



Building healthy
communities



The Blodgett Family Y Licensed Child Care

Having quality, affordable child care can make a huge difference in a family's life, as Sherri and Andrew Blodgett know well.

Their daughter, Paetyn, 4, has Autism Spectrum Disorder, which affects her ability to communicate and interact with other people. The family works regularly with speech and occupational therapists to help Paetyn learn and grow.

Last year, they were referred to the Y's licensed child care program by their social worker, who thought the Y's enriched learning environment and the structure of a conventional daycare would be helpful for Paetyn's social development.

After several months at the Y, the Blodgetts say they saw noticeable changes in Paetyn's behaviour.

"She started sharing space with others very well," says Sherri, noting that prior to the program, Paetyn preferred to be "in her bubble." As the weeks progressed, Paetyn also began to communicate more.

The couple believes the routine of the Y's curriculum, and the stimulating learning environment, has helped in Paetyn's progress. They also credit Y child care staff for working closely with Paetyn and being attentive to her needs.

The Blodgetts are grateful to the Y for helping meet their family's needs. They are especially thankful to Y donors, who make it possible for all families to access quality child care programs, no matter their income level or circumstance.

"Paetyn is flourishing and developing new skills that she will have for life," says Sherri. "We are so thrilled that the Y is part of our family."