



Lincoln Park Children and Families Collaborative  
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**For Immediate Release**

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**Lincoln Park Children and Families Collaborative Receives Funding to Re-Open and Expand ChildCare Program**

Lincoln Park Children and Families Collaborative (LPCFC) was granted funding from several sources to support the re-opening and expansion of their ChildCare program.

The funding we received included a \$5000 2020 Fast Grant from the City of Duluth 1200 Fund that was used to purchase the supplies needed to safely re-open June 8, after closing on March 16 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. LPCFC also received a \$5500 Peacetime Emergency Child Care Grant from ChildCare Aware; this funding allowed LPCFC's ChildCare program to expand our hours to being open from 6AM-6PM rather than the 8AM-5PM schedule that we had prior to the Stay at Home Order.

Community Action Duluth granted \$100,000 in funding to LPCFC to build the staff capacity needed to increase the number of children enrolled in LPCFC's ChildCare program. When LPCFC re-opened, 8 children returned to childcare and were enrolled in full-time, part-time, and drop-in care. At the end of October, LPCFC's ChildCare program had 17 children, aged 6 months-12 years, with active enrollment. This funding will also support LPCFC's efforts to continue operating under our new, expanded hours and create nature play areas.

Community Action Duluth's, Executive Director, Jeff Longenecker stated that, "Community Action Duluth is pleased to have this opportunity to partner with LPCFC. We know families face the challenge of quality childcare and this expansion is an effort to address that challenge."

LPCFC's Executive Director, Jodi Broadwell, is excited about working with Community Action Duluth and notes that the funding comes at a perfect time. "We received a 3-Star Parent Aware Rating on July 1 for our LPCFC ChildCare program. Thanks to funding support from the City of Duluth, St. Louis County, the State of Minnesota, ChildCare Aware, and Community Action Duluth, LPCFC will be able to continue offering quality childcare during the COVID-19 pandemic."

LPCFC received \$4500 in funding from ChildCare Aware in quality improvement grants. We also recently received \$3600 from the State of Minnesota's \$56.6 million Coronavirus Relief Fund grant and qualifies to receive funding from the additional \$53.3 million to provide Coronavirus Relief Funding. This funding helps cover operational costs. We were awarded St. Louis County CARES funding to help support staff time for school-age children and PPE and other supplies related to operating during the COVID-19 pandemic.

LPCFC is currently providing childcare on a flexible schedule, from 6AM-6PM Monday-Friday. We have several pre-school age openings. Parents have the option of signing children up for full time, part time, or drop-in care. For more information about enrolling, call LPCFC ChildCare at 218-464-0588.

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