

United Way of Lackawanna County  
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JUL 24 2006

14-505-4  
United Way  
**S**UCCESS **B**Y **6**™

ORIGINAL: 2549

July 20, 2006

Mr. Robert Frein  
Director, Bureau of Subsidized  
Child Care Services, Office of Child Development, Room 521,  
Health and Welfare Building, Box 521,  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105.

Dear Mr. Frein,

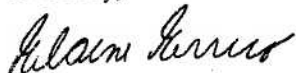
We are writing to express our organizations support of the proposed TANF child care regulations in reference to the proposed revision of 55 Pa. code Chapter 168, Child Care, which will establish consistent child care policies within the Office of Income Maintenance (OIM) and Office of Child Development (OCD) that best meet the needs of all families receiving subsidized child care.

We believe that the proposed rulemaking will improve child care services for families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA) and Food Stamp (FS) benefits by establishing a single subsidized child care system that will be user friendly to all families and child care providers who participate in the subsidized child care system.

In addition it is a very logical and worthwhile endeavor to merge the OCD and OIM child care programs and delegate authority to provide child care to families receiving TANF, GA and FS benefits to local Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agencies. CCIS agencies are familiar with local needs and resources. In addition, CCIS staff is trained to counsel parents regarding their child care needs and provide information about the benefits and availability of quality early learning programs.

Best of luck on this most worthwhile effort put forth by the Department and we look forward to hearing of your success throughout the process.

Sincerely,



Elaine Errico, Director  
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United Way of Lackawanna County

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