

## Toddle Inn Child Care Will Open Its First Franchise

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Cheryl Carrier will franchise her first Toddle Inn Child Care Center to Vice President of the company, Kathie Murphy as soon as it's completed by May 2007, located just off the Kennebunk exit on I-95. Kennebunk's Town Manager Barry Tibbetts said a grant was given to the new center through the Department of Economic Committee Development. "The Community Development Block Grant was awarded to help create jobs for low- to moderate-income persons," said Tibbetts during the groundbreaking ceremony, which was held Tuesday, Nov. 21. "Everything's approved and it's all done."

Patco Construction, Inc. is the developer for this project. "The Center will be about 10,000 sq. ft.," explained Patco's President Greg Patterson. "The paving and landscaping will be completed in the spring, but right now we're working out issues with the Department of Transportation."

Currently, there are six Toddle Inn Child Care Centers across Maine. They are located in Auburn, Cumberland, Gorham, Saco, Scarborough and South Portland. There are about 1,000 children total throughout all six locations that the centers accommodate. Kennebunk's location will contain about 220 kids.

"We can't build franchises fast enough," said Founder and Owner Cheryl Carrier of opening up more centers in the future. "I would like to see a center in Portland, Brunswick, Windham..." There are talks about a center opening in York as well. Eventually, Carrier would love to "open centers up and down the east coast, but I don't want to jump into that."

The centers offer programs for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, pre-kindergartners, kindergartners, first graders, nursery school children, children in programs before and after school and also children in special programs.

With its corporate offices out of Scarborough, the Center can be reached at (207) 885-0848.