



Sheffield Neighborhood News

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SNA donations support schools, community organizations

Each year, the Sheffield Neighborhood Association donates funds to local schools and community organizations that do good work in and around our neighborhood. We've asked the recipients of these donations to tell us about what they do:

Mary Crane Center

Since its founding in 1907 by Jane Addams as a part of Hull House, the Mary Crane Center has been dedicated to promoting the comprehensive early education and development of children of low-income families. Today, the agency provides school-readiness programs, personal enrichment activities, and family support services at six sites in four neighborhoods – Austin, Garfield Park, Lincoln Park, and Rogers Park. The Center provides high-quality day care and early childhood education programs to nearly 300 children, ages six weeks to 5 years, each day.

Mary Crane Center is committed to the belief that every child deserves the best possible start in life and as such offers: nurturing, qualified, bilingual teachers; access and exposure to language tools; playtime that inspires child-to-child interaction; daily structured outdoor play; a culturally rich and diverse classroom environment; nutritional meals and snacks; and low teacher-to-student ratios. Our daily curriculum encourages lan-



Children of low-income families are the focus of the Mary Crane Center.

guage, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills and places an emphasis on early literacy development.

The Center also offers arts and cultural programs, model classrooms, professional development for teachers, identification of and treatment for special needs, parenting classes, and child care scholarships. Funding from the Sheffield Neighborhood Association will be used to purchase curriculum materials that will help children to develop healthy habits for life by bringing movement and healthy eating practices into the classroom in fun and interesting ways. These training tools will also develop science, language, and math skills. To learn more, visit www.marycrane.org.