
II. The papers of Leila Day Nurseries, Inc.
    deposited in the Library on , by 
    a gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1 3/4
    Approximate number of items: 2,285 and 8v. and 3 cassettes

IV. Restrictions:

V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of
    in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of
    the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated
    to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

VI. Press release was issued on

VII. Biographical note:

    See page 2

VIII. Analysis:

    See page 3
Spurred by the social needs of the panic of 1872, a group of concerned women in 1879 began day care of needy young children of working mothers. In 1883, they moved to rented quarters of their own and in 1887 became incorporated as the Mothers' Aid Society. Despite the incorporated name, in 1885 they had adopted the name of Leila Day Nursery in honor of the deceased 10 year old granddaughter, Leila Ingersoll Gauss, of a leader. So many selfless and dedicated women and men have given of their skills and time to this private nursery for needy and low-income families that no one person can be singled out as founder or prime mover. Their achievements and benefactions appear in this collection, and in this Society's library in Leila Day Nurseries, Inc. Annual Reports [HV 859 .N37 L332] and Leila Day Nurseries, Inc., Miscellaneous Publications [HV 859 .N37 L335].

In 1893, the Mothers' Aid Society rented rooms for the Hope Day Nursery, but this functioned only briefly. From 1918 to 1950, except for the war years of 1942 and 1943, they also operated an overnight and then day camp, the Rebecca Stoddard Memorial Home, a gift of that family. And in 1947, upon the urgent request of the Elm Haven Nursery, a war-time-only care center, the jurisdiction of that nursery was taken over with help from the New Haven Foundation and United Way. (In 1980, Elm Haven closed because of financial problems and the discovery that its asbestos ceiling was dangerously shedding.) In that same year, the organization was again incorporated, this time as the Leila Day Nurseries, and all assets of the Mothers' Aid Society transferred to it. With their beginnings in 1879, the Leila Day Nurseries is now the oldest continuously operated day care center in the United States.

For a more complete understanding of the concept of the institution -- background, structure, changing goals and functions -- see their history and charter in Box I, Folder A and B.
Analysis

The collection consists of four boxes arranged basically from general to specific areas, and chronologically within each.

Box I  History, structure, Boards of Managers, minutes from 1938 to 1955 and 1958.

Box II  Incomplete minutes continued to 1981, finances 1967-1981, studies, reports and personnel problems. [Finances particularly concerned with United Way, Title XX and New Haven Foundation are in boxes following.]

Box III  General correspondence and all communications with United Way including meetings, correspondence and allocations.

Box IV  All matters relating to Title XX, of the Social Security Act, and the New Haven Foundation. Three cassettes of an interview of reminiscences by Helen Pardee, for 50 years an employee of Leila Day.

The initials UW stand for United Way; the numbers in parentheses at the right of each folder list the number of sheets therein. For a total comprehension of Leila Day funding, the finance sections of the last three boxes must be consulted.
History of Leila Day Nurseries, by Ann Hall, with two letters to Jean Kelley concerning possible publication 1979

History of Leila Day Nurseries by Mary Apple Reigeluth, including two snapshots of children.

Photographs of Father's Club, 1936, an evening woodworking shop.

History, by-laws, and articles of association of Leila Day Nurseries, Inc. 3 copies 1979-80

By-laws

Articles of association and by-laws of Mothers' Aid Society 1944

Authorizations for access to safety deposit box of the Mothers' Aid Society upon union with Leila Day Nurseries 1948

Structure of Leila Day Nursery Admissions policy, with criticism 1974-76

Fee Schedule 1973

House Bill No. 7388 on day care and development n.d.

Manuals, 1964 and 1967. Includes names of Board of Managers

Names of Board of Managers and some committees of some years between 1944 and 1969.

Continuation of names of Boards of Managers 1973-77

Continuation of names of Boards of Managers 1978-80.

The following minutes sometimes use the names Mothers' Aid Society and Leila Day Nurseries interchangeably, as is justified. At first called the former, the organization was incorporated as the Leila Day Nurseries, Inc. in 1947, but the old name held on.

Minutes 1938 and 1939

Minutes of Board and committees 1940

Minutes 1941
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<td>Minutes: 1942-43 (35) 41</td>
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<td><strong>Folder S</strong></td>
<td>Minutes: 1950 (45)</td>
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<td><strong>Folder T</strong></td>
<td>Minutes: 1951 (48)</td>
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<td><strong>Folder U</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Folder V</strong></td>
<td>Minutes: 1953 (21)</td>
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<td><strong>Folder W</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Folder X</strong></td>
<td>Minutes: 1955 and 1958 (38)</td>
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<td><strong>Folder A</strong></td>
<td>Minutes: 1965-67 (7)</td>
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<td>Minutes: 1976 (31)</td>
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Folder D
Minutes 1978 (32)

