

1.4. GEOGRAPHICAL CHART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
IN THE MELBOURNE MUNICIPALITY

BY RUTH
MAURIE
CROW

DATE	SERVICE	COMMENT
1890s	<u>Services before Council involvement</u> 3 Creches in Melbourne Municipality - City, North Melbourne, Carlton (near work places for women)	13 Creches established in Victoria by philanthropic organisations
1910	Bouverie St. Free Kindergarten in Carlton	FIRST Free Kindergarten in Victoria established by Baptists Church with main support from Canterbury
1914-1935	<u>"Keeping the Well Baby Well"</u> <u>Physical Hygiene</u>	1920: a Turning Point
1914	M.C.C. starts Maternal and Infant visitations by a sanitary inspector	FIRST M.C.C. Welfare Service - arose from already existing staff. FIRST in Victoria
1916	Baby Health Centres proposed. Free milk distributed.	Aim at prevention of disease.
1919	Epidemic of pneumonic influenza with 464 deaths, 34 of whom were under five years. 8,678 recorded attacks of the disease. Scarlet fever, typhoid and diphtheria also had high incidence amongst children.	Concern by Council to protect children from infectious diseases.
1919	Baby Health Centre established by M.C.C.	One of the FIRST in Victoria
1920	Dr. Vera Scantlebury (Brown) appointed by M.C.C. as Visiting Medical Officer for Health Centres	FIRST appointment of such an officer in Victoria
1920	Health Centres: North Melbourne in Municipal Building, in Kensington in Municipal Building and in Carlton at Royal Women's Hospital	Council gave financial support and provided two of the buildings. Council subsidy of 100 pounds sterling per annum each
1920	Victorian Baby Health Centres Association formed	Fifteen hundred pounds sterling donated by Council out of surplus from Tramways Board (the Council received a proportion of this surplus annually) FIRST coming together of Municipal Councils on welfare services

RUTH CROW
E2-5, 89 O'Shanassy Street
North Melbourne, Vic. 3051
Phone: 328 2345

Crow - Box 25 - 25/27 - Doc 3



DATE	SERVICE	COMMENT
1921	A fourth centre established at 680 Rathdown St. Carlton	1,630 babies were enrolled at the 4 centres Cheap milk supplied
1921	State Government contributed 125 pounds sterling per annum to each Health Centre	FIRST money to Councils from State. - - - Government for welfare services
1924	Diphtheria Prevention Campaign. Dr. Anne Hensley appointed by M.C.C. (342 cases recorded with 9 deaths. 3.35 per 1,000 had the disease	Council co-operated with schools and railways. <u>Beginning</u> of school inspections by Council
1925	Polio-melitis prevention campaign. Dr. Jean-McNamara appointed. 13 cases with 2 deaths had been recorded in the municipality	Melbourne City Council initiated a metropolitan wide campaign. <u>Second example</u> of Council initiating co-operation between councils on welfare/health issues.
1925	State Government gave 1 pound sterling for each 1 pound stlg. from municipalities to polio campaign	State Government funding of Council services. Second example of such a source of funds.
1929	Nursery School at Princes Hill opened by the Education Dept.	The initiating group was the Mothers Story-telling Group which also helped to initiate Mothers Clubs at State Schools
1935-50	<u>"Child Life That is Magical" - Mental Hygiene</u>	1944: a <u>Turning Point</u>
1938	Plans for Huntingfield Kindergarten. Land acquired in North Melbourne for this	<u>FIRST</u> Municipal pre-school centre in Australia
1938	M.C.C. co-operates with Commonwealth and State Govt. on plans for "Model pre-school centre" - Lady Gowrie Centre	<u>FIRST</u> Commonwealth involvement in pre-school services
1938	Council gives land for Lady Gowrie Centre at a "peppercorn rent"	<u>FIRST</u> collaboration between the three tiers of Govt. on welfare issue
1938	Council plans to include dental clinic and Baby Health Centre at Huntingfield Centre and at Lady Gowrie	<u>FIRST</u> clustering of services in Victoria (Australia?)

