

# Toddler Town Daycare: Chicago

## Staff Biographies



### Director



**Robert  
Nikolov**  
Director Level II  
Credential  
Type 04 Teaching  
Certificate

Hello! My name is Robert V. Nikolov and I am the Director here at Toddler Town Daycare Too, located on the West side of Chicago. I have over 15 years of teaching experience and I have been the Director at Toddler Town Daycare Too for over 9 years with an additional 6 years of teaching experience involving kindergarteners.

I received my Illinois Type 04 teaching certificate in 2002 from Kendall College. Upon graduation, I chose to use my degree to enhance the family business and teach the five year old classroom at our Evanston location. My brother Angelo purchased the Chicago location and gave me the opportunity to become the Director and I have had the pleasure of being a teacher and an administrator for almost a decade. My hobbies include playing softball, traveling and spending time with my niece and nephew who are both under the age of four.

### 5-Year-Olds Teacher



**Megan  
Elliott**  
Team Member  
since 2009

Hi, my name is Megan Elliott. I am a preschool teacher for the 5-year-olds room and I help other classrooms at Toddler Town Too. I have been working here for 5 years. I am currently enrolled at Waubensee Community College and I am working towards my AAS in Sign Language Interpreting.

I enjoy coming to work everyday. There is never dull moment here at this center and I always leave with a huge smile on my face. When I'm not working with the children I enjoy watching sporting events with friends and family members. With the experience I have gained here at Toddler Town Too I want to further my teaching experience with working with children with exceptionalities. I have incorporated signing in each class that I have been fortunate enough to work with at the center.

# Preschool Teachers



**Taga  
Gleveckas  
Team  
Member Since  
2005**

Hello, my name is Taga Gleveckas. I have been working at Toddler Town Daycare Too for 9 years. I began working with the children in high school by taking care of other families' children. After high school, I was given an opportunity to study abroad in Germany and traveled extensively throughout Europe. During college, I taught at various schools and worked with various age groups of children and graduated with a B.A. in Psychology. Following that I worked near my home with three year olds.

After a few years, I decided to go back to school for my Masters Degree in Counseling. During this time, I interned at a social service agency counseling abused and neglected children. I also had an opportunity to coordinate referrals between parents and teachers for a local elementary school. Upon graduation I decided to go back to teaching. My current position is lead teacher of the older 3's younger 4's Bears classroom at the Diversey location.



**Cuauhtémoc  
Contreras-  
Hernandez  
Team Member  
since 2014**

Hi, Parents! My name is Cuauhtémoc Contreras-Hernández, but you can call me Temok. I am from Mexico City. I am Bilingual (English and Spanish) and I have been a member of Toddler Town Too, located in Chicago, since April, 2014.

When I was in Mexico, I studied Philosophy and Theology. In the U.S., I continued my education at DePaul University where I studied English as a Second Language (ESL). After completing an intensive English language program at DePaul University I enrolled at the City Colleges of Chicago (Malcom X, Wright College & Truman) where I received my Child Development Pre-School Education certification. I will be continuing my education to attain an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Child Development - Bilingual Teacher Aide.



**Nayvette  
Barber  
Team Member  
since 2014**

Hello, I'm Nayvette Denise Barber I just recently joined the Toddler Town Too Team. I have an Early Childhood Preschool Certificate from The Care Course online college and also have early childhood credits from Post College. I'm working towards my Associates degree in Early Childhood. Before working for Toddler Town I was a preschool teacher for 5 years, I've worked with the NAEYC program and different head start programs. I've been doing this for 5 years so believe me I love what I do. I'm the middle child of 5 and I have 5 nephews and 1 beautiful niece, you can tell 5 is my lucky number! In my spare time I love to dance and travel, and the world outside of my job. My dream is to travel to Paris and see the Eiffel tower and get married. I also enjoy volunteering at my old high school and a youth center in my community; I'll do whatever it takes to give back to the children. Enough about me, but I'm excited to be a part of the Toddler Town team and I'm looking forward to the upcoming school year. So if we

# Early Childhood Teachers



**Irene  
Lecaros**  
Team Member  
Since 2005

Hello, I'm Irene Lecaros. My native country is Peru and my first language is Spanish. Before working with children, I worked as a secretary in my country's government office.

