



# STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR  
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

Dear Parent:

Congratulations! Your child care provider has been working on improving their quality of child care and has chosen to participate in Iowa's Quality Rating System (QRS). You'll see their QRS certificate with 1 – 5 stars posted in the child care facility your children attend.

QRS has five levels, indicated by the number of stars on your provider's Quality Rating System certificate.

- *Level One* programs meet the state requirements for child care center licensing – including criminal and child abuse record checks.
- *Level Two* programs have agreed to work with a child care nurse consultant, have provided staff orientation, and have assessed the skills of their staff.
- *Level Three – Five* programs have earned additional credit for education and experience, training, health and safety compliance, and working with parents. They may have had an Environment Rating Scale of their program completed.

All QRS programs, regardless of their level, have made a commitment to providing quality care to children. Your child care program, by participating in QRS, has demonstrated a desire to improve the quality of care and education your children receive. Programs at all levels are continually working to improve their quality, and the QRS gives them guidelines for how to do that best.

Please continue to support your child care program and staff as they work to improve their quality of care.

For more specific information about the QRS, please visit the website at:  
<http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/iqrs>