

# University offers several different CCDC programs

By Daralyn Trappe  
Emerald Contributor

One of the most unique things about the University is its series of six Child Care and Development Centers on and near campus.

This spring, CCDC will celebrate its 20th anniversary. The program began in 1970 in response to demands made when the Administration Building was occupied by two student organizations — Students for a Democratic Society and the Women's Liberation Movement.

"The idea of child care in a university setting was radical at the time," CCDC Program Coordinator Dennis Reynolds said.

Nevertheless, the University established a day care center in the EMU, and in 1975, four houses in the East Campus area on Moss and Villard Streets were added to the program. Eventually, a sixth house was added in the Westmoreland area of Eugene.

The six centers are all designed for certain age groups. One site, the Villard House, is specifically for toddlers from 15 to 30 months of age. The second, the Green House Preschool, is for children from 30 to 42 months.

There are two centers, one in the EMU and the other the Moss House Preschool, for children from 36 months to five years. The Westmoreland center is for children 36 months to six years old, and a final one, the Brown House, is for five-to-six-year-olds.

Plans for a seventh house, also in the Westmoreland area, are under way. A new house is being built in response to the need for another toddler program. Although there have been some delays, the new center should be open by fall term, 1990.

Tuitions vary from house to house. The Villard House program costs \$2.50 an hour or \$380 a month. Tuition at the Green House Preschool is \$1.75 an hour or \$295 a month. The Moss and Brown House pro-

grams are \$1.60 an hour or \$275 a month, and the EMU and Westmoreland centers charge \$1.85 an hour or \$275 a month.

The CCDC program is administered through the EMU, and approximately 15 percent of its funding comes from the Incidental Fee Committee. Another 10 percent comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture school lunch program, and the rest from the tuition paid by the parents of the children in the centers.

The IFC also funds a Child Care Subsidy Program for student parents who need financial assistance to meet child care costs. The program is based solely on financial need, and parents can get up to 50 percent of their child care expenses paid this way. Approximately half of the parents with children in the CCDC program get subsidy funding.

"Our goal is to provide as high a quality program for student parents as possible, but it also has to be financially accessible," Reynolds said.

Many parents are actively involved in the CCDC program through the Parent Council. The parents of two children from each center meet once a month to discuss rates, possible new programs, and any problems there may be.

Earlier this year, all six centers were accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs. The process of accreditation involved a review of the entire program by the Academy. Only 12 other day care centers in Oregon are accredited, and CCDC is the only one in Lane County.

The CCDC teaching staff consists of one lead and one assistant teacher per center and approximately 100 students, most of whom are employed through the work-study program.

The students attend meetings and workshops that focus on such things as safety, child development, behavior management and sexual abuse.

The cost differences in the centers are based on the need for more staff for the younger children. The Villard House,



Photo by Andre Kanori

Shannon Kerber, left, and three-year-old Amy Ryan are just two of the people involved in the University's several child care centers.

with the youngest children, has an child to adult ratio of three to one. The Brown House, with the oldest children, has one adult for every eight children.

"Our ratios are lower than what the state allows. It helps make it such a high-quality program," said Green House lead teacher Jan Inouye. "In the private sector, they can't afford that. But we can because we get work-study money."

Each center has its own specific, structured routine for each day. "Children get security from a daily routine," Inouye said.

The younger children have more free time, because they generally have shorter attention spans for projects. The older children have input into what they will do each day, and get to help plan some of their own activities. The older children also get to go on field trips and walks to parks, libraries and special events on campus.

"We like to familiarize them with the neighborhood," Moss House assistant teacher Christopher Michaels said.

Anyone wanting more information on the CCDC program, or an application for admission can stop by the main office at 1511 Moss Street or call 686-4384.

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