

JDFC PROVIDER

JDFC Provider Press ~Linking Child Care Providers
In Warren and Forest Counties

YOUNG ARTISTS NEEDED

Calling all artists! Grab your pencils, markers, paints and paper and let your creativity flow.

The Caring for Children campaign, sponsored by Penn Traffic, is sponsoring a poster display for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Posters will be displayed throughout the month of June at Quality Markets in Warren, Youngsville and Sheffield.

The theme for this year's poster display is "I feel safest when". Posters must depict this theme and can be no larger than 11 X14 inches in size. Posters can be done in any medium, crayons, markers, paints, collage or any combination. Be sure to include name, age and address on each submission.

All posters need to be submitted to the Jefferson DeFrees Family Center, 207 Second Avenue, Warren PA by Monday, June 2. Each entry will receive a coupon from Wendy's along with a certificate. For more information call the Center at 723-6350 or send an e-mail to jdcenter@westpa.net

The Caring for Children campaign will be held in Quality Markets throughout the month of June. Activities include hot dog and soda wagon, dunking booth and free KidCare photo identification and fingerprint kits, Saturday June 14 from 11:00am until 4:00pm. Be sure to check out www.jdfamilycenter.com for an updated activities list.



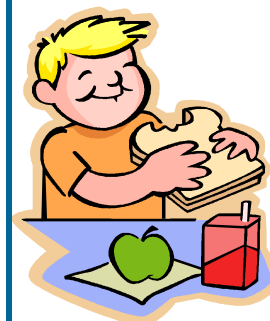
I Feel Safe When...

MEAL DEDUCTION FOR HOME PROVIDERS

Family day care providers may now choose to use a standardized rate to claim the deduction for meals provided to children in their care instead of keeping detailed records and receipts of food purchased for their business. Record keeping will be simplified by using the standardized rate, which is great news for family day care providers. The new guidelines are effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2002.

The current rates for calendar year 2003 are breakfast—\$0.98; lunch or dinner—\$1.80; and snack—\$0.53. The standard rate is allowed for up to one breakfast, one lunch, one dinner and three snacks per day, per child, provided the meals and snacks are actually purchased and served. Providers may use the rate whether licensed or not, registered or otherwise regulated by the state in which the care is provided.

Providers must maintain records which must include the name of each eligible child, dates and hours of attendance in the family day care and the type and quantity of meals and snacks served. For more information call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 or visit www.irs.gov. Just type in family provider rates in the search box, then click on "IRS Reduces Burden for Family Day Care Providers". They even have a link to the Revenue Procedure 2003-22, which includes forms for



The [Provider Press](#) is published by the Jefferson DeFrees Family Center, 207 Second Avenue, Warren PA 16365. The Press is a way to share information between and of interest to providers, such as trainings, CCIS information, craft projects, tips and ideas. Send your ideas, recipes and activities to: JD Family Center, Susan Anderson, 207 Second Avenue, Warren PA 16365 or e-mail the jdcenter@westpa.net!

The Press is funded in part by the Warren/Forest School Readiness Coalition
www.jdfamilycenter.org

PROVIDER RESOURCES

The Warren-Forest Child Care/School Readiness Coalition invites area child care providers to tap into these resources:

T.E.A.C.H.: The Teacher Education and Compensation Helps program makes it possible for child care teachers to afford additional education and training in early childhood development so that they can better care for Pennsylvania's children. It is a nationally licensed scholarship program designed to increase the education level and compensation of teachers while reducing turnover in center, group and family child care programs.



T.E.A.C.H. awards scholarships to professionals in child care allowing them to attend college and pursue a degree or credential in early childhood education.

For more information on the T.E.A.C.H. program, e-mail info@pacca.org or call (717) 657-9000 and ask for Teresa Hanna. Applications for the program are being accepted now.

QUEST: Quality Early Education through Salaries and Training is a comprehensive initiative to improve outcomes for children in Pennsylvania through recruitment and retention of qualified early educators. The goal is a fully-funded, well-financed system of Early Education and Care in the state that is accessible to all children who need it, offers quality programs, and has well qualified and adequately compensated staff.

More than 1,000 early childhood providers of all types from throughout the state have joined the QUEST network -

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Next time you're feeling stressed or discouraged, take a few moments to remind yourself of the difference you make in the lives of children.

You

Support children by caring about them, bringing out their best qualities, cheering them on, and celebrating who they are and what they do.

You

Empower children by valuing them for who they are, listening to them, respecting their opinions and helping them find ways to carry out their dreams.

You

Set clear boundaries for children and hold them accountable when they act inappropriately, while showing them appropriate ways to act.

You

Ensure that children have constructive activities and meaningful ways to spend their time.

You

Encourage children to have a commitment to learning and make learning fun and interesting.

You

Instill positive values in children, helping them see the importance of caring, equality, social justice, honesty, responsibility and healthy habits.

You

Teach children social competencies, emphasizing the lifelong skills of decision making, social skills and peaceful conflict resolution.

You

Help children develop a positive identity so that they can become who they're truly meant to be.

You Make The Difference!

Adapted from *A Leader's Guide to What Young Children Need to Succeed*

