

The PACE Program



Working together
to foster emotional well being
in our community
through connection,
support and education.

www.thepaceprogram.ca

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The PACE Program is an early intervention and educational centre offering a range of services to support and empower young children with significant social, emotional and/or behavioural challenges and their families.

Please see the other side for a summary of services offered.

All programs are available throughout Vancouver.

NOTE: The Outreach Support Services and The Supporting Healthy Transitions Program are also available in Richmond.



PACE has been a resource to the community since 1984 and is a non-profit, operated by the PACE Child and Family Society.

The core services are primarily funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), and are free of charge.

PACE also provides professional development & training opportunities to childcare workers & professionals.

*PACE has been an excellent resource for us....
PACE has built strong working relationships
with our staff team, the families
and our community."*

LORI CICCONE, COORDINATOR,
KIWASSA VARIETY CLUB DAYCARE,
KIWASSA NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
VANCOUVER, BC

PROGRAM BELIEFS

- ✓ Supporting the inherent ability of the family so as to empower children and families to realize their potential.
- ✓ Supporting families to connect with their natural resources.
- ✓ Believing in parents and family as the most important resource in the child's life. Working in partnership with parents, foster parents and professionals.
- ✓ Providing opportunities to heal past pain and to assist parents in dealing with the emotional demands of family life.
- ✓ Supporting parents to develop healthy parenting skills.
- ✓ Providing early intervention as a critical step to supporting later successful integration into school.
- ✓ Offering a range of services, in a variety of settings, to children and families at risk.
- ✓ Stabilizing placements and supporting healthy transitions of children moving between foster homes and birth, adoptive, extended family or another foster home.
- ✓ Building community capacity through training and hands-on service.

"PACE gave our son the caring, acceptance and support to safely work through all the losses in his life while gently nurturing the spark in his soul."

ADOPTIVE PARENTS

PACE FAMILY PROGRAM

This early intervention and prevention program offers the child and family a range of supports, including a play-based preschool program for children (aged 3 to 5) with significant emotional and/or behavioural challenges. The program focuses on building on the family's strengths, the child/parent relationship and attachment, and the overall growth of the child. We believe strongly in working in partnership with the child's family, caregivers and other professionals, in developing goals and a plan based on strengths and needs.

The preschool operates Monday through Thursday, 9:00 to 11:45 a.m. Bus service is available within certain geographic boundaries. Child therapy may be provided on a weekly basis. A range of family supports is provided. Parent involvement is essential and an integral part of this family program.

When children are assessed as ready, outreach consultation and support is offered to preschool and daycare programs to help with integration. Support is offered to the school system to facilitate the transition of children leaving the program.

OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES

TO DAYCARES, PRESCHOOLS & SCHOOL-AGED PROGRAMS
IN VANCOUVER AND RICHMOND

As part of the continuum of supports to daycares, preschools and school-aged programs, this service aims to support children with significant emotional and/or behavioural needs in their neighbourhood centres. PACE staff work alongside centre staff to develop both an understanding of the children's issues as well as strategies for dealing with difficult behaviours.

This service offers centres the option of weekly, biweekly or monthly "hands-on" support, including direct work with the children and teachers as well as consultation and team training. Support can be specific to a particular child or can be of a general nature to the centre as a whole.

CHILD THERAPY SERVICE

This program provides weekly or bi-weekly therapy to children aged 3 to 10 years who have experienced trauma and exhibit significant emotional and behavioural challenges. This service is funded through a sub-contract with Family Services of Greater Vancouver (FSGV), and with Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services Society (VACFSS).

PLEASE NOTE REFERRAL PROCESS FOR FAMILIES CONNECTED TO:

- ❖ **The Family Preservation & Reunification Program with FSGV** - Children must have an MCFD open Family Services file. Referrals are to be made to the Referral Centre at (604) 875-6277 by the Family Counsellor, or MCFD Social Worker.
- ❖ **Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services Society (VACFSS)** – Children must have an open Family Services file. Referrals are to be made to the VACFSS Intake Worker by the Social Worker. Family Preservation Workers wanting to refer a child for therapy at PACE are to call the child's Social Worker.

**For referral
information,
call (604) 266-3141
or visit our website:
www.thepaceprogram.ca**

SUPPORTING HEALTHY TRANSITIONS PROGRAM

The purpose of this program is to reduce the emotional impact on children, birth parents, adoptive parents, or foster parents when there is a plan for a child to move from one family to another.

GOALS OF THE PROGRAM:

- ❖ To prevent the traumatic breaks in attachment when children lose contact with important attachment figure/s.
- ❖ To reduce the potential cumulative losses for children during the transition by supporting a relationship between foster, birth or adoptive parents before the move happens.
- ❖ To provide support to the birth, foster and adoptive parents as they deal with the emotional complexities of a move.
- ❖ To partner with MCFD staff in helping families develop a comprehensive and collaborative plan for the child's move, so as to reduce the stress / trauma to the child and the supporting adults.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PROGRAM:

Please call PACE at (604) 266-3141 and speak to one of the Family Counsellors for this program.