



ABCD Press

From the Office of Public Information

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ABCD Child Care Choices of Boston Receives National Recognition for High Quality Family Services

**Child Care Resource & Referral Agency for Boston, Brookline,
Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop Attains Child Care Aware[®] Quality Assurance Status**

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) has received national acknowledgement of excellence in delivering information and referrals to families seeking child care in Boston, Brookline, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop. ABCD announced today that Child Care Choices of Boston, or CCCB, has attained Child Care Aware[®] Quality Assurance, national recognition for its high-quality family services.

Linda K. Smith, Executive Director of National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA) said that CCCB's achievement places it in the top quarter of the nation's CCR&Rs for its consumer education and referral services. "CCCB has proven itself to be one of the best resources in Boston, Brookline, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop for parents seeking information about child care," she said.

The Child Care Aware[®] Consumer Education Quality Assurance Program—a national voluntary certification for Child Care Resource & Referral agencies (CCR&Rs)—is designed to ensure that families across the nation have access to consistent, high-quality services that support them in making informed child care choices.

"CCCB is very proud to have achieved Quality Assurance for our CCR&R services," said ABCD President/CEO Bob Coard. "Since 1991, we have been helping families recognize, find, and pay for high-quality child care. This national seal of approval proves that we are succeeding."

Coard praised the outstanding leadership of Laurie Glassman, Director, ABCD Child Care Choices of Boston, and her excellent, committed staff as well as the dedicated members of the ABCD Board of Directors who oversee policy for the agency and its programs.

CCCB's referral specialists provide parents with information they need to make wise child care decisions. With a specialist's help, parents are better prepared to know what to look for to ensure that their child care program is high-quality, identify the ideal child care program that meets their needs, determine if they should stay home or return to work after having a new baby, and more.

Before being granted Quality Assurance, CCCB was required to take part in a rigorous year-long application process, guided by a Quality Assurance Specialist that offered one-on-one training and support. CCCB was evaluated by a validation panel that reviewed its application, and conducted a series of “secret shopper” calls and interviews of key staff.

In addition to helping families find child care and other parenting resources, CCCB also provides support, resources, technical assistance and training to a diverse community of families, child care providers, employers and businesses in the greater Boston area. Each year, CCCB provides more than 6,700 low-income families with approximately 10,500 children with voucher management services that enable access to much-needed child care. The program disburses more than \$53 million in child care subsidies annually, while working with close to 1,000 child care providers in the region. To learn more, visit www.childcarechoicesofboston.org or contact CCCB at (617) 542-KIDS (5437).

About ABCD:

ABCD serves more than 100,000 low-income Boston-area residents through its central offices and a decentralized network of Neighborhood Service Centers (NSCs), Head Start centers, Family Planning sites and Foster Grandparent sites. Programs and affiliations include Fuel Assistance; Head Start; Child Care Services; Child Care Choices of Boston; Education; Career Development; Housing and Homelessness Services; Health Services; Family Planning; Urban College of Boston; University High – an Alternative High School; Ostiguy High School for high school students in recovery; Weatherization; Foster Grandparents; Elder Services; Intergenerational Programs; Food Pantries in several Boston neighborhoods; management of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), Commonwealth of Massachusetts Employees Charitable Campaign (COBECC) and City of Boston Employees Charitable Campaign (COBECC); advocacy and consumer services.

About Child Care Aware[®]:

It is an initiative of the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA). In addition to administering the Quality Assurance Program, we operate a national telephone hotline (1-800-424-2246) and website (www.ChildCareAware.org)—both available in English and Spanish—that connect families to their local CCR&Rs and provide parenting and early care and education information. NACCRRA, the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, is our nation’s leading voice for child care. We work with more than 800 state and local Child Care Resource & Referral agencies to ensure that families in every local community have access to high-quality, affordable child care.

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