Curriculum Development for Group Programming at GiGi's Playhouse Nashville

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Curriculum Development for Group Programming at GiGi’s Playhouse Nashville
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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

Caregiver Survey Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill Type</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Skills</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Skills</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Skills</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Involvement</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media Safety</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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