

The PACE Program



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

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The goal of each of the PACE services is to promote the emotional health and well being of children and families within their community. PACE has been a resource to the community since 1984. The program is operated by the PACE Child and Family Society.

Please see other side for summary of services offered.

All programs are available throughout Vancouver.

The Outreach Support Services to Daycares and Preschools is also available in Richmond.

The programs are primarily funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

The services are free of charge.

PACE provides professional development and training opportunities to childcare workers and 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

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 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 or adoptive homes.
- ✓ 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, 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 is 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 preschool component of the program.

OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES TO DAYCARES AND PRESCHOOLS IN VANCOUVER AND RICHMOND, AND TO SCHOOL-AGED PROGRAMS IN VANCOUVER

As part of the continuum of supports to daycares, preschools and school-aged programs, this service aims to *help maintain children with significant emotional and/or behavioural needs in their neighbourhood centres*. PACE staff will 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 each centre weekly, biweekly or monthly "hands-on" support, including direct work with the children and teachers as well as consultation and team meetings. Support can be specific to a particular child or can be general support to the centre as a whole.

CHILD THERAPY SERVICE

This program provides weekly therapy to children aged 3 to 10 years who have *experienced trauma and exhibit significant emotional and behavioural challenges*. Therapy provided can include play, art and expressive art therapy.

This program is funded by the Ministry of Children & Family Development, as a sub-contract with Family Services of Greater Vancouver (FSGV) and with Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services Society (VACFSS).

PLEASE NOTE - FOR FAMILIES CONNECTED TO:

- A) ***The Family Preservation & Reunification Programs with FSGV or Westcoast Family Resources Society*** - Children must have an open family services file and referrals must be made to the Referral Centre at (604) 875-6277.
- B) ***Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services Society (VACFSS)*** – Children must have an open family services file. All referrals are to be made to 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 PACE
(604) 266-3141***

SUPPORTING HEALTHY TRANSITIONS

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 a primary attachment figure.
- 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 help the families develop a comprehensive and collaborative plan for the child's move to reduce the stress / trauma to the child and the supporting adults.

CONTACT FOR THIS PROGRAM:

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