# UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Division of Community Health

# Family Care Connection – Early Childhood Education

#### Overview

Family Care Connection (FCC) is a strengths-based family support program of UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh's Division of Community Health. FCC's neighborhood hubs offer services, programs and activities in partnership with families to meet their needs and help children achieve bright futures.

## **Early Childhood Education**

Family Care Connection offers a variety of early childhood development and education programs that meet the Pennsylvania Early Childhood Learning Standards. Programs include:

# **Tummy Time**

An interactive group for children from birth to walking age, and their caregivers. Parents and caregivers learn the importance of developing infants' core strength to encourage muscle development and to aid in crawling, sitting, standing and walking.

## **Toddler Group**

A parent-child interaction group that includes free play, story time and a healthy snack. Parents engage in activities that promote the cognitive, gross motor, and social-emotional development of their toddler and encourage positive parent-child communication and attachment.

#### Kindergarten Readiness

A program that focuses on developing the academic and behavioral skills needed for children's successful transition to kindergarten.

#### **Impact**

Early childhood programs are the building blocks for social, emotional, behavioral and cognitive development in young children. Children who participate in quality early education programs yield benefits in academic achievement, behavior, educational progression, and social skill development.

Early education programs also provide supports for parents and families in the form of structured experiences that enhance children's care giving environment.

#### About UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Community Health

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Community Health works together with hospital, other healthcare, and community partners to improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities, and elevate quality of life for children and families in the communities where they live, learn, work and play.

