

# IMPROVEMENT OF THE CHILD WATCH ROOM

YMCA CEO and Supervisors

## OVERVIEW

I am pleased to submit this proposal on behalf of the child watch department of the Tiffin Community YMCA. I have carefully considered what needs to be done to improve the child watch room, which needs a drastic change. I am reaching out so that I can begin contacting sponsors to gain the resources that I need for this project, and so we can begin as soon as possible to get the job done in a timely manner. The completion of this project will result in bettering our child watch room long term.

### The Issue

- Need #1: Improvement of the safety gate
- Need #2: Updated paint job
- Need #3: Floor work

### The Solution

- Recommendation #1: The room needs a gate that children are unable to open or scale so that they are not able to exit the room on their own, or possibly injure themselves while trying.
- Recommendation #2: The room needs an updated paint job, one with stimulating colors to better suit the children and the atmosphere of the room.
- Recommendation #3: Softer carpeting is recommended as there are children crawling and playing on the floor, and they sustain carpet burns easily.

## MY PROPOSAL

The Tiffin Community YMCA strives for excellence. We want our members and guests to enjoy the atmosphere. The child watch room is dire need of an update. The safety gate, which was put in place to ensure that children are unable to leave the room, is easily opened by young kids. For those that are unable to open it, they find it easy to climb up and over it. This poses a safety hazard as children could get injured climbing over the gate, or by running through the building unattended. Not to mention, their parents would be angry if their workout is cut short because they must chase down their child. We need a gate that is not easily opened and is tall enough that children are unable to climb over.

The walls are painted brown and red, those two colors do not make for an inviting atmosphere. The walls should be painted colors that make the room seem warm and welcoming as opposed to the red which is bright and startling, and the brown which is dull and unimaginative. The children should come into the child watch room and be stimulated by the color and atmosphere, not frightened from the lack of color and excitement.

The carpet in child watch is rough and hard. While thick, plush carpet would not be ideal because there would be a constant threat of it being soiled, it is prudent that we meet in the middle between that type of carpet and what is in the room now. As the children are crawling along on the floor whilst playing, they are often getting carpet burns. In order avoid this, the room needs a carpet that is thicker and soften than the one that is being used now.

### Rationale

The Rationale for this proposal will include the following:

- Research

- Market opportunities
- Alignment with mission

The usage of safety gates is a form of ‘child-proofing’, which studies have shown drastically reduces the number of injuries sustained by children (LeBlanc, et al., 2006). If the children can open or climb over the gate, they are not being safe; therefore, a new gate must be purchased to ensure the safety of the children, and the peace of mind of their parents. Certain colors enhance a child’s cognitive ability, which would help the children to become intellectual thinkers and learners (Dutta & Baruah, 2018). Research also shows that children are more likely to get friction burns from falling onto rough surfaces, such as the carpeting in the child watch room (CS Mott Children’s Hospital, 2021). The injuries would be more easily avoided if the carpeting was not as rough.

A new family-owned flooring company has recently opened in this community and partnering with them to improve the flooring would be a good way to support the local businesses in our community. They also uphold the same values towards family and community as the YMCA.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

I expect the proposed improvement of the child watch room to have the following benefits.

### **Benefits:**

- Result #1: A safer environment for the children.
- Result #2: An inviting atmosphere.
- Result #3: A decrease in friction burns.

## CONCLUSION

I look forward to beginning the process to make the necessary improvements to give the YMCA's child watch room a safer, and warmer environment. The benefits of changing the style and atmosphere of the room will lead to happier parents and children and make for happier staff as well. By making these decisions we will be improving our YMCA, and it will last for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration,

Maysen Matthews

Improvement of the child watch room

## REFERENCES

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