



2019-
2020

Campus Child Center Annual Report

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UWL Campus Child Center Annual Report 2019-2020

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 love 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...

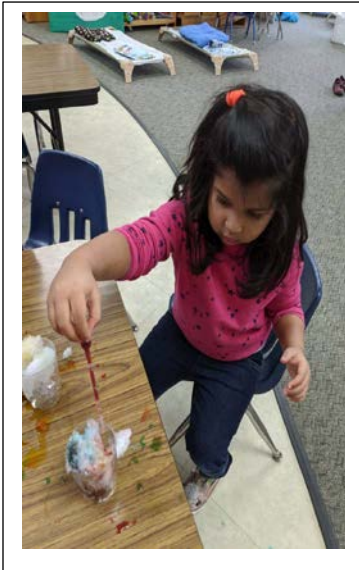
- books
- field trips
- classroom visitors



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 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.

Points of Pride:

Our Staff:

Dawn Hays, Director
Cindy Selin, Four-Year-Old Teacher
Jodi Strong, Three-Year-Old Teacher
Angela Dingel, Two-Year-Old Teacher
Rachel Redig, Two-Year-Old Teacher
Kim Amundson, One-Year-Old Teacher
Melissa Walbrun, Float Teacher



Our professional teaching staff has a combined total of 117 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

Campus Child Center hosted three family nights for families to connect with one another and the student staff. In September, the annual Pizza Party was held. An Art Party for children to create open-ended art with their families was held in November, and in February, a Science Night to explore and experiment was held.



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, and as of the fall of 2019, children of UWL alumni. During 2019-20, 63 families with a total of 74 children were enrolled. From a parent: “We have been so pleased with the care and support our daughter has received at CCC. Even in the midst of recent ambiguity and unknowns due to Covid-19, the ongoing communication and connection with teachers and classmates has helped to ease this transition for her. We are so grateful for all of you.”

In addition, we were able to provide over 1800 hours of course related placements and observations for students from courses in education, nutrition, educational studies, recreation management, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and psychology, as well as International students in the ESL program. UWL students also spent over 400 hours volunteering at Campus Child Center. We were able to reach our goal of establishing a volunteer group that was reflective of the UWL student body.

Students from Japan visit Campus Child Center.



Students from an ESL course perform a skit for children at Campus Child Center.



Officer Pehl from University Police reads to children.



This year, we collaborated with the Pride Center for the first time as participants joined children for story time. Each month, staff members from Chartwells created a “Books with Cooks” program for groups of children including a book read by a cook and followed up by a cooking activity. We were also thrilled to have a cohort of students visiting from Japan spend some time with us again this year.

Children visit the Student Health Center.



Chartwells staff join children for "Books with Cooks".



Members of the marching band participate in the annual Oktoberfest Parade.



Other connections made on campus included a visit to the UWL Health Center, a Read Across America story time with the UWL Bookstore, and story time with Officer Pehl from the University Police Department. And as always, it is a highlight of our year to be joined by the Screaming Eagles Marching Band for our Oktoberfest Parade. 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. Additionally, a librarian joins the children for story time each month and there are annual visits from the Coulee Region Humane Society.



Challenges during 2019-2020

At the beginning of the 2019-2020 academic year, the enrollment at Campus Child Center showed a decrease in the number of children of students. This prompted the center to explore other avenues to increase the enrollment. Campus Child Center was able to build enrollment by opening to children of UWL alumni and the enrollment neared capacity in a short time.

As with other departments on campus, the COVID-19 pandemic led to the closure of the Child Center in mid-March. While no amount of virtual learning can replace the care provided to children in person, Campus Child Center was able to maintain connections with enrolled children and families through Facebook story times, virtual sing-alongs and group meetings, and an updated list of resources on the Child Center website. Moving to a virtual platform was a challenging obstacle that led to considerable growth for the professional staff of Campus Child Center. In addition, the work that had begun in preparation for our 35th anniversary fundraiser was put on hold for the foreseeable future.

2020-21 Goals:

1. By August 31, 2020, in an effort to increase efficiency in enrollment management and enhance communication with enrolled families, Campus Child Center will upgrade its enrollment database to the HiMama Software to be utilized for billing, enrollment, and family communication throughout the year, as demonstrated by the utilization of the HiMama Software during the 2020-2021 year.
2. By February 15, 2021, Campus Child Center will add 50 additional children's books related to diversity and inclusion to the center library in order to increase the children's access to books reflecting a wide variety of diversity across several domains, including race, gender, and ability.
3. By March 15, 2021, 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 working with children with challenging behaviors for the student staff, as demonstrated by an increase in their comfort level in working with challenging behaviors.