



Arrupe Partnerships for Community-based Learning

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ESTRELLA FAMILY SERVICES

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Organizational Profile

Estrella Family Services has provided child development services and family programs for 34 years to low income families. The mission of Estrella Family services is to ensure equal access to family services that enhance youth development to build the foundation for a lifetime of success. Estrella provides full-day childcare for infants and toddlers, a full-day preschool program as well as a half-day family literacy preschool, before- and after-school care for kindergarteners through fifth graders and a Kids to Camp program that sends over 400 children to summer camp each year. The programs are conducted at three school sites and five family childcare homes. Most of the families served by Estrella at the Gardner site are low-income and part of the Latino community.

SCU Student's Role

There are two full-day and one half-day preschool rooms and two school-age classrooms on the Gardner campus. Placement opportunities include working with preschool or school aged children either in the morning or afternoon on academically related activities, arts and crafts, and playground activities. The ability to speak Spanish may be helpful, but is not required. However, **SCU students intending to satisfy the requirement of a Spanish class should alert the classroom teacher of the need to use Spanish.** Younger students in the preschool classrooms use Spanish throughout the day. Students who select the half-day pre-school will be working in a literacy pre-school where the instruction is predominately in Spanish.

No matter the type of interaction, SCU students are encouraged to listen to and interact with the children in a manner that creates mutual respect, trust, and that allows for the SCU and Estrella students to learn from one another.

To Do Before Orientation

- Visit the website listed above to learn more about your placement or the umbrella organization with which it is affiliated.
- Read your course syllabus and be prepared to discuss your learning goals with your placement supervisor at orientation.
- Provide the Arrupe Partnerships with proof of a negative intradermal TB test within the last year. If your TB test is not current, please go to the Cowell Health Center immediately to get a TB test at no cost.