

Perley Health Intergenerational Child Care, a program of Andrew Fleck Children's Services

Frequently Asked Questions



November 12, 2025

We're excited to share progress updates on Perley Health Intergenerational Child Care, a program of Andrew Fleck Children's Services!

We understand that you may have questions, so we've compiled answers to the most common inquiries. This page will be updated regularly as the project develops.

General Information

What is the Perley Health Intergenerational Child Care, a program of Andrew Fleck Children's Services?

- It is a licensed child care centre that will bring together young children and seniors in a shared environment designed to foster meaningful intergenerational connections. It is operated by Andrew Fleck Children's Services (AFCS), an experienced not-for-profit agency.

Who can apply?

- Perley Health employees who are the parent or legal guardian of a child, or currently expecting, who may require child care.

What is different about this centre?

- The child care centre's core feature is its intergenerational programming, where children and seniors interact and build meaningful relationships. This approach enriches experiences for all generations by promoting social connection and learning.

Where will the centre be located?

- The child care centre will be situated on the first floor of Perley Centre, directly across from the pharmacy.

What changes are taking place at Perley Health to construct the child care centre?

- In July 2025, construction started on the Intergenerational Child Care Centre. This centre will be created by renovating and expanding existing space in Perley Centre (across from the pharmacy and near Deborah's Gift Boutique), extending into the courtyard between the Ottawa Residence and Rideau Veterans Residence.

When is the centre expected to open?

- The planned opening is Spring 2026.

What are the proven benefits of intergenerational programs?

- Research shows that these programs offer numerous benefits to both seniors and children, including improved physical and cognitive health, increased social engagement, and enhanced emotional well-being.

How is the Perley Health Foundation involved?

- The Foundation's "Bridging Generations" campaign is raising \$2 million to expand and enhance the intergenerational program, creating dedicated, purpose-built spaces to foster meaningful connections.

How is the Perley Health Centre of Excellence in Frailty-Informed Care™ involved?

- The Perley Health Centre of Excellence in Frailty-Informed Care™ will play a pivotal role in researching and supporting the new intergenerational child care program. The Centre of Excellence will take a structured approach to evaluate facility design, individual participation, engagement, and outcomes related to loneliness, mood and overall well-being for seniors and Veterans. For the children attending the program, research can be conducted examining empathy, confidence, and social awareness. By applying a frailty-informed care lens, the Centre of Excellence ensures that the program is safe, meaningful, and tailored to the unique needs of older adults and children.

Operations, Capacity, and Facilities

What is the total licensed capacity?

- The centre will be licensed for 49 spaces, separated into the following cohorts:
 - **Infant spaces:** 10
 - **Toddler spaces:** 15
 - **Preschool spaces:** 24

What are the hours of operation?

- The program is expected to operate **Monday to Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Will weekend or overnight care be available?

- The centre will not be offering overnight child care. Weekend hours may be possible in the future, subject to additional funding.

Will the centre offer bilingual or multilingual child care?

- While the centre anticipates having some French-speaking staff, it will not offer fully bilingual or multilingual child care programs.

Will the new centre be accessible and support children with special needs?

- Yes, the centre will be fully accessible, including wide doorways to accommodate wheelchairs and mobility devices. The experts and program facilitators from AFCS are committed to inclusivity and are trained to provide comprehensive care for children with a wide range of needs.

Will there be an outdoor play area?

- Yes, the centre will include dedicated outdoor play areas.

What is the impact on the adjacent courtyard?

- The building expansion will have some impact on the existing courtyard. We are working to minimize disruption while enhancing the space for everyone.

Activities and Staffing

What intergenerational activities are planned?

- The program will offer daily opportunities for interaction and direct participation between children and seniors. Planned activities include shared reading, art projects, puzzles, outdoor play, and lunch in the cafeteria.

Will children visit long-term care resident units?

- Yes, children will visit resident units at scheduled times.

What are the staffing plans for the centre?

- The successful candidates will be employees of Andrew Fleck Children's Services. The team will include three Registered Early Childhood Educators in each of the three program rooms, plus an assistant and an onsite Program Coordinator.

Cost and Fee Subsidy

How much will the care cost?

