Snapshot 2



Maria Home Child Care Provider

About Maria

Maria is an RECE and an unlicensed home child care provider. She has operated out of her home for the past 10 years. Four years ago, Maria returned to school and earned a degree in Early Childhood Studies. Before starting her home child care, Maria worked for five years in communications and she also has a diploma in marketing.

Below is a snapshot of Maria's CPL Portfolio, with the focus on one professional learning goal.

Self-Assessment Tool Highlights

Part 1

Maria reflected on her professional practice and noted the following:

- Strong personal relationships with the families and children she works with as a result of living in a small community.
- Personal and professional relationships have created challenges when discussing issues such as late pick-up or concerns about child development with families.

Part 2

Maria identified that some of her reflections and her priorities align with two of the standards from the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*.

- Standard V: C.1 says that RECEs: "Establish and maintain clear and appropriate boundaries in professional relationships with children under their professional supervision, their families and colleagues."
- Standard V: C.6 says that RECEs: "Acknowledge and communicate to affected parties, as appropriate, the nature of the dual relationship and the steps taken to address related risks".

Part 3

Maria set one of the following goals:

 Examine her current dual relationships and create strategies to maintain her professional boundaries.

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Professional Learning Plan Highlights

To achieve her goal from Part 3 of her Self-Assessment Tool, Maria planned and completed the following professional learning activities:

- Read the College's *Practice Guideline: Dual Relationships* and reflected on her own practice in relation to the scenarios and questions in the document.
- Spent several weeks speaking with other home child care providers and reviewed their policies and communication strategies related to dual relationships with families.
- Created a policy on dual relationships and received signatures from families.

Record of Professional Learning Highlights

As Maria completed the activities on her Professional Learning Plan, she documented her engagement and learning on her Record of Professional Learning in the following ways:

- Wrote down her reflections on her practice as she reviewed the *Practice Guideline: Dual Relationships*.
- Collected notes from her interactions with other home child care providers related to managing dual relationships.
- Collected the policies from other home child care providers.
- Kept drafts of her policy related to dual relationships and maintaining professional boundaries with families.
- Kept the final dual relationship policy with signatures from families.
- Noted her reflections and new learning that highlighted how developing a policy on dual relationships facilitated open communication with families about professional relationships, boundaries and other emerging issues.
- Wrote down plans to create a late pick-up policy that will further clarify and re-inforce the nature of professional relationships with families.