Folder E
Minutes 1979 (24)

Folder F
Minutes 1980-81 (25)

Folder G
Budget 1967 and 1976 (12)

Folder H
Budget 1977 (20)

Folder I
Budget 1978-80 (18)

Folder J
Audited financial report 1959, 67 and 76 (17)

Folder K
Audited financial report 1977 and 78 (26)

Folder L
Report of Rebecca Stoddard Camp 1944 (2)
Purpose of Rebecca Stoddard Camp 1945 (2)
Report 1945 (1)
Study of the Elm Haven Child Care Center by Family Service of New Haven 1946 (16)
Health and Welfare Study Commission report 1951 (2)

Folder M
Proposal for expansion of Elm Haven services through a Con- 1964 to July 1968 (7)
certed Services Project involving Community Council, Commu-

ity Progress, Inc. and Conn. State Welfare Dept. (operated

President's report 1970 (3)
President's report 1971 (4)
President's report 1973 (4)
Executive director's report 1975 (3)

Folder M1
Proposal for National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect 1974 928)

Folder M2
Proposal continued (14)
List of participating agencies (2)
Outline for Leila Day participation (8)
Box II (cont)

Folder N
Report on registration  
n.d.  
Report on meeting of State child care people  
n.d.  
Projected day care homes program  
n.d.  
Report to Housing Authority about playground plans at Elm Haven with statistics of 1976  
Playground plans with drawings  
1978  
Folder O
Assessment of past year and needs for next  
1978  
President's report  
1978  
Director's report  
1979  
Folder P
Omwake study as basis for Long Range Planning Committee  
1979  
Correspondence relating to report  
1979  
Long Range Planning report  
2c.  
1979  
Further suggestions by Omwake  
1979  
Abstract of conclusions derived from report  
1979  
Folder Q
Registration statement and annual report to Dept. of Consumer Protection  
1979  
Letter from Noel Hanf with suggestion for President's annual report  
1980  
President's annual report  
1980  
Proposed objectives for  
1976  
Folder R
Assessment Committee agenda  
1976  
Report of Assessment Committee  
1976  
Folder S
Report of director on program, personnel, and perceived strengths and weaknesses  
1977  
Preliminary report of Evaluation Committee 2c. 1977  
Comments on preceding by Elm Haven staff 2c. 1977  
Folder T
Professional record of Evelyn Eastman, director  
1940  
Report of Personnel Committee  
1944  
Working agreement of Leila Day  
1940's  
Letter from Dorothy Robinson to Board protesting equality of salaries regardless of training  
1974
Box II (cont)

Folder T (cont)
Response to preceding by Julia D. Moore 1975 (1)
Executive Committee notes regarding the lack of skills of several teachers 1976(?) (1)

Folder U
Job descriptions from various agencies for executive director (14) of a day care nursery to aid in 1976 search for a director 1976

Resumes, with comments by Jean Kelley, chairman of search committee 1976 (21)

Folder V
Continuation  (30)

Folder W
Material relating to termination of services of Lois Lowell, executive director 1978 (38)

Folder X
Report by Maureen T. Hardin, chairman of personnel committee, on proposals for salary scales for 1978-81 1978 (25)

Folder Y
Job descriptions 1978 (12)
Personnel practices c1978 (19)

Folder Z
Appraisals of staff at Leila Day and Elm Haven 1977-78 (16)
Protest of Elm Haven staff on vacation change 1978 (3)
Letter of termination to Marsha Randall 1978 (1)

Folder AA
Leila Day and Elm Haven salaries and services 1977 (3)
Elm Haven enrollment 1977 (2)
Notes on Elm Haven director 1977 (3)
Leila Day Nurseries, Inc. personnel practices 1979 (19)

Folder BB
Specific salary increases 1979 (3)
Material relative to termination of services of Ruby Richard-son 1979 (29)
### MSS 137
Leila Day Nursery Records 1938-1982

#### BOX III

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<td><strong>Information for volunteers</strong></td>
<td>1943</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outline for visitors</strong></td>
<td>1947</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Information for parents' booklet</strong></td>
<td>1977</td>
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<td><strong>Public relations leaflets</strong></td>
<td>1944-79</td>
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<td><strong>Welcome at parents' meeting</strong></td>
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**Folder B (Correspondence)**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Rachel Trowbridge asking permission to petition Junior League to finance one summer of Rebecca Stoddard Camp, including budget</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance of request to finance</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>To Yale Christian Association, thanks for help at Stoddard and reply</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks for two contributions</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcoming Mothers' Aid Society into retirement plan</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks for allowing Evelyn Eastman to participate in conference</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belated thanks to Miss Blakeslee</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Council of Social Agencies requesting Leila Day to supervise and direct Elm Haven</td>
<td>1946</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification and thanks for bequest from W. Perry Curtiss</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>(2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Family Service notifying of change of place and structure of Fresh Air Camp</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discontinuance of membership in retirement plan</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract for sale of land in East Haven</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Request for Articles Of Association for court case</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks to Leila Day for gifts</td>
<td>1955 and 57</td>
<td>(2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bequest of $5,000 from Mettie B. Platt</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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**Folder C**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bequest for $1,000 from Ruth Maxon Adams</td>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>Heating problems and their solution</td>
<td>1973</td>
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<td>Bequest for $2,000 from Susan B. Whitney</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<td>Testimonial upon retirement of Dr. Edward Wakeman</td>
<td>1974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Request to Women's Seamen's Friend Society for $500 for marine project</td>
<td>1974</td>
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Folder D
Acceptances and support from participating agencies of the proposed National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect 1974 (11)
Correspondence concerning request for Community Development Act Funds 1974-78 (17)

