



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

THE F.M. KIRBY CHILDREN'S CENTER DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY IN ADMISSION TO ITS PROGRAMS, SERVICES, OR ACTIVITIES, IN ACCESS TO THEM, IN TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES, OR IN ANY ASPECT OF THEIR OPERATIONS.

The F.M. Kirby Children's Center of the Madison Area YMCA recognizes that historically, children with special needs have been provided preschool, after-school, and child care programs in segregated settings, separate and apart from other children receiving these services or care. With the **Americans with Disabilities Act**, and legislation passed in 1976 PL 94-142 and in 1990 PL 101-476 and PL 99-457 (for children age 3-5), children with Special Needs were to be incorporated with children without disabilities. This legislation mandated a free, appropriate public education for all children with disabilities and special needs, irrespective of the degree of disability, with the aim of offering services to as many children as possible in "the least restrictive environment."

As you consider placing your child in the **F.M. Kirby Children's Center**, please consider the following:

- ❖ Our child/staff ratios are based on the number of children enrolled who **do not** have Special Needs. Extra staff may not be available to provide the one-on-one care your child may need. If you and/or your school district wish to provide an aide for your child, that information will be taken into consideration.
- ❖ Transitions, especially in the School Age area, are frequent. Children are expected to be able to come in from school, place belongings in their locker, go to their homeroom, and then make choices with minimal supervision. Counselors are on duty as hall monitors, and every classroom does have a counselor present. In the Preschool area, children are beginning to experience a less structured environment. While teachers are always present, children are expected to be able to handle "Activities of Daily Living" with minimal assistance.
- ❖ Child must display developmentally appropriate Activities of Daily Living; i.e., children must be toilet trained to be in our Preschool area, must be able to feed themselves in our Toddler area. As stated above, an aide may be provided by you and/or the school district to assist the child in these activities.

The F.M. Kirby Children's Center, in compliance with the above legislation, needs the assistance of the parents/guardians of children with Special Needs to provide those children with positive, appropriate care. In order to provide this care, we are requesting that you fill out the following information. All requests for child care for children with Special Needs are considered on a case by case basis. A conference must be scheduled with the Parent Services Coordinator; and Health Services Coordinator before your child is enrolled. In order to provide appropriate care for your child, we are also requesting a current copy of your child's IFSP or IEP. Documentation of Special Needs and Medical information will be kept in confidence, and only those individuals who need to know this information will be allowed access to it.

DUE TO LIMITED RESOURCES, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN IN ANY GIVEN CLASSROOM.