

# Our Challenge

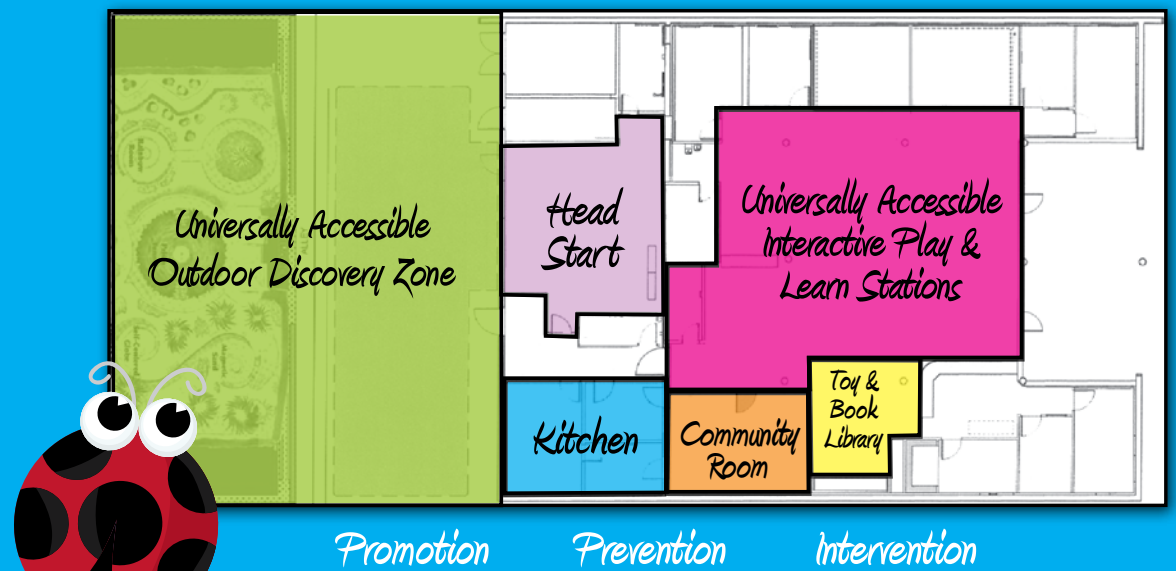
Recent research in child development, and our work with families has taught us what every child needs in his/her earliest years for healthy brain development and optimal life outcomes: **stimulating experiences, nurturing relationships and healthy, safe environments.** These experiences, relationships and environments are irreducible needs of every child; they are non-negotiable and set the foundation for all future learning.

In order to address all these needs, CDI leadership has envisioned a new kind of community center. CDI's Early Learning Center, "Together We Grow," will allow us to revolutionize the way we deliver early childhood development and intervention services to young children and how we support the grownups who care for them.

No other facility in California will reach underserved children with such a broad array of assistance in such an **Organic and non-invasive way.**

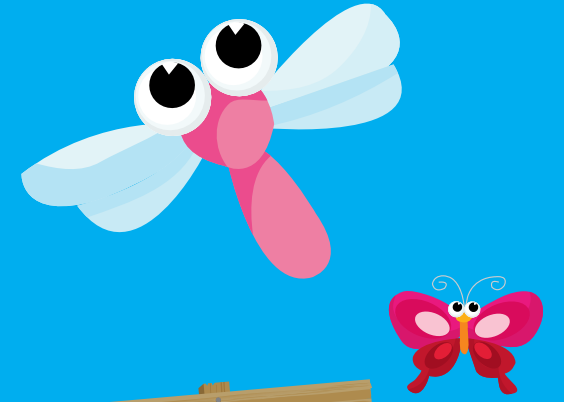
CDI's "Together We Grow" center will provide a unique learning environment that provides a flexible menu of activities focusing on **promotion, prevention, and intervention.** The primary goal of the CDI Early Learning Center is to ensure that all children have access to inclusive early childhood experiences that promote optimal brain development and success in school and in life.

# CDI's "Together We Grow" Center



CDI plans to renovate the 6500 square foot, old Canoga Park Library, located at 7260 Owensmouth Avenue. When completed, the renovated library will facilitate the delivery of coordinated and collaborative services for children birth through age five, with and without special needs, and their families. The site will meet research-based guidelines for model early childhood services and will encompass the following:

- Little Chefs
- Gardening
- Cooking and Nutrition Classes
- Teen Mom Support Groups
- New Dads' Groups
- NICU Graduate Support Group
- Tree House and Community Pretend Stations
- Music, Art and Movement Stations
- Water and Sensory Play Station





# Our Vision

Understanding individual strengths and challenges are crucial **building blocks** for supporting all children as they develop, grow and learn about their world.

Families are the most important providers of loving, caring relationships and the best creators of safe, **nurturing environments** that support healthy development.

The right **intervention** for children with developmental challenges can reduce their risks of future problems and enhance their quality of life.

Communities are significantly stronger when parents have the **information, education and support** they need to be the best possible parents.

# TOGETHER WE Grow

Child Development Institute's  
New Early Learning Center

“Imagine...  
enriched  
learning opportunities  
through play and  
exploration for all children.”



Developmental  
Checkups

Preventing or minimizing developmental and learning challenges in young children through outreach efforts

Early  
Intervention  
Services

Multi-disciplinary  
comprehensive  
services

Health  
Promotion

Onsite health advisor

Healthy  
Eating  
& Lifestyle

Child and adult  
cooking classes and  
education

Play & Learn  
Stations

Healthy social and  
emotional development  
through interactive  
activities

Volunteer  
Opportunities



Early Literacy

Reading Circles/Story Time  
Book and Toy Lending Library

## Strengthening Families Program

Promoting healthy  
child development  
for all children

Prevention through  
adult education and  
community learning

Intervention when  
services are needed

Groups

Social Skills, Making Friends  
and School Readiness



Playground

Enhancing children's  
awareness and love of nature

