
History of Corning Children's Center

- 1979 Local need assessed and proposal to Corning Glass Works Foundation for funding
- 1980 Established Board of Directors, secured a site, hired Co-Directors and staff, secured licensing
Opened in September serving 24 preschoolers in the First Presbyterian Church of Corning
- 1988 Moved the program to the Mennonite Ministries in South Corning
Increased enrollment to 40 preschoolers
- 1991 Moved to the First Baptist Church of Painted Post
Expanded to include Toddler Care
- 1992 Toddler program expanded to serve 20, increasing licensed capacity to 68
Groundbreaking for new Center
- 1994 Moved existing program to new site in January
Licensed for 120 children
Began infant and Pre-K programs and expanded toddler and preschool programs
Held first major fundraising event which has evolved over time to become the Blue Moon Ball
First BOCES Child Development Class began training at the Center
- 1995 Eliminated role of Program Director and enhanced role of Lead Teachers to better meet financial and programmatic goals
- 1996 Began new School Age Program during the summer and on full day school closings
Expanded licensed capacity to 143 children
Began offering emergency backup care on a space available basis
Graduated first two year students from BOCES Child Development Program
- 1997 Achieved NAEYC Accreditation
- 1998 First Staff Development Day held in collaboration with Child Care at Christ Church
Piloted After School Care for school aged alumni and siblings
- 1999 Established *Committed Caregivers Club*
- 2000 Added role of Associate Director
Achieved NAEYC reaccreditation
Implemented Continuity of Caregivers from infancy through preschool in B Wing
- 2001 Opened six new classrooms in modular space
Graduated last group of BOCES early childhood education students
- 2002 Closed School Age Program at the end of the school year
Implemented Continuity of Caregivers in A Wing
Merged four classrooms to "right size" in response to down turn in the local economy demand
- 2003 Added Age Level Specialists and added a Part Time Director of Development
Selected for a pilot project to include Early Education in accreditation offerings through the Middle States Commission on Education
- 2004 Funded and institutionalized a calendar of program enrichments including Artist in Residence series, performance calendar and Spanish language classes
- 2005 Received accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Education
Began annual Friends of the Family Celebration
- 2006 Received ARTS Partnership Award
- 2007 Began program redesign to allow for construction of a new facility
- 2008 Annex removed and construction of new facility began
- 2009 Moved into new state-of-the-art, LEED-certified child care and education center

- 2010 Achieved reaccreditation from the Middle States Commission on Education
Added four new classrooms to completely fill available space in our new facility
Began serving Early Head Start students through a contract with ProAction Head Start
Began use of the Online COR (Classroom Observation Record)
- 2012 Began work on our Five Year Plan for outdoor play space development
Director of Development becomes a salaried, full time position
- 2013 Parents were given access to the Online COR for their children
Welcomed back alumni in a new Summer School Age Program for 2013 & 14
- 2013 Piloted Mandarin Immersion Program with volunteer Mandarin Teachers
- 2015 Demand for Toddlers led to decision to close Summer School Age Program and use overflow classroom as a regular year round classroom
Budget passed to include three part time Mandarin Instructors
- 2016 Mandarin staff members were hired as regular staff for a school year program
Hired Program Director and reclassified other administrative positions