Welcome to or back to Campus Child Care! Fall Semester is well under way. We currently have 109 children enrolled in our program, ranging in age from infant to preschool, and almost half are new to our program. A big welcome to all of you!! We hope you find CCC to be an ongoing source of support as you study/work at NIU. In addition, we would like to welcome our staff—we currently have 19 full-time staff and over 50 student employees.

For those of you who are wondering how your child does once you say good-bye in the morning, please feel free to slip into the observation booth (the white door by each classroom). You are welcome to come and check on your child at any time during the day, and the observation booth is a great way to do this. Some children may need a few days or weeks to adjust, so allow them some time to build relationships and feel comfortable. Always talk with your child’s teacher if you have any questions or concerns; they are happy to give you updates about your child’s day and classroom activities.

We’ve had some staffing changes with Christy Pelikan (Pre 4) leaving this summer and Carol Schroder (Tod) leaving at the end of August. However, we are thrilled to welcome several new staff to our program: Ann Marie Kuta (Pre-2), Mandy Groff (2/3-1 extra Help) and Katie Haft (2/3-1 extra help). We are still in the process of searching for a permanent 2/3-1 teacher and will be starting the search for Associate Director very soon.

Please note that everyone needs to review the Parent Handbook, located on our website (www.niu.edu/ccc/handbooks). For those who are returning, all changes are noted on the last page. On the bottom of the Parent Resource page is an Orientation PowerPoint which includes some of our primary policies. All new families should view this (approx. 5 min) to become familiar with our most common practices and policies.

We are happy to invite all of our student parents and workers to utilize a room in our center that we call the North Corner. The intent is for students to use this homey space we have provided as a place to study, relax, store items, etc. It is equipped with WiFi, refrigerator, microwave, table & chairs for working, and chairs/couches for relaxing. We will not be providing snacks but invite anyone to bring in food items to be shared. You are welcome to use this room any time during the hours we are open.

Please continue to read on. We normally provide two separate newsletters (one for the infants through two’s and another for preschool) but we like to include all staff schedules and introductions in the first newsletter, so you can ‘meet’ everyone. Newsletters will be posted on our website at the beginning of each month (with the link sent to you via email). Have a great semester and please feel free to talk with us if you have any questions or concerns.

Kristin Schulz

www.ccc.niu.edu
(815) 753-0125
STAFF SCHEDULES

**Administrative Staff**
- **Kristin Schulz**  
  Director (Preschool)  
  ~8:30-5:30
- **Amy Lofthouse**  
  Assistant Director (Inf/Tod/Twos)  
  ~7:30-4:15
- **Janene Boyer**  
  Office Manager  
  8:00-4:30

**Infant Room**
- **Kellie Fuss**  
  Teacher  
  7:15-3:45
- **Pam Yockey**  
  Teacher  
  8:45-5:15

**Student Aides:**
- **Bri Arend**
- **CiCi Rousonelos**
- **Shannon Bowen**
- **Alex McAnally**

**Toddler Room**
- **Katilyn Ostenson**  
  Teacher  
  7:30-4:00
- **Barbara Zeman**  
  Teacher  
  9:00-5:30

**Student Aides:**
- **Sierra Brandom**
- **Cecilia Hernandez**
- **Becca Fukes**
- **Taylor Young**

**2/3’s-1 Room**
- **Mandy Groff**  
  Teacher  
  7:30-11:30
- **Sherie Newman**  
  Teacher  
  9:00-5:30
- **Katie Haft**  
  Teacher  
  11:30-4:00

**Student Aides:**
- **Veronica Jackson**
- **Megan Brashaw**
- **Courtney Morelli**
- **Kelsey Obert**

**2/3’s-2 Room**
- **Denise Fenn**  
  Teacher  
  7:30-4:00
- **Kendra Nenia**  
  Teacher  
  9:00-5:30

**Student Aides:**
- **Ashley Tillman**
- **Janeen George**
- **Rachel Booth**

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**REMINDE**

- **The center will be closed on Monday, September 5.**
- **For your child’s safety, please keep him/her by your side as you enter and exit the building. Children should not be running ahead of parents in or outside of the building. You also cannot leave a child up front as you drop off siblings; they must stay with you at all times.**
- **Please call the Center on days your child will be absent or in after 10am; our number is 815-753-0125.**
- **Please remember to sign your child IN and OUT each day and walk your child directly into the classroom or playground where a teacher will greet him/her.**
- **Remember that you will be billed for all holidays that fall during the semester (Labor Day and 2 days for Thanksgiving), along with any days in which your child is absent.**
- **Please save your invoices so you can track the amount you are spending on child care (for tax purposes).**
- **Please be sure to use your number code or prox card when entering the building to avoid a $5 buzz-in fee (for persistent use).**
### Preschool Room 1
- **Jen Young** Teacher 7:30-4:00
- **Bri Wicker** Teacher 9:00-5:30

