

The Children's Journal

News from Campus Childcare for parents, advocates and all who work to provide quality early care and education for children and their families.



In This Issue

A Letter from Lynn 1

Financial Assistance for UW Families 2

Campus Child Care Friends 3

Supporting Campus Child Care 4

A Letter from Lynn



It's fall on campus. For most of you, that doubtless brings to mind an image of the traditional student, adjusting to college life and all of the responsibilities that come with living independently. But for the students, faculty and staff who rely on our office, it's a very different story.

Imagine you are a single mother with a new baby born in July and still one semester to graduate. Or maybe you are a teaching assistant with two children, struggling to pay bills while fulfilling your roles at school and at home. Or maybe it's your first semester as an assistant professor and you didn't anticipate the waiting list for child care you encountered when you arrived on campus. In each of these cases, the semester is under way and you need child care to be able to study, teach, and work.

Our office wants to help you find the child care you need and other ways to support you in the challenging and rewarding job of parenting. "Why aren't your programs more affordable?" is a question we hear all of the time from incoming faculty, staff and student parents. The short answer is that we want to hire and retain a high quality workforce because we know that is a recipe for excellent care and education.

Our mission is to provide affordable, accessible, and high-quality child care to the UW campus community. We have several financial assistance programs to help us do that, but we keep striving for more because the results are key to recruiting and retaining talented faculty, staff and students.

But just like the parents we serve, we can't reach our goals without help. More than 70 percent of our student parents hold down jobs during the school year, but they often need more assistance to cover the cost of quality child care. We provide scholarships and other aid using grants and individual gifts; without your ongoing support we could not make a difference.

Research shows children acquire 90 percent of their capacity to learn in the first five years of life. Bottom line, we want to provide high quality care to more kids, in partnership with their parents, to build a foundation for learning so they can flourish. We want more parents to feel the relief of knowing their child is well educated and cared for while they are pursuing their goals and dreams in the classrooms and labs of this great university.

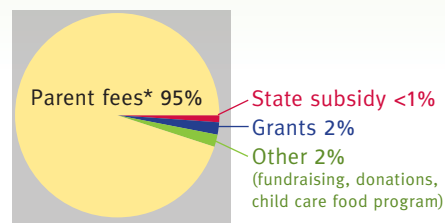
Our office exists to support children and families. Please stop by, call or e-mail us and we will do our best to assist you!

Lynn

During any given semester, we may help up to 400 student families—of which 25% are undergraduates, 75% are graduate students and about 33% are international students.

Parent fees must cover 95% of the costs of center-based care:

Sources of Income for Child Care Program



* An average starting salary for a 4-year degreed early childhood teacher (12 months) at UW-Madison is \$28,000 annually.



Our mission and vision:

We envision creating model programs and services, based on research and best practice, that are affordable, available and of the very highest quality.



Financial assistance for UW families with young children

We appreciate your generous support!

Student Child Care Scholarship Grants

- Dr. Lorraine F Meisner
- Dr. Charles Meredith & Dr. Janet Kay Bester Meredith
- Ms. Lisa L. Viegut

Connie L. Wilson Child Care Center Fund

- Mr. Joseph Corry & Mrs. Barbara Weston Corry
- Mr. Robert Fessenden & Ms. Patricia K Fessenden
- Dr. James A Lord
- Ms. Lucy J. Mathiak
- Ms. Annette Kusgen McDaniel
- Ms. E. Alison Rice
- Mr. Norman H. Sheppard & Dr. Janice R. Sheppard
- Mr. Andrew M. Stabler
- Ms. Barbara Tutton
- Ms. Connie L. Wilson

New Campus Child Care Initiatives

- Mr. Bert N. Adams & Ms. Diane B. Adams
- Dean Gary D. Sandefur & Ms. Kathy Sandefur
- Evjue Foundation Inc.

Classified Staff Child Care Grants

- Ms. Mary Czyszczak Lyne
- Mr. James D. Glycer & Professor Vicki Bier
- Ms. Tina Mae Hunter

A key part of our mission is providing families on campus with high-quality child care. Our centers hire teachers with four-year degrees whose expertise is sought on a daily basis by hundreds of families each year. For perspective, it may help to know that, on average, our teachers earn \$28,000 annually.

We strive to provide accessible child care that serves diverse families. Our campus benefits from the rich educational and social exchange that diversity brings. However, it's a continual challenge to make our high-quality care more economically accessible; it's still too expensive for many families.

Financial assistance programs help to ensure enrollment diversity and access to campus care while preserving high-quality programming that is essential in creating a solid developmental base for children. Here's more information about how we help:

The Child Care Tuition Assistance Program (CCTAP) is a family grant program that provides partial child care funding for hundreds of student parent families each year. The grants help cover expenses for the parent's choice of regulated child care and after-school programs. We have student government to thank for supporting this

program since 1985 through the "segregated fees" that are paid by all UW-Madison students at enrollment.

** "My main reason for coming to Madison, outside of my actual education, was the support available for student parents. I saw the Child Care Tuition Assistance Program (CCTAP) Web site and was very excited. In fact, I realized that I am not alone. UW has resources like the OCCFR that are designed to support people like me."*

-S. Levingston, a native from Chicago who has been in Madison since July 2006

The funds that Levingston was able to obtain allowed her to make her third year of graduate school a reality.

Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) is a federally funded program that works with low income undergraduate student parents to provide campus child care while they complete degree studies. 15-18 families are served each semester in this program that boasts a 90% retention/graduation rate. AIM serves an exceptionally diverse group of student parents, with half from under-represented groups. Most are single parents who know their UW degree will create financial independence.



* *"I discovered I was pregnant as I entered my senior year...definitely not a part of the plan. With AIM, I was able to graduate on time and afford campus child care. The best part? Not having to worry about my baby. She was so little when she started, but the teachers are so loving...and they've helped me so many times with my questions. I am really grateful."*

—J.G., 2008 AIM student

Student Scholarship Fund provides discretionary one-time grants awarded to students based on financial needs, family emergencies or unexpected events that may render a student unable to complete a semester without additional financial support. These funds are raised privately.

* *"During my last semester, my husband began to develop mental health issues that greatly impacted our family. The funding that I received made it possible for me to stabilize our children in full-time child care that allowed them a respite from our difficulties at home. The counseling and support*

offered me exists to this day—while I graduated in 2003, I still call for help now. In fact, I'm attending the fall parent support session for parents of special needs children. Thank you just doesn't seem enough."

—Jennifer G, 2003 UW graduate

The Classified Staff Child Care Fund is a private fund supporting grants for permanent classified staff at UW. Since its inception in 2003, it has helped 22 families afford high-quality care. Often recipients receive other services, including counseling and resources (read more news about this fund in the Friends section).

* *"We are so grateful...Despite all of our research and waiting for the right time to have a child, we were shocked by the sticker price of child care. As a parent, you struggle between wanting to leave your child in the best possible care while you are at work and figuring out how you are going to afford it."*

—Danielle P., 2007 recipient

Campus Child Care Friends

We have many friends both on and off campus and we are always grateful for their tremendous support.

Mary Czyszczak-Lyne received a 2008 Classified Employee Recognition Award for her work with the College of Letters & Science and WSEU. Mary donated the full amount (\$1,700) to the Classified Staff Fund to initiate an endowment for this private fund. She also issued a challenge to others to join her efforts, which resulted in a \$1,700 match from WSEU. Thanks to Mary and WSEU!

Lindsey Stoddard Cameron, along with UW Foundation colleagues Martha Taylor and Lori Rappe, has secured a third year of funding from the Women in Philanthropy group to help provide sick and back-up care for UW faculty and staff parents. The care is provided by Chicken Soup at 3553 University Avenue. We were able to thank the women personally

during a June program and facility tour. Thank you to all who made this support possible.

Anne Connor is a photographer and writer whose creativity led her to open the Driftless Studio, a gallery that celebrates nature and features her work as well as others' work inspired by the outdoors. Once a campus colleague, Anne has been a consistent supporter of campus child care. She is the talent behind the photos of children that you see in our office and in our publications, and she also supports our annual Jazzin' fundraiser. More recently, Anne offered to serve as a mentor to our 4-year olds in finding nature through photography. Watch for news of our first campus child care gallery event featuring the children's works—a project intended to encourage children's outdoor play. (Anne has some new playmates!) Thank you, Anne.



We are thankful for the ongoing support you provide to campus child care and ask you to once again join us in our efforts to provide high-quality programs on campus. There are four University of Wisconsin Foundation accounts through which your gifts can help us reach our goals:

Fund future growth through the **New Campus Child Care Initiatives Fund**; there are currently more than 100 infants on the waiting list for care.

Support a scholarship for low-income students completing their education while parenting and working through the **Student Child Care Scholarship Grant Fund**.

Provide new playgrounds, equipment for classrooms or specialized training for staff through the **Connie L. Wilson Child Care Center Fund**.

Help classified staff cover child care with a **Classified Staff Child Care Grant**.



Mary Czyszczak-Lyne grants her \$1,700 award to campus child care.



Special thank you to the Women In Philanthropy who funded sick and back-up care for faculty and staff!

Jean Manchester Biddick, Nancy Taylor Borghesi, Debra Byars, Martha Casey, Virginia Duncan Gilmore, Joan Fortune, Caroline Fribance, Kathleen Gottschalk, Joen Greenwood, Marlene Hartzman, Gilda Hudson-Winfield, Christine Lodewick, Phyllis Lovrien, Barbara Manley, Ruth Nelson, Elly Pick, Joy Picus, Pam Ploetz, Margaret Schmidt, Kay Bohn Smith, Sharon Stark, Linda Stern, Carol Toussaint, Doris Weisberg, Lorna Wendt, Cheryl Weston, Charlotte Zieve, Kay Vaughan

More Ways to Support Campus Child Care!

The New Campus Child Care Initiatives Fund helps support new facilities and/or services that expand access for families. In fall 2006, a contribution from Nancy Borghesi of Chicago helped furnish “Chicken Soup” which provides sick and back-up care for UW students, faculty and staff. More good news? A building renovation scheduled for completion in 2011 will create additional space for much needed infant care for campus. Contributions to this fund will help with start-up equipment for five new classrooms.

The Connie L. Wilson Child Care Center Fund provides an annual grant back to the campus centers to support direct needs. This year, the grant will purchase adaptive equipment for nine campus programs that serve children with special needs. Thank you, Connie!

