



The Professional Center for Child Development

PCCD, Where Children Of All Abilities Succeed

What does this mean to The Professional Center for Child Development? Each child brings with them a unique set of skills, talents and gifts that can be shared with their family and classmates. We strive to help bring out the best in each young learner. PCCD educators, therapists and other staff provide opportunities and support to help every child reach their full potential.

~ During home visits the family is offered techniques and ideas to maximize the child's growth & development.

~ In our Two-by-Two playgroups children strengthen their sense of independence.

~ In the PCCD Preschool and Developmental Day School students work in a stimulating learning environment setting them on a path to future success in school.



Thank you for making the PCCD your child's first educational experience!

978-475-3806

www.TheProfessionalCenter.org

32 Osgood Street,
Andover, MA 01810
and

130 Parker Street,
Lawrence, MA 01843

**Spring 2013
Volume 17, Issue 3**

Programs at the PCCD

- ♦ **Early Intervention**
- ♦ **Developmental Day School**
- ♦ **Two-by-Two & EI play groups**
- ♦ **Regional Consultation Program (RCP)**
- ♦ **Private Therapy & PCCD Preschool**

Come Celebrate The Professional Center for Child Development's
40th Anniversary At Our

Paint The Town Red *2013 Swing into Spring Gala*



There are many different ways you can participate:

- ♥ Attend the Gala and help us celebrate our 40th Anniversary
- ♥ Become a Gala Sponsor. Details are available on our website
- ♥ Place an ad in the Program Book
- ♥ Volunteer to assist at the Gala
- ♥ Donate an item that we can use in our auction. It can be sports tickets, gift cards, accessories, jewelry, etc.

- ♥ Help us plan our Gala. The upcoming meetings are: 4/15 @ 3pm, 4/29 @ 3pm & 6:30

May 3rd at The Andover Country Club - info at TheProfessionalCenter.org

All Gala proceeds go directly to enhancing the programs and services we provide to the 1,400 children we serve each year.

Help Make This Year's *Swing into Spring Gala* A Success!!!

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From The Desk of The Executive Director

The winter season at the center has been fun in spite of the cold and snow. The children have been making snow balls and snow flakes. We had a super bowl party with great chili, soups and snacks. Everyone made their own valentines to give to their special friends and families as we celebrated Valentine's Day. The Day School students and staff had a great New Orleans "Mardi Gras" parade through the halls of the Center with Ms Suzi, our music



*Helping children of all abilities achieve
their full potential for forty years*

therapist. It was fun. We had lots of music and shiny beads to wear. Our 2X2 and preschool friends cheered the students on as they marched

Everyone is really excited about the arrival of spring when the snow has all melted and the early spring flowers start to bloom. Our beautiful playground is waiting under the snow for us to come out and play! We plan to use our playground every day and enjoy the fresh air and exercise. Bright sunny days are the best!

We are looking forward to our annual "Swing Into Spring Gala" as we "Paint The Town Red" in honor of our 40TH Anniversary. It is always fun and full of special surprises. Please plan to join us on May 3, 2013 at the Andover Country Club.

Veryl D. Anderson, RN
Executive Director



*"There is more treasure in books than in all the
pirate's loot on Treasure Island." — Walt Disney*

Little Eyes

There are little eyes upon you
And they're watching night and day.
There are little ears that quickly
Take in every word you say.
There are little hands all eager
To do anything you do;
And a little girl who's dreaming
Of the day she'll be like you.
You're the little angel's idol;
You're the wisest of the wise.
In her little mind about you
No suspicions ever rise.

She believes in you devoutly,
Holds all you say and do;
She will say and do, in your way
When she's grown up just like you.
There's a wide-eyed little girl
Who believes you're always right;
And her eyes are always open,
And she watches day and night.
You are setting an example
Every day in all you do;
For the little girl who's waiting
To grow up to be like you.

-Author unknown

2x3 Preschool at PCCD



This time of the year is when parents are looking for the right preschool for their child. Here are some points to consider about the 2x3 Preschool at PCCD.

- * Small Class size: 1:3 teacher/ child ratio
- * Seasoned early childhood educators as lead teachers with Speech, Occupational and Physical therapists available for consults.
- * Music, Science, Art/Sensory, Language Arts activities addressed using a developmental play-base curriculum.
- * Child does not need to be potty trained.
- * Summer Preschool available

Here is a peek at what has been happening in the 2x3 Preschool.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom was read and the children put letters on the coconut tree in the classroom. For snack, the children made coconut trees out of celery stalks, spread cream cheese on it and put coco puff cereal on the stalks for coconuts. In science, the children made a volcano using baking soda and vinegar. It was really cool to see it erupt.

To learn more about the fun & exciting things happening in the 2x3 Preschool, please call for a visit. Watch for information on *The Great Summer Adventure*, our summer preschool program coming out very soon.

Other Private Therapy Program opportunities available:

- ♥ Saturday Play Pals group: meets on Saturdays and fosters social skills, speech-language development. Accepting new students.
- ♥ Private therapy sessions available for Speech, Occupational and Physical therapies.

