

# Continuity of Care at Concord Children's Center



Concord Children's Center follows a continuity of care model for our Infant-Toddler classrooms. The practice of continuity of care (COC) is designed to keep very young children, infant and toddler age, together with their caregiving team over a long period of time, typically two to three years. Each of our infant-toddler classrooms is a mix of 3 infants and 6 toddlers with three teachers. The children in each of these classrooms will stay in that room for their time in the infant-toddler program, thus ensuring continuity for the children from year to year

At CCC we believe that strong, secure, caring relationships are the heart and soul of quality care for children, families, and educators. COC, based upon attachment research, demonstrates the lifelong impact of supportive, stable relationships that begin in infancy (Sroufe, 2005). In childcare, creating classroom groups that stay together as long as possible promotes quality, family-like, relationship-based experiences during these important first years.



*"It is a marvel to observe older toddlers nurture younger infants by sharing toys, books and attention with them. Our younger infants strive to keep up with their older friends, while unknowingly working on achieving milestones, such a motor skills and language development by reaching for toys and "babbling" with their older classmates! Observing children embrace such strong social emotional growth over the 2-3 years spent with familiar classmates and teachers in comfortable surroundings is very rewarding. When the infant becomes an older toddler and experiences a different role and perspective, while embracing subtle changes and challenges, we know we have guided and supported them well!" -Concord Children's Center Infant-Toddler educator*

## Benefits of Infant-Toddler Continuity of Care include:

- Family-like atmosphere
- Increased caregiver knowledge of child development
- Stronger caregiver knowledge of individual children
- Reduced transitions decreases stress for children, parents, and caregivers
- Smoother developmental progress of children
- Stronger family-caregiver partnerships
- Parents empowered as advocates of their children.
- Children adapt more easily to preschool
- Increased sensitive-responsiveness of caregivers
- Improved behavior of children
- More secure attachments of babies to adult

*(McMullen, Yun, Mihai, & Kim, 2015)*

At CCC, our experienced teachers, knowledgeable in child development and quality ECE practices, ensure our environments are designed to meet the developmental needs of all children. We are confident that continuity of care for our infants and toddlers will help to ensure the best possible experiences for children and families, as they live, love, and play through their days in our infant-toddler classrooms