DATE	SERVICE	COMMENT
1939	Research on height and weight of children as evidence of need for child endowment	FIRST time Council to act as an advocate to improve family incomes - child endowment. Result of research published by A.M.A. and the United Nations.
1940	Council helps form an Advisory Council on Children's Services in Melbourne Municipality	FIRST municipality based children's services organisation in Victoria
1943	In 1943 more than half of the 29 (3 in the country) kindergartens in the whole state were in the Melbourne Municipality. The 16 kindergartens in the Melbourne municipality were: the Lady Gowrie, the Huntingfield, 12 Church Kinders and 2 kindergartens of the F.K.U.	The Council assisted the Church and F.K.U. kindergartens by providing a yearly medical check of the children and on some occasions assisted with renovations and alterations to the buildings to bring them up to standard
1944	State Government Pre-school Act	4 pounds stlg. per child per annum to approved Centres made expansion of services possible
1944	State Government Amendment to Local Govt. Act	Legitimised Council spending money on pre-school education
1944	Maternal and Child Hygiene Branch of the Victorian Health Dept. established	Supervisory staff to assist with planning and maintaining pre-school centres
1945	Kindergartens in Melbourne Municipality increased from 12 in 1943 to 19 in 1945. The Hopetoun Kindergarten had been built by the Council and the Fawkner Park one planned	Expansion encouraged by State Govt. grants on a per head basis
1946	Council awards 2 scholarships for students to train at Kindergarten College	Ensured trained staff (thus State grant) for Council kindergartens. <u>FIRST</u> Council to award such assistance
1946	Campbell Emergency Housing Settlement provided by the State Govt. as post war housing shortage resulted in homelessness. Many families of returned soldiers lived in the Camp (over 1000 children accommodated)	Council established a temporary Infant Welfare Centre based on visiting homes. Sister Mier appointed. <u>FIRST</u> such service in emergency settlements

DATE	SERVICE	CONTENT
1950-1970	<u>"We Gather Strength as we go"</u>	<u>Consolidation of Services</u>
Early 1950s	Housing Commission constructs flats on reclaimed land in Molesworth St. North Melbourne	Flats mainly rehoused people who had previously lived in North Melbourne. Some had spent some years in Camp Pell
1954	Council treated over 300 cases of impetigo, scabies and pediculosis amongst Camp Pell children	Council welcomes proposal to close Camp Pell. Camp Pell closed in 1956
1956	Council starts Home Help Service and appoints a social worker	Service for mothers of young children and for elderly people
1957	Council accepts full responsibility for North Melbourne Day Nursery. Council also accepted full responsibility for the Carlton and Ethel Nilsen Day Nurseries (exact date unknown)	These 3 day nurseries had been in existence since the 1890s. Thus the philanthropic administration of children services ended
1958	Council reported on movement into and out of the city - 42% infant welfare registrations moved out of the area, and 26% moved in. If pre-school children added the movement in would have been raised to 33% (movement caused mainly by H.C.V. block demolitions) and partly be rapid suburban expansions	Council planned to adapt services, more intensive programmes, playgroups and coffee mornings etc.
1959	Increase in migrant population in municipality. 59.5% children born in M.C.C. had one or both parents who were not British born	Council provided information on children's services in various languages
1959	Children's nursery opened in City for occasional care for 4 hours per day	Eventually this nursery could accommodate 100 children
Early 1960s	Housing Commission built large H.C.V. estates in Flemington, Kensington, North Melbourne and Carlton	The Council worked with the H.C.V. to provide pre-school centres and Infant Welfare Centres on these estates. All estates were served by such centres at end of 50s.
1969	Council takes over full responsibility for Princes Hill Nursery (opened by Education Dept. 1929)	Nursery improved, close co-operation with teachers and council staff

DATE	SERVICE	COMMENT
0	<u>"The Opportunity to Lead a Full Life"</u>	<u>Community Participation</u>
2	Family Planning Clinic established at Kensington	A clinic run by the Family Planning Assoc. was already located at the Queen Elizabeth Centre in South Carlton
12	Victorian Health Dept. Consultation on pre-school child development. M.C.C. made a submission	Of the 150 submissions to the Consultation 8 came from the Melbourne Municipality. These were from a variety of sources - Kensington Resident Action Group, Kindergarten Teachers at inner suburban kindergartens, the North Melbourne Assoc., a sister at an infant welfare centre, inner suburban education action group and a mother of young children living in a high rise flat
12	Family Day Care scheme started by Melbourne City Council	Supervisor appointed in 1973. Support from kindergartens for child minders arranged by Council
12	Commonwealth Govt. moves to establish an Office of Child Care	Federal funding to community groups and Council resulted in a number of innovative projects. FIRST effective Federal funding to children's services since war time nursery subsidies 1943 to 1946
12	Council opens centre in Debney Park	Centre designed to especially help children of one parent families
13	Council supports community group planning Child Care Co-op at Robertson St. Kensington and promises financial assistance	This centre was one of the first to receive Commonwealth funding. The Council acted as advocate for a community group in supporting this centre
13	Preparation of the Melbourne City Council Strategy Plan	Historic effort at encouraging community participation in planning