**Student Aides:**
- Kate Lambert
- Ashley Marroquin
- Evelyn Fuentes

### Preschool Room 2
- **Diane Mathison** Teacher 7:30-4:00
- **Ann Marie Kuta** Teacher 9:00-5:30

**Student Aides:**
- Bailey Thomas
- Evelyn Fuentes
- Kelsey Thompson

### Preschool Room 3
- **April Kaiser** Teacher 8:30-5:00

**Student Aides:**
- Cynthia Panthier
- Cecilia Hernandez
- Kelsey Thompson

### Preschool Room 4
- **Emily Stoll** Teacher 7:00-3:30
- **Hillary Rosher** Teacher 9:00-5:30

**Student Aides:**
- Falucq Koshul
- Veronica Jackson
- René Mendoza
- Audrey Daley

### Floaters
- **Jaquida Wynn** Teacher 8:30-5:00

**Student Aide Floaters:**
- Courtney Lonigro
- Christina Philips

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**REMINDERS**

- Monthly newsletters will be posted on our Web site at the beginning of each month. Please be sure to read them to stay informed about center happenings.

- **Everyone** will be charged an annual fee of $25.00 per child for supplemental accident insurance and for our child assessment tool. This will appear on your first bill. Please refer to that section in the Parent Handbook for more information.

- Please fill out a Schedule Change form whenever you are requesting a permanent schedule change. Any decrease in hours requires a two week notice. Any increase in hours will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis, as space is available. Forms are available on the front blue counter. One time schedule changes (extra care) must be requested in advance to avoid a late fee. Please talk to Janene about any schedule change.

- Please do not bring toys or food from home. Leaving items either at home or in the car is the best option instead of bringing them into the center.

- Please return the Food Program form ASAP. It is required annually.

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Some students are employed as ‘Floaters’. They move around the center and work in various classrooms as needed (taking over for other teachers who are absent). Teachers are also scheduled out of the room at times for curriculum planning, staff and classroom meetings.
STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Director (Preschool Classrooms)

Welcome to Fall Semester 2016, my name is Kristin Schulz. The search process recently ended and I was chosen to be director just a week ago. I was previously the Associate Director for Campus Child Care. For those of you who don’t know me, I am a 2002 NIU graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education. I have been working in the early childhood field for a number of years; 12 of those have been at Campus Child Care. During this time I have been a preschool teacher, served on a number of committees, developed staff training tools, and I am two classes away from my masters degree in Child and Family Studies. I hope that you will help me as I get to know all of you and your children.

To help us connect, I’d like to share a little bit about my family. My husband and I live in Belvidere with our two children. Graeme, is 10 and Elizabeth is six. Both of my children attended CCC until they went to kindergarten! We love outdoor activities and exploring the many natural trails and parks Illinois has to offer. This summer we have taken to Pokémon Go walks. Please let me know if you have a favorite park or path as we are always looking for an adventure and opportunity to catch more Pokémon. Please feel free to stop in and see me. I enjoy hearing about your experience here at CCC and with NIU. Let me know if I can help in any way!

Assistant Director (Infant, Toddler, Two’s Classrooms)

Hello! My name is Amy Lofthouse. I am the Assistant Director for Campus Child Care and I will be supervising the infant, toddler and two’s classrooms. This is my second year at CCC and I am looking forward to another great year! I graduated from NIU in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in Child Development, and quickly put that degree to use at the NIU Child Development Lab. While I worked full time as an infant/toddler/two’s teacher, I attended graduate school, also at NIU, and graduated in 2010 with a master’s degree in Early Childhood Education. After graduating, I moved on to teach preschool, also at the NIU Child Development Lab, and remained there until June of 2015.

On a personal note, I am married and have two children; Clara (3) and Brody (18months), as well as a dog, Swiss, who I enjoy spending all of my free time with. As a family, we enjoy spending a lot of time outside and spending time with family and friends.

Have a great semester! Please feel free to stop by at any time! Go Huskies!

