136 NEW PROVIDERS TRAINED

The LaGuardia Community College/Red Hook Family Day Care Training Project held its first LEARNING FAIR for newly licensed Family Day Care Providers in New York City. This two-day conference attended by 136 new Family Day Care Providers was held at the LaGuardia campus on Tuesday, March 20, and Wednesday, March 21, 1979.

Training for newly licensed Providers consisted of 16 hours. The first two-hour orientation session was done at the local Center where the Providers came from. The Learning Fair consisted of two six-hour days of skills shops. The final follow-up two-hour session was done back at the local Center individualizing the follow-up of the Learning Fair experience.

The Learning Fair is a training concept designed to provide participants with opportunities to be actively engaged in experiences which will contribute to their competence as Family Day Care Providers. These experiences were shared with new Providers from all over New York City.

Six Skills Shops highlighted the key areas identified by Family Day Care program staff as basic needs for newly licensed providers. Those areas were: (1) Safety (indoors and outdoors) (2) Health (3) Nutrition (4) Home as a Living/Learning Environment (5) Child Development (6) Communication with parents and staff. Each Skills Shop will include special emphasis on infant and toddler needs and development.

Skills Shops 1, 2 and 3 were offered on March 20; Skills Shops 4, 5 and 6 on March 21.

Skills Shops included take-home materials and each offered stimulating learning experiences designed to involve each participant in a relaxed and fun-filled atmosphere.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement the first day. Besides, the newly licensed Providers, there were 40 additional observers including agency staff from the New York State Department of Social Services and the New York City Agency for Child Development, staff from many of the Family Day Care Cluster and Careers Programs. In the opening general assembly Dean Augusta Kappner, Project Director, welcomed all to LaGuardia; Charles Brown of N.Y.S.D.O.S.S. told the Providers of the State’s interest in training for Providers; Stephen Ruffins of A.C.D. shared the City’s support of newly licensed training, and Maria Otto, Chairperson of the New York Provider-Teacher-Parent Association, urged the Providers to take full advantage of the exciting training that would benefit themselves, their programs and associations and the day care children.

Each day of the Learning Fair was scheduled so that there were nine simultaneous workshops, three of which were bilingual. Each group of 15 Providers and four or five observers attended three distinct skills shops each day. The skills shops were conducted by the staff members of the LaGuardia/Red Hook Project who worked very hard and long to prepare such interesting experiences.

One Provider was overheard by this reporter at the end of the first day telling her colleagues that although she had intended to come only the first day, because it was so interesting she would be coming the second day. Another Provider who intended to leave early to relieve her husband caring for the day care children since he had to leave for his job, phoned him and told him to call his job and tell them he would be late, because she wanted to stay to the end. It was that good!

In the closing session on the second day, Marjorie Long, Director of Outreach Training, thanked all who participated and thanked her staff who prepared the Learning Fair, especially Annette Jennings and Dorothy Nurse. Pat Kenny closed the Learning Fair by asking some of the Providers who experienced the training to share their feelings on how helpful it was for them. Several Providers (a few in Spanish) did emphatically (although they claimed to be nervous) relate that they were now more confident as a Provider, made new friends, and learned many new ideas to make their work more satisfying.

THE OUTREACH COMPONENT

A Family Get-Together was held by the East Bronx N.A.A.C.P. Family Day Care Center on Wednesday evening, March 21, 1979. It was a grand gathering of Providers, parents, children and more children.

Mrs. Noill Martin, Coordinator of the Program stated the purpose of the Meeting: to introduce the new Providers to the Program and the children who joined the Program in 1978. Mrs. Martin stated that the Board of Directors was desirous of broadening its scope, consequently it extended the Program by bringing on the Family Day Care Program in 1973. She further stated it was an occasion where Providers and Natural Parents could get to know each other, an extended family fellowship.

