



# Developmental Preschool & Day Care Center

DPDC ★ ExCEL ★ Project Reach  
*Building brighter futures*

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2/21/2023

Saratoga Town Council  
c/o Mayor Chuck Davis  
110 E. Spring Avenue  
Saratoga, WY 82331

RE: Public Hearing on Corbett Medical Building

Mayor Davis and Town Council Members,

I regret that I am not able to attend in person, weather unfortunately has not cooperated. However, I hope that you will accept my written comments regarding the opportunity for our program to partner with Valley Village Daycare in acquiring the Corbett building.

The ability for our program to move into a new facility is critical to our ability to continue to serve our community's 3 and 4 year olds. Our current facility has been a concern for years. The two old mobile structures require extensive maintenance each year. We continue to struggle with feral animals burrowing underneath, specifically problems with skunks nearly every year. We are unable to properly care for and educate children when the scent permeates the buildings and we are then forced to cancel school because the environment is unhealthy and unsafe.

We have had conversations with a variety of people, including former mayors, over the last 10 years, to identify an option for our center. This is by far the best option that has come around. It solves our concerns with our environment, first and foremost. It gives us ample space to serve the existing population in Saratoga, while also providing for the potential to increase capacity in coming years. The ability to co-occupy the building with Valley Village means that we are able to serve shared clients without the need for families to leave work to transport children between the facilities.

This building will greatly benefit the community through a shared vision for access to quality early childhood care and education. Our operating agreement between ExCEL Preschool and Valley Village means that our partnership will exist in perpetuity and allows for options for each entity to continue should there be a situation where the other would cease operations. Additionally, should both entities cease to exist, the building reverts back to the town, which means the entire transaction benefits the community as a whole. There is no risk and no loss to the town, rather, the transfer of the property



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means the town is no longer responsible for the upkeep of the building, saving the town precious funds that can be concentrated elsewhere.

While we still have some concerns about safe, adequate and appropriate playground space, I ask that you vote favorably for the transfer of the building to Valley Village, with the consideration for a subsequent transfer of ownership or easement for the surrounding property intended as playground space. We are greatly concerned about the needs for outdoor play space because our licensing requires adequate, safe outdoor play space. The easements surrounding the facility are still also a concern, however, we are hopeful that we can all work together to find an adequate solution.

Sincerely,

Jaime R. Stine  
Executive Director