- Cost will be determined under the Canada-Wide Early Learning & Child Care (CWELCC) System. For more information on the subsidized child care, please visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/canada-ontario-early-years-and-child-care-agreement>

Will the Child Care Fee Subsidy be available?

- Yes, the *Child Care Fee Subsidy* will be available for families that are eligible.

Is the fee subsidy available to staff residing in Quebec?

- Perley Health staff and their families living in Quebec are eligible to use the centre for the same daily rate as Ottawa residents. However, the additional City of Ottawa Child Care Fee Subsidy is only available to residents of Ottawa.

Eligibility

Who has priority for a child care space?

- Perley Health permanent staff (Full-Time, Part-Time, and Casual) will have priority access. Temporary employees are not eligible for priority access.

How is priority for Perley Health staff determined?

- Spaces are allocated based on Date of Hire (DOH). If a Permanent Full-Time (PFT) staff member and a Permanent Part-Time (PPT) started work at Perley Health on the same day, priority would be given to Permanent Full-Time (PFT).

- **Hierarchy** (in the event staff members started work at Perley Health on the same day):
 1. Date of Hire (DOH)
 2. Permanent Full-Time (PFT)
 3. Permanent Part-Time (PPT)
 4. Casual

How are spaces allocated?

- The 49 spaces are allocated based on the staff applicant's priority and the availability of spaces within each age group. Additionally, full-time child care spots will be given priority access to avoid unfilled spaces.

When is the temporary internal waitlist open?

- A temporary internal waitlist for Perley Health employees is opening because the City of Ottawa Waitlist is not yet active.
 - **Waitlist opens:** 9 am, Friday, November 14
 - **Waitlist closes:** 5 pm, Friday, January 9
 - Link: https://form.jotform.com/AFCS_Parent/PerleyWaitlist

How do I apply for a space?

- You must complete the application via the Andrew Fleck Children's Services online form: https://form.jotform.com/AFCS_Parent/PerleyWaitlist.

How are spaces allocated?

- The 49 spaces will be allocated based on the staff applicant's *Date of Hire*. Full-time spots will be prioritized to avoid unfilled spaces.

What happens when the City of Ottawa Waitlist is activated?

- **All families must add their child to the City of Ottawa waitlist once available.** You will still maintain your waitlist position from the original internal application, based on your Date of Hire with Perley Health.

What if I don't receive a space during the initial period?

- Applicants who did not receive a space will remain on the waiting list, and spaces will continue to be offered based on date of hire.

Eligibility and Withdrawal

What is the requirement for starting attendance after a space is accepted?

- Parents must begin their child's attendance within two weeks of the agreed-upon start date. The parent must also be actively employed by Perley Health within 14 days of the child's first day of care.

What if I don't need a space right away?

- If you are offered a space but are not ready for child care, you may pass on the space but keep your waitlist position for a potential future offer.

What happens if my employment at Perley Health ends after my child is enrolled?

- If the parent/guardian ceases to be employed by Perley Health, the child will lose priority access and will be withdrawn if a waitlist exists for that age group (with 60 days' advance notice).

Can I keep my child in care while I am on parental leave?

- Yes, families planning to take maternity or parental leave can choose to keep their child in care if they are planning to return to work at Perley Health after their leave.

How much notice is required for voluntary withdrawal?

- Families must provide a minimum of 15 business days' written notice prior to voluntary withdrawal from the program.

Public Access

How are spaces allocated, and who gets priority?

- Perley Health staff requests are given priority for available spaces.

If there are spaces left, how does the public get considered?

- If spaces remain after all eligible staff requests have been fulfilled, they are offered to the public based strictly on their application date on the Centralized Wait List. Consideration is only given if there are available spaces remaining for the applicant's specific age group.

Updates and Contacts

How can I stay connected and receive updates?

- Please visit the dedicated webpage: PerleyHealth.ca/generations-connected. Updates will continue to be shared as the project progresses, including details on the construction schedule.

Who should I contact with further questions?

- **For waitlist and registration questions:** Contact the Andrew Fleck Parent Navigator, Nicole, at PN@afchildrensservices.ca.
- **For general questions or comments:** Contact info@perleyhealth.ca.