



Metropolitan Family Services Learning and Wellness Center, located in the annex of Libby Elementary School at 5338 South Loomis Avenue in Chicago, provides quality early learning and child care services along with a wide variety of health, wellness, workforce and legal aid programs, all designed to strengthen families in Chicago's Englewood, New City and Back of the Yards communities.



## CENTER SERVICES INCLUDE:

### Quality Early Learning and Child Care

- Full-day Pre-K and child care for 94 children ages 3 to 5 years.
- Full-day early learning and care for 28 infants and toddlers ages 0 to 3 years.
- Home visiting programs for 36 families with children ages 0 to 3 years and/or expectant mothers.

### Integrated Health and Wellness Services for Sound Bodies, Minds and Families

- Wellness programs for healthy living through education, cooking classes and physical fitness.
- Family counseling, parent development and mental health services for emotional wellness.
- Access to pediatric care and comprehensive health services through our partnership with the new Pediatric Wellness Center at Mile Square Health Center Englewood at 641 West 63rd Street.

### Wrap-Around Family Services including Legal Aid, Workforce Programs and More

- Services assist with the impact of domestic and community violence.
- Economic empowerment services include job readiness training, income support and financial literacy.
- Free legal clinic and foreclosure assistance from Metropolitan's Legal Aid Society and Cook County Bar Association.
- Family Lending Library with home literacy kits, books and other materials for young children. Parent resources on career development, GED tutorials, computer training and parent development.

## COMMUNITY NEEDS: LEARNING AND WELLNESS CENTER



### EDUCATION

- There is a community need: more than 30% of children ages 0-2 are eligible for subsidized care and 40% of those ages 3-4 are eligible for subsidized care.\*
- 4 in 10 children enter Kindergarten speaking a language other than English in the home.\*
- The academic outcomes for the schools in the area are significantly below state standards, with almost all of the schools on academic state and federal warning lists. The percentage of students with minimal proficiency levels at third grade is 37%.\*
- Over 33% of adults have less than a high school diploma and only 7% have a Bachelor's or more.\*\*



### HEALTH & WELLNESS

- 12% of families with children are born at a low-birth rate and the infant mortality rate is 11.5%. \*\*\*
- In 2011, there were over 850 hospitalizations due to asthma for children living in the target area. \*\*\*
- In Illinois, 7.5 % of children ages 3-17 are reported to have moderate or severe social or emotional difficulties. For children living in poverty, rates of mental and emotional difficulties are reported even higher, at 14.6%. (Source: Voices for Illinois Children, 2007)
- In Illinois, 70% of the population in the juvenile justice system has mental health problems, the majority of which could have been prevented with intervention earlier in life. (Source: Illinois Children's Mental Health Task Force, 2003)



### POVERTY

- The median income is \$28,373 and the unemployment rate is 13.7%.\*\*
- Over 4,100 children under six reside in families earning less than 50% of the federal poverty level.
- For a family of four according to 2012 poverty guidelines, 50% of the federal poverty level was a gross yearly income of \$11,525.\*
- 46% of persons 16 years and older are not in the labor force.



### COMMUNITY

- The rate of violent crime for the area is 16.1 as compared to a city rate of 6.8.\* (This rate is the number of crimes per 1,000 residents.)
- More than 701 children were born to women ages 15 to 19, and there are more than 6,100 single-parent households with children under 6 years of age. \*

Metropolitan Family Services has been **m**powering families to reach their greatest potential since 1857, serving more than 63,000 families and individuals in Chicago, Suburban Cook and DuPage County last year. Metropolitan has provided quality early childhood services for 18 years. Its early learning Chicago sites include the Learning and Wellness Center (South Side), Midway Head Start and Midway Children's Center (Southwest Side), and the North Children's Center (Northwest Side). In the suburbs, Metropolitan is DuPage County's lead Head Start/Early Head Start agency. All Chicago programs are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and all services meet Illinois Early Learning and Head Start performance standards.

families **m**powered to learn. to earn. to heal. to thrive.

\* Data from the Chicago Community Needs Summary. \*\* Data comes from 2010 Census American Fact Finder.

\*\*\* Data comes from Chicago Department of Public Health.