

MAB-Mackay Foundation



Fondation **MAB-MACKAY** Foundation

**Impact Report to
Unicorn Children's Foundation
in support of their
generous support in 2014 for
Playful Monkeys at the
MAB-Mackay Rehabilitation Centre's
Communication Disorders Program (CDP)**



**Submitted by the MAB-Mackay Foundation
September 10, 2015**

IMPACT REPORT 2014-2015

The MAB-Mackay Foundation is deeply grateful to the Unicorn Children's Foundation for the interest and confidence you have shown in this program. We thank you for your generous gift of \$29,000 last year towards this structured playgroup that seeks to accelerate access to support and minimize potential delays in development for children of pre-school age with communication disorders.

We are most appreciative for the site visit from Valeria Rosenbloom in December, and for the opportunity to introduce her to the architects of this program, Claudine and Enza. It is always wonderful to facilitate exchanges between our supporters and the professionals who work directly with the children. I know that our staff was delighted to describe the evolution of the Playful Monkeys group since they launched it a few years ago, and respond to questions about its impact for the children and parents.

Update

In the spring of 2015, two cohorts of Playful Monkeys were held. 8 children participated in the English group, and 7 in the French groups.

In October, two new groups will begin. Screening of the children took place in the summer, and 6 children are confirmed for the English group, with 5 for the French one.

The screening process has been streamlined, and the children invited to participate in the groups are looked at in a wider context.

For 2016, we plan to continue with the current format of four cohorts per year, two in the winter/spring and two in the fall.

Comments from parents who participated in the spring session:

"My child is saying more small words, talking different subjects, and using longer sentences too"

"I learned how to give choices to my child when he wants to speak"

"I am now able to sit down and play with my daughter. She is able to speak now in sentences with four words"

"I really liked the support of the therapists in overcoming the challenges my child was having, including their refusal to participate, their difficulty with the tasks assigned, and their listening skills"

"My child is communicating a bit more with the other kids at daycare"

"Now, when my son wants something, he asks using sentences, and no longer points to express what he wants"

On behalf of the MAB-Mackay Foundation, thank you to the Unicorn Children's Foundation for helping us to help these children to achieve these successes.