Office Manager

Wishing all a great start to the Fall semester and warm welcome to all our families. My name is Janene Boyer and I have been with Campus Child Care for 27 years. To help assist you better, you can see me if you have questions or need help with schedule changes, extra care, enrollment, billing, and many more questions. I am here Monday through Friday, 8:00-4:30. If you do not have a chance to speak with me in the morning or at the end of the day, feel free to e-mail me (jboyer@niu.edu) or call (815-753-0125) with any questions you may have. I also have a drop box, for your convenience, to leave any paperwork that needs to be returned. I hope you have a successful semester.
Kitchen Helper

My name is Karen Smith, or as the children refer to me, "The Lunch Lady". I've been the Kitchen Helper at CCC for 13 years. I'm originally from this area but lived in Michigan for 11 years where I earned my associate's degree in Culinary/Hospitality Management. My many visions upon graduation were to open a Bed & Breakfast, Tea Room, or Soda Shoppe. I worked in several restaurants and had a catering business before moving back to Illinois. Prior to joining the staff at CCC, I was the cook at Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority.

Some of the things I like to do on my 'off' time are traveling to Wisconsin to visit my 10 yr. old grandson, flea markets, yard sales (for books—avid reader), making craft projects, and writing short stories. Please feel free to stop by the kitchen anytime and say "Howdy".

Infant Room

Hello, my name is Kellie Fuss and I am a one of the Teachers in the Infant Room this academic year. Through my many years of experience, I have worked with children ages infant through school age while in the child care field. I received an associate’s degree in Early Childhood Education from Purdue University and a bachelor’s degree in Family and Individual Development from Northern Illinois University. My career here at NIU Campus Child Care began when this location opened in the fall semester of 2000. While here, I have worked in the infant, toddler, and 2 /3's rooms. I am currently credentialed in ECE at a level 5 and in Infant/Toddler at a level 4.

My husband, Kevin, and I have one child, Joe. He is in 6th grade at St. Mary School in DeKalb. It seems that not too long ago he was enrolled at NIU CCC. When I am not at work I love to spend time with Joe and Kevin or visiting the rest of our family in Northwest Indiana. My other hobbies include reading and baking. I also spend time volunteering for my church, Joe’s school, and Boy Scouts of America. I work 9 months out of the year and have just returned to work. After having a great summer at home with Joe I am happy to be back at work. I am truly looking forward to working with and getting to know all the infants and their families this year. Have a great semester!

Hi Welcome to the Infant Room,
I am Pam Yockey, I have been at Campus Child Care since 2010. I have just finished a rotation of following Infants from 2013 to Toddler then to Two’s classroom and now returning to the Infant Room! I have been in the early childhood since 1982, taking a break while raising my children and running an excavating business with my husband. I also worked with Sycamore School District as a Reading Assistant. I live in Sycamore with my husband, Chris. We have three daughters and 3 Son-in-laws and five grandchild-

Toddler Room

Hello, and welcome. My name is Barbara Zeman and I will be one of the teachers in the Toddler Room this year. I can’t wait to get to know all the new families and see all the returning families and children coming to the Toddler Room this fall. But first, a little bit about myself. I got both my undergrad
and graduate degrees here at N.I.U., but before I got my masters I got my associates degree from Kishwaukee College. I consider myself a lifelong learner and constantly strive to be the best teacher for the children in my care. I live in the small, little town of Paw Paw. I have two sons. One is a senior here at N.I.U. and will graduate in December. My other son will be starting his freshman year of college at Kish this fall. My husband recently retired from N.I.U., but stills enjoys working part time as a drive for Ottawa Dental Lab and farming. We have two dogs and four cats rounding out our household, but in the summer our cat count climbs, because we enjoy fostering kittens for T.A.I.L.S.

Hello, my name is Katilyn Ostenson and I will be a teacher in the Toddler Room this fall. I am so excited to be moving up with the toddlers as they were in the infant room! I also cannot wait to work with Barbara for another year. I worked at CCC as a student worker in 2011. As a student I worked in the Infant and Toddler rooms. In the spring of 2014, I did my internship right across the street, at the Child Development Lab. During my internship, I worked with the infant, toddlers, and two’s. I then graduated from NIU with my bachelor’s degree in Family and Child Studies in May 2014. This is my second year working at Campus Child Care. As a professional staff, I have worked in the Preschool and Infant classrooms.

