## Childcare

The Childcare Center at Sarah's House serves as a nurturing oasis for children in families experiencing homelessness. The dedicated staff and volunteers understand the special needs of these children and strive to provide a safe and supportive environment that will give the child a much-needed place of security, acceptance, and learning while their parents work, attend classes or seek employment.

In early September 1992, the Child Care Center at Sarah's House opened its doors to our first eight children. We quickly learned that merely furnishing fun and educational activities each day would not be our sole function. Many of our parents received little parenting themselves, and one of our most important tasks has become teaching them by example how to nurture and enjoy their children. This task has grown as our population has increased. The Center is now licensed by the Maryland Department of Education to enroll 40 children, ages 6 weeks through 5 years, and 17 school-age children. The school-age program has its own space and outdoor activity area.

Our center is full of lively, curious children working on projects and bonding with the adults they are learning to trust. The children, their parents and those who work with us give us renewed faith in the great promise possible for our future. This is a place where each person is loved and valued, and where both children and adults can find security and purpose.