



Kathryn Zawacki, Owner
Little Dragons
Learning Center LLC
(814) 230-9101

300 Market Street
Warren, PA 16365

County: Warren

Industry: Childcare Center

Year Founded: 2024

SBDC Assistance:

Establish an LLC
Business Plan Development
Financial Projections
Market Research
Business Management
Capital Financing

Consultant:

Mike Blaurock

Additional Partners:

Northwest Commission

Gannon University SBDC

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Little Dragons Learning Center LLC Fulfills a Community Need



Kathryn (Kat) Zawacki is the Owner of Little Dragons Learning Center (LDLC) in Warren, PA. Kat started her entrepreneurial journey in 2023. Kat, a single parent and active-military, was seeking a childcare center for her one-year-old son with no success. Her son was placed on multiple waiting lists. Kat discovered that a local childcare center recently closed, and it created a “childcare desert” in the Warren area.

Like any good military person, Kat took action. She conducted research on what it takes to run a childcare center. Kat communicated with the childcare center that closed and purchased their assets and was able to negotiate a lease in the same space. Kat knew she would need business assistance; therefore, she contacted the Gannon SBDC and had an initial consultation in November of 2023.

Gannon SBDC assisted Kat in establishing an LLC, creating a solid business plan, and formulating the business’ financial proformas. Kat utilized self-funding and matching funds from Northwest Commission for startup costs and working capital. In addition, Mike Blaurock, Mercer County Outreach Business Consultant, has assisted Kat on employee management, market research/demographics, and resources related to labor laws in PA.

Little Dragons Learning Center opened in June 2024. It is a 7-classroom childcare center with capacity for 80 children aged 6 months to 15 years. LDLC employs 24 educators, many from the previously closed childcare center. LDLC will start 2025 at maximum capacity (80 children). Kat’s son is two now and she has the peace of mind that he is in a wonderful, safe, childcare center that she can share with the Warren community.