Dear Families,

There are many ways for parents and extended families to become involved with the Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) at UM-Flint. We always welcome your ideas and suggestions and know how greatly our program benefits from the support of our families. We encourage each parent/guardian to serve on at least one committee- approximately 1-2 hours a month.

We have six committees to choose from. Our hope is for each committee to have about 6-8 members with a parent to take on the role of chairperson for their chosen committee.

A *chairperson* is needed for each committee to help contact members and coordinate the activities of the group. It involves a little bit of planning time and collaboration with the Head Teacher assigned to the committee. Please consider this special opportunity. We also plan a monthly meeting for all the chairpersons which provide a close knit and fun working group! Volunteer hours will be documented to demonstrate the many ways families support our school community. In fact, once you have documented ten hours of service your oldest child will be granted a free day of child care!

We look forward to working together during the school year. Having active family involvement makes all the difference to our School! Each and every family makes a difference!

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact your teachers or administrators.
## On Going Classroom Volunteer Opportunities

Whether a parent, grandparent, guardian, or any other significant adult in a child’s life, you are welcome, needed, and valued as an essential part of your child’s education. Adult family members can volunteer at any time. The ECDC welcomes participation and involvement from each child’s family.

Some examples of ways to become involved include:
- Serving as a resource person within the classroom
- Sharing diverse ethnic practices
- Chaperoning field trips
- Reading to children
- Writing stories that children dictate
- Assisting staff with projects within the Center
- Volunteering your help with a special skill you may have
- Clipping and counting Box Tops and Campbell’s labels
- Helping with the ECDC library in various ways
- Sorting classroom pictures
- Talking about your job, hobbies, etc.
- Cooking activities
- Playing an instrument or teaching a new song
- Gardening and Planting

## School Improvement Committee

Are you handy and love to fix things, care for fish and furry friends, have a green thumb or would like to? This is a great way to enhance our school indoors and out. Help with various projects and small jobs like book/toy repairs, sewing projects, special projects to build for the classroom/playground, new areas for the playground, spring plantings, etc.

Are you a shopper or saver, like to collect and recycle? We can use your help with this committee.

Help with collecting and delivering various materials for projects at our school (list of materials needed will be provided by Head Teachers).
- Collect materials to create five prop boxes for classroom dramatic play- may include babies and families, restaurant, grocery store, and camping.
- Ask for donations at local stores such as scrap matte board at a local frame store, plexi glass pieces from hardware store, etc.

## Documentation Committee

If you have a talent for writing, proof reading, graphic design or just want to help publicize and document the activities of the school, this is a great committee to join.

Assist ECDC in writing articles for the campus, help with social media Facebook/Blogs, help set up displays and create documentation on campus to promote the activities of the school, take photographs or create videos or even displaying our artists in local store fronts.

## Community Service Committee

If giving back to the community and helping others is one of your priorities, help us organize a few projects where the children, staff, parents and UM-Flint can all participate. For instance…
- Eastern Michigan Food Bank Drive
- Helping a family in need for the holidays
- Hat and Mitten Drive

## Social Event and Hospitality Committee

If you have a flair for party or event planning this committee is for you.

Assist with coordinating activities for celebrations and special events during the school year. Help with coordination of invitations, food, room set up, entertainment, etc.
(Special celebrations may include: Fall Festival, International Night, Light Up The Night, Staff Appreciation Week)

Plan outings for ECDC Families to attend such as meeting at a park, bowling alley, roller skating, orchard, etc.

## Fundraising Committee

Are you a person who enjoys raising money for a good cause? Helping ECDC with fundraising is the committee for you!

Help with already established fundraising like Box Tops, Scholastic Book Fair, Little Caesars pizza kits, and/or develop new ways of fundraising to do enhancement projects that benefit the children.

## Family Advocacy Committee

Do you want to help plan professional development for your child’s teachers or topics for parent education? This committee is in charge of determining the needs of staff and families, deciding who we can bring in for training and which topics are important for the center.