



From Lake and Pulaski Learning Center, Chicago

One of four learning centers, home-based program and six partner sites located in Chicago committed to early childhood education and development.

Ms. Tierra Thompson is a parent at the Lake & Pulaski site. Her son, Jasmin, is in one of our 3-5 year old classrooms. When Jasmin was in our toddler classroom, Ms. Thompson faced many challenges with getting him to school. His attendance was very poor. When he did attend school, he had a very difficult time adjusting to the classroom. As Ms. Thompson experienced various hardships in her personal life, she came to our staff for support. When an employment opportunity at the Center appeared, Ms. Thompson was the first parent our Site Director had in mind. She was very appreciative of the opportunity. This experience allowed her to build her resume and now she is a janitor at a nursing home facility that she enjoys. She is now working regularly and ensures that Jasmin is in school daily. She is always vocal about the love and support she receives from staff. She is very much a part of our Mary Crane family.

Reyna Rebollar is our Parent Policy Representative who attends all of our parent meetings and all of the city-wide meetings. She is the Legal Guardian of her two grandchildren who are in our 3 to 5 year old program. She started at Mary Crane not really understanding Head Start and what it is about. She wanted a safe place for her grandchildren to be and to know that they were both going to learn. She thought it was going to be a real struggle with getting them in school being that she is the grandmother and she felt because she is not the mother there would be so many obstacles. But not only did she get them in school here at Mary Crane Center, she is also a big part of our center and agency. She is the Chair of our Parent Committee and she is the Parent Policy Chair as well. Having her as the Parent Committee Chair has helped us because she is always there when we need her to help out in the Center, and she is part of the new staff interviewing process as well. She has said many times how she is so happy that she is such a big part of her grandchildren's learning and the school they attend.

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Contact us for more information at info@marycrane.org or call us at 773. 242.2881.

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