



## Early Childhood Center

The LifeWise STL Early Childhood Center provides high quality childcare and preschool education for 94 children, ages 6 weeks to 5 years of age. The center is open year-round.

The center primarily benefits low-income families who need childcare because they are employed, in school or in training. The majority of the families enrolled are headed by a single parent. LifeWise STL is a partner site of the YWCA's Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The majority of families have their childcare paid through the Head Start/Early Head Start contracts or state subsidies, while others pay according to a sliding scale fee structure.

Health screenings are conducted throughout the year. Screenings include lead and hemoglobin testing; growth assessments; and vision, hearing, blood pressure and dental. Children are screened using the development tools ASQ:SE-2, ASQ-3 and DIAL 4 and assessed using the educational tool Teaching Strategies GOLD. Extra resources are provided as needed.

The center is accredited under the Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth.

## Suggested Donations

- **diapers\* (sizes 3,4,5)**
- pull-ups
- wipes (unscented)
- child-sized toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- crayons (jumbo size)
- markers
- blue ink pens
- paper clips
- sticky notes
- rubber bands
- colored yarn
- bibs
- dish soap
- brooms
- dustpans
- permanent markers
- tricycles, scooters, big wheels
- water color paints
- washable paints
- band-aids (non-medicated)
- storage bags (qt/gal)
- white glue & glue sticks
- staples and staplers
- adult & child scissors
- child-sized paint brushes
- batteries (AAA, AA, C, D)
- masking tape
- children's CDs
- sidewalk chalk
- playground balls (rubber, soccer, basketball)
- heavy duty cars/tractors/truck

\*Diapers are our highest need items.