



# WASHOE COUNTY

*"Dedicated to Excellence in Public Service"*

## **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Child Care Services

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January 29, 2010

Dear Child Care Provider,

As you know, the Department, with the use of the laptop inspection system over the last two years, has been working to make inspection reports and other worker visits more accessible to the public. After much development, the reports of the visits made by your social worker will now be available to view via the internet. We are quite excited that this project is finally becoming a reality and think that this will be helpful to you as well as your families and potential clients as well. Please join us at the upcoming Child Care Advisory Board meeting for a presentation. We will be able to show you how the program works as well as answer any questions you might have.

An additional benefit will be the networking and marketing for center-based facilities available through a collaboration with the Reno Gazette Journal. They have been working on this project with us to assist the public looking for quality child care and have built a website link to compliment the one used to access the inspection reports. They will be showcasing this website and how to use the information in an article to launch the website in March. Staff from the Gazette-Journal will also be present at the Advisory Board meeting to answer questions as well.

The Child Care Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, March 4, 2010. It will be held in the Board of County Commissioners' Chambers at 6:00p.m. There will be a separate notice sent to all child care facilities of this meeting with the agenda, but we wanted to provide you information on this new project so that you could prepare. We are currently finishing the testing phase with the proposed launch date set for March 15, 2010. Inspections completed within the last year will be available to the public. The same level of confidentiality will be maintained and all reports will be carefully screened for identifying information prior to being made available to the public website.

We are confident that you will find this new level of information exchange helpful to you in many ways and hope that you can attend the Child Care Advisory Board meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>. As always, we will be happy to answer any specific questions that you may have regarding the website and how you and your families will find it useful.

Sincerely,

Alice LeDesma  
Coordinator

AL/ad