



Registration number: 53269

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OUR HEART

WeeCARE Montessori Outreach Inc. is a community based, non-profit organization. At the core we have a heart that desires to encourage compassion and service in the homes, schools, neighbourhoods and wider community of Barbados.

The motto “gentle hands, kind words, patient soul” has always been the mantra at Wee Pals Montessori Pre-school, and is now aptly put into practice within our primary school, Montessori School Barbados, as well as our WeeCARE Montessori Outreach program.

WeeCARE Montessori Outreach was the brainchild of Lisa Perkins and Alyssa Fearn. Realizing that the fast-paced world in which we live has affected us ALL in one way or another, and that getting “back to basics” was one way of allowing everyone to slow down and really take stock, Lisa and Alyssa embarked on the journey to create this charity. Together they hope that it will allow families within the school, as well as those in the community who would benefit, to have a safe, stimulating environment where they can come and receive advice, support and financial aid as it relates to the development of their children.

The first goal of WeeCARE is to secure the property in Bartletts, Christ Church to use as the HUB of our Outreach program. This property will also be the location of the Montessori School Barbados Primary School, with all of the necessary prepared environments to foster the development of every child both in and outside of the classroom. Time is of the essence as this property is on the market and due to it being the perfect spot for a variety of reasons, one is that it is a stone's throw from the pre-school, we would like to secure it as soon as possible.

The Montessori Method of education offers a holistic approach to teaching and has proven time and again to benefit the development of all children, whether neuro-typical or neuro-diverse. Securing the property is a huge financial undertaking and we are asking for any assistance that we can get for this, whether from private or public entities.

*Thank you,
Lisa & Alyssa*



AT THE ROUND TABLE

It is in this space we hope to educate parents, caregivers and various other members of the community on topics that matter.

We envision a time of focused conversation where we invite professionals in to discuss issues arising in various areas of life for this generation. With our hope being to educate families, and give them the instruction and tools needed to implement Montessori methods at home. Some of the areas we want to dive deeper in are:

Academic Education

Current changes being made to the schooling system both globally and locally, along with improvements that can be made. We hope to take deep dives into the research of various trends we are noticing as educators, and solutions that get to the core of the challenges we are seeing.

Parent Involvement

Now more than ever we are seeing a generation of children missing out on this. Life is busy for many families and the reality of a nuclear family is not always the case. We aspire to help parents and parent figures find ways to be involved in the formative years, sharing with them how it transcends relationships and has a much larger influence - academic, physical, cognitive and behavioural outcomes in children.

The Montessori Method

By spending time educating families and giving them the necessary information, instruction and tools, we aim to see Montessori teaching methods implemented in homes across the community.

Nutrition & Lifestyle Effects on Childhood Development

As we listen to doctors and nutritionists on what the current research has to say on childhood development, we intend to go into the effects of poor nutrition and sedentary lifestyle factors that are contributing to the growing rise in non-communicable diseases.

Screen Effects on the Child

Technology has been a blessing for us in many ways but the global delays and behavioural challenges we are noticing are at an all time high. By drawing attention to this and providing alternatives we wish to see children thriving and a decrease in the high rates of obesity and non-communicable diseases.

Connecting the Family

Bridging the gap between parents & professionals when it comes to what to do post-diagnosis. Facilitating a resource hub that holds information about schools, therapists, specialists and recreational programs for families with children who have special needs.



PROGRAMS

Back-to-Basics

These programs will offer guidance on nutrition, ground to table eating, building kitchen gardens, the benefits of healthy meals, especially breakfast as it relates to the child's ability to learn, the importance of family time as opposed to screen time as well as how valuable it is to care for our own mental health and teach our children how to do the same.

Mindfulness & Mental Health

Teaching families more about the impacts of their mental health status on their children. Providing various resources and tools to help families cope with challenging home-life situations and create safe spaces that families can come together to share.

Nutrition & Movement

Extended events that target specific nutrition and movement related goals.

- Childhood nutrition
- Movement

Sustainable Living

Sharing the benefits of simplifying diets, looking to whole foods for nutrition and how to start doing small scale kitchen gardens that can help feed the family.

1000 Hours Outside Challenge

Encouraging families to participate in this global challenge that focuses on children getting outdoors and being active.



Literacy, Learning & Laughter

The Montessori Experience

Providing parents and children the opportunity to come into the MSB environment and experience the Montessori teaching method.

