

**ADVISORY: Fairfax Non-Profit Receives Pledges of Support to Keep 24 Child Care Providers Enrolled in Community College**

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Infant/Toddler Family Day Care staff, board members, and parents pledge to provide the scholarship money for 24 providers planning to enroll at Northern Virginia Community College during the spring 2007 semester. The organization has partnered with Northern Virginia Community College to encourage child care providers to pursue their Infant Toddler Certificate. The Commonwealth of Virginia has been offering state scholarships for five of the courses required for this certificate. Infant/Toddler has been paying for all books and continuing courses toward an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Development. After helping 24 providers complete scholarship applications, the Commonwealth of Virginia notified them the scholarship program is out of money for this fiscal year.

Infant/Toddler is committed to helping child care providers continue their education and sent out emergency notices to staff, board members and parents asking for individuals willing to sponsor a provider's tuition of \$245.94 or even a partial tuition. The organization received an overwhelming response and has pledged that all 24 providers will be able to enroll for the spring semester.

**RECENT RECOGNITIONS**

- Infant/Toddler Family Day Care was recently recognized by the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region for its capacity, strong leadership and demonstrated outcomes in the area of workforce development. Infant/Toddler is among just 15 other nonprofit organizations to receive this prestigious award, which is featured in the Foundation's 2005-2006 *Spirit of Giving* Guide.
- Through the consulting firm of Brody, Weiser, & Burns, Infant/Toddler Family Day Care is serving as a consultant to the **Annie E. Casey Foundation** as they explore the feasibility of funding collective management systems of child care providers, similar to the Infant Toddler model.
- Infant/Toddler participated in a focus group to review Virginia's Benchmarks for Smart Beginnings and Virginia Early Learning Guidelines.
- Infant/Toddler staff participated in a Reston Comcast Cable video program with Virginia Delegate Ken Plum entitled "Meeting the Needs of Fairfax County's Young Children."

**MISSION**

Infant/Toddler Family Day Care has been bringing families together with our network of experienced and professionally trained child care providers since 1983. Our nurturing program provides care and early childhood development to children beginning at six weeks of age and beyond. With Infant/Toddler, children benefit from the special experience of forming lasting relationships with their provider in a small, mixed age group setting where children learn and grow through play.