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**\$43 MILLION IN FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS
WILL HELP LOW-INCOME FAMILIES PAY FOR CHILD CARE**

Commissioner Gladys Carrión, Esq., of the state Office of Children and Family Services announced today the allocation of nearly \$43 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to 31 social services districts across the state for subsidized child care and quality activities.

“A crucial part of building New York’s economy and preserving jobs is helping to provide working families, and those being trained to re-enter the workforce, with quality, affordable child care,” Commissioner Carrión said.

The \$43 million allocated today is the second portion of the \$97 million in ARRA money that the state received last year in child care stimulus funds. Some \$42 million was allocated in November 2009. The remaining \$12 million has been earmarked by the federal government to support quality expansion and infant and toddler activities, and is being retained by OCFS to implement on a statewide basis.

For information on child care in New York State, parents and other caregivers are urged to visit the OCFS website at www.ocfs.state.ny.us or call 1-800-345-KIDS (5437). The child care subsidy program in New York State is a state-supervised program that is administered locally by the 58 social services districts.

In general, families are eligible for financial assistance for child care if they meet the state's low-income guidelines and need child care to work, look for work, or attend employment training. County departments of social services (in New York City, the Human Resources Administration) determine family eligibility based on income, reasons for needing child care, and the child's age and individual needs. Parents or caregivers who qualify for a child care subsidy may select from a full range of child care arrangements, including care by regulated child care providers and providers of legally exempt child care.

Parents and other caregivers interested in finding out if they are eligible for a child care subsidy, or wishing to apply for a subsidy for their child, should contact their local social services district. For general information about child care subsidies, they may contact their local child care resource and referral agency, listed on the OCFS website.

The latest child care subsidy ARRA allocations were based on prior spending levels of Child Care Block Grant funding, and have been awarded as follows:

District	Allocation
Albany	\$ 783,006
Allegany	40,805
Broome	247,763
Cayuga	86,511

Chemung	235,063
Columbia	61,701
Dutchess	407,038
Erie	1,695,787
Genesee	65,226
Greene	33,487
Jefferson	156,494
Lewis	20,026
Livingston	74,032
Madison	54,997
Monroe	1,869,385
Nassau	1,816,908
Onondaga	806,165
Orange	361,288
Rockland	461,442
St. Lawrence	128,151
Saratoga	142,904
Schenectady	350,602
Schoharie	37,806
Seneca	34,035
Steuben	193,025
Suffolk	1,708,921
Tioga	75,791
Tompkins	124,341
Washington	73,021
Westchester	1,670,450
New York City	\$29,080,468
State Total	\$42,896,639

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