



Our organization is

STEPPING UP

making physical activity the easy choice

Success Story: Crichton Park Critters

“As a mom, I loved it because my daughter’s confidence would collapse at the thought of playing sports and the pressure not to fail. This organization did not have that pressure, she loved it, she was learning to play soccer while having fun with friends who were also having fun.

As a member of the community, it was a great chance to meet the other parents of children in the community that I would never have the chance to meet otherwise.

It is a great community building opportunity, and the cost was minimal (\$20) making it was easier for financially challenged families to sign up, compared to many others that are over \$100.”

—Amber Gareau, parent

What inspired you to “Step Up”?

Crichton Park Critters was created to fill a need for children to enjoy soccer in a non-competitive environment close to home. Crichton Park Critters is, by design, a low cost community gathering where friendships can be made and fostered. Parents and children have the opportunity to socialize while watching or participating in the game.

What are you doing?

Crichton Park Critters provides children aged 2-6 years the opportunity to join a local soccer team that, for a nominal fee, meets on a weekly basis for one hour. The time and location for practices are chosen to ensure convenience for young families in the Crichton Park area. Coaches and organizers are parents who volunteer and correspond with the players via weekly email.



What’s worked for you?

Crichton Park Critters’ motto is “FUN and FRIENDSHIP” and the coaches and parents are encouraged to enjoy soccer with this motto in mind. The coaches and their dedication to the program have made Crichton Park Critters a huge success since its conception in 2010.

What’s changed for you?

The impact of Crichton Park Critters on the local community has been seen in the development of friendship for both the children and their parents. The children are given the opportunity to foster teamwork and develop skills of sportsmanship, and possibly a little bit of soccer! Crichton Park Critters also allows children the ability to participate who may not otherwise be able to due to financial restraints. Children who are unable to pay the fee are fully subsidized by the team. In lieu of gifts for coaches or end of year party, funds remaining are donated to KidSport, so that other kids can benefit from our soccer league as well.

