

CHANGING LIVES

Since 2011, the ChildBridge Center for Education has helped students find success by returning to less restrictive learning environments and going on to achieve greater independence. One student, Brady, has done just that and his family has seen the life-changing difference it has made.

"As a parent of a special needs child, you can never really prepare for the day when you are not with that child every day. You support them, and in my case my son is nonverbal, so we speak for him too. This was a huge leap of faith for us. And we feel so lucky and blessed Brady is here and receives the care and support he does from this wonderful staff."
— Lisa Pollard, Brady's mother



ChildBridge Center for Education PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- Vocational Education
- Independent Living Skills
- Technology Resources
- School Health Services
- Adaptive Aquatics
- Sensory Integration Therapy
- Counseling
- Crisis Management
- Community-Based Instruction
- 1:1 Instruction
- Assistive and Adaptive Technology
- Transition Programming
- Art Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Social Skills Instruction
- Physical Education
- Social Work

ABOUT LITTLE CITY

Since 1959, Little City has been dedicated to serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing the best options and opportunities to live safely, learn continuously, explore creatively, and work productively throughout their lifetime. By inspiring, advocating, and pursuing success with passion and purpose, lives are changed through hope, happiness, and optimism.

Beyond our school, Little City offers residential services for children and adults, day services, special needs foster care and adoption, employment development services, Special Olympics, an award-winning Center for the Arts and more. Little City is a therapeutic, 56-acre community located in Palatine, IL.



MAIN CAMPUS: 847-358-5510

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ChildBridge Center for Education

THERAPEUTIC

DAY SCHOOL



www.littlecity.org/dayschool



WHO WE ARE

Little City's **ChildBridge Center For Education** is a therapeutic day school for children with moderate to significant autism and other developmental and intellectual disabilities. Located on our 56-acre campus in Palatine, IL, the ChildBridge Center offers a safe and supportive environment where students learn academics, life skills, and social skills they need to lead a more independent and fulfilling life.

We serve students from ages 7 to 22 in a 10,000-square-foot school with seven unique classrooms divided between elementary and high school aged students, as well as four sensory therapy rooms and a sensory gymnasium. Each student receives the staff support they need based on their own unique Individualized Education Program (IEP). This includes social workers as well as speech, behavioral, and occupational therapists to provide the specialized instruction our students deserve.

Our goal is to help all students work toward the Least Restrictive Environment, which includes striving toward higher-functioning classrooms within the school and also potential returns to home district programs.

ELEMENTARY & HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS*

- Learning programs are organized by age and ability, giving each student a tailored experience to help them reach their own unique potential in both academics and life skills.
- State-of-the-art technology allows our mostly non-verbal students to communicate in a variety of ways based on their needs. Each student is equipped with a tablet as needed, and other tools such as Smart Boards and picture exchange systems are used to help develop communication skills.
- Students in both elementary and high school levels benefit from vocational skills training to prepare them early on for potential community employment. The Center uses the PAES Lab program, which is specially designed for students with disabilities.
- Physical activity is also a focus as students engage in adaptive physical education, spend time at our indoor pool, and enjoy special events such as dances, Field Day and more!

**See back panel for full listing of services*

To learn more about the ChildBridge Center for Education and all it has to offer, please contact school@littlecity.org.

THRIVE PROGRAM

Serving Those With Significant Autism & Behavioral Challenges

Little City is the **only agency in Illinois** that provides residential and educational services to children with the most profound levels of autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. The THRIVE Program is specially designed to serve students with high-intensity behaviors who would otherwise be forced to find services out of state or in non-school settings.

Unlike most learning environments that attempt to "mask" maladaptive behaviors, the primary focus of the THRIVE program is to allow students to experience their behaviors with a team of support staff and therapists to safely guide them through the process so they can learn more effectively and safely operate within classroom and social settings.

Each classroom has no more than four students supported by a special education teacher, at least five paraprofessionals, and a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst. Each class features a double classroom space, one room where learning takes place and another room dedicated for different sensory experiences. When students show consistent improvement in THRIVE, they are able to move into the less restrictive classrooms within the school.