



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The roots of Thanksgiving are based on the celebration of a bountiful harvest. Although most families don't farm anymore, they do harvest – figuratively. We do our best to nourish and care for our children. We worry about them, rejoice in their achievements, and with a little bit of luck, our children become confident, competent, and caring human beings. I know these moments are what I and many families, friends and neighbors will be giving thanks for this holiday. As Fred once said, “We all have some things that we are universally thankful for: for being able to be together, for friendship and family...for LOVING and being LOVED in this life.”

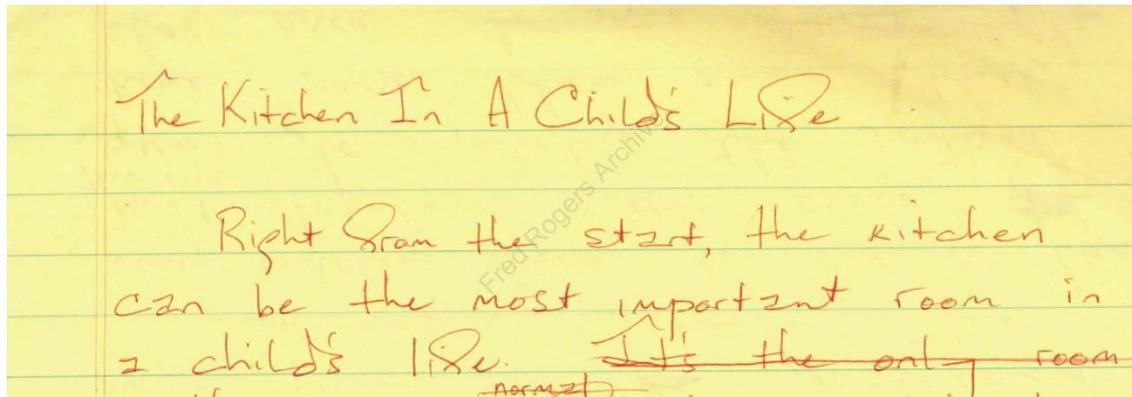
Wishing you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

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Rick Fernandes

IN THE ARCHIVE



The Kitchen In A Child's Life

With Thanksgiving just around the corner and kitchens full of scents that remind of us of home, it's no wonder this sense of nostalgia is deeply rooted in our early experiences. From Fred Rogers' handwritten notes we learn details about the role of the kitchen in children's learning. In the kitchen, children can learn about acceptable messes and how to clean them up. They can learn about what is good to eat and what is not. He said, "The kitchen is a source of wonderful feelings of being given to." In essence, the kitchen is strongly associated with love.

Fred gained some of his insight by observing children at play at the Arsenal Family and Children's Center. The play kitchen was one of the most popular spots in the nursery school. He also noticed that, when drawing or building a house, children would put the kitchen at the very top. Children have positive associations with the kitchen because it nourishes them and is a connection to their caregivers. Fred ends his notes about the kitchen with, "It's unquestionably a most important room in any child's life."

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WARM WELCOME



Our Simple Interactions approach has been growing rapidly, and we are always so appreciative of a warm welcome. Recently, we were at St. Mary's School for the Deaf in Buffalo, New York, to provide staff workshops and we were thrilled to see the response. They shared the following post on Facebook – and we can't help but be appreciative of this wonderful opportunity!

"We are thankful to the Fred Rogers Center who came out to talk with our staff about the power of making meaningful connections with our students the past few days. Yesterday, they videotaped our staff as they engaged the students in learning. Today, we watched some of the video clips from yesterday and discussed the importance of making sure each student feels connected to at least one adult in the school and explored how developing positive connections with students and providing a warm, safe, and nurture

environment is a key factor in academic growth and achievement for students. Thank you to the Fred Rogers Center for helping us continue to be Child First!"

SIMPLE INTERACTIONS

GIVING TUESDAY



#GIVINGTUESDAY™

11.29.2016

When Fred Rogers testified to the Senate Subcommittee on Communications to secure funding for public broadcasting he said, "This is what I give – I give an expression of care every day, to each child." Through his gift, generations of children were nurtured, inspired, and educated.

On Giving Tuesday, you too, can give an expression of care to advance our work building on Fred's legacy to help children become confident, competent, and caring human beings. Simply go [online](#) to make a donation, and promote your giving through social media (#GivingTuesday).

There are many ways to be part of this global movement to encourage philanthropy and neighborly kindness. To learn more about all the ways you can support the Fred Rogers Center, including [Sharing Your Fred Story](#), visit our [website](#) and spread the word about our programs and resources through Facebook and Twitter.

CARRYING THE LEGACY FORWARD

In My Own Words

Just as Fred Rogers understood the importance of community, we know that it takes advocates, collaborators, donors, and so many other friends, to help achieve our mission.

My visit to Saint Vincent and the Rogers Center was a beautiful surprise. I had no idea that the community you all have created would whisk me to *The Neighborhood* of the 1970s. I had to wink away a lump in my throat more than once. As I listened to the Rogers Scholars, I kept thinking how proud Fred would have been of each of them and "the way you are growing." They are remarkable young people, nourished by caring faculty and staff who share their commitment to children. Thank you for my glimpse of Fred's legacy.

—Dr. Lynette Friedrich Cofer

[SHARE YOUR STORY](#)

WORDS OF WISDOM



“In the external scheme of things, shining moments are as brief as the twinkling of an eye, yet such twinklings are what eternity is made of – moments when we human beings can say 'I love you,' 'I'm proud of you,' 'I forgive you,' 'I'm grateful for you.' That's what eternity is made of: invisible imperishable good stuff.”



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Saint Vincent College
300 Fraser Purchase Road
Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650-2690