

Health Zone

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To Whom It May Concern,

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to speak on behalf of Merrymount Children's Centre whom we have a close alliance with. Our organization provides primary care to those who are marginalized and face multiple challenges meeting the determinants of health including, access to primary care, affordable housing, food insecurity and affordable daycare.

I recently saw a young woman for her primary health care needs. She has three children under the age of six. Her health care regimen includes attending a local hospital outpatient clinic three times a week for life sustaining treatment. During our visit she identified problems with obtaining safe and reliable daycare. Her partner works shiftwork and they have no family in London, which has led to missed appointments for her treatment placing her at serious risk of life threatening illness and mortality. I spoke to a caseworker at Merrymount and she directed me to speak with an intake worker. This family was provided an opportunity to bring their children to Merrymount for daycare during her treatments at hospital. Merrymount provides safe and nurturing care to children's whose parent's face multiple challenges to life situations and circumstances that we take for granted. It has been my experience when families lack the comprehensive services such as those offered by Merrymount the result is further instability and family breakdown.

Supporting and enhancing family capacity is a unique and important characteristic of Merrymount. Our clinic looks forward to many more years of partnership with this organization.

Best regards,

Maureen Mouritzen NP

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