Strategic Plan - Whelan Children's Center

The Whelan Children’s Center supports the University’s mission by providing high quality childcare to the students, faculty, and staff of Loyola University New Orleans. The knowledge that the children are being cared for gives the faculty, staff, and students peace of mind and enables them to put all of their energy into their academic endeavors and service. The following goals provide the Whelan Children's Center with the framework for achieving the overall mission:

1. Maintain affordable on-campus childcare for the faculty, staff, and students of the University.

   **Action Plan**
   1. Conduct an annual comparative study of children’s centers in the outlying community in regards to tuition, curriculum, staff, and services rendered.

2. Provide a high quality program consisting of hands-on learning and a curriculum geared to benefit the whole child.

   **Action Plans**
   1. Utilize hands-on activities to give children a greater understanding of the concepts presented.
   2. Facilitate children’s emotional and social development by fostering independence and giving the children the tools to take risks and experiment in a loving, safe environment.

3. Provide staff development opportunities to continually bring new ideas and the latest research to the center.

   **Action Plans**
   1. Research staff development workshops and training that would benefit the staff of the center including teachers, administrators, and the child nutrition coordinator.
   2. Conduct meetings at which the staff can bring the information taken from the workshops and present it to the other staff members so the entire staff can benefit from the information received.

4. Review center policies at regular intervals and revise as needed according to the policy changes of other governing bodies.

   **Action Plans**
   1. Monitor the policies of Loyola University New Orleans, the State of Louisiana Departments of Licensing, Health and Safety, Fire Prevention, and Quality Start Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Child Care Assistance Program.
2. *Policies will be revised as necessary when changes are made.* Changes in existing policies will be approved by the Whelan Children's Center Advisory Board.

5. As funding permits, continue to make exterior and interior improvements to maintain a safe and inviting space for the children and their families.

**Action Plans**

1. *Identify any safety hazards that could potentially harm the children and correct the hazard immediately.*

2. *Identify other areas that need improvement and coordinate with physical plant to address the issues as soon as possible.*