

Tue 2/9/2021 10:03 AM

Dear Governor Baker, Speaker Mariano, Representative Peisch, Commissioner Aigner-Treworgy,

Re: Private Pay Family Child Care Providers on the Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission

Knowing that time is of the essence and that the Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission has many critical reviews and reports to complete in a short time we collectively support appointing the following members: Jennifer Simpson and Beth Sidel. We are grateful for the opportunity to represent family child care providers at the table.

We do realize that while Private Pay is nearly half of Family Child Care providers in the state and that our letter, 50 strong, is only a minority of the field. Historically, non-subsidized, private providers have been underrepresented in state legislative policies as they all work primarily independently. We are writing as a group of Private Pay Family Child Care Leaders that has had the opportunity to engage monthly with Commissioner Aigner-Treworgy to make our recommendations. Unfortunately, many independent FCC providers may not even be aware of this new Commission. It is our hope that in the future a more adequate system, beyond our private facebook groups, allows a way to communicate and connect to all providers. There is great need for opportunities for advocacy, however, these also need to be published in a way that the field is aware of in order to increase participation that will continue to grow and strengthen the workforce.

We support Governor Baker appointing **Jennifer Simpson** as the *representative of family child-care* and Speaker Mariano, appointing **Beth Sidel** as the *private pay early education and care provider* in the commonwealth.

**Jennifer Simpson, Bachelors in Early Childhood Education & Psychology with a Minor in Special Education, Brilliant Beginnings Daycare, Southbridge, MA**

Jennifer has been in the field since 2001, she graduated from Westfield State University and is licensed to teach Prek-2nd grade. She has worked in a private center, head start, and public school system before following her dream and building an addition to her family home which was licensed as a FCC in 2015. Currently a private pay provider and advocate, she also has served both subsidized and private clients and can recognize and understand the needs of the entire Family Child Care Sector.

**Beth Sidel M.Ed, 4 The Love of Learning Preschool, Montague, MA**

Beth has been in the field for over 25 years, has a B.A. in Early Childhood Education from UMASS Amherst and an M.Ed in Early Childhood Education from Smith College. She is licensed to teach pre-k-3rd grade, has worked in center-based care as both a Lead Teacher and Director, spent a year teaching in a public preschool, and for the past ten years, has owned and operated a preschool under an FCC title. As an FCC provider, she has previously enrolled both subsidized and private families. This experience, including the paperwork caseload and pay differential will make her a strong voice for all Family Child Care Providers.

Thank you for considering our recommendations, we look forward to ongoing collaboration,

Jennifer Simpson, Brilliant Beginnings Daycare, Southbridge, 01550

Beth Sidel, 4 The Love of Learning Preschool, Montague, 01352

Jennifer Cormier, Cormier's Clubhouse, Worcester, 01602

Gina Hamilton, Over in the Meadow Family Child Care, Shrewsbury, 01545

Sara Egan, Sally's Little School, Falmouth, 02536

Alyssa Kelly, Homegrown Daycare, Plymouth, 02360

Jessica Haley, Miss Jessica's Home Montessori, Ipswich 01938

Cindy Moniz, Tiny Treasures Daycare, Dighton, 02715

Kathleen Tringale, Little Angels Family Child Care, Swampscott, 01907

Jennifer Furtado, The Learning Tree Daycare, Somerset, 02726

Dawn O'Neil, Dawn O'Neil's Family Child Care, Ashley Falls, 01222

Alyce Connors-Ball, Small Talk, Waltham, ,02453

Maureen Mosher, Maureen's Family Childcare, Taunton, 02780

Jennifer Somers, True Blue Daycare, Worcester, 01606

Pamela Wade, Kids Come 1st Childcare, West Brookfield, 01585

Diana McCarthy, Diana's Daycare, Framingham, 01701

Kathleen Rooney, It's a special day childcare/preschool, Forestdale, 02644

Christina Cavanaugh, Chrissy's Home Daycare, Springfield, 01104

Amy Postale, Little Wonders, Southbridge, 01550

Natalie Nicole DeHaro, Homegrown Edgartown, Edgartown 02539

Melissa Anderson, Playtime Family Child Care, East Falmouth 02536

Courtney Soto, The Children's Orchard Daycare, Pittsfield, 01201

Lynn Shepard, Little Tykes Family Daycare, Barre, 01005

Tasha Raye Kinsman Ryan, Dependable Kid Care, Haverhill, 01832

Lisa Commess, Norwell, 02061

Barbara Lynch, East Bridgewater, 02333

Kate McPherson, Hingham, 02043

Kristen Stanton, Scituate, 02066

Maureen O'Connell Raymond, Maureen's Daycare, Forestdale/Sandwich, 02644

Julie Immelt Whelden, Little Tugs Family Child Care, East Falmouth, 02536

Lucy Conetta, 55 S Waverly St, Brighton 02135

Joelle Lydon, Marblehead, 01945

Sharon Bunting, Harwich, Ma 02645

Olive Sheehan, Over the Rainbow Childcare, Brighton, 02135

Kerry Groccia, Clarendon Kids Daycare, Auburn, 01501

Michelle Goldner, Lots of Love Daycare, North Reading, 01864

Barbara Avitabile Mullen, Barbara's Day Care, Milton, 02186

Nancy Doherty, Milton, 02186

Qinyi Ren, Wonderwhiz Academy, Framingham, 01701

Arlene Willette, The Barefoot Family Childcare, Methuen, 01844

Karen Corso, Karen's Kiddie Care Family Childcare, Worcester, 01604

Noelle Wade, Charlton, 01507

Susana Maciel, Sue's FCC, East Freetown, 02717

Christine Tedesco, Chris's Family Daycare, Framingham, 01701

Nora Labiad, Methuen, 01844

Erika Helnarski, Once Upon Amherst, Worcester, 01602

Kathleen Halfpenny, Marlborough, 01752

Bitia Reilly, Together Family Child Care, Townsend, MA 01469

Debbie Seale, Debbie's Child Care, Waltham, 02451

Wendy Buzzell, Peek~A~Boo! Home Day Care, Southborough, 01772

Katey Grossman, Come and Play, Franklin, 02038