Folder E
Continuation (30)

Folder F
Protest to Mayor Guida and Senator Lieberman about Board of Education's order rescinding Leila Day kindergarten children's attendance at schools near the nursery, and replies 1975 (6)
Rotary request for project they might fund and Leila Day reply 1975 (2)
Request for Junior League listing of day care centers 1975 (1)
Protest of Alexander Daggett at poor management of Leila Day Nursery 1975 (2)
Invitation to parents to meet new executive director, Judith Merkx 1976 (1)
Parents protest closing of Elm Haven 1977 (3)

Folder G
Correspondence with Dr. Albert Solnit concerning Yale Child Study consultations with and evaluation of Leila Day 1977 (11)
Problems resulting from nomination of Jean Kelley to second term as president 1978 (9)
Contribution of $500 from Susan Morse Halleg and thanks 1979 (2)

Folder H
Correspondence with William Gray of Dixwell Neighborhood Corp. Inc. concerning Long Range Planning Report and services at Elm Haven 1979 (13)
Cost of reproduction of annual reports 1979 (1)
Gratitude for donation for play equipment 1979 (1)
Mary Lumpkin and Andrew Ward, parent representatives on Board, establish communication with parents 1980 (2)
Letter from CETA appointee offering service 1979 (2)
Bequest of $500 from Mrs. James T. Moran 1980 (1)

Folder I
Resignations from Board 1946-79 (30)
Box III (cont)

Folder J
Materials relating to structure and objectives of United Way 1972-76 (27)

Folder K
Manual of policies and procedures 1979 (lv.)
Standards of excellence 1979 (lv.)
Magazine clippings of United Way versus individual fund-raising 1979 (3)

Folder L
Minutes of Ad Hoc Committee of Conference of Executives, a group made up of representative executives from member agencies 1975 (22)

Folder M
Continuation 1975 (19)

Folder N
Continuation 1975-76 (16)

Folder O
UW budget materials in the following folders concern specifically the Leila Day Nurseries, though other institutions are sometimes necessarily included.

Report by Carl M. Eifler, treasurer, about one meeting relative to 1972 budget 1972 (2)
UW Allocations Committee 1974 (1)
Approval budget for 1973 and projected for 1974 (3)
Letter informing Mrs. Gaddis Smith of 1976 budget allocation for half year only, unless specified recommendations are immediately effected 1975 (1)
Report to Alan J. McBean, UW Allocation Chairman, on progress of preceding suggestions for further funding 1976 (7)
UW permission for emergency replacement of equipment at Leila Day and Elm Haven 1976 (2)
Two sets of requested budget forms for 1977 budget 1976 (15)

Folder P
UW policy on admission and discontinuance 1974 (8)
Letter informing Leila Day Nurseries of Allocations Committee's decision to discontinue further funding by 1978, with reasons specified 2c. 1976 (4)
Reports and correspondence protesting and clarifying UW decision 1976 (12)
Box III (cont)

Folder Q
Report submitted by Leila Day to UW to justify continued support 1977

Folder R
Additional information from Leila Day 1977
Letter of thanks for preceding materials 1977
Letters confirming need from Conn. Dept. of Community Affairs and Title XX child welfare consultant
Letter of need and excellence of service from Yale Child Study Center 1977
Letter from Richard G. Bell to Cornell Scott of UW Planning Committee reporting on detailed study of Allocation Committee's report, and while commending it, affirming that the services of Leila Day Nurseries were a vital need in New Haven, even if not presently financial viable on its own and cut-off should be rescinded 1977

Folder S
Memorandum informing Leila Day of impending visit of UW observer and forms to fill out prior to that visit 1978
Report to UW to Family and Child Section of UW Allocation Committee describing services of Leila Day currently, including description of enrollment ages and types and cost of various services 1978
Report of UW visit to agency 1978

Folder T
Agency narrative and 1978 budget explanation

Folder U
UW letter informing all agencies of maintenance of 1978 levels for Jan.-June 1979
Roster of Allocations Committee for 1979
UW letter informing all of 3% raise for March to June 1979
Narrative and budget request of Leila Day for 1979

