

Belmont University

## Belmont Digital Repository

---

OTD Capstone Projects

School Of Occupational Therapy

---

4-2020

### Curriculum Development for Group Programming at GiGi's Playhouse Nashville

Shelby Ward

shelby.ward@pop.belmont.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://repository.belmont.edu/otdcapstoneprojects>



Part of the [Occupational Therapy Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Ward, Shelby, "Curriculum Development for Group Programming at GiGi's Playhouse Nashville" (2020).  
*OTD Capstone Projects*. 39.

<https://repository.belmont.edu/otdcapstoneprojects/39>

This Scholarly Project is brought to you for free and open access by the School Of Occupational Therapy at Belmont Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in OTD Capstone Projects by an authorized administrator of Belmont Digital Repository. For more information, please contact [repository@belmont.edu](mailto:repository@belmont.edu).





Down Syndrome Achievement Centers  
educate. inspire. believe.

Nashville, TN

# Curriculum Development for Group Programming at GiGi's Playhouse Nashville

Shelby Ward, OTD/S

School of Occupational Therapy, Belmont University



## Mission and Vision

### Mission

To change the way the world views Down syndrome and to send a global message of acceptance for all by providing free educational, therapeutic-based and career development programs for individuals with Down syndrome, their families and the community, through a replicable playhouse model

### Vision

To see a world where individuals with Down syndrome are accepted and embraced in their families, schools and communities.

## Identified Needs

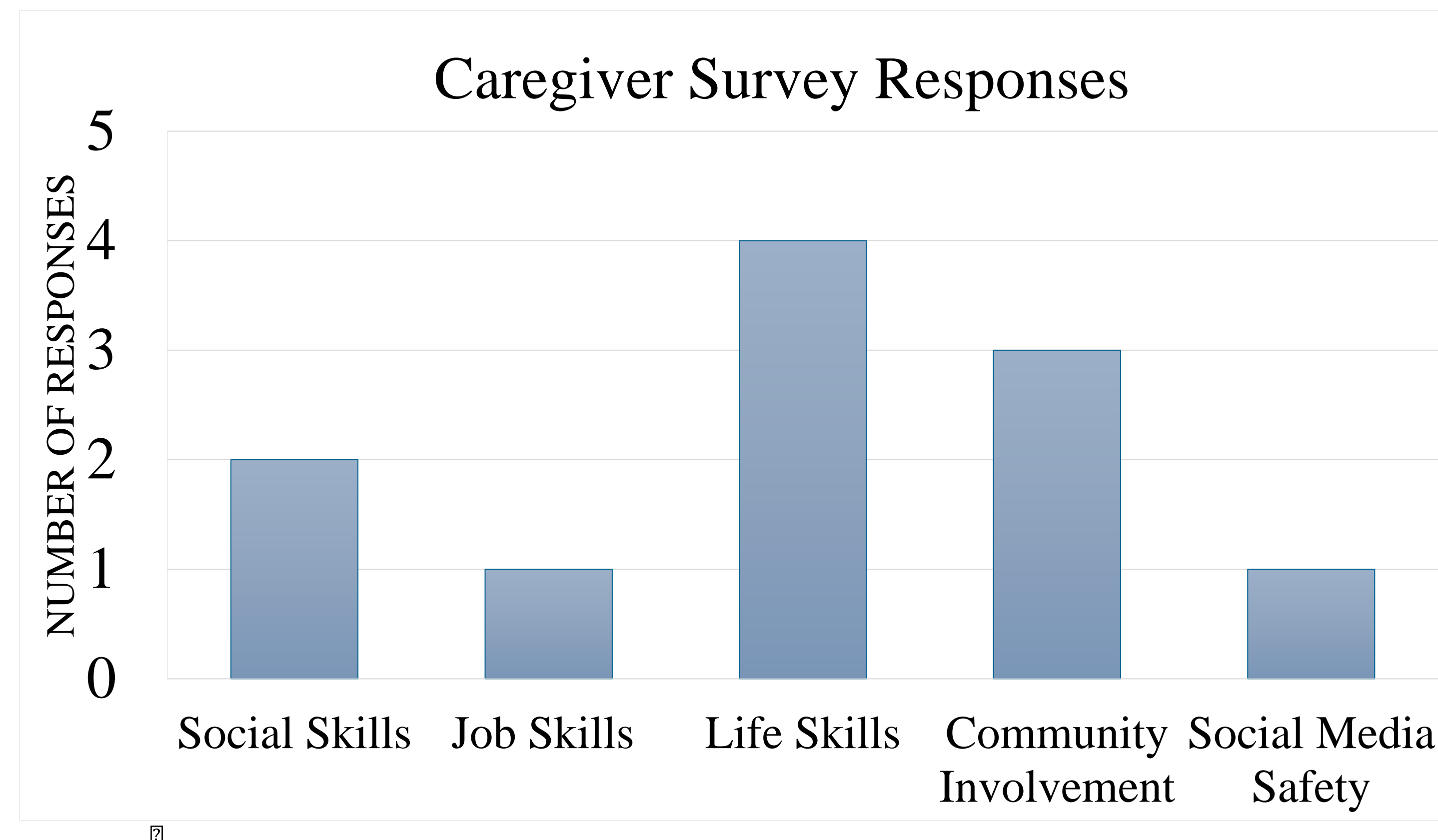
- Increase evidence based, developmentally appropriate group programming for multiple age groups
- Identify participant and family needs and address needs in group programming
- Increase program sustainability by creating easy to follow programming to leave for future group leaders

