Our Purpose: Creating a Childcare Village

Raising toddlers is challenging, and no parent should have to go it alone. We are creating a supportive childcare village where neighbors can help one another, fostering a stronger community and providing much-needed breaks for parents.

The West Village Community Drop-In offers essential respite care for families who need it most. We provide a rich, play-based learning environment where toddlers can thrive.

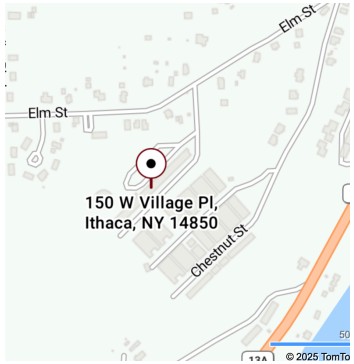
Join our community and play a part!

Our Philosophy

At the West Village Community Drop-In, we believe that play is a child's work, and our teachers' dynamic play based approach will promote learning and development in social, emotional, physical, language, cognitive, and critical thinking skills. Our childcare philosophy is strongly tied to responsive caregiving, and values secure attachment. We view caregiving as a partnership between the parent, the teacher, and the child.

You are Here. We Are Here Too

What's better than having childcare at a stone's throw away? We are here, right next to you at the West Village Community Center. We are located on the first floor. You can't miss us!



LOCATION:

150 West Village Place, Room 328

CONTACT

jessica.bindel@gmail.com to sign up or visit www.ithacacarecollective.com

MANY THANKS

Our work is made possible through the generous support of the following funders and partners:

PARK FOUNDATION
City Federation of Women's Organizations CFWO
WOMEN BUILDING COMMUNITY
Human Services Coalition
Community Foundation of TOMPKINS COUNTY
Cornell Cooperative Extension Tompkins County
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
Catholic Charities Diocese of Rochester
friendship donations network fdn rescuing food, reducing hunger
No More Tears no más lágrimas ITHACA, NY

The West Village Community Drop-In



A Program of the Ithaca Care Collective

Building community through play and connection

Hours: 9am-12pm
Days: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
Location: The West Village Community Center

What Do We Do?

The West Village Community Drop-In provides a safe, fun, nurturing, and educational setting for toddlers.

How Does It Work?

Children: The program is designed for children ages 18 months to 5 years.

Parents/Caregivers: Parents or caregivers need to register with the program by filling out a contact card.

Capacity: The West Village Community Drop-In has a maximum capacity of 10 children per day.

Schedule: The Drop In is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9-12. We are open year-round.

Our Mission

The Ithaca Care Collective is dedicated to building strong connections among parents of children who are not enrolled in formal childcare. Our goal is to create inclusive and welcoming spaces where families can share experiences, support one another, and navigate the challenges and joys of early parenthood together.

At the heart of our work is the spirit of *ubuntu* — the understanding that our humanity is bound together through care, compassion, and community. Ubuntu reminds us that every child's growth is nurtured not only by their family but by all who surround them.

ITHACA CARE COLLECTIVE

Support Our Mission



What Will I See at the West Village Community Drop-In?

You will see play! Play is a child's work. Through play, children learn problem solving skills, develop language, practice fine and gross motor skills, and learn important social skills. Here is how our days flow:

Daily Schedule

9:00- 10:30 -Breakfast, Free Play, and Table Activity (small group instruction through crafts games/investigations/cooking)

10:30-11:00-Bathroom Breaks, Clean-Up and Snack

11:00-12:00- Outdoor Play

Parents/caregivers are welcome to stay, or may leave the premises. We enjoy having you around, but understand if you could use a break.