I currently live in Sycamore with my boyfriend, guinea pig (Theodore), and our new baby, Skylar! Skylar was born in June 2016. We are so happy to have Skylar in our lives! She will be coming to work with me and will be in the infant room. I am very excited to be in the Toddler room this year and cannot wait to get to know all of the children and their families.

2/3’s-1 Room

Hello, my name is Sherie Newman and I am the teacher in the 2/3’s-1 room. I am truly looking forward to getting to know all of you and building a strong relationship with you so we can both work together on making your child’s semester successful. I have been at Campus Child Care for 13 ½ years and have had the privilege of experiencing all the age groups.

I am married to a wonderful man, David and we have two boys. Donovan is sixteen and Austin is almost fifteen. We live on a farm south of DeKalb with cattle, chickens, dogs and cats. I love living in the country!

I enjoying observing the children in a learning environment and creating curriculum that will inspire them. I would like for you to understand that we are a team, and I will need your guidance to make sure that your children are growing and developing. I am always open to any questions or concerns you may have. Please don’t hesitate to ask. I want to give everyone an open invitation to come into the room to read, play an instrument, sing a song, to create art or any other ideas. I hope everyone has a successful semester.

2/3’s-2 Room

Welcome families! We are so excited about our 2’s classroom for the Fall 2016 semester. In our first weeks we have spent a lot of time getting know each and every one of the children and learning their individual interests and personalities. As part of the two year olds curriculum we develop studies. That is where we expand on a topic they are interested in. We are looking forward to exploring topics of study to learn about with the children. We want you to know a little about us too...
My name is Kendra, this is my 13th year here at CCC. I have a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, and I am pursuing my master’s degree in early childhood education. I am a wife (10 years!!) and a mother of two children named Margaret- 8 years old and Jack- 5 years old. Being a mother has been one of the most educational journeys of my life so far – and it has made me a stronger teacher too. I am looking forward to building relationships with all of the twos families and children this year!

Hello! My name is Denise Fenn. I’m extremely excited be a part of the CCC team again! I previously worked as a student worker from 2010 to 2013. After graduating from NIU with my Bachelors in Child Development I worked at a local child care center in Sycamore. I look forward to meeting you and building strong relationships with the children!

Preschool Room 1

Welcome to Pre 1! My name is Jen Young and I am excited to be teaching with Bri again this year! I have a bachelor’s degree in Child Development from NIU, and currently am working towards a Master’s Degree in Early Childhood Education with a special education endorsement. This will be my 14th year teaching here at the center! Since working at CCC, I have worked as a teacher in every age group, and I am excited to be staying in Pre 1 this fall! I feel very lucky to be able to stay with some of the children I worked with this past year, to continue building those relationships and to get to know the new children to our room as well. We would really like to focus this semester on building relationships between the children, their families, and partnering together to provide the best experience for all. We have already begun working on building our school and classroom community and hope that you are all feeling welcome in our classroom!

My children and I live in DeKalb. I have two sons, Carter (almost 11) and Wes (7). Carter will be in 5th grade this fall, and Wes will be in 2nd! Cherish this time when they’re little because they grow too fast! I love being a mom and having the perspective as both a parent and a teacher. I know how challenging it can be to juggle the many tasks that parents have. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my boys and extended family—photography, health and wellness, and watching my boys play soccer. I’m looking forward to a great year together and getting to know each child and their family! Please, if you have any questions don’t hesitate to ask.

Hello. My name is Brianna Wicker. I am an NIU Alum and graduated with my degree in Family and Child Studies in December of 2014. My professional experience began at the Child Development Lab and has continued here at Campus Child Care. I just celebrated my first anniversary at CCC and am so excited to begin another year as a Preschool Teacher in the Pre 1 Classroom. I believe that children learn best through play and love to incorporate literacy into the classroom. Some of my favorite authors include Mo Willems, Eric Carle, and Laura Numeroff. Personally, I just celebrated my first anniversary with my husband John and enjoy spending time with my family, dogs, and friends. I’m looking forward to a successful second year here at Campus Child Care and can’t wait to get started!

Preschool Room 2

Welcome to fall semester at Campus Child Care. My name is Diane Mathison and I am an NIU graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Child Development. I have worked at Campus Child Care for 15 years. I truly enjoy working with the children and their families. I love how the children get so excited to learn new things. For those of you who do not know me, I live with my husband Mark, twelve-year-old son, Camer-
on, eight-year-old daughter Ella, and our cat, Meeko. In my spare time I enjoy watching my children engaged in sports, working in the yard, taking walks, swimming and spending time with my family and friends. This year I will be working in Pre-2. I’m looking forward to a fun and exciting year. Please feel free to talk with me if you have any questions.

