



## **Learning Team Programmatic Goals by Benchmark**

### **Infants & Toddlers**

Our youngest learners grow and develop at a faster rate than during any other life stage. They have a natural curiosity about the world and are entirely dependent upon adults to maintain their sense of security. Learning occurs through exploration of self and the environment while parents serve as excellent learning companions.

#### **Program Goals:**

- To create a safe, secure, welcoming environment
- To link each child/parent with caring adults
- To educate and support new parents
- To assist young children in building healthy relationships
- To facilitate purposeful enrichment experiences
- To engage bodies and minds in stimulating, age- appropriate activities
- To provide daily, nutritious meals
- To level the playing field and support school-readiness

### **School Age Children**

At the onset (ages 4-6) these learners are imaginative and motivated by curiosity. While egocentric, they require strong relationships with trusted adults. They love to manipulate objects, draw and enjoy stories. Later on (ages 7-10) they become more objective. They crave concrete information and begin to demonstrate independence with simple tasks. They learn by asking questions and love artistic outlets for expression.

#### **Program Goals:**

- To create a safe, secure welcoming environment
- To link each child with caring adults
- To assist children in building healthy peer relationships
- To supervise and support homework completion

- To provide maintenance of skills acquired in school
- To facilitate purposeful enrichment experiences
- To expose children to their larger community and beyond
- To provide service learning opportunities
- To engage bodies and minds in recreation/mindfulness
- To provide daily, nutritious evening meals
- To support parents of school age children

### **Tweens & Teens**

Adolescence is a time when a desire for social acceptance and a preoccupation with self is dominant. These learners successfully build on prior learning and begin to experience abstract thinking. They use logic and reasoning to make sense of the world around them and are increasingly reliant on peers. Authentic learning is critical, as are the development of trusting relationships with adults.

#### **Program Goals:**

- To create a safe, secure, welcoming after-hours environment
- To link each tween/teen with caring adults
- To assist tweens/teens in building healthy peer relationships
- To supervise and support homework completion
- To provide direct supports for executive functioning skills
- To educate tweens/teens about high school/college readiness
- To guide teens through application to higher learning opportunities
- To expose tweens/teens to potential career paths
- To facilitate purposeful enrichment experiences
- To expose tweens/teens to their larger community and beyond
- To provide service learning opportunities
- To engage bodies and minds in recreation/mindfulness
- To provide daily, nutritious evening meals
- To support parents of tweens/teens

## **Adults**

In the earliest stages (ages 20-40) these learners are autonomous, self-directed and intrinsically motivated for success. They make decisions about personal, occupational, and social roles and use personal experiences to enhance their learning. As they are often raising families and building their careers, they benefit from problem-centered challenges and have a sense of immediacy for application of new knowledge. As they age (ages 40-54) a well-developed sense of self emerges and they find themselves reexamining goals and values. They are particularly eager for intellectual challenge and the benefit of learning with others.

### **Program Goals:**

- To provide a safe, secure, welcoming environment
- To engage clients with caring staff
- To deliver supports leading to citizenship and language acquisition
- To serve as a bridge to other community agencies
- To provide opportunities to engage in service to the community
- To expose/guide clients toward potential career paths
- To facilitate purposeful enrichment experiences
- To engage bodies and minds in recreation/mindfulness
- To provide access to nutritious meals
- To alleviate issues associated with food instability
- To support adults raising children

## **Seniors**

Opportunities for the senior learner are limitless. While physiological changes occur, the demands of raising children and climbing the career ladder may have also shifted for the young senior. They want to increase knowledge and share what they know with others. Keeping abreast of how the world is changing aids in the way they perceive themselves. Seniors tend to enjoy environments that combine social activity with exposure to experiences and information. As with learners at all stages, seniors want learning to be positive, personally fulfilling and ongoing.

### **Program Goals:**

- To create a safe, secure, welcoming environment
- To engage clients with caring staff
- To deliver supports aligned with adult learning program goals

- To serve as a bridge to other community agencies
- To provide opportunities for positive social interaction
- To facilitate purposeful enrichment experiences
- To engage bodies and minds in recreation/mindfulness
- To provide access to nutritious meals
- To alleviate issues associated with food instability
- To support seniors raising grandchildren
- To provide opportunities for seniors to contribute to the betterment of our community