2018-2019 Campus Child Center Annual Report

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# UWL Campus Child Center Annual Report 2018-2019

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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

…but we 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

2018-2019 Goals:

1. By October 1, 2018 Campus Child Center will implement five additional tools to provide more effective communication with our staff and families. The success of this goal will be demonstrated by an increase from 51% “Strongly Agree” to 75% “Strongly Agree” on the annual family survey and from 43% “Strongly Agree” to 75% “Strongly Agree” on the annual staff survey.

2. By June 1, 2019 Campus Child center will invest in our people by creating and implementing three new training initiatives to build the knowledge base and practical experience of our student staff to establish a baseline of success as demonstrated by the results of our annual staff survey.

3. By June 1, 2019 Campus Child Center will work towards hiring a student staff that is reflective of the UWL student body.
Points of Pride:

Our Staff:

Dawn Hays, Director  
Cindy Selin, Four-Year-Old Teacher  
Kate Ottow, Three-Year-Old Teacher  
Angela Dingel, Two-Year-Old Teacher  
Jodi Strong, Two-Year-Old Teacher  
Kim Amundson, One-Year-Old Teacher  
Melissa Walbrun, Float Teacher  
Sue Wrobel, Substitute Teacher

Our professional teaching staff has a combined total of 137 years of service to UW-La Crosse.

Our teaching assistant staff was comprised of 73 different UWL students who are primarily Education and Psychology majors. What students are saying: “This job has allowed me to be an even better student because I am able to bring personal experience to the classroom to share with my fellow classmates and professors.” – Abby S., UWL Student

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. We are currently accredited through 2023 and we remain the only center 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. During 2018-19, 68 families with a total of 76 children were enrolled. From a parent: “Because of the loving care…the childcare center provided, [our son] is a happy and confident child. We will never forget the impact you have had on our family.”

In addition, we were able to provide 1500 student teaching placement hours for students in the Early Childhood – Middle Childhood program, as well as over 1400 volunteer and field placement hours. Students from courses in education, nutrition, music, educational studies, anthropology, recreation management, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and entomology spent time observing and interacting with the children in our program. We were also thrilled to have a cohort
of students visiting from Japan spend some time with us again this year. We value our partnerships with the university community and look forward to continuing them in the future.

Community Collaboration:

Each fall, Campus Child Center celebrates Oktoberfest with the La Crosse community. We are thrilled to have Oktoberfest Royalty join us for our annual parade and singing and dancing at the center.

The children also enjoy visits from the therapy dog program from the Humane Society.
Challenges during 2018-2019

One of our biggest challenges this year was a gap in our professional staff. With one teacher needing time off to work on her master’s degree and another teacher out on leave, we turned to our former director, Sue Wrobel, to join us as a part-time teacher in our three year old group for the fall semester.

In addition, we struggled to meet our goal of hiring a student staff more reflective of the student body at UWL. We will continue to search for ways to provide a diverse group of adult role models for the children enrolled in our program.

Goals for 2019-2020

1. **By May 1, 2020** Campus Child Center will provide opportunities for our enrolled families to meet student staff members and establish a baseline of success as determined by the results of our annual family survey completed in the spring.

2. **By October 1, 2019** Campus Child Center will establish a committee of UWL staff and faculty members to develop a plan for our 35th Anniversary Celebration.

3. **By June 1, 2020** Campus Child Center will work towards selecting a volunteer staff that is reflective of the UWL student body.