



News Release

U.S. General Services Administration

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Newark Federal Kids Care Child Care Center Celebrates Renovation and Expansion

NEWARK, NJ - Finding quality child care is a challenge faced by most working parents. Recently federal and local officials, families, teachers and the children gathered together for a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the renovation and expansion at the Newark Federal Kids Care Center announced the U.S. General Services Administration. The Center, located at the Peter W. Rodino Federal Building in Newark, New Jersey, provides child care needs of both the nearby federal employees as well as those of other local working parents.

For more than 20 years GSA has helped federal workers and other parents gain access to work place child care facilities. Today, more than 109 independently operated, child care centers are located in GSA-managed spaces across the country. These centers offer safe, high quality care. GSA also provides guidance, assistance, and oversight to federal agencies for the development of child care centers.

"GSA is committed to creating child care settings that are as environmentally healthy as possible and provide a safer, healthier environment for children to learn and grow. We're proud of this renovation and expansion to our Newark Federal Kids Care Center. We'd like to accommodate as many kids as possible. It's good for the children, good for their working parents and good for the government workforce," said GSA Regional Administrator Denise L. Pease.

The renovation/expansion project of the Newark Federal Kids Care Child Care facility was managed by GSA architect Ann Marie Michael and designed by the architectural firm of Messick, Cohen, Wilson, Baker Architects LLP. The center is located on the first floor of the Peter W. Rodino Federal Building in Newark, New Jersey.

The expanded space contains six newly designed classrooms, refigured in accordance with requirements specified by the New Jersey Agency for Children and Families (NJACF) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The center also features improved security, blast proof windows with reinforced mullions, and liberal use of sustainable materials throughout the center. It also includes a state of the art indoor play area to facilitate compliance with First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative. Additionally, the center achieved an Eco-Healthy Endorsement in 2009, certifying GSA's commitment to furthering and maintaining eco-healthy environments in federal buildings and its childcare centers

The original Newark Federal Kids Care Center opened in 1990 with roughly 4000 square feet of space to accommodate approximately 56 children. The renovation/expansion project design added 1000 square feet in order to accommodate the growing need for child care at the Peter W. Rodino Federal Building. The new expanded center is now able to accommodate 25 additional federal and community children.

The *Newark Federal Kids Care Child Care Center*, operated by Imagine Early Learning under the direction of Lisa Parone, has vacancies available for the coming school year. More information can be obtained by visiting the website, www.imagineelc.com. More information about GSA and child care can be found at www.gsa.gov/childcare.

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- Leveraging the government's buying power through responsible acquisition of products and services making up approximately 14 percent of the government's total procurement dollars;
- Providing innovative technology solutions to enhance government efficiency and increase citizen engagement; and,
- Promoting responsible use of federal resources through development of government wide policies ranging from federal travel to property and management practices.