On the occasion of 75 years of educating young children and future teachers, the Child Study and Development Center (CSDC) at the University of New Hampshire embarked on a process of reflection about the identity of the center. One standing place for better understanding, where to come and where we are going, is to look carefully at what came before. This timeline is a presentation of this process and identity that can act as a provocation for dialogue among teachers, faculty, families, community members, and, of course, children.

The history of the CSDC bears many of the significant shifts in the broader society, including changing gender roles, family structures, and cultural pluralism. More specifically, our center has often led the field of early childhood education.

When we document our history, we reflect everything that has contributed to our current understanding of child development in society. In this document, we reflect on the people and ideas that have shaped our center and the contributions of the people who care about the future of the CSDC.
1990s
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The Child Study and Development Center with a staff of 80 highly qualified teachers and faculty members, 136 children, two library through bookstores, and three fellowship, each year there are around 200 children by students from departments across the university to whom we collect data. Our teachers, the staff of the CDC, together, annually in a variety of projects in our classrooms. At any time you could expect to see a number of research projects in progress, but actually, our teachers are often engaged in collaborative research and in sharing what they have learned.

The future holds with much potential and uncertainty. More and more, children and families are looking for a “whole child” curriculum. As we continue our steady growth, many become clear the need to express the child’s development, the importance of community and in learning the need to create a new sense of children’s questions and search for meaning, and a commitment to seeking equity and respect for all children and their families. The adventure is long but exciting. Where do you go from here?