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Patricia Jasko - Childcare Pioneer - is still having a ball!

Patricia Jasko, owner of Miss Pats Day Care Centers, is a true pioneer of early childhood education programs. Miss Pats Home away from home was published in the newspaper in 1963. She provided quality day care to children in her home from 1963 – 1970.

Then the State of Ohio came out to the Jasko home and interviewed Patricia on childcare – prior to daycare ever being daycare. Because of zoning laws she could no longer operate a business that large out of her home. Patricia worked closely with the county and health department to establish standards and procedures for the foundation of childcare as we know it.

Building “Center one” in September of 1970, Miss Pats had 80 children enrolled and 6 staff members. Within a short period of time enrollment doubled at Center One and continued to increase over the next few years. Miss Pats Day Care Center was the first childcare center in Chesterland, second in the county. The Center was one of the first centers to offer a field trip program and extended hour care in the State of Ohio.

In 1989 the number of children outgrew the facility and Patricia decided she needed to open up an additional center –the West Geauga library was moving out and it was a perfect facility for “Center Two”! Age groups were separated; infants and early preschool at center one – preschool – school age at center two.

Nearly ten years later and another decade of childcare and it was time to expand again, in 1998 “Center Three” opened with the purpose of further developing Chesterland’s premier nursery school program (Building Better Rainbows), before & after school program and summer camp program (Footsteps Towards Discovery).

Today The Miss Pats Day Care Centers have grown to 350 enrolled children & 32 staff members. She continues to serve generations of children. Many children that she cared for in the 1970’s have now returned to her centers and enrolled their children. Michelle Lefkowitz (formerly Campanella) attended the centers from 1978 – 1988 and currently has her daughter Maya, four years old, enrolled in Center Two.

What sets Miss Pat apart from the rest you may ask - her genuine love for all the kids. Patricia explained “You simply can’t be in this business for over 40 years and not have a true love for children”.

Miss Pats Day Care Centers main office is located at 8553 Herrick Drive, Chesterland, OH 44026. The center can be contacted for more information or to schedule an appointment at 440-729-8255.