

Crosby Maintains Day Care Center

The situation

The Crosby Day Care building was under ownership of a former resident that moved to California and was being managed by the Crosby EDC. The EDC no longer wanted to manage the day care and the everyday demands that come from operating a day care. The community needed to make sure that the day care stayed open for the 50 families it served.

Extension response

Extension Agent, Peggy Anderson was asked by the Crosby EDC to facilitate the start of an advisory committee. Letters were sent home to parents asking if they would serve on this board. Potential Committee Members would include two parent representatives, Daycare A & B Supervisors, a member of the Crosby EDC, a local early childhood educator. The first meeting was started with a strategic planning session. From there a list was developed that addressed the concerns expressed by staff, needs and wants of the day care and curriculum and license needs for staff

Impacts

A Director is hired

A community volunteer with many years experience as an early childhood educator stepped forward to serve as director of the day care for one year.

Awareness Created

After the first meeting, committee members decided that a campaign to raise the awareness how many families are impacted by the day care and the current needs of the day care. A booth was set up at the Divide County Fair where parents displayed artwork done by children attending the Crosby Day Care. Craft projects were also set up at the booth for families to stop by and participate.

Economic Impact

The Crosby Day Care needed to be owned locally so a capital fund raising campaign was initiated by the Crosby EDC, members of the Crosby Day Care Advisory Committee were asked to be part of the

campaign along with other parent representatives. The campaign lasted 4 short months and raised a total of \$96,000. \$30,000 of that dollar amount was in the form of a Spirit Fund Grant from the City. With the dollars raised the following projects were accomplished:

- The building was bought by the Crosby EDC.
- New energy efficient windows have been installed.
- The entrance now has new carpet on the outdoor steps and the canopy was replaced with motion lighting to keep kids and parents dry and safe as they leave home during winter months.
- Insulation has been blown into the attic.
- A suspended ceiling has been installed in the infant/toddler room.
- New light fixtures have been installed.
- Two interior doors were replaced with doors that have windows.
- Pay raises were given to staff.
- Dial-up internet access has been installed to handle reports for Federal Food Program.
- The installation of a new electric boiler and new electrical work has been completed to save on heating bills.

Feedback

"We need more employees! We have a waiting list!"
Crosby Day Care Director

Contact

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