Upon arrival to the United States I started working with kids as a volunteer in my son's school. Since then I knew that being with kids is what I wanted to do. I want you to know how much I love kids and how much I enjoy working with them. I know that if we work together as parents and teachers we can do a lot for the children's future.

Everyday after the many hours of work we put in, it is hearing the children say "I love you Ms. Irene" that I feel that I am doing the right thing and am ready to start over again.



**Jacquelyn  
Agudo**  
CDA in ECE  
Team Member  
Since 2012

My name is Jacquelyn Agudo, I am a college graduate from the University of Illinois at Chicago. I graduated with a double major in Psychology and Criminal Justice. I am currently taking classes in Early Childhood Education. With that degree I plan on getting an Associates in Childhood Education because I expect to open a daycare of my own one day. I also plan on going back to school to become a social worker for children. I love children and believe children should be a priority and would love to offer a helping hand to those in need. As for right now, I am offering my assistance as a child care teacher to 2 year old children at Toddler Town Daycare. Life is great here with my class and I hope to inspire them and as they continue to inspire me every day.

# Toddler Teachers



**Merry  
Vercillo**  
Team Member  
Since 2015

Welcome to the 2 year old classroom! My name is Miss Merry Vercillo and I am one of the lead educators here. I have nearly 30 years experience working with toddlers and twos. I attended Loyola University and Concordia University, with a concentration in psychology and early childhood education.

I believe in addressing the development of the whole child. At the age of 2; social, emotional and physical growth is just as important, if not more so as academics. It is my passion to create an environment that is both meaningful and educational to your 2 year old, while making the experience Fun Fun Fun! As for me outside of the classroom, I am the mother of one daughter, Amanda, who I am very proud of. She is in the medical profession, a Certified Medical Assistant in private practice. She is a truly amazing person. Kind, compassionate and loving. My other "loves" are my animal companions who are 2 dogs, several cats, birds, turtles and fish. I am an animal rights activist and love all "Gods Creatures". Finally, may I say, that I am very happy to be one of the newest members of the Toddler Town staff.



**Maria  
Duran**  
Team Member  
Since 2016  
Associates in  
ECE

Hello, my name is Maria Duran. I am excited to be in the Toddler classroom along with Ms. Merry. I started my practicum at Toddler Town Daycare Too in February with Ms. Jackie. I have over a year of experience working with children. I will be receiving my associate's degree from Harold Washington College on May of 2016 in ECE. I hope to continue my education to obtain a Bachelor's degree.

I am from Jalisco, Mexico. I have two older and two younger brothers. I love to learn new things, explore nature, and help others. I enjoy learning and exploring different cultures. My dream is to travel around the world. I am a member of a youth group at my church. I hope to learn new skills from this experience. Thank you!



**Pastora  
Mendoza**  
Team Member  
Since 2016  
Associates in  
ECE

Hello, Parents! My name is Pastora Mendoza but you can call me Miss. Paz. I am the new afternoon teacher in the Explorer classroom. I graduated with a major in Early childhood education from Saint Augustine College. I have been a member of Toddler Town Daycare Too, located in Chicago, since October,31, 2016. Let me start off by telling you a little bit about myself.

I am from Mexico. I am married and I have three children. One of my favorite hobbies is spending time out with my family and attending church together. I am grateful to have been given a job opportunity at Toddler Town. I believe children are special and at this point in their life, it is important to fill them with as much knowledge and further their development as much as possible. My goal for this classroom is to help your child succeed in all that they do.

## Kitchen Supervisor



**Carmen  
Rodriguez**  
Team Member  
Since 2005

Hello, my name is Carmen M. Rodriguez and I have been an employee here at Toddler Town Daycare Too for over 9 years. I started off as one of the two year old teachers and now I am working in the kitchen as the cook. I am a mother of two children, a son and a daughter, and a grandmother of four, 2 boys and 2 girls. When I am away from the center I enjoy attending church and one of my favorite hobbies is to take care of my garden.