Present at this first time event was Mrs. Gertrude Eoster, the Public Health Nurse. She described her function with the FDC.
THE OUTREACH COMPONENT

Well adjusted and healthy. She further children so they can grow up to be bright, doctor’s findings stated that her role is to interpret the final statement was that she is in the Center twice monthly to immunize and make referrals. When this is done, she said, "We have

Collegiate Credit Component

Continued from p. 1

During the spring quarter, which started on March 26, the courses offered under the grant will be:

Developmental Activities for Young Children in Social Living (3 credits)
Family Day Care Work Assessment (3 credits)
Fundamentals of Effective Writing (1 credit)
Basic Composition (3 credits)

The Outreach Component

Continued from p. 1

Program to the parents. Her responsibility, she stated, is to provide health care to the children so they can grow up to be bright, well adjusted and healthy. She further stated that her role is to interpret the doctor’s findings and inform providers of same. Her final statement was that she is in the Center twice monthly to immunize and make referrals. When this is done, she said, "We have
OUTREACH (Cont’d. from p. 2)

and Mrs. George made brief remarks on
and invited everyone to join in the Interna-
tional Dinner that had been planned by the
Providers for their dedication and hard work.

Mrs. Daly reassured the Natural Parents that their children are
receiving good care in the Provider’s homes. She
asked the group to applaud the providers
for their dedication and hard work.

Mrs. Benita Williams, Mrs. Tillie Johnson
and Mrs. George made brief remarks on
“What FDC Means To Me As A Participating
Parent.”

The Assistant Coordinator, Carol
Mondesire thanked each one for attend ing
and invited everyone to join in the Interna-
tional Dinner that had been planned by the
Providers. Each dish was equally as attrac-
tive and delicious as the other.

The film was a Super 8 Sound Movie fil-
moved and edited by the FDC staff. The equip-
ment used was purchased through the Pro-
gram’s fund raising efforts.

There were approximately 40 children and
55 adults present. IT WAS A SUCCESSFUL
FIRST!!

DO YOU KNOW . . .

. . . That young children are pedestrian ac-
cident victims more frequently than any
other segment of the population.

. . . More children in this age group die
from motor vehicle accidents than from any
other single cause, and are more likely to
die as pedestrians than as passengers.

. . . Over 50,000 young children receive
disabling injuries from pedestrian ac-
cidents each year; six children die each
day.

By understanding the normal growth
and development patterns of young
children, Providers gain insights as to why
children behave as they do when they are
around traffic. Following are some impor-
tant facts about child development that will
prove to be helpful in this respect:

Physical development

Children under 6 years are short, eye
levels are typically less than 40 inches
above the ground, so they cannot see ap-
proaching traffic over the hoods of cars,
shrubbery, fences, etc.

Visual development is incomplete.

They require a much longer time to focus

RAINY DAY FUN.

It’s a rainy day and you have to stay inside. If you run out of things to do, here is a suggestion
that children of different ages might enjoy.

WHAT YOU DO IS:
1. Make a suitcase. Take a brown paper bag
and draw on the handles. Cut along the
dotted line.
2. Presto! The suitcase.
3. You may want to cut out the names of
different countries from a magazine or news-
paper and paste them as labels onto your
suitcase to show where you’ve been.
4. Pack the suitcase. The magazines or news-
papers are handy to select and cut out what
you need for the trip: e.g., clothing, shoes,
cosmetics, etc.

What you need is:
Brown paper bags
Scissors Crayons
Magazines or newspapers
Glue

Some Things I Like

Some Things I’d Like to

About Myself

Some Things I’d Like to

About Myself

Continued on p. 4
I would like to be more talkative around people I don't know. I would just like to be more open with people. I'd like to be more understanding of others' needs. I would like to be more outspoken; I'm a little soft. I'd like to learn to say "no" and mean it.

I need improvement in setting aside time for myself. I need to gain more confidence to finish what I start; be a leader and not a follower. I need to be calm; I get annoyed with myself when something goes wrong and I don't understand something. I want to be able to have a better appreciation of situations. I need a little more self control in blurtting out what I'm thinking wherever I am and any time.

I would like to improve my writing. I'd like to improve my mind through extending my education in the field of human services. Learning to deal fully with all walks of life that surround me in the future and the present. Hoping my personality will improve day by day. I would like to improve my education, which I'm trying. I believe if I continue my education, I will succeed.

This essay was compiled of writings by the following students:
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