



RETIRING CONSULTANT JUNE THERRES WITH PROVIDERS HELAN, ANEELA AND HUMERA



## Network News

Home Child Care  
Edition

Winter 2017

# Making Your Children Our Priority for 25 Years

### Message from the Director:

Network Child Care Services has had a fantastic year of celebrations as we have marked our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of delivering exceptional child care services in Toronto to young children and families through our Centre based programs as well as our Home Child Care Program. Over these past twenty-five years, thousands of children and families have been welcomed by Network’s Staff and Affiliated Home Child Care Providers who have dedicated themselves daily to ensuring that all children are receiving the best care possible! Adding to our programs and services, Network opened the Dane Avenue Child Care Centre in the Lawrence and Dufferin area on January 3, 2017. Network will also be welcoming Jubilee Child Care Centre at Jane and Weston into our fold. Looking

at Home Child Care services during our anniversary year, we are pleased to recognize that more than 30 current Network Providers are at or over the 15 Years of Service mark with us. We couldn’t be happier with their dedication or prouder of our affiliation with them. As we await the coming of spring, I have already noticed that the days are lengthening, with increased light earlier and later in the early evening, offering that sense of hope in welcoming more young children and families to Network’s programs. Overall, endless possibilities greet us at Network for 2017!

Spyros Volonakis  
Executive Director

[spyros@networkchildcare.com](mailto:spyros@networkchildcare.com)

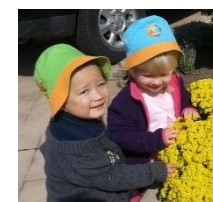
### By the Numbers:

**In 1991, we started the Agency with just 3 Home Child Care Providers...**

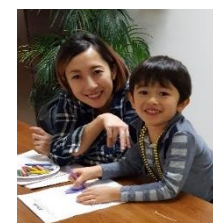
**25 years later:**



**We operate 13 Early Learning and Child Care Centres**



**We are affiliated with 70 Home Child Care Providers**



**We currently serve over 800 families across the Toronto region**

(Pictures provided by: St Nicholas Child Care Centre, Provider Maria Veiga, Satellite Child Care Centre)

## A Provider speaks at our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:



Provider Hamida Varacchia spoke at our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event on December 03, 2016. Here is an excerpt from her remarks:

“I was in my late 20’s when I decided to become a Home Daycare Provider for Just Kids Daycare, and then Network. My consultant Tanya believed in me and offered me the opportunity to work from home as a provider. Working from home also gave me the benefit of being a full-time mother to my 2 beautiful boys, at that time an infant and a preschooler.

From multiple kids in diapers, hot lunches, tantrums, ever changing personalities, laughs, hugs, and to planning outings. I have truly been touched by these little lives, and their families that still visit long after they have left daycare, and can only pray that I have been a positive role model in their lives.

From the Day Nursery Act to the New Childcare and Early Years Act, we can all agree the quality and high standard of care we provide to the children is paramount. We have always cared about the children’s health and safety, and their general well-being. I routinely remind myself how blessed and fortunate I am to have a job that I truly love. And I leave you with this quote:

*“One hundred years from now, it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove... but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child.”*

Forest E. Witcraft

Riddle Me This: Where does a polar bear keep its money?

! knab wons A :rewnsA

## Something to do today...

Scissor skills are a key school-readiness test for your busy Preschooler. Try this paper craft to help practice targeting and cutting.



1 Let’s make an Octopus! Draw lots of lines and tentacles in rows along the bottom of the paper. This is what we will be cutting.



2 Make a face with markers or a hole punch, and then tape or glue the paper into a tube.



3 Help your child cut along the lines to make the Octopus legs. Let your child experiment – its ok if their cutting isn’t straight.



4 Spread out and curl the legs – now you’re ready to swim and swoop around the ocean.

Thanks to [www.minieco.co.uk](http://www.minieco.co.uk) for the images and the great idea. Try this site out for more paper and scissor crafts.

## SPOTLIGHT ON: STEAM !!

### MAKE A LEMON VOLCANO

STEAM means Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. Try this home experiment to bring STEAM into your kids’ play.



You’ll need: A knife, 2 lemons, a popsicle stick, food colouring, baking soda, dish soap, a tray, cup and spoons



- 1 Slice the bottom off the lemon to help it sit flat. Flip it over and cut out the core about ½ way down to make a hole for the volcano contents.
- 2 Cut 2<sup>nd</sup> lemon and juice it. Put juice in separate bowl. Place cored lemon on a tray. Mash the insides with the Popsicle stick and put in ½ teaspoon of lemon juice.
- 3 Put a few drops of the food colouring and a squeeze of dish soap (this makes more bubbles when the chemical reaction happens).
- 4 Add a spoonful of baking soda, stir with the Popsicle stick and watch the foaming action.
- 5 To keep the reaction going, add more of the baking soda and lemon juice.

**The Science:** Gas! As the citric acid in the lemon mixes with baking soda, the reaction causes carbon dioxide and sodium citrate to form. This makes the liquid fizz, bubble and expand.

Thanks to [babbleddabledo.com](http://babbleddabledo.com) for the images and the science idea. Check out this site for more great kid-friendly experiments

## MORE FROM OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### Network Retirees:



Consultant June Therres and long-time Provider Maria Nardi

### Thanks to our Providers:

Many of our Providers took time out of their busy schedules to celebrate Network’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on December 3, 2016. Everyone had a great time (and ate lots!!). Thanks to all who came to the event and to the engaging speakers we enjoyed

