

The Mission of Child Care Resources:

Child Care Resources works with parents, child care providers, businesses and the community to improve access to quality child care and early education so that every child enjoys safe, nurturing and inspiring care.

Let us know how we're doing. Call us at 800 343 3470: ext. 225 for the Referral Coordinator, or visit our web site at WorkFamilySolutions.com.



Child Care Resources

Southwest Michigan 4C

Serving: Barry, Branch, Berrien, Cass, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties

Main Office: 3304 Mindi Lane
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Hours: Monday: 8:00am – 7:00pm
Tuesday – Friday: 8:00am – 5:00pm

Phone: 269 349 3296 ♦ 800 343 3470

Fax: 269 349 6822

Web: WorkFamilySolutions.com

Michigan 4C Association



Member of the
Michigan 4C Association
One Call for Child Care
1 866 4CHILD CARE
(866 424 4532)

Child Care Guide for Parents



Child Care Resources

Southwest Michigan 4C

A Child Care Aware® Quality Assured Consumer Education and Referral Service



Child Care Resources

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You know what your family needs

- ◆ *Child Care Resources helps you find it!*

You are the expert when it comes to making the appropriate choice for child care

- ◆ *CCR helps you by providing other free valuable tips and tools for your search.*
- ◆ *CCR also provides free consultation and support to help you be successful in your search for child care.*

When you look for child care Child Care Resources provides

- ◆ *Free Community Referrals*
- ◆ *Employer paid Enhanced Referrals*
- ◆ *“For-a-Fee” Internet Referrals*
Visit WorkFamilySolutions.com



Work. Family. Solutions.



Your Child Care Choices...

- ◆ Which works best for your family?

Child Care Centers: Child care centers include preschools, nursery schools, Head Start programs, before and after school programs and full time child care programs. Centers must be licensed.

Family Day Care Homes: Homes where an adult cares for one to six children. Family homes must be registered.

Group Day Care Homes: Homes in which two or more adults provide care for up to 12 children. Group homes must be licensed.

CCR does not provide referrals to child care types listed below.

Relative Care Provider: A relative to the child who provides care for that child in the relative's home.

Day Care Aide: A person who is employed in **your** home to care for your children - may be paid in part by the Michigan Department of Human Services.

Nanny or Au Pair: A person who is employed in **your** home to care for your children - paid totally by you.

Choosing Quality Child Care

1. Start Early

Start looking as far in advance as you can.

2. Make a Call

After receiving your referral information in the mail or email, call some providers / programs and ask questions.

See "4 Steps to Choosing Quality Child Care".

3. Visit and Ask Questions

Make sure you visit the child care options you are considering. Find out about these key indicators of quality:

- Adult to Child Ratio
- Group Size
- Caregiver Qualifications
- Turnover
- Accreditation

4. Make a Choice

Think about what you saw at each visit, and make the best choice for your child and family.

5. Stay Involved

The work isn't over when you find good care for your child. You and your child's caregiver are partners now.

Taken from "Five Steps to Choosing Quality Child Care."
Read it all at ChildCareAware.org.

"The immediate response to my request for information was fabulous. I will recommend CCR's services to my friends and family." – Kalamazoo Parent



A referral provided to you by Child Care Resources for a particular caregiver and/or program is neither an endorsement nor a recommendation.

"I want to thank you for helping me find child care. With working second shift it proved very difficult to find affordable care, but with help from the staff at CCR I did. Thank you so much!" – Niles Parent

Confidentiality Statement: Child Care Resources does not sell or share parent names, addresses, phone numbers or other confidential information.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests: The FOIA report contains information collected since a program became licensed in the State of Michigan. Request a FOIA report for any licensed/registered child care program from the Michigan Department of Human Services. Read more about the FOIA and complete the online submission form at www.michigan.gov/dhs or call CCR for the mailing address (*There is a charge for an FOIA request.*)

Get a **free** overview of recent activity on any licensed/registered child care program at www.michigan.gov/dhs - "Online Lookups".

Need help paying for child care?

There are programs that can help you.

Michigan's Child Development and Care Program:

Working parents who meet income guidelines may be eligible for this Michigan Department of Human Services' program. Eligibility is based on family size and monthly income (see maximum gross monthly income amounts below.) Call CCR for more information and an application.

Family Size	Monthly Income
2	\$1607
3	\$1990
4	\$2367
5	\$2746
6	\$3123

Women's Caring Program: A one time award to subsidize child care while families work full time or attend school. Call CCR for more information and an application.

Child Care Tax Credit: Child care is a business - it is important that you obtain your provider's social security number or Tax I.D. number. You will need it to get the child care tax credit when filling out income tax. Visit www.IRS.gov or call 1 800 829 1040 for more information.

Free Programs: You may qualify for Early Head Start, Head Start or free preschools in your area. Call CCR for more information and an application.

Ask individual programs about scholarships available, sliding fee scales or sibling discounts offered.



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