to build relationships with the kids and that I have a job that I genuinely look forward to working.” – Grace W.

Though Campus Child Center could not return to previous levels of family engagement for our enrolled children due to the continued pandemic, each group held a “Playground Party” in the fall and all families were invited to a Sing Along on the playground in the Spring.



Accreditation:

Campus Child Center has been nationally accredited since 1994 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the world’s largest organization working on behalf of young children. Campus Child Center participates in an extensive self-study and quality-improvement process followed by an on-site visit by an NAEYC Assessor every five years to maintain its accreditation status. Campus Child Center is currently accredited through 2023 and is one of two centers in the immediate La Crosse area to have earned and maintained this status through NAEYC.

University Collaboration:

Campus Child Center continues to provide quality care and education to the children of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse students, staff, and faculty, and as of the fall of 2019, children of UWL alumni. During 2021-22, 57 families with a total of 69 children were enrolled. From a parent: The Child Center “is incredibly important to faculty, students, and staff”.

COVID-19 continued to reduce the Child Center’s ability to provide volunteer and observation experiences for UWL students again this year. Campus Child Center was able to partner with the School of Education to provide paid internships for 6 UWL students completing their final field placements for the Early Childhood-Middle Childhood Education program in the fall semester. In addition, 5 UWL students completed their Early Childhood field placement during the spring 2022 semester. Students from Nutrition 300 courses were able to spend time in the program observing children at meals. We look forward to returning to previous levels of collaboration with university programs in the upcoming years.



Challenges during 2021-2022

The largest challenge for Campus Child Center during the 2021-22 year was staffing. The search for a lead teacher for the three-year-old classroom did not lead to the hiring of an additional staff member and the first semester led to the current staff filling the role. In January, Campus Child Center was able to hire an interim teacher to lead the classroom for the remainder of the year.

Staffing was also impacted by the ongoing pandemic as staff were unable to work when signs of illness were present. Staffing shortages presented challenges in meeting the goals for the year. In addition, COVID-19 led to several classroom quarantines throughout the year as children and staff were exposed to cases in the center.

Goals for 2022-2023

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2. By March 31, 2022, to provide student staff members with professional development in an area of interest, Campus Child Center will implement a training related to best practices in classroom management, as measured by an increase in student staff member's perceived level of comfort in providing classroom management.
3. By November 1, 2022, Campus Child Center professional staff will complete the "Culturally Responsive Practices to Reduce Implicit Bias, Disproportionality, Suspension, and Exclusion" online training and begin implementation of the 7 principles of culturally responsive practices.