

Graeff, Melissa

#3216

14-452-35

From: Donita Hord <DHord@beginwithus.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 8, 2018 11:44 AM
To: PW, CC Reg Changes
Subject: Comments on proposed regulation changes
Attachments: Comments on proposed child care regulations, 2018.docx

Donita K. Hord, Head of Schools
Begin With Us Child Care and Preschool, Inc.
703 Grant Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602
(814)941-0606

RECEIVED
IRRC
2018 NOV 13 A 10:45



November 7, 2018

Dear Ms. Ferguson:

On behalf of Begin With Us Child Care and Preschool, Inc., please accept our comments on the proposed changes to the child care facility regulations. We welcome the opportunity to provide input and comment.

Begin With Us Child Care and Preschool, Inc. is a child care center located in Altoona, Blair County, and has been in operation since 1995. We serve approximately 275 children, 140 of whom participate in Pre-K Counts, and 240 families.

Department of Human Services proposed changes

Chapters 3270; 3280; 3290.

Replacement of the words "day care" with "child care" throughout the body of the regulations.

Begin With Us Child Care and Preschool comment:

We support removing the term "day" and replacing it with the word "child" when referring to the setting in which the care for children occurs.

Chapters 3270.31 (e); 3280.31 (e); 3290.31 (f).

Increased Annual Professional Development: Annual professional development requirements would increase from 6 hours per year to 12 hours per year.

Begin With Us Child Care and Preschool comment:

We support the increase in required professional development hours.

Chapters 3270.131 (a); 3280.131 (a); 3290.131 (a) Health Information: DHS is proposing to shorten the timeframe to submit an initial health report for children from 60 to 30 days.

Begin With Us Child Care and Preschool comment:

We believe that this requirement is unreasonable. Providers already struggle to have parents comply with the 60 day timeframe. Parents are not always able to schedule appointments that quickly. Additionally, for some families, it causes a financial problem if the appointment isn't within the timeframe that their insurance will pay for the health report. The burden is then placed on the provider who will be cited for something that they have no control over. We ask you to keep the 60 -day timeframe.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolie L. Cover

Executive Director