



children's home + aid

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Child Care Center of Palatine Township Receives ExceleRate Illinois Gold Circle of Quality Designation
Shows Continuous Quality Improvement Commitment to Children in Palatine

Palatine, IL - (October 22, 2014) - Children's Home + Aid's Community Child Care Center of Palatine Township received the Gold Circle of Quality designation from ExceleRate Illinois, the state's new quality rating and improvement system for early learning and development providers.

"Every early learning and development provider who participates in ExceleRate Illinois makes quality a priority," said Theresa Hawley, executive director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development. "The higher the designation, the higher the program's demonstrated quality and comprehensiveness in meeting children's early learning needs," she said.

"We are proud to receive the Gold Circle of Quality," said Linda Wywialowski, Director of the center. "Providing quality in early learning and development will help our children in Palatine be better prepared for success in school and in life."

ExceleRate Illinois helps families make more informed choices about their children's early learning. It establishes standards to help infants, toddlers and preschoolers develop intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally. Additionally, it provides a framework for early learning and development professionals to identify opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills.

Research in science and brain development shows that children who are more meaningfully engaged in early learning experiences from infancy through the first five years of life are more likely to be successful in school and in life. With the right engagement, children can form a healthy foundation of neural pathways in the brain, which impact their ability to think, react, process and grow.

ExceleRate Illinois is a comprehensive system that includes Licensed Child Care Centers, Preschool for All and Center-Based Prevention Initiative Programs, Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. Licensed Family and Group Child Care Homes will be included next year.

In fiscal year 2014, 125 children at risk of academic failure received vital early care and education to promote school readiness and healthy development at the Community Child Care Center of Palatine Township.

Children's Home + Aid is an Illinois leader in Early Childhood Services, providing evidence-based practice, services targeting high-need and high-risk populations and a broad scope of programming incorporating child abuse prevention and family support. Children's Home + Aid provides a comprehensive array of services including Early Head Start, Head Start, Preschool for All, Home Based Care, and Child Resource & Referral programs. The agency's five Early Childhood Centers provide childcare, education, health services and meals to children aged six weeks to six years old from approximately 7:00am to 6:00pm each day.

For more information or to find a Child Care Resource & Referral Agency in your area, visit: www.ExceleRateIllinois.com.

ExceleRate Illinois is administered through INCCRRA under the joint direction of the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, the Illinois Department of Human Services, and the Illinois State Board of Education.

About Children's Home + Aid

Children's Home + Aid is a leading child and family service agency in Illinois. The organization helps children recover their health, their hope, and their faith in the people around them. We link children to a network of opportunity and care, to extended family, teachers, mentors, and the resources of the neighborhood and community. For 130 years, the organization has gone wherever children and families need them, and where that work has been proven to be most effective: at home, in the classroom, in the neighborhood, in the course of daily life. The organization has offices located across Illinois and serves more than 40,000 children and families in over 60 counties each year.

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