FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicago State University’s Learning Center Receives Over $400,000 from the Department of Education

(CHICAGO) - The United States Department of Education recently approved Chicago State University's (CSU) grant request for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program funding for over $400,000. The funds are to be distributed over a four-year period.

This new grant supports the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based child care services. The growing demand for child care services for those seeking advanced education constitutes the necessity for offering convenient and affordable child care at college campuses.

With this grant, the CSU Learning Center (formerly the Child Care Center) enables CSU students to attain their educational goals while balancing their family life and ensuring a safe educational environment for their children. “This grant helps retain students by providing quality child care to adult learners with families who have returned to school for better career options,” said Deborah Parker, director, Chicago State University Learning Center. Eligibility for the grant funds are based on enrollment for at least six hours and a recipient of a Pell Grant. Chicago State University is a leader in providing high quality child care services for students.

CSU’s Learning Center provides an environment in which social, physical, intellectual, and emotional growth is encouraged through the creative-oriented curriculum. Because of its unique relationship to the University, young children are exposed to many of the same cultural, educational, and technological benefits enjoyed by CSU students.

Children in this program experience caring, warm, friendly interactions and responsive relationships with professional child care personnel. The CSU Learning Center professionals help develop, support, and maintain positive friendships that are created among the children in the program.

Since 1984, Deborah Parker, program manager for the CSU Learning Center, has coordinated, supervised, and directed the child care program and taught child development at Chicago State University, Olive Harvey, Daley, Kennedy King and Truman City Colleges. Her expertise has shaped the Center into the quality care program it is to date.

Registration is now open for the CSU Learning Center for ages pre-school through five years. In addition to the CCAMPIS program, CSU’s Learning Center offers the USDA Child Care Food Program, the Head Start program, the Early Head Start Program, and pre-school for ages two through four. Subsidized child care on a sliding fee scale and private tuition options are available. For more information, please call 773-221-3004.