## Goals of Experiential Component

- Identify the needs of individuals participating in group programming by sending out a survey to caregivers.
- Develop evidence-based programming for the 4-7 year old age group, adult age group, and special event programs.
- Lead and execute evidence-based programming with volunteers and participants.

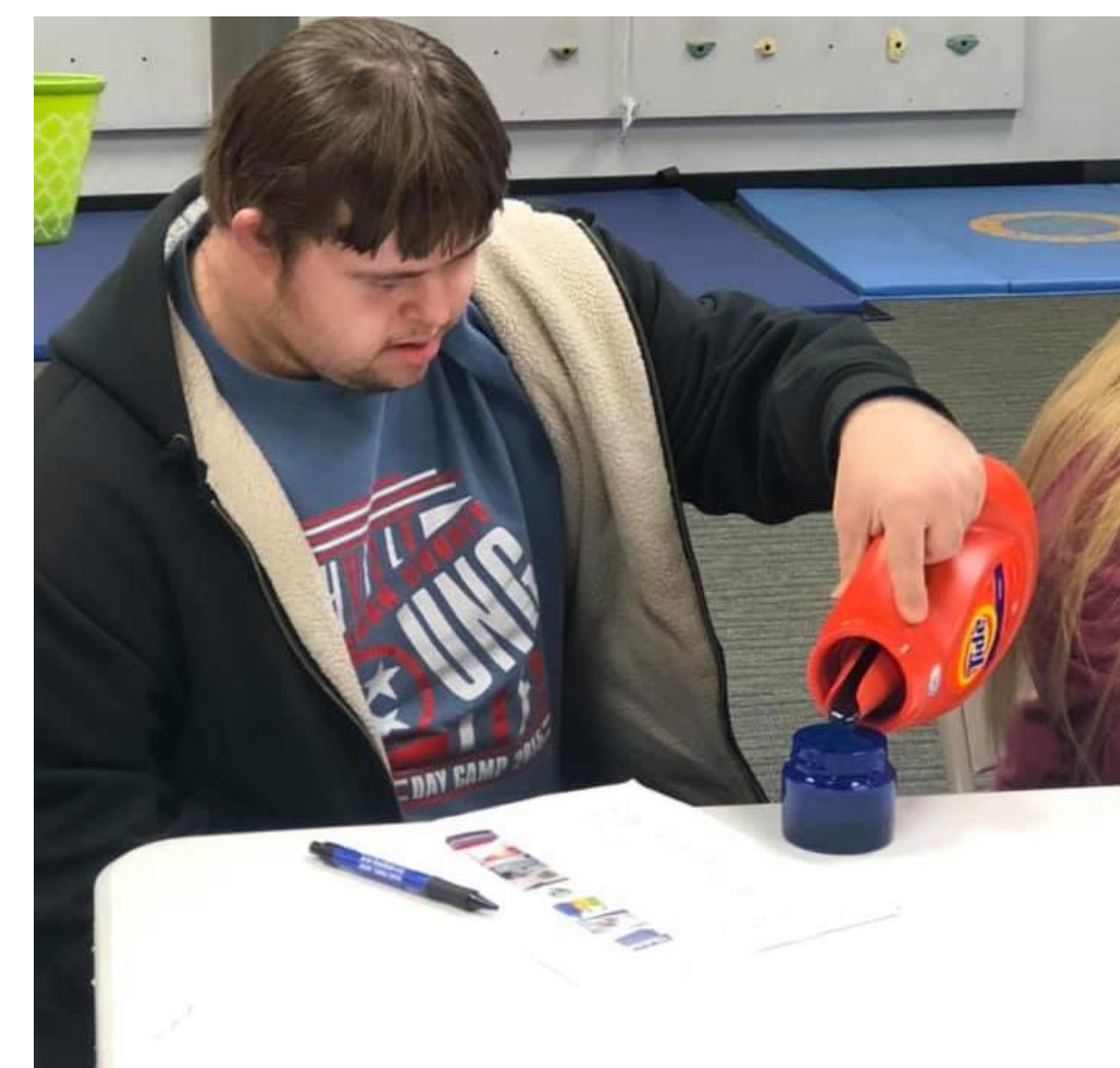
## Outcome 1: Identify Needs of Participants