Storytime at Montessori School Barbados

Opening up the MSB library for storytime events for young children and their parents, creating opportunities for children to be read to as well as teaching parents how to encourage and promote literacy at home.

Family Support Groups

Providing a safe space where parents can come together to share experiences and learn from others. Especially for those who have children who have learning or developmental delays or challenges.

Literacy & Reading

Specific programs geared towards building literacy skills in young children and give them the tools needed to help them succeed in the school environment.

Continuing Education

Inviting various professionals to share on specific topics related to the development and wellbeing of children..

- Pediatrician
- Nutritionist
- Counsellor
- Educators

Fatherhood

Getting fathers more involved through support groups and activities.

Kids Clubs

Boys and girls programs for those in the school and community interested in holistic recreation programs, that promote togetherness and seek to equip the youth of today with non-violent approaches to conflict resolution among other skills. This would be offered to those families of Montessori School Barbados as well as in the neighbouring communities.

Sponsorship

Sponsoring a child within our community who might be unable to meet the financial requirements of attending MSB but who would greatly benefit from the Montessori method of education, is another fundamental goal of our organisation. Through sponsorship from kind individuals, we hope to assist 1 family in each of our three primary levels with financial aid so that these children can also receive the benefits of this holistic way of education.

WeeCARE will assist in the following areas:

- subsidizing or covering the cost of school fees for families who need financial assistance.
- filling the gaps for the costs of Learning Support Staff who will be working with children in the environment who are on the autism spectrum. Presently in schools, this cost is the responsibility of the families who are already inundated with expenses relating to their child's various therapies.

PROJECTS

01 BUDDY PROGRAM

In creating our buddy program we are going to pair older students with younger children in the community for fun projects as a meaningful after school activity. The primary focus for this will be to have our children outdoors, moving, getting creative, and having wholesome fun in a safe and encouraging environment.



02 VILLAGE READING NOOKS

We plan to work with our students to map out creative fundraising efforts to be able to fund the purchase of books and resources needed to set up library 'corners' in various neighborhoods and communities around the island. In these reading nooks we also want to provide programs that encourage reading and literacy growth in our youth.



03 HAMPERS FOR KIDS

Taking time to build hampers with our students for those in the community. Being mindful to meet the primary needs of those in surrounding areas with essential items such as nutritious food and clothing, while also including educational games, books and toys that encourage children to get outdoors and develop a greater love for learning.



BOARD MEMBERS

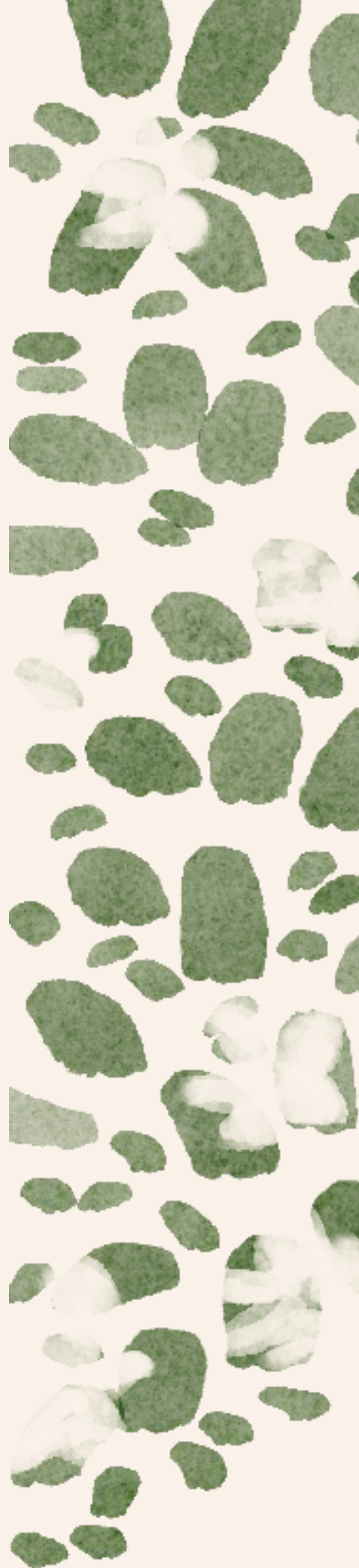
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