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**Not Child's Play:
Jefferson College Child Development Center
Receives State Reaccreditation**

The Jefferson College Child Development Center was recently granted state reaccreditation for the fourth consecutive time by the Missouri Accreditation of Programs for Children and Youth. The center has been accredited since 1997.

The reaccreditation distinguishes the Jefferson College Child Development Center as an exemplary program offering high quality care and instruction. It is granted to programs that offer developmentally appropriate experiences in an environment conducive to children flourishing intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

“Jefferson College is committed to providing the best early childhood and school age experience possible,” said Child Development Center Director Sandy Basler. “Our teachers have the experience and education that enable them to meet the ever changing developmental needs of children. They are skilled at creating an environment in which children thrive and grow and develop a love and appreciation for learning. The accreditation process insures that we continually strive for excellence in our programming for children. The families, who entrust the care and education of their children to us, deserve that assurance.”

The Jefferson College Child Development Center will be included in the *Directory of Accredited Programs* on the Missouri Accreditation website at www.moaccreditation.org.

Missouri Accreditation provides quality standards for child care programs serving children from birth through school age within the state of Missouri. The agency functions in areas beyond the scope of state licensing requirement for child care facilities which exist mainly to ensure the basic health and safety of the children in those programs. To receive Missouri Accreditation, a program has to exceed those basic standards. Accreditation focuses on qualitative aspects of the physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth opportunities afforded to children enrolled in center -based and home-based childhood care and education programs.

According to Basler, research shows that a higher level of quality in child care and educational setting is associated with children having enhanced social skills, reduced behavioral problems, increased cooperation and improved language skills.

The Jefferson College Child Development Center is open year-round and serves children ages 2-12 from students, faculty, staff, and community families. In addition to preschool programming, a center-based Parents As Teachers program and before/after school and summer school age program is available. For enrollment information, call (636) 797-3000 or 942-3000, extension 299.



Staff at the Jefferson College Child Development Center provide comprehensive, high quality care for preschool and school-age children in a safe, nurturing environment. The center is open year-round, serving children from students, faculty, staff, and community families.