



Dear Sarasota County Child Care Providers,

The members of the Quality Child Care Council (QCC) and the organizations they represent commend your efforts to ensure quality care and education for our youngest citizens.

Our community is committed to giving young children the strong foundation they need to succeed in school and in life, and that commitment has been demonstrated by the decision on the part of the Quality Child Care Council to provide funds for the Look for the Stars Quality Improvement System.

Quality is a much used adjective in Sarasota County: quality beaches, quality school system, quality of life in general. The Quality Child Care Council, with input from the Early Learning Coalition, recognizes that our most vulnerable residents deserve quality in a very special way, quality early learning experiences. In addition, Council members recognize that you, as a provider, deserve support and assistance as you work to meet the challenges of improving this most important industry in our community.

The Early Learning Coalition has shared with Council members the program areas that were reviewed and the cooperation you brought to the process during the visits by the external evaluators. They have also shared just how many components were reviewed and the amount of documentation that you have provided. The council members commend your openness and willingness to allow scrutiny of your site, to identify both the strengths and areas for improvement, in order to further our community's goal of quality care for all children.

The members of the Quality Child Care Council have been monitoring this process and feel confident that each step has been handled with the utmost care, concern, and professionalism. We want this endeavor to be about improving quality and we feel the QIS process has reflected best practices for making that goal a reality in our community.

Now that the Coalition is prepared to provide the first results to each provider the Council is looking forward to supporting you in the next phase, implementing the improvements identified in your assessments and supporting your efforts in place now.

We appreciate the time and effort you give to children and families in our community and thank you for your willingness to participate in the Look for Stars process with us.

Sincerely,

Bill Little  
Administrator, Sarasota County Health Department  
Chair, Quality Child Care Council

