



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of  
Early Childhood

Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor  
Nancy Wyman  
Lt. Governor

Myra Jones-Taylor, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

August 2014

Dear Care 4 Kids Provider:

As of July 1, 2014, Care 4 Kids is now part of the new Office of Early Childhood and is no longer administered by the Department of Social Services. The Office of Early Childhood was created so all programs serving young children and their families could work together in one system. This makes it easier for families, providers and communities to get the services and support they need.

The Office of Early Childhood and Department of Social Services have been working closely together to make the move as smooth as possible. The United Way of Connecticut will continue to operate the Care 4 Kids program. United Way of Connecticut Care 4 Kids staff will stay the same.

### **Things to know about Care 4 Kids:**

- **Contact Information:** Care 4 Kids contact information will stay the same:
  - Website: [www.ctcare4kids.com](http://www.ctcare4kids.com); Telephone: 1-888-214-KIDS (5437); Fax Number: 1-877-868-0871
  - Address: 1344 Silas Deane Highway, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
- **Rate Increase:** Care 4 Kids providers will get a rate increase for their services. The increase in rates for licensed Family Day Care Homes and unlicensed Family, Friends and Neighbors are effective from January 1, 2014. Increases for licensed Child Care Centers, Group Day Care Homes and Recreational Programs (like summer camps) are effective from July 1, 2014. Both increases are retroactive from the date they are effective. You will begin receiving the retroactive rate increase payments in the fall. The Care 4 Kids website will be updated with information about the rate increase. For information, visit the Care 4 Kids website at [www.ctcare4kids.com](http://www.ctcare4kids.com).

### **Home-Based Care 4 Kids Providers only:**

- **Union Agreement:** The State of Connecticut entered into a collective bargaining agreement for home-based Care 4 Kids providers with the child care union, CSEA/SEIU Local 2001. For more information, visit their website: [www.ctchildcare.org](http://www.ctchildcare.org).
- **Annual Rate Increase:** In addition to the rate increase this year, home-based Care 4 Kids providers will get a rate increase every January through 2017.
- **Orientation:** Licensed Family Day Care Homes and unlicensed Family, Friends and Neighbors who receive Care 4 Kids will now have to go to a Care 4 Kids orientation. This orientation is mandatory and will focus on how to keep children healthy and safe. On or after October 1, 2014, new Care 4 Kids home-based providers will have to complete the three and a half hour orientation before they can start enrolling families. If you are a current Care 4 Kids provider, you will need to attend the orientation by December 2015. Orientations will be scheduled across the state during times that are convenient for you, like evenings and weekends. Visit the Care 4 Kids website ([www.ctcare4kids.com](http://www.ctcare4kids.com)) later this summer for dates and registration information.

If you have questions, please call Care 4 Kids at 1-888-214-5437 or visit the Care 4 Kids website at [www.ctcare4kids.com](http://www.ctcare4kids.com). For more information about the Office of Early Childhood, please visit our website at [www.ct.gov/oec](http://www.ct.gov/oec).

Sincerely,

Myra Jones-Taylor, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

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