- For information, please contact Kim Briggs, M.Ed. CCC-SLP at ext. 226

*America's Move to Raise a
Healthier Generation of Kids*



*Check it out
www.LetsMove.gov*

Thank you to the PCCD
Board of Directors.

We appreciate
your leadership and
commitment to the
children and families.

Staff Spotlight



Name: Kelley Granahan
Education: Merrimack College
Position: Manager of Development (fundraising)

Years at the PCCD: 1½ Years

Thoughts about working at the PCCD: "I have loved my time at PCCD so far! Each and every one of the staff members are caring, nurturing and extremely talented. Their love for their job shines through their dedication and in the services they provide the children. I am very lucky to be part of this team!!"



Name: Sintia Attubato, BS
Education: Salem State University
Position: Developmental Specialist in the EI Program

Years at the PCCD: 5 Years

Thoughts about working at the PCCD: "In the past five years, I have grown as a professional and I thank this agency for the support. I enjoy helping children and families and the relationships I've developed."

Name: Kathy Arlin, MSEd
Education: SUNY Oswego, and Nazareth College
Position: Educator in Early Intervention and the Day School
Years at the PCCD: 7 Years

Thoughts about working at the PCCD: "I love the comradery and compassion the PCCD staff has. We all take pride in the work that we do. I hope each family can feel how much we care about them and how they have impacted our lives. The children we see lift us up! It is a rewarding job."

PCCD Wish List

*Donating from the "Wish List" is easy.
Just Call the Center.*

- ♦ Art Supplies, Bubbles and Play Doh
- ♦ Batteries AA, C, D, 9 volt
- ♦ Printing of agency newsletter or brochures
- ♦ Car seats new or used (in good condition)
- ♦ Gift certificates (BJ's and Market Basket, Toys' R Us, gas cards)
- ♦ Items for our silent auction and Road Race prizes
- ♦ Donations to **Friends of the Center.**

Infant and Toddler Sign Language

For parents or professionals working with children for whom sign language can be used to augment their communication.

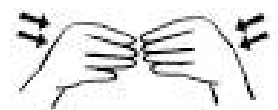
Saturday April 27th 9am to 12 noon

Location: PCCD 32 Osgood Street Andover

- ♥ Great workshop for families! There is NO child care so please leave your cherubs at home and enjoy the morning out
- ♥ Space is limited and registration is REQUIRED
- ♥ Presented by the PCCD Northeast RCP
- ♥ With Krissy Kurth

*Please email your intent to participate to
Christy Murray at
cmurray@TheProfessionalCenter.org
~ Include your name & information and if
you are an EI Parent or Professional*

more



PCCD Annual Legislative Coffee Hour

Parents, PCCD staff and Lawmakers gathered together on March 11th to talk about Early Intervention and Special Education in Massachusetts. Neal Beswick addressed to the group on behalf of all the parents at The Center. Neal eloquently spoke about his family and how PCCD Early Intervention and private therapy groups have helped with his child's development.

Along with many parents, children, PCCD board members, and staff the legislative guests included: Senator Barry Finegold, Representatives Diana DiZoglio, Marcos Devers and Jim Lyons - as well as staff from the offices of... US House Member Niki Tsongas, Senators, Tarr & O'Connor Ives, and Representative Jim Miceli.

The PCCD is celebrating its 40th Anniversary and is thankful for the support of parents and legislators. After welcoming the guests Veryl Anderson, PCCD Co-Founder/Executive Director painted a picture of the Professional Center's past 40 years, and was happy to use the brightest colors for the future.



In photo: Tara Wilson and her daughter Kaylin, Veryl Anderson—PCCD Executive Director, Representative's Diana DiZoglio & James Lyons and Neal Beswick



FYI - Enrollment for community slots is ongoing!!

Call if you want your child to participate in a group!!

- ♦ Toddler groups run Monday through Friday 9:00-11:30 am
- ♦ Afternoon groups on Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-3:00 pm
- ♦ Parent Child groups at our Andover & Lawrence Sites **Interested in any of our groups? Please contact Aimee Phleger at ext 341.**

PCCD Developmental Day School

A licensed private school that provides a comprehensive educational and therapeutic program for children ages 3 - 10 who have multiple disabilities, complex care/medical needs.

We are experts in providing a stimulating school experience for students needing specially-designed instruction, flexible & creative curriculum, nursing and inclusive therapeutic services.

- ♥ Enriching classroom setting
- ♥ Allows learners to access the curriculum
- ♥ Enrolls eligible students throughout the year
- ♥ Please call Linda (at ext 210) for a tour & more information

Regional Consultation Program (RCP)

The Regional Consultation Program has been having fun while working on the latest technology being used with infants, toddlers and preschoolers with and without special needs. Families, schools, and therapists have been finding the iPad to be a great device and use it in a variety of ways. One of our favorite apps is



called Felt Board. The description in the iTunes store has a great summary of all that can be done with this app. It was inspired by actual felt boards that are used by children, teachers and storytellers all over the world. This an open-ended app which can be used to create characters, clothes, accessories, props and scenes and have creative fun for hours. Felt Board can come in handy when sitting in a doctors office for long periods of time with your little one! There is even a You Tube video that a teacher made if you wanted some additional instruction on how to use it. And for all of you Android users... there is an android compatible version as well!

