

Dear Early Care and Education Providers,

YOUR CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE CASES WILL BE CANCELLED EFFECTIVE JULY 1ST, 2009. You may receive a notice like this if you do not act now!!

Over the weekend, the General Assembly passed a “lump sum” budget that will essentially give state agencies 50% of their FY09 budgets to fund all their programs in FY10. If this budget is not fixed by July 1st, it will have devastating effects on Illinois’ working families and their children. Cutting the child care assistance program in half will mean that 80,000 families and 151,000 children will no longer receive child care assistance.

Illinois families need your help!!

1. **Please take the time to call your elected official** and if you are unsure as to who your legislator is, click here <http://www.elections.state.il.us/DistrictLocator/SelectSearchType.aspx?NavLink=1> and search by address or 9 digit zip code. Calls should be made to local legislative offices.
2. **Please talk to every parent about this crisis!** Attached is a cancellation notice for you to give to every parent on the assistance program with information on how to reach their legislator. Take the time to assist parents in locating their legislator. Parents need to act now. They must make the calls for this to change. Please make them realize what this will do to their family.
3. **Please take time to participate in the “Children Matter Campaign.”** Attached is a template of a child. Please have your children decorate the front of the template and include their first name and the city they reside in on the back. You may drop the children off at CCR&R, mail them to CCR&R or staff will pick these up and deliver them to your legislators next week. CCR&R will be presenting the children to the legislators and asking them which children to cut from the child care assistance program.

Lastly, please pass this information on to everyone you know! We need to generate as many calls as possible to your legislators’ offices urging them to pass a budget that will not cut child care assistance before July 1. This is an urgent and time sensitive manner, don’t waste any time. **MAKE PHONE CALLS TODAY!!**

If you would like to participate in the campaign, please contact me at Child Care Resource & Referral by calling 815-741-1163 x231. **Together we can make a difference!!**

Sincerely,

Amy Emerson

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Your child care case will be cancelled on July 1st

You may receive this notice if parents and providers do not take action immediately!

The state's budget crisis will seriously affect the financial assistance families receive for child care.

THIS IS REAL!

- ✘ What will you do if there is NO HELP with child care and you have to go to work??
- ✘ What would it mean to your family or your center if copayments increased drastically??

WHAT CAN YOU DO TODAY??



1. Call your local legislator

- Ask your provider to help you find your local legislators
- Check this website:
<http://www.elections.state.il.us/DistrictLocator/selectsearchtype.aspx>
- Or call (815)741-1163 ext. 231, 234, or 236 for assistance

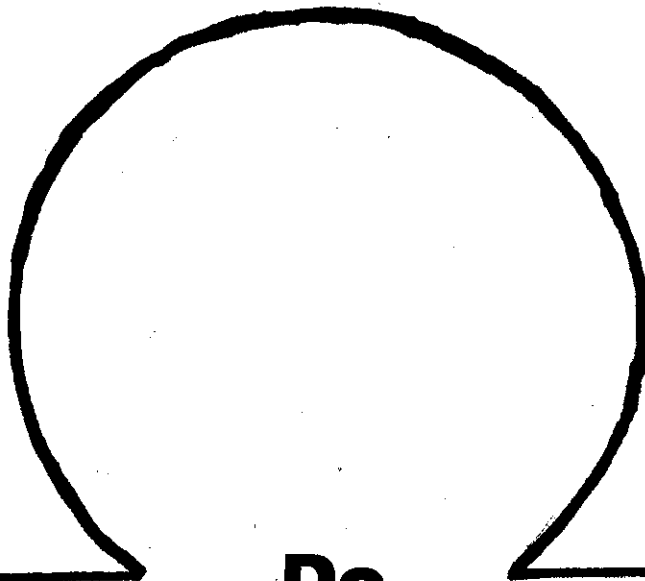
2. Call the governor's office (217)782-0244

Call your legislators & send this important message:

NO CUTS IN CHILD CARE

Call your legislator NOW and tell your story to save the child care assistance program!

Your one call **CAN** make a difference!



Do
CHILDREN MATTER

To You?