- Sent a survey to caregivers of adult participants and received 6 responses
- 4 out of 6 caregivers identified life skills as a current need



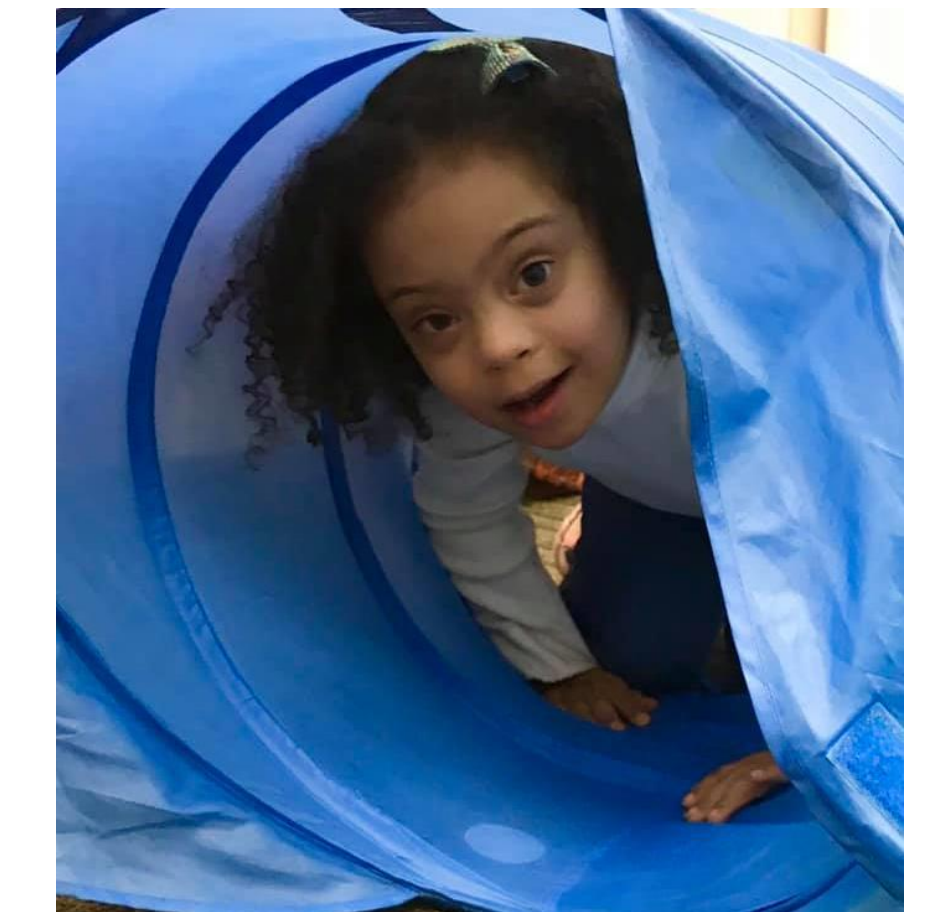
## Outcome 2: Create Life Skills Program

- Created curriculum and lead life skills program with adult participants
- Topics included laundry, time management, preparing snacks, making plans, leisure activities, social etiquette, and kitchen safety
- Created at home programming that focused on life skills



## Outcome 3: Create Program for Children

- Created curriculum and lead group programming focused on fine motor, gross motor, social, and self-help skills for 4-7 year old children
- Made adjustments each week and left material for future program leaders
- Created curriculum for summer programming focused on math, literacy, social, and fine motor skills



## Outcome 4: Special Events Programming

- Created themed curriculums for all age groups that included fine motor, gross motor, self help, and social skills
- Themed curriculum is being used nationally by GiGi's Playhouses across the country



## Acknowledgements

Thank you to the staff at GiGi's Playhouse for your huge amount of passion and encouragement during this process. I would like to give special thanks to Carlie Long for her continuous support and mentorship and to Dr. Sue Iliff for her guidance during the project.