



CHILD
CARE
CONSULTANTS
Inc.

RECEIVED
IRRC

2010 JUL 20 P 3: 35

2854

Child Care Consultants, Inc.
13 West Market Street
York, PA 17401
Phone: 717.854.2273
Fax: 717.843.4158

July 19, 2010

Ms. Amanda Dorris
Bureau of Certification Services
Office of Child Development and Early Learning
Department of Public Welfare
333 Market Street, 6th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

RE: Regulation No. 14-519

Dear Ms. Dorris:

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed changes to Chapters 3270, 3280, and 3290. We believe that these changes represent a positive step forward for Pennsylvania and will benefit the thousands of young children who receive care and education at regulated child care facilities each year.

Although Pennsylvania has been recognized nation-wide for its leadership role in the field of early childhood education with Keystone STARS, PA Pre-K Counts, and other voluntary programs, we have continued to lag behind most other states in basic continuing education requirements for all early education staff. The proposed regulation would correct this gap.

Specifically, Child Care Consultants, Inc. commends the following aspects of the proposed changes:

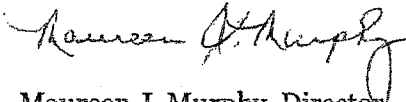
- The addition of Inclusive Practices in required topics for professional development. A large body of research demonstrates that inclusion is beneficial for all children – yet the classroom teacher needs knowledge, skills and understanding in order to be able to turn potential benefit into real gains for the children in his/her class.
- Phased-in approach. Gradually increasing the number of hours required will allow programs to plan for a purposeful implementation of the requirement, and will allow the professional development system to address identified gaps.
- Portability of professional development hours. Knowledge and skills gained while working at one early education facility are applicable to children in another setting. It makes sense to recognize this formally.
- Requirement for an individualized professional development plan. Often we find that some facilities approach professional development with a “one-size-fits-all” approach, offering the same events to all staff at one time. While there is certainly a core of information needed by everyone, it is essential to assess and address the strengths and

weaknesses of staff members as individuals in order to maximize the benefit to the children.

- Requirement that family child care providers submit documentation of meeting the professional development requirement at the time of registration renewal.
- Recognition of the importance of and increasing prevalence of distance education, while at the same time maintaining high standards for the quality of acceptable professional development.
- Recognition that individuals pursuing credentials and/or college-level education are expending effort above and beyond that required by regulations, and accepting these activities.
- Orientation for all new staff and new directors, providing an important foundation of knowledge as individuals begin their early education work.

We believe that the above requirements, as well as the other changes included in the proposed regulation will have a positive impact on the development of the young children in Pennsylvania's child care programs.

Sincerely,



Maureen J. Murphy, Director
Child Care Consultants, Inc.
CCIS of York County
South Central Regional Key

Dorris, Amanda K. (PW)

2854

14-519-25

From: Maureen Murphy [mjeannettemurphy@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 2:22 PM
To: Dorris, Amanda K. (PW)
Subject: Regulation #14-519
Attachments: Proposed Regulation Change Comments.07.10.pdf

RECEIVED
IRRC

2010 JUL 20 P 3:35

Amanda,


Attached please find CCC's comments on the proposed changes to the child care regulations.

Thank you!

-Maureen

-Maureen J. Murphy, Executive Director
Child Care Consultants, Inc.
South Central Regional Key
CCIS of York County
United Way of York Partner Agency
13 W. Market St. York, PA 17401
www.childcareconsultants.org
Phone: 717-854-2273 or 1-800-864-4925
FAX: 717-843-4158

It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men. ~Frederick Douglass

 Please consider the environment before printing this email