



## **Resource Center to Focus on Training and Technical Assistance**

March 22, 2010

In order to ensure that all young children in our community experience developmentally appropriate care and are ready to succeed in school, the Resource Center will be redirecting its resources to focus primarily on helping providers enhance the quality of their programs and expand to include more children in regulated care.

Beginning immediately, the Resource Center will commit additional resources to its work in training and technical assistance – areas that support providers and contribute to quality improvement through:

- Professional development for new and experienced providers,
- Professional development focused on appropriate care for infants and toddlers, as well as care for children with special needs,
- accreditation and credentialing assistance, and
- assistance with licensing, regulation compliance, and program expansion.

The Resource Center will continue to be the “go to” place in Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset County providers for matters related to child care. However, in order for us to focus on training and technical assistance, the services provided by LOCATE: Child Care will now be centralized at Maryland Family Network. There, a single statewide counseling center will provide both individual phone counseling and online self-search capabilities.

Providers will continue to receive the annual LOCATE questionnaire which is used to update information about their programs in the LOCATE database. In addition, providers will be able, as before, to update their fees and vacancy information on the website at [www.mdchildcare.org](http://www.mdchildcare.org)

The transition in LOCATE phone numbers will be gradual. We will maintain our existing local number(s) while promoting a new toll-free number, so that the transition will be as smooth as possible for all users.

The Resource Center is pleased to be able to focus its resources on the core mission we all share – providing nurturing, developmentally appropriate care for all children in our community. Please feel free to contact Karen Goldman-Karten at 410-543-6650 with any questions about the LOCATE transition or the new focus on training and technical assistance.