

BUSINESS

Compass Child Care

Although Compass Child Care opened its doors in Oct. 2017, the beginnings of the business truly began back in the childhood of two sisters playing "school". Co-owners Ginger Olson and Amy Steiner are five years apart and Steiner gives her older sister some of the credit for helping her learn how to spell, read and write in cursive. Into adulthood, Steiner and Olson worked in early childhood development for different organizations. They found themselves in conversations about the industry and the challenges that come with it when Olson initiated an idea of opening up a child care center. "We understood where the industry was and where we would want it to be," Amy Steiner says. "It became our dream to be owners of Compass and make a difference in this field."

The sister-duo have similar roles with different expertise. Olson manages the marketing and payroll while Steiner trains teachers and works with the students and their families. Together, they both complete tasks as needed and both interact with staff and students in the classrooms.

"We want this to feel like a home with the professionalism of a school," says Steiner, who believes in the unique approach that allows kids to move from room to room throughout the day. The reason for this is to allow teachers to focus on one subject they're passionate about and be experts in their classrooms, rather than feeling like they are constantly switching activities.

Quick facts:

Address: 2853 Northdale Blvd. NW

Care ages: 6 weeks – pre-K. School-age camps offered in the summer.

Olson's son, Mason, had his first haircut in the same facility when it was Kids Kutz. He is now employed as a teacher at Compass Child Care.

The rooms have various themes: S.T.E.M., music and movement, art and dramatic play. "By going to different classrooms, we are hoping to fill each room with a teacher that is passionate about that subject. We want them to flourish at what they're good at and then they can share that passion with the kids," Steiner states. The facility also prepares children for kindergarten by focusing on key skills such as listening, letter recognition, math and science.

Along with bringing new approaches to child care, Olson and Steiner are excited to bring Compass to the Coon Rapids community. "We spent a portion of our life growing up in Coon Rapids, it feels like home to us," Steiner says. "We want to be an asset to the city, whether we are caring for your child specifically or just being a part of the community."

