



Supporting Inclusion in Manitoba

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Manitoba Child Care Program



About the program

- Currently called the Children with Disabilities Program (CWD)
- Began in the early 1980s
 - Integration was key
- Part of the Manitoba Child Care Program
- Provision for CWD in *The Community Child Care Standards Act* and Manitoba Regulation 62/86

Goals of Service

- Foster respect and acceptance of individual differences and to provide other children, child care facilities and parents opportunities to learn from those with additional support needs.
- Prepare children for full participation in the community, including transition into the school system.
- Provide access to community child care facilities and appropriate early intervention strategies for children with additional support needs.
- Facilitate inclusion of the child into the existing program and daily schedule of the child care facility, including the range of experiences provided in small and large groups in order to encourage ongoing social, emotional, cognitive and physical development.

Goals of Service Continued

- Facilitate supports that encourage a child's development through collaboration among parents, child care providers and professionals involved with the child and family in the development of individual plans that are responsive to the child's unique needs.
- Provide flexible, individualized and tailored supports and resources.
- Support the promotion of socialization, increased self-esteem and self-confidence and participation in the community.
- Enable families to pursue education or to obtain or retain employment.
- Provide respite to families of children with additional support needs.

Team Members

- Parent/Guardian
- Case Manager
 - Acts as a coordinator of services for the family
 - Can be any of the team members
- Child Care Facility
- Child Care Co-ordinator
- Referral Source
 - Children's Special Services Child Development Counselor (Winnipeg) or Child Development Worker (Rural and North)
 - Children's Therapy Initiative (CTI)
 - Behavioural Specialist (Winnipeg)
 - And more

Collaboration

- Work together as a team, recognizing the family as the most important part of a child's life, to meet the needs of the child
- Specific responsibilities should be delegated to the most appropriate team member
- All team members are responsible for the development and update of Individual Plans
- Attend intake and review meetings

Grants

- Staffing grants
 - Provides funds to hire an additional staff
 - The most common grant provided
- Guaranteed Space Payment (2 for 1)
 - Pays for an open space in a family child care facility to reduce the total number of children in care

Grants continued

- Equipment Grants
 - For specialized equipment
- Training Grants
 - For specialized training for staff

Eligibility

- Children who present one (or more) of the following:
 - A mental disability
 - A physical disability
 - A behaviour issue
 - An emotional issue
- ...that requires the child to receive assistance to participate in a program

Referrals

- Come from a number of sources, including, but not limited to:
 - The Child Development Clinic
 - Children’s Special Services
 - Behaviour Specialist
 - Society for Manitobans with Disabilities
 - Public Schools
 - Children’s Hospital
- Are a resource to the family and the child care facility
 - provide information
 - part of the team

Enrolment process for families

- Fill out intake with referral source
- Contact child care facilities to be put on wait list (unless already done)
- Attend intake meeting when space is available in a child care facility
- Be a member of the team

Application Process

- Referral source and child's parent/guardian fill out the intake application (available from the Child Care Co-ordinator or CCC)
- Intake application with diagnostic assessment or medical report is sent to the CCC in the area/region for approval
- Appropriate forms are sent to Provincial Services at the Manitoba Child Care Program for funding to commence

Individual Plans (IPs)

- A written statement of goals unique to the child
- A collaboration, based on the knowledge of each of the team members about the abilities of the child

Looking to the future...

- Change in program name
 - Update the language
- *Family Choices: Manitoba's Five-Year Agenda* commits to additional support to practitioners:
 - Mentoring
 - Training
 - Resources
- To share and support the philosophy of inclusion

**For more information please
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Thank you!