I am excited to begin my first Semester at Campus Child Care. My name is Ann Marie Kuta and I began my career over thirty years ago with an Associate in Early Childhood Education from Triton College. I have taught several ages over the years, Toddlers, Twos but has mostly taught the Pre School (3-5 year olds) age.

I added to my education and in June of 2012 with a Bachelors in Early Childhood Education from Ashford University, and in December of 2013 I added my Master’s in Education also from Ashford.

I live in Machesney Park, IL along with my husband Dale, we have raised four boys Kurtis, and Zach both have graduated from college with degrees in accounting and finance. Lucas who is a double engineering major at Michigan Tech and Nate who plays Jr. Hockey in Wisconsin Dells this Year.

I look forward to getting to know you and your child and working in the Pre -2 room.

**Preschool Room 3**

Welcome to the 2016 fall semester! My name is April Kaiser and will be the Pre-3 teacher this semester! I have been at NIU Campus Child Care for 12 years and feel that the preschool classrooms have been a great fit for me!

I live in a tiny town about 30 miles from here and enjoy the country life. I have 2 grown children. My daughter Valerie is 24 and lives in DeKalb and my son Wes is 20 and attends ISU in Normal, Illinois. I have an adorable granddaughter Kenlee who will very soon be turning 3!

Not only am I looking forward to a fun filled semester with your children, my daughter will be getting married September 10 and her new husband Brian will join our family! A very exciting start to the school year!

I’m looking forward to getting to know each family and helping each child have an amazing year here at Campus Child Care!

**Preschool Room 4**

Hello! My name is Emily Stoll and I am so excited to begin a new year at Campus Child Care. I am an NIU Alum and graduated with my Bachelor’s Degree in Family and Child Studies in May of 2015. I have about 5 years of experience in the Early Childhood field prior to graduation. I just celebrated my first anniversary at CCC and am looking forward to beginning the year in a new classroom and welcoming all of our new friends! My teaching philosophy is one that is based heavily in the idea that children learn best through play and meaningful interactions. I feel that it is important to observe the children and understand their interests and strengths and base those interactions based on intentional observations. Personally, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. My fiancé and I are getting married at the end of September.
and are getting all of the final pieces of the puzzles put in place for the big day! I look forward to spending the year in preschool and can’t wait to see what the future holds for our friends!

Cheers! My name is Hillary Rosher and it is an absolute delight to begin my second year at Campus Child Care. I graduated from Northern Illinois University in 2010 with my Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education. Previously, I worked at a private center for 5 years with school aged children and my professional path lead me to CCC in 2015 and have worked with all ages, ranging from infants and toddlers to preschool.

My teaching style is rich in performing arts such as song and dance and visual arts to enhance the learning opportunities for the children. My growing interests in the early childhood field includes working with children who display special needs and challenging behaviors. I also welcome children from various cultures and their diverse languages. I look forward to a new semester with new challenges and opportunities.

Floater

Greetings families! My name is Jaquida Wynn and I graduated from Northern Illinois University with a bachelor’s degree in Family and Child Studies. I’m now going into my second semester as a graduate student, majoring in Education. I have had the pleasure of working with preschoolers for one year, the twos/threes children for one year and this semester I will be a floater. I will be popping in all of the classrooms. I’m so excited for this experience because I have the opportunity of being a part of all the children lives. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your family to Fall Semester 2016. I am thrilled to be part of the Campus Child Care team. CCC has played a key part in my life where it has helped me to grow as an individual. I’ve had the opportunity of working as a student worker for a year and a half in the toddler room, I’m a parent of a preschooler, and it is now my third year as a teacher!

I am from the west side of Chicago, but now reside in Cortland, IL. I have an amazing four-year-old daughter, Khira, who attends CCC in the Pre-2 classroom. Spending time with my daughter is what I love to do most. We love to dance, go out for ice cream, read books and have picnics in the park. Relationships are the foundation for children’s success so I look forward to partnering with you to help your child/children grow. Have a marvelous semester!