Folder V
Narrative of Leila Day for 1980 allocations from UW

Folder W
Complete budget request to UW 1980
Letter informing Leila Day of their allocation 1980

Folder X
Minutes of UW planning meeting for evaluation of individual agencies 1970
Prospectus for evaluation 1970
Box III (cont)

Folder X (cont)

- Report of the Evaluation Committee 1970 (1v.)
- Informal report of an all-agency meeting on mutual concerns 1974 (4)
- UW meeting on media and communication 1974 (2)

Folder Y

- Statement of Leila Day goal of developmental day care 1979 (2)
- List of suggested authorities in developmental child care (2)
- Daycare as a Family Support System, by Audrey K. Naylor of the Yale Child Study Center (22)

Folder Z

- Child Care: a Profile of Needs and Resources, a UW priority report 2c.

Folder AA

- Letter to Mothers' Aid Society from Community Fund providing 3 months of stop-gap funding for Elm Haven because of cut-off of Federal funds 1946 (1)
- Further letters concerning funding for Elm Haven as a new agency separate from Leila Day 1946-8 (6)
- UW letters concerning budget with strong recommendations against spending capital funds 1973 (3)
- Notice of semi-annual UW visit 1974 (3)
- Memorandum from UW treasurer about accounting practices for all 1974 (2)
- Letters about Malley's contribution of percentage of sales 1974 (2)
- Notification of delay in amount of annual allocation 1974 (1)
- Notification of allocation for 1975 and recommendations for implementation of specified procedures 1975 (2)
- Letter from Public Policy Commission of UW asking Leila Day reactions to specified activities of member agencies and a response 1975 (2)

Folder BB

- Letters concerning United Illuminating Co. decision not to contribute to UW because of failure to receive rate increase 1975 (4)
- Letter from David B. Harding of UW expressing shock at large deficit of Leila Day and offering consultation 1975 (2)
- Letter from Richard Lee offering name of a qualified volunteer for UW 1975 (1)
Box III (cont)

Folder BB (cont)

Letter from Richard Lee to implement federal nondiscrimination requirements 1975 (2)

Inquiry about budget should Leila Day receive Title XX funds 1975 (1)

Letter from Robert E. Suchy of Leila Day Board strongly opposing UW's proposed decision to involve member agencies during teachers' strike 1975 (2)

Further correspondence concerning Leila Day's over-expenditure of income from budget 1975 (6)

Personnel termination protest 1977 (4)

Request for and response about volunteers 1977 (3)

Invitation to receive For Your Information 1977 (1)

Letter notifying Leila Day of its continuance as a member agency 1977 (1)

Allocation for 1978 and thanks 1977 (3)

Appreciation to Jean Kelley 1979 (1)

Do's and Don't's of Budget Presentation n.d. (2)

Correspondence concerning New Haven Register article on Leila Day which omitted mention of UW funding 1979 (9)

Box IV

Folder A

Social Services '75, a handbook explaining Title XX of the Social Security Act (1v.)

Social Services Program Plan, Title XX 1975 (1v.)

Report on workshops on proposed federal regulation to Title XX amendments child day care services 1975 (4)

Service inventory for Title XX 1975 (1)

Correspondence concerning possibility of Title XX funding of garage conversion at Leila Day 1975 (3)

United Way memoranda to its agencies concerning Title XX possibilities for some 1975 (6)

Letter from Gov. Grasso pointing out difficulty of Conn. qualifying for Title XX this year 1975 (2)

Letter from Mayor Richard C. Lee to Dept. of Social Services specifically requesting funding for Leila Day 1976 (1)

Folder B

Correspondence, complete formal application, and informal acceptance of Leila Day for some Title XX funding 1977-78 (16)
Box IV (cont)

Folder C
New Haven Foundation, 12th annual report 1947 (1v.)
Correspondence with New Haven Foundation concerning grants in 1945, 1946, 1954 (6)
Rough draft for a new application 1977 (4)
Letter from president of Foundation to president of Leila Day asking for cooperation in observance of 50th anniversary of the Foundation and a sample of brochures to be circulated 1978 (3)

Folder D
Application to the Foundation for funding of an after-school program for 6 and 7 year olds - rough draft 1978 (32)

Folder E
Formal copy of above (31)
Letter commending Leila Day director for her report on Foundation expenditure, with copy of New Haven Register article about center 2c. 1979 (4)
Article about Leila Day in Emergins, publication of the New Haven Foundation 1982 (1)

Folder F
Notes for recollections of Helen Pardee 1930-1980 (4)

Folder G
Cassettes of reminiscences of Helen Pardee, for 50 years on staff of Leila Day 1930-1980 (3c)

Folder H
Transcript of the tapes (71)