

I have had the great pleasure of working for The Children's Center of Cicero-Berwyn for over thirty years. I started here when I was young and not really sure how long I would stick it out or what I wanted to do. Under the wing of Pat Makris and on the shoulder of Kathie Kokenes, I received so much guidance, support and understanding...it became clear I was going to be a "lifer".

Through the years I have worked besides some of the most wonderful people, some are still here in the agency, some have moved on to different adventures and stages in life and sadly some have left my physical presence but their impact and memory remain in my head and heart everyday here at CCCB.

Jumping through these past thirty (plus) years. I went from being an assistant in the classroom to site director and working with the executive team, I raised my daughter here attending from 11 months – 11 years old, she is now a grown adult, employee of CCCB, and has her son (my grandson) enrolled in the program/s.

This is not just my story, but the story of other long-term staff and families. It is heart-warming to see previous students bringing their own children back to the programs they enjoyed; it's like a tradition they (you) want to share with the next generation and the next.

M.G. since 1988