ADVISORY BOARD

The Campus Child Care Advisory Board serves as an advocate group for the center and seeks to ensure that the children are provided with high quality child care. The Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Director. We are looking for some parent representatives to serve on our Advisory Board for the upcoming academic year; we especially need some new students to participate. Meetings will be held once during each semester. Please contact Kristin (kschulz@niu.edu) as soon as possible if you are interested or would like more information. A letter may be sent out to individuals who are recommended by others, inviting you to serve on the board.
BILLING PROCEDURES

Students will be billed for child care once a month and these charges will be added directly to your MyNIU account. All payments need to be sent to the Bursar’s Office. Faculty, staff and community will be billed through Accounts Receivable every month. Remember that you will be charged for holidays so you will be billed the same amount each week, regardless of the days we are closed. You are also billed for days in which you are scheduled but your child does not attend. If you have any questions regarding your child care fees or the billing process, please talk with Janene. Please pay your child care bills on time. Anyone who misses multiple payments may have their child care terminated.

CHILDREN’S & PARENT LENDING LIBRARY

We have a center-wide lending library for children’s books. In the front lobby near the water fountains, there is a book shelf with a variety of interesting books for all ages. You are welcome to just take a book from the shelf (you do not need to check out the books). As a general rule, these items should be returned after one week. We also have books and brochures available for parents in the small Resource Room next to the lobby. We do ask that you check these books out with Janene. NIU, as well as local service brochures are also available for you to take. We hope you enjoy our lending libraries!

LATE POLICY

Please refer to the Parent Handbook on our website so you can thoroughly understand our late pick up and early drop off policy. In an effort to maintain the appropriate group size and staffing for each classroom, we monitor the children’s schedules. It is imperative that you are on time to pick up your child and that you don’t drop off earlier than your scheduled time. You cannot arrive 5, 10, or 15 minutes early/late (essentially using child care that you have not paid for) unless you intend to stay with your child. If you need some extra time, then you will need to request it in advance. Late fees are charged when we have not received advance notice of a schedule change. Although there is an additional 10% fee added to accommodate ‘extra hours’, a late fee is more expensive than arranging extra care in advance. The end of the day late fee is $1.00 per minute as of 5:31. So again, please stay within your child’s schedule and realize that you will see additional fees added to your bill if you arrive early or pick up late. We are not as concerned if you drop off later than your scheduled time or pick up earlier because that does not negatively affect our ratios.

Calendar of Events

Sept. 5 — NIU and CCC closed for Labor Day

Sept. 12-16— Annual Children’s Book Fair—Mon-Thurs. 8-5, Friday 8-3

Wednesday, Sept 14, 5:30-6:30p.m.— Family Program for All Age Groups, Potluck Dinner for all all families and extended families! See your child’s classroom to sign up, coming soon!

Book fair volunteers needed— A sign up sheet will be posted by the 6th for you to sign up to help.
4-C COMMUNITY COORDINATED CHILD CARE

SOSIAL WORK SERVICES

Hello NIU Campus Child Care Families! My name is Toni Leal and I am the 4-C Social Worker. I would like to take this opportunity to let you know about the services I provide to families and teachers at NIU Campus Child Care. Before I forget, I want you all to know that all my services are FREE! That’s right, my services are of no cost to you or the center.

As you may know, 4-C: Community Coordinated Child Care is a not-for-profit agency that has been serving children, families, parents and child care providers for more than 40 years. Our mission is to promote children’s well-being by advocating for quality, affordable and accessible child care. We support parents and those providing child care by offering information, education, resources and services. You can check out our other services available to you at www.four-c.org.

One aspect of my job as the 4-C Social Worker is to visit NIU Campus Child Care twice per month and meet with the teachers to support them in their role and provide resources to them as needed. I am available to observe their classroom or a specific child in order to provide feedback, as well as develop behavior plans for children as needed.

Another aspect of my job is to provide services to parents and guardians. Parenting can be tough, but know that there is support for you during this time! A big piece of my work is providing parents with support and information; whether that be by meeting with parents once over coffee (yum!) or meeting regularly for approximately six sessions and discussing topics such as growth and development, communication, self-esteem, and guidance. It is up to you when, where and for how long we meet.

Another part of my work is linking families with community resources. If you are in need of something and are not sure where to go, give me a call. I also provide short-term counseling, facilitate parent workshops and social/emotional activities for children.

I will be at the NIU Campus Child Care on a quarterly basis to get to know you, answer any questions you may have regarding your children or parenting, or to help connect you with community resources. Look out for a post card with the dates and times of when I will be at the center. I look forward to talking with you!

Toni Leal, MSW, LCSW
4-C Social Worker
815-758-8149, Ext 242
ToniL@four-c.org