

**COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR PEOPLE UNDER SIX
2019 UPDATE**

Community School for People under Six (CSPU6) is a 5-star North Carolina licensed child care center. Formerly displaced from 400 Caldwell Street, Chapel Hill with the construction of the then new Northside Elementary School, CSPU6 leased its current location at 102 Hargraves Street, Carrboro from the Town of Carrboro on August 18, 2009 after the building owned by the Chapel Hill/Carrboro Schools was given to the Town of Carrboro for the purpose of CSPU6 having a new home for the staff, children and their families.

Community School has faced economic strains through the past 10 years with the unexpected move, renovation cost and economic crises facing the early childhood field. However, we have kept our heads high and worked to serve our diverse population of children and their families to assure that they have access to high quality early care and education. Our current budget is \$562,496.56.

CSPU6 is licensed for 65 children; however, we maintain the National Association for the Education of Young Children staff/child ratios at 1:3 for infants; 1:4 for toddlers; 1:7 for 2/3-year-olds and 1:8 for 4/5-year-olds. Our current enrollment includes: 33 children in these age categories. We serve 51% subsidized by Department of Social Services, Child Care Services and the NC Pre-kindergarten Program and 49% are Fee Paying Families. This has changed in the past 2-3 years, as the number of subsidized families enrolled has reduced as families enrolled moved from subsidized to nonsubsidized funding due to a slight increase in income that makes them ineligible for subsidized child care; but still struggling. A total of 45% of families reside in Carrboro, NC.

Our staff total nine—8 teachers and the director whose education is certified by the NC Institute for Child Development Professionals. A total of 100% of lead teachers have bachelor's degrees in Early Childhood Education or a related field. Most of the staff have been with the child care center for 15-26 years. The director, Anna Mercer-McLean, has been with the center since December 1991---27 years. She has been an advocate for high quality early education for children and for teachers and continues to support these efforts.

Community School currently pays \$100 per month to the Town of Carrboro to cover a portion of the cost for replacement of the old heating and air condition system that stopped working one week after the renovation in 2010. A temporary system was used for one year and then the current system was replaced by the Town in 2011 with much appreciation. CSPU6 pays for insurance, all utilities for the facility, as well as maintains lawn inside the fencing and any repairs to the building or equipment.

Community School for People under Six wishes to thank the Town of Carrboro for its continued support and we would appreciate the extension of the lease agreement to continue to serve the children and families in Orange County and surrounding areas. Thank you!