## Edith B. Jackson, M. D



Edith Jackson, l'une des véritables pionnière en pédiatrie et en psychiatrie comportementale des enfants. Elle est décédée à l'âge de 82 ans (le 5 Juin 1977), à Denver, dans son sommeil.

Edith Jackson est né en 1895, et a reçu son baccalauréat ès arts de Vassar en 1916 et un doctorat en médecine de l'Université Johns Hopkins en 1921. Après un stage de deux ans, d'abord en médecine et en pédiatrie, elle a travaillé avec le Dr Martha Eliot dans le développement de la New Haven rachitisme étude pour le Bureau des enfants des États-Unis entre 1923 et 1928 alors qu'elle occupait le rang d'un instructeur en pédiatrie à l'École de médecine de l'Université Yale.

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EDITH B. JACKSON, CLINICAL PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF PEDIATRICS and Psychiatry, Yale University School of Medicine, psychoanalyst and pioneer in the efforts to introduce psychoanalytic concepts into the mainstream of child care, died quietly in her sleep on June 5, 1977, in Denver, Colorado, at the age of 82. Her death ends a half century of dedicated clinical service and teaching in pediatrics and psychiatry. Few individuals maintain as steadfast and important a professional role as she did.

Born January 2, 1895, in Colorado Springs, Edith Jackson grew up in a Quaker family whose members were leaders in community affairs. Her father, William Sharpless Jackson, a railroad executive, actively supported the movement for improving the status of native American Indians. It is understandable that Edith Jackson became a strong advocate for the causes she believed to be important.

She graduated from Vassar College in 1916. Her characteristic warmth and quality of caring were appreciated b

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#### Edith B. Jackson Child Care Program

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#### **Program and Philosophy**

The Edith B. Jackson Child Care Program, Inc. (EBJ) offers young children a safe, nurturing environment in an atmosphere of continuity and consistency of care. Based on the knowledge that young children are best cared for in small groups, EBJ's ratios reflect that knowledge, and maintains individualized care within family-like groupings. Through an interestingly varied curriculum, children have maximum opportunities to learn and grow through hands-on experiences. EBJ's approach to early education takes into consideration the developmental stages of the young child and strives to provide activities and materials which will best realize individual happiness and potential. We feel that trusting, satisfying relationships with caregivers establish the healthy foundation of growth for each child. The low turnover of EBJ's staff ensure the continuity in the program essential to sound child care. The days of care are planned to balance individual and group play, quiet and active times, indoor and outdoor choices of play. EBJ is an inclusive program.

#### Background

The Edith B. Jackson Child Care program was established in 1972 by a group of Yale parents and faculty members in response to the growing need for quality care for children of students, staff, and faculty at Yale. It was named in honor of Dr. Edith Banfield Jackson, a member of the Yale Department of Pediatrics from 1923 to 1959. Dr. Jackson was dedicated to improving the care of infants and children worldwide. Among her many accomplishments in raising the level of care of new mothers and their infants, she was instrumental in establishing "rooming-in" and brought attention to the nurturing needs of the young family as a single unit. Dr. Deborah Ferholt, pediatrician and Associate Professor of pediatrics, was instrumental in developing the EBJ model. The strong support of the Yale Child Study Center, under the director of Dr. Albert J. Solnit, contributed to EBJ's establishing itself as a safe, nurturing program. With Lola Nash as its first director, the program offered child care for young children whose providers lived in graduate housing apartments. Growth in popularity created a restructuring of EBJ in 1989 to provide center-based care. The nurturing aspects of family-setting care-*small groups, continuity and consistency of care, and mixed ages*--still remain the important qualities for which EBJ is so well known.

# Medicine at Yale, 1810 - 2010

### Edith B. Jackson and the Rooming-In Project, 1949

Edith B. Jackson received her M.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1921 and came to Yale in 1923 as an assistant in Pediatrics. She rose (slowly, as was typical of women's careers at the time) through the ranks to become Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry in 1949. In the 1930s she obtained training in psychiatry and psychoanalysis at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C. and in Vienna. On her return, she directed the Child Welfare Research Unit in the Department of Pediatrics. From 1949 on, she directed the pioneering Rooming-In Project at Grace-New Haven Community Hospital whereby mothers had the option of keeping their infants in their room instead of in the hospital nursery. The Project, in which a number of Rooming-In fellows participated, included contact with both parents during the prenatal period and follow-up. Jackson provided guidance as rooming-in spread all over the country. Associated with rooming-in at Grace-New Haven was "natural childbirth," promoted and studied by Herbert Thoms of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

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