OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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DIVISION: Development and Preventive Services

TO: Commissioners of Social Services

DATE: March 15, 2001

SUBJECT: Child Care Market Rate Survey

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Services
Directors of Income Maintenance
Accounting Supervisors
Child Care Supervisors and Staff
Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Rhonda Finlayson Bureau of Early Childhood Services. (518)402-6785

ATTACHMENTS: A: Child Care Provider Letter
B: Market Rate Survey Questions
C: Market Rate Survey Instructions
D: Market Rate Survey
Attachments are not available on-line

FILING REFERENCES

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OCFS-4614EL (Rev. 11/98)
The purpose of this Informational Letter (INF) is to inform social services districts regarding the child care market rate survey which the Office is conducting.

Under federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements, the State has to implement payment rates that are adequate to ensure equal access to child care. Federal regulations require that the method to arrive at reimbursement rates is to conduct a survey of child care providers. In addition, the federal regulations prescribe that the Office must review the local market rates and, if appropriate, make adjustments to such rates effective with the beginning of the next State CCDF Plan, October 1, 2001.

In order to collect the data necessary to review the market rates, the Office has sent a survey to all registered family day care providers, licensed group family day care providers, licensed day care centers, and registered school-aged child care programs. The responses to this survey will be reviewed and adjustments to the current local market rates will be made as appropriate.

Attached for your information are the following documents sent to child care providers: Child Care Provider Letter (Attachment A), Market Rate Survey Questions (Attachment B), Market Rate Survey Instructions (Attachment C), and the Market Rate Survey (Attachment D).

If you have any questions concerning the market rate survey, please contact Rhonda Finlayson, OCFS Bureau of Early Childhood Services, at (518) 402-6785.

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Donald K. Smith
Deputy Commissioner