

Report to the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown

Grant: Quest Sunalta Campus Calm/Sensory Room Equipment

Date: October 16, 2024

Organization Name: Calgary Quest Children's Society
www.calgaryquestschool.com

CRA#: 106831043 RR0001

Contact: Robyn Jackson, Director of Development
3405 Spruce Drive, SW Calgary, AB T3C 0A5
P: (403)253-0003 E: robynj@calgaryquestschool.com

Grant Amount: \$9,361.85

Grant Overview

Calgary Quest Children's Society (Quest) is a charitable organization created in 1980 by a group of parents of children with moderate to severe developmental disabilities who were falling through the cracks of traditional education programs. We now serve children, teens and young adults needing more individualized supports to help them reach their potential and all programming focuses on the ability within disability.

Quest was grateful to receive a grant of \$9,362 from the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown to equip one of the Sensory/Calm Rooms at our new Sunalta Campus with specialized sensory and emotional regulation equipment and supplies to support our students with disabilities. We completed the research on this equipment over the summer. It was installed in early September and has now been in use since the end of September.

Project Outcomes

Thanks to Rotary, we were able to purchase the following equipment:

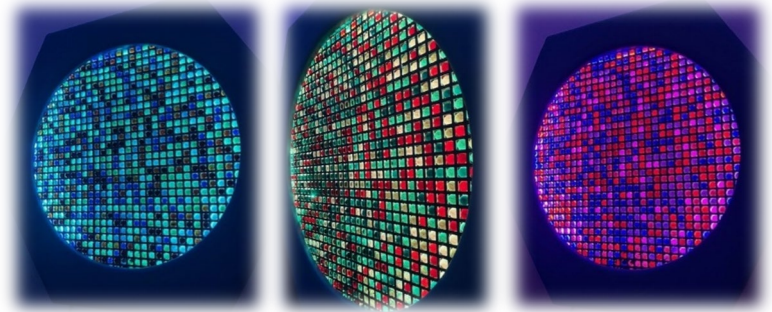
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ Sensory Bench | ✓ LED Cubes and Spheres |
| ✓ Active Colour-changing Bubble Tube | ✓ White Noise Table Lamp Sound Machine |
| ✓ Aura Star Projection | ✓ Weighted Lap Pad |
| ✓ Lounger Chair | ✓ Wall-mounted Tactile Marble Panel |

We also have the art table and Cubii on order. Some of the initial items on the list in our application were not available for order, or other items were priced higher than originally researched so we chose others.

Project Impact

Although the newly equipped space has only be in use for a few weeks, it has already made an impact:

- ✚ “Students are fascinated by the interactive marble wall that lights up and changes patterns with sound. They like to use their voices and/or music to watch the colours respond to the sound. The tactile experience of the marbles is also very appealing to many of our students.”



- ✚ “The lounge chair and weighted blanket are a relaxing place for students to regulate their emotions or just take a break with a book.”



- ✚ “The bubble tube with its changing colours has been a favourite for students - the sounds of the bubbling water are very calming and soothing. Watching the bubbles rise and change colors has a calming effect, making it a popular choice for those needing a sensory break.”



- ✚ “There has been an increase in students that are asking to use the space and are not only using it when dysregulated but also using it as a place to explore and engage. Since the installation, the students using the sensory room have changed from students that needed a place to calm and regulate to students that may also just want to experience the sights and sounds.”

- ✚ “We have a few participants that didn’t usually utilize this room request to go into the sensory room to spend some time in there or to decompress.”

- ✚ “When we are giving tours many prospectives students are drawn to the room and we had a family ask why these aren’t in all schools.”



Many thanks again to the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown for your support of this project. As a result, Quest’s young people with moderate and severe developmental disabilities have a safe space at our new Sunalta Campus where they can retreat to, to manage their emotional well-being. This will help them develop the skills they need to participate safely and fully at school, in their programs, at home with their families, and in the broader community.

