

From: Tammy Collingwood, Interim Operations Manager

Last week I sent a version of this letter to parents and caregivers of children in the playschool program:

Hello all,

Hannah and I met over the weekend and moving forward the two of us are now working much closer together, so that Hannah doesn't have to feel like she's carrying this alone.

We are planning to hold a community meeting about the playschool in the new year, as our approach to governing our operations is through community feedback, and based on serving in a fair and transparent manner. *Stay tuned for an announcement.*

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you what we have been doing at the Hall to support parents, families and the greater community with the expansion of our playschool and group care, as well as how we have been supporting staff to grow capacity in their roles and to create a healthy workplace environment.

In August of 2022, Hannah was made Manager of Care for the CIP, giving her the official responsibility for regulatory compliance and point of contact for licensing.

In September of 2022, the playschool opened and resumed its 2 days per week of playschool 9am -1pm and its newly expanded(April 2022) group care 1pm-4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

On October 18th 2022, through Hannah's hard work and dedication, CIP secured its license to expand to 4 days per week.

On October 27th we had our licensing inspection, and an amendment was filed to add multi-age programming, and has yet to be approved.

Since September, we have made significant increases in wages for CIP and group care staff. With support staff wages increasing from \$16/hr in 2021 to \$22/hr, and Hannah's wage increasing by 25%, making her the highest paid employee of the SCCA.

As Hannah is still working towards her ECE certificate, the SCCA has been providing her with interest free loans for her tuition, which really goes a long way towards making Child care a sustainable career within our organization.

The expansion of the Playschool and Group Care Programming came from the ground up, a clear message from our community of parents, businesses and community service providers that expansion of child care services on Cortes would be filling a much needed gap in our social fabric.

We are always looking for volunteers! If you are interested in helping out, or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me anytime via email at

office@mansonshall.org