DATE	SERVICE	COMMENT
1976/ 1981	Community Planning Groups formed in Carlton, Parkville, Kensington, North West Melbourne to prepare "action plans" based on M.C.C. Strategy Plan	Most groups met for about 3 years (at monthly meetings) and prepared plans for "neighbourhood including plans for "human services"
1976	Recognition of the need for Community participation reported in Health Dept. Report	Council staff encouraged to join local group and to further community participation
1976	Council opens Children's Centre in Canning St. North Carlton	Services aimed at relieving families in stress including "children at risk". Overnight emergency care provided
1976	"Home Makers" Group provided with accommodation at Arnion House in North Melbourne	Special Centre in conjunction with Royal Melbourne Hospital to assist families with special needs
1977	Health Committee arrange for Consultative arrangements to be made between Council and local residents (November 1977)	This is the <u>beginning</u> of a new type of relationship between the Council Health Dept. and the community
1978	Council supports submission from Melbourne Municipality Early Childhood Development Complex Committee (Oct.)	Need for more co-ordination and integration of services recognised
1978	Early Childhood Development Program introduced to Municipality by the Health Commission	Development of an inter-disciplinary team of experts each with own expertise. Focus on screening tests for health. Victorian Health Dept. more involved with municipal pre-school services
1979	Launching of the Community Consultation on Children's Services, by local community groups and the Council. Appointment of Project Officer for Community Consultation. Two central committees formed to carry it through, "Central Children's Policy Committee", and "Committee on Participation and Decentralisation", plus 4 neighbourhood children's services groups	Six reports were eventually presented to the Council by the Consultation. Very widespread participation in residential neighbourhoods

SERVICE	COMMENT
<p>Council approves the 6 reports of the Consultation</p>	<p>The 6 reports were: Children's Service in Melbourne Municipality. Participation and Decentralisation Report. Kids in Kensington. The Carlton Report on Children. The Flemington Children's Services Report. "Children of our Time" - a Report from North Melbourne, West Melbourne and Parkville</p>
<p>C.S.D.O. appointed for Kensington and Flemington neighbourhoods</p>	<p>As well as working in the 2 neighbourhoods, the C.S.D.O. also plays an important role in servicing the city-wide childrens services central committee and issues groups</p>
<p>Elected Melbourne City Council sacking announced by State Govt. (actual dismissal took place in May 1981 and Commissioners were then appointed to run the Council)</p>	<p>Central committee set up various special groups to consider particular issues (e.g. foster care and child protection). Also encouraged parents and staff in services to consider ways of implementing the policies in their services. Council administration discuss ways of implementing policy in staff meetings and work shops</p>
<p>Central Childrens Committee formed to work for the implementation of the policies of the Community Consultation Reports. Neighbourhood Family and Childrens Services Groups which were established to participate in Consultation, decide to continue on and to work for the policy implementation</p>	<p>ALP members committed to the principles of the report. worked to get these included in the Public Policy document which ALP Councillors are pledged to support. Also several independent Councillors (including one who was an active member of the Consultation Group) have publicly stated their commitment to the Policy</p>
<p>Commissioners removed and Council elections held. Council re-elected with strong public commitment on the part of the majority of the new Councillors to the policies and principles of the Community Consultation Reports</p>	

The future looks bright. Will the Melbourne City Council regain its pioneering position amongst other municipalities that it had in the 1920 to 1950s?

DATE	SERVICE	COMMENT
1983 (March)	Public meeting to launch the new "Melbourne Municipality Assoc. of Community-based children and Youth Services" (M.A.C.Y.S.) which has as a major goal the implementation of the Report's policies, and includes within its constitution the principles of the Report's policy recommendations. The Central Childrens Committee winds up and transfers its responsibilities to the new Association	This Association is made up of people living and working in the municipality who are committed to the goals and objectives of the Association. Members of the co-ordinating committee are drawn equally from each of the neighbourhoods and appointed by the members of the Association from those neighbourhoods. i.e. the intention is to strengthen the neighbourhood level of activity, whilst co-ordinating it