

From: [Leah D Nixon](#)
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Subject: Ferris' Tot's Place Holds Open House
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Included below is a press release regarding an open house at Tot's Place Child Development Center on the campus of Ferris State University. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

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Tot's Place Hosts Open House, Highlights Partnership With Head Start Program

BIG RAPIDS – Tucked quietly behind a modest door in Bishop Hall is Tot's Place Child Development Center. From the outside, onlookers may not realize that children come daily to the center located on the campus of Ferris State University.

But, take one step through the door and the hustle and bustle of nearly 60 youngsters fills the air. To give the public an opportunity to see Tot's Place for themselves, and learn about its partnership with the Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMSCA), an open house is scheduled from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 25. The event is free and open to the public.

“This is an informational open house that highlights our partnership with NEMSCA so that the community better understands the services we offer,” Tot's Place Manager Lori Johnson said. “The public is highly encouraged to stop by.”

Tot's Place Child Development Center was established in 1987 and has been partnering with NEMSCA to provide Head Start programs since 1997, Johnson said. Tot's Place offers child care services to families with children ages 1 month to 12 years in an educational setting. The NEMSCA Head Start program offers a full-year and two part-year classes for pre-school-aged children.

Head Start is a school readiness program that provides comprehensive education, health, nutrition and parent involvement services to low-income children and their families, said Angie Peters, NEMSCA Head Start Mecosta County area manager.

“The partnership we have with Tot's Place allows us to share training opportunities, curriculum and resources,” Peters said. “Sharing resources makes those services more available to all children.”

For more information about Tot's Place, visit www.ferris.edu/totsplace. More information about NEMSCA Head Start is available at <http://www.jillproctor.com/proctorj/index.htm>.

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CAPTION – Tot's Place preschool teacher Diane Parrish (center) and Head Start teacher Jamie Jewell (left) work on a class project with students (pictured clockwise) Grant Kidder,

Nevaeh Prude, D'Maria Wyrick, Henry Kooiker and Anna Kelly.

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FSU Tots Place Child Development Center.jpg

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