

February 14, 2013

Dear Senator Stillman and honored Legislators,

I am writing today to thank you for the creation of the Office of Early Childhood. I have been working in Early Childhood for 17 years in Connecticut. In that time I have seen many changes, some good but many that were not good. This change is one that I feel has the capacity to be very good for all children, families and programs in CT. By centralizing all the programs serving young children and families we make the process better for children, but also for the programs that have to navigate the system. Currently there are multiple layers of red tape that exist in each department that a program must deal with. Since our program has multiple grants, departments and funding sources, this creates an endless stream of different processes, evaluations, overseers that we must deal with just to serve the 10 classrooms of children in our 1 building. This is neither an efficient process, or a cost effective one. By streamlining all the programs under 1 roof with the single focus of Early Childhood, efficiency and best practice can go hand in hand and more will get accomplished. We appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve all of CT's children (School Readiness Competitive and Priority, Care-4-Kids and Child Day Care) with high quality early education and care. We hope that the creation of this office is a giant step forward to continuity of care, availability, and business support for those who serve our children in this State.

Sincerely,

Susan Corrice
Parent
and Finance Director of Riverfront Children's Center
Groton, CT