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**Dear Parent/Guardian:**

Thank you for calling Child Care Resource and Referral of Pinellas (CCR&R) for assistance with your child care needs. Choosing a child care provider is one of the most important decisions you will make as a parent. It is crucial that you choose a child care provider who meets the needs of your child and with whom you feel comfortable.

The enclosed list of child care providers is based on the information you gave us related to your child's age, type of care requested, location preferred, and any other needs that you specified. Each family's situation and each child are unique; therefore, only you can best determine which child care provider is right for you. We share your concern for finding quality child care and therefore hope that the enclosed information is helpful to you in making your selection. Please note that these providers are not rated or recommended by Child Care Resource and Referral, Coordinated Child Care or Pinellas County Health Department (PCHD) Child Care Licensing Program.

We encourage you to follow these important steps beginning with contacting the child care providers on your list to arrange interviews and visits with at least three providers before making your selection. We are enclosing a child care checklist that will help you know what to look for and what questions to ask. Be sure to discuss the specific needs of your child and the providers' philosophies and policies to make sure they are compatible with your own ideas and values. After you have carefully interviewed your potential providers we urge you to check references before placing your child in care.

When you have narrowed your choice to either two or three providers through interviews, visits and reference checks, we recommend you contact a licensing specialist who will review with you the licensing history of those specific caregivers. A licensing specialist can be reached at the PCHD Child Care Licensing Program located at, 4175 East Bay Drive, Suite 350, Clearwater, Florida 33764, (727) 507-4857 or additional information access the website at [www.pclb.org](http://www.pclb.org) or state website <http://dcfsanswrite.state.fl.us/Childcare/provider>.

If the providers on this list do not meet your current needs please contact CCR&R at 727-547-5750 or toll free at 1-866-764-0436 and we will be happy to send you a list of additional child care sites for you to visit. Current provider information is updated in our database regularly therefore, if you need care in the future, be sure to call for an updated list.

If you have a complaint/concern about the services that you received from the staff member assisting you with your child care listing or about a child care provider please call CCR&R or consult our website at [www.childcarepinellas.org](http://www.childcarepinellas.org).

Your packet contains several useful items, which we encourage you to review. If you have additional questions or concerns or would like to see the Coordinated Child Care newsletter – “*Connection*” please call our office or go the website shown above.

If you are in need of any additional information you can contact CCR&R at 727-547-5750 or the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, Inc. at 727-548-1439 or via website [www.elcpinellas.org](http://www.elcpinellas.org).

Additionally you may wish to contact the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) - Office of Early Learning at 1-866-357-3239 or <http://www.floridajobs.org/earlylearning/ChildCareResourceReferralNetwork.html> to comment on the services you have received or the Central Directory for Health Care Services for children with disabilities or special needs at 1-800-654-4440.

Thank you for contacting Child Care Resource & Referral, your source for child care information and options.

Enclosures



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