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Always Busy Growing childcare home

Our image of children no longer considers them as isolated and egocentric, does not see them only engaged in action with objects... Instead our image of the child is rich in potential, strong, powerful, competent, and most of all, connected to adults and other children.

Loris Malaguzzi

Philosophy / Objective

- Working with children and families as collaborators of learning
- Providing excellent quality childcare and learning experiences
- Maintaining a commitment to the integrity of the Reggio and Montessori philosophies of early childhood education
- Supporting professionalism by continuing lifelong learning as an advocate of children and families networking with other professionals in family childcare and teaching fields

Education

Bachelor's of Applied Science degree Fall 2006

Early Childhood Studies / Child Development
Metropolitan State University, Saint Paul, Minnesota
Graduated with Honors

Inducted to Metropolitan State University's chapter of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in psychology for achieving academic excellence

Associate in Arts Degree, 1979

Focus on Elementary Education
Normandale Community College, Bloomington, Minnesota

Relevant Experience and Skills

- Small business owner since 1986 - present
 - Successfully set up and maintained a licensed family childcare home business serving over one hundred children and their families since 1986
 - Uses hands-on approach to partner with children in their learning
 - Routines and lightly structured activities
 - Implementing the Reggioan Philosophy of Early Childhood Education
- CDA advisor, 1994 - 1999
 - Worked as a mentor, assisting childcare providers through the CDA process, conducting home visits, and working as part of an assessment team to provide credentialing for childcare providers in Minnesota

- Supervisor of non-custodial parent, 1997 - 1999
Volunteered as a supervisor of a non-custodial parent during child visitations, documenting and corresponding with the court on behalf of the children
- Co-chair, Publicity and Outreach Committee, 1990 - 1992
- Acted as Secretary of Parent Advisory Board, ECFE, arranging guest speakers and legislators
- Established the West Seventh Child Care Network, serving the needs of area childcare providers
- Collaborated with Partners for Violence Prevention
- Coordinated with West Seventh Family Center
- Planned training meetings and led group discussions, acting as community childcare contact
- Childcare provider advocate
- Member of Wilder Provider Network advisory board; assisted in planning events and supporting childcare works by contacting legislators on childcare public policy issues

Achievements and Awards

- **Child Development Associate (CDA) credential - 1994, renewed in 1998**
from the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C. for demonstrating competence in working with young children and their families through an assessment by the National CDA Council
- **Accreditation for Family Childcare, 1996**
from the National Association for Family Childcare (NAFCC) for attaining the highest standards of quality in the family childcare profession by completing the accreditation process
- **Commendation from the Governor of Minnesota, 1995**
Recognized for presenting professionalism in family childcare as Provider of The Year in Ramsey County, Minnesota
- **Written up in St. Paul Pioneer Press** (front page) as providing excellent in-home licensed family childcare, 1994

Memberships and Professional Organizations

- Ramsey County Family Childcare Association - Advisory Board
- Adults and Children's Alliance
- Minnesota Licensed Family Childcare Association
- National Association for Family Childcare
- North American Reggio Emilia Alliance (N.A.R.E.A.)