

Lowry Early Childhood Education Center

(Child Development Lab)

Description of Program

The Lowry Early Childhood Center is a model center, which exhibits best practice in the field of early childhood education and development. Its main purpose is to provide a laboratory setting for the study of human, family, and child development. The aim of Lowry is to be a Child Development Lab and Educational Center of the highest quality.

The mission of the Lowry Center is to provide a model center for early childhood education and human development for the broad University community and its constituency groups. Lowry provides an ideal setting for the professional development of pre-service and in-service educators in the field of Early Childhood Education. The educational goals of the center are congruent with the goals of the School of Education and Human Services and the mission of Oakland University. The Lowry Center serves multiple target groups by supplying high quality education experiences for young children in the community and an excellent field experience and observation site for Oakland University students.

The Lowry Early Childhood Education Center offers an exemplary program for young children 18 months through 5 years of age extended to 6 years in the summer program. The vision of the center is to cultivate and maintain an environment where students, faculty, staff and parents collaborate regarding the essential elements necessary for optimal learning in young children. Teacher education, research and service are in the forefront of goal setting throughout the center. Child development, early learning and best practice in the field of early childhood education are cornerstones of the program's foundation.

The curriculum is based on sound child development theory and practice, incorporating a variety of approaches and techniques. The daily routine structure is based on the High/Scope Curriculum model and consists of planning time, work time, and recall time. Project-based learning allows children the opportunity to challenge their minds by exploring various topics and questions. As children are involved in project experiences, they become familiar with, and competent in the process of planning, exploring, and expanding their interests. The program strives to provide an environment, which develops strong self-esteem, provokes curiosity, and increases the desire to learn.

The Lowry Center is utilized for selected graduate Early Childhood Education courses, thus providing immediate and direct opportunities for observation and interaction with young children. Undergraduate classes in the School of Education make frequent visits to the Lowry Center for observations, assessment, and modeling. Several other academic departments utilize Lowry Center to meet their specific education purposes. Many undergraduate students serve in classroom assistant roles throughout their time at Oakland University.

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The Lowry Center partners with Rochester Community Schools to provide inclusive environments for children with special needs from the Rochester community. This partnership enhances learning for all children and offers a diverse environment and support from many specialists from the Rochester Community Schools.

Through the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) federal grant funding, the Lowry Center also strives to serve and support Oakland University student parents by providing a high quality program for their young children as they work to achieve educational goals.

Furthermore Lowry Center offers the Michigan School Readiness Program (MSRP), a state funded prekindergarten program for at-risk four year olds. This program enhances diversity and extends services to the community.

Key Performance Indicators

Percentage of enrollment capacity for Winter semester, 2006

	Toddler-AM	Toddler-PM	Toddler-Full
Monday	87%	73%	93%
Tuesday	100%	100%	100%
Wednesday	100%	80%	87%
Thursday	100%	100%	93%
Friday	97%	73%	87%
	Preschool-AM	Preschool-PM	Preschool-Full
Monday	114%	93%	95%
Tuesday	93%	114%	100%
Wednesday	114%	93%	90%
Thursday	93%	107%	95%
Friday	107%	79%	90%
	Pre-K-AM	Pre-K-PM	Pre-K-Full
Monday	117%	108%	64%
Tuesday	125%	75%	91%
Wednesday	125%	125%	64%
Thursday	117%	67%	105%
Friday	133%	108%	59%
Total overall enrollment percentage =	94%		

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	Winter 2003 Participants	Winter 2004 Participants	Winter 2005 Participants	Winter 2006 Participants
Community	142	200	146	156
Students	30	22	22	38
Faculty and Staff	22	14	19	25

Age Group	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
Toddlers	\$47 Full day \$26 Half day	\$49 Full day \$27 Half day	\$49 Full day \$27 Half day	\$52 Full day \$29 Half day
Preschool	\$39 Full day \$21 Half day	\$41 Full day \$22 Half day	\$41 Full day \$22 Half day	\$44 Full day \$24 Half day
Pre-K	Pre-K \$39 Full day \$21 Half day	Pre-K \$41 Full day \$22 Half day	Pre-K \$41 Full day \$22 Half day	Pre-K \$44 Full day \$24 Half day
Before / After-Care	\$5.00 / ½ hour (Unscheduled hours discouraged.)	\$5.00 / ½ hour	\$5.00 / ½ hour	\$5.00 / ½ hour Community \$3.00/ ½ hour OU

1. Registration/Deposit fees for community members will be \$200 per year; \$150 will be deducted from the final payment (\$50.00 non-refundable).
2. Registration fees for OU affiliates will be \$50 per semester; \$25 will be deducted from the final payment per semester (\$25.00 non-refundable per semester).

Oakland University
Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education
Proposed Budget - All Funds
Fiscal Year 2007

	FY 06 BUDGET	FY 06 ESTIMATED ACTUAL	FY 07 BUDGET
REVENUE:			
Operating Revenue	\$ 778,462	\$ 715,110	\$ 782,657
Retail Sales	-	-	-
Student Fees	-	-	-
Gifts and Grants	46,280	87,788	85,753
Investment Income	-	-	-
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 824,742</u>	<u>\$ 802,898</u>	<u>\$ 868,410</u>
EXPENDITURES:			
Compensation	\$ 770,000	\$ 737,910	\$ 760,299
Supplies and Services	61,000	55,076	59,625
Repairs and Maintenance	-	16,140	26,268
Cost of Retail Sales	-	-	-
Equipment	6,000	1,500	6,000
Insurance	-	-	-
Utilities	5,500	4,100	4,200
University Overhead	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 842,500</u>	<u>\$ 814,726</u>	<u>\$ 856,392</u>
TRANSFERS OUT (IN):			
General Fund Budget Support	\$ (21,096)	\$ (18,225)	\$ (18,225)
Debt Service	-	-	-
Other Transfers	-	-	-
Total Transfers	<u>\$ (21,096)</u>	<u>\$ (18,225)</u>	<u>\$ (18,225)</u>
Net Revenue Before Major Capital Expenditures	<u>\$ 3,338</u>	<u>\$ 6,397</u>	<u>\$ 30,243</u>
Major Capital Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Revenue	<u>\$ 3,338</u>	<u>\$ 6,397</u>	<u>\$ 30,243</u>
FUND BALANCES JULY 1	\$ 219,936	\$ 264,052	\$ 270,449
FUND BALANCES JUNE 30	<u>\$ 223,274</u>	<u>\$ 270,449</u>	<u>\$ 300,692</u>