



Primary Care Teacher

“Very young children need to feel connected to someone familiar whose presence and caring attention meets their physical and emotional needs throughout the day.”

The primary care system sets the stage for deep connections.

The primary care teacher:

- Is assigned to a small group of children for a significant part of each child’s day in care. (A child should have no more than two primary care teachers per day.)
- Cares for the children during most of the routines of the day, including greetings and departures, feeding, diapering, napping, indoor and outdoor play, bathing and dressing, record keeping, and tracking each child’s development.
- Builds a relationship through routines and other activities with each child.
- Is the person the child turns to when in physical or emotional need.
- Works closely with each child’s family to develop a partnership beginning at the time of enrollment.
- Learns about the child’s care at home and provides information about the program.
- Communicates with parents about the benefits of primary care.
- Supports the child’s relationship with his or her family culture.
- Shares information with the family on a daily basis, during regular parent conferences, and as needed.
- Works as a team with another primary care teacher (or other infant care teachers).
- Is the main resource and a member of a team with the family and other adults involved with the child, such as other primary and secondary infant care teachers, the program manager, and specialists for a child with disabilities or other special needs.