Another favorite app is Spingo's Language Universe. This is a fun interactive game that was designed by Speech and Language Pathologists for children to practice their listening and language skills. Spingo is a lovable alien who gives directions, and children follow them to help build him a spaceship to get home. There are several levels of learning in this app and you can start by giving one step directions and build upon that. You can also customize the types of language that Spingo will use from simple word recognition to more complicated word types.



We are hosting an Apps with Apps workshop on Saturday morning, April 20th, from 9 - 11 am at PCCD. We would love for you to come with your iDevice to network with other parents and therapists to find out what apps we are all using successfully with young children. This workshop is FREE for parents and Early Intervention Professionals. Come ready to talk about one of your favorite Apps!

Workshop registration is required. Please email your intent to participate to Christy Murray at cmurray@TheProfessionalCenter.org (please include your name/info. and if you are an EI Parent or Professional)

To learn more about the great things going on in the PCCD 2x3 Preschool, please call for a visit.

Watch for information on *The Great Summer Adventure*, our summer preschool program coming out very soon.



Early Intervention Consortium Conference May 8th and 9th (maeic.net)

Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel ~ Marlborough, MA.

An annual conference for parents and professionals working with children ages birth to three who have or are at risk for developmental delays.

Keynote Speaker—Nancy Carlsson-Paige, EdD Professor Emerita at Lesley University, author, and leader in early childhood education. Workshops and networking make for a great event.

Family Involvement in Early

Intervention

Parent Leadership Project 1-877-35-EI-PLP

The Project's main goal is to promote lifetime advocacy and leadership skills, and work to develop an informed parent constituency which will, in turn, encourage Early Intervention services to be increasingly family centered. As a parent initiated and parent driven endeavor, the PLP continually seeks family input regarding the needs of EI families in our state. Identifying these needs helps determine future direction for the project as well as the EI system as a whole.

The Parent Perspective is a free newsletter written by and for parents distributed 8 times a year. Parents are invited to submit articles. The Professional Center frequently submits articles and information to this publication. contact the PLP to receive the newsletter.

Become more involved...

Join a statewide committee or task group with The Massachusetts Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC).



You can make The Professional Center for Child Development even better...

~ Join the Friends of The Center ~

~ Volunteer for an event ~

Family Rights in

Early Intervention Services

In your intake packet, each family received a brochure on family rights in EI. If you would like another copy, please ask your service coordinator.

If more information is needed, The Department of Public Health has written standards for the operation of Early Intervention Programs and written procedures that protect your rights. You may get a copy of these at The PCCD or by going on the DPH web site.

Early Intervention services in Massachusetts are provided in compliance with federal regulations.

This newsletter is designed to share information with families colleagues, the community, and contributors. The newsletter is coordinated by Ellen Waddill (the PCCD Parent Liaison) and is edited by Ellen, Emily Knapp, those who write articles & other PCCD staff.

To contribute articles, stories, poetry, etc.,

please call Ellen at ext. 217 or Ellen@TheProfessionalcenter.org

Family TIES of Massachusetts

(TIES—Together In Enhancing Support)

A statewide information and support network for families of children with disabilities, special health care needs, or chronic illness.

MassFamilyTies.org

1-800-905-TIES

"Friends of The Center"

Thank you for your Ruby Anniversary Gift

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift to help The PCCD provide services and support for families and children as has been done for 4 decades. With your help, PCCD will expand services, develop new programs, and make facility improvements.

\$40 _____ **\$200** _____ **\$400** _____ **\$500** _____

\$1000 _____ **PCCD 40th Anniversary Gift** _____

Name and address of contributor (please print) Email: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____



The Professional Center
for Child Development

32 Osgood Street
Andover, Massachusetts
01810

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ANDOVER, MA



*Helping children of all abilities achieve
their full potential for forty years*

Six Powerful Words...

Participate in the PCCD 40th Anniversary Six-Word Story Project

To celebrate The Professional Center for Child Development's
40th Anniversary of working with children and families.
We would like to ask for your help with a project.

**Write 6 words that show your feelings, ideas or family story regarding
The Professional Center for Child Development**

Some of the stories will be used in the PCCD Newsletter, some will be used in the "Paint the Town Red" Gala booklet, some will be put on the PCCD website, some will be on facebook, and some will go up on the walls of the PCCD.

Send your Six-Word Story to Ellen@TheProfessionalCenter.org. Please include your name, the name/s of your child/children, child's or family photo, and your home town.

By giving your information and photo you are granting The PCCD permission to use them in marketing.

For example:

Learning growing together as a family

Molly Firth - Lawrence

Feeling alone is not an option

Wilber Black - Tewksbury

I didn't know parenthood would test

Mary Riley - North Andover