



The Campaign for Hilltop's Future

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Our Story

For more than 35 years Hilltop has provided high quality, child-centered, early childhood education for 3-10 year olds in our pre-school and after school programs. Hilltop is a magical place for learning and a vital component of our community's early learning network.

In late fall 2006, Hilltop received notice it is losing its lifelong home atop Queen Anne and must relocate. After a quick and in-depth study to explore the community's support for the Center, Hilltop's leaders concluded that there is strong interest to sustain this school both for the children who attend, and for practitioners in the field. In fall 2007, we will move to a new home at 4 Nickerson Street, bordering Queen Anne's north slope and the Lake Washington ship canal.

Hilltop is a Special Center

Hilltop is a learning community, built around the relationships among all the children, families, and teachers that make up our program. Our work together is shaped by our commitment to emergent curriculum and anti-bias practices, and by the ideas and experiences of the schools in Reggio Emilia, Italy. Hilltop's new home is being designed to include elements that contribute to our unique learning environment.



In our new home, Hilltop will grow our role as a model center for teachers around the state as we meet the needs of current children and teachers alike.

Growing our Role as a Model Center for Teachers – Hilltop is internationally recognized as a model learning center, receiving over a hundred local, national and international early education professional visitors interested in professional



development, peer-learning opportunities and observation of promising practice. Hilltop's leadership role in education has been broadcast further through a line of instructional videos sold

around the world, and by a wealth of research published by Hilltop teachers over the past decade. Our emphasis on mentoring teachers and supporting their development in early childhood education is a role we cherish.

Meeting our Children & Teachers' Needs – Hilltop's new space is light-filled and designed to evoke curiosity and creativity. A large, main studio will allow for in-depth investigation and observation, and mini-studios will extend the creativity and exploration happening in each classroom. Children will have more room for play in a big body/ gym



space, an outside play space, and through a partnership with Seattle Pacific University, in a wide open field where children can run, play and observe the natural landscape. In a library and conference room, teachers will have appropriate space to plan, document, reflect and collaborate, and room to invite others from the field to join them in mutual learning.

Hilltop will maintain the highest quality child care, adhering to or exceeding NAEYC and licensing standards. Our location was carefully selected to retain relationships with Queen Anne community and families while increasing access to new communities and families. The addition of a second classroom serving ten preschoolers aged 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 years will allow Hilltop to meet the needs of families on the Center's growing waitlist, as

well as increase the local community's overall number of quality preschool spaces. Hilltop will now serve 100 children, ages 3-10, daily.

The design has been adapted to fit within an existing building and within reasonable cost.

The total project costs reflect:

- The extensive remodel that must occur to turn a previous office environment into a licensed childcare center;
- Current market rates for commercial construction and remodel;
- A series of thoughtful, value-engineering choices to delay or forego elements not essential or significantly contributing to the learning community's experience; and
- Hilltop's long-term intentions to grow the Center at this new location.

Project Costs & Fundraising

Hilltop has secured \$172,000 in tenant improvements from our new landlord, and committed \$50,000 from reserves. 100% of board members have contributed nearly \$45,000. An additional \$480,000 must be raised from individuals, businesses and grantmakers.

| Revenue | |
|---|-------------------|
| GRANTS & INSTITUTIONAL GIFTS | \$ 180,000 |
| INDIVIDUAL GIFTS | \$ 345,000 |
| ORGANIZATION'S COMMITMENT | \$ 50,000 |
| IN-KIND & OTHER | \$ 172,000 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 747,000 |
| Expense | |
| DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION | \$ 561,400 |
| FURNISHINGS, EQUIPMENT & MOV | \$ 30,000 |
| FUNDRAISING | \$ 56,600 |
| FINANCING & BORROWING | \$ 15,500 |
| ALL CONTINGENCIES | \$ 81,325 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 744,825 |
| Net to Operating (debt to carry) | \$ 2,175 |

| Secured | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| | \$ 4,000 |
| | \$ 51,140 |
| | \$ 50,000 |
| | \$ 172,000 |
| Total | \$ 277,140 |

