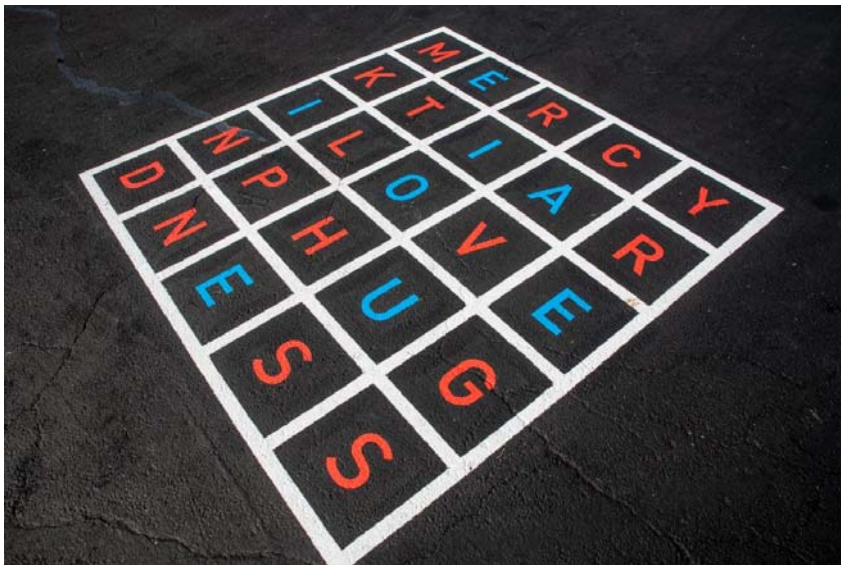


Playful Learning Landscape opens at Hesed House

Fox Valley United Way is proud to be the anchor organization for the Aurora installation of Playful Learning. Playful Learning is a collaborative project that transforms everyday public spaces where families work, play, and live into opportunities for learning. Ultimately, the project's aim is to encourage parents that they are their child's first and most important teacher and positively shape their everyday interactions with their children.



The Hesed House Playful Learning installation officially opened last week and it transformed the outdoor play area into a beautiful place for families to learn together through play.

“Our families are enjoying the new Playful Learning activities very much.

It has been fun for both kids and their parents to explore the many different ways they can learn as they play. The timing is great as it has been very helpful in reinforcing and practicing skills for our kids in e-learning situations,” said Karen Swandby Program Director of PADS Family Shelter.

Aurora Playful Learning is a unique collaboration formed by Metropolitan Family Services between Fox Valley United Way – SPARK Early Childhood Collaboration and five pledged funders with the shared goal of creating convenient, accessible opportunities for parents and caregivers to engage young children in meaningful learning during everyday tasks.

The five pledged funders include: CME Group Foundation, Crown Family Philanthropies, Dunham Fund, Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation, McCormick Foundation, and Steans Family Foundation.

