Lakewood Department of Human Services

DIVISION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

"Resource & Referral" Directory

2012

The information contained in this directory is provided by the individual child care facilities. The City of Lakewood is not responsible for any changes, omissions or errors in the listed information. Please contact the individual agency for the most current updates.
The City of Lakewood/Scholarship/Financial Assistance Program

Resources suggested for special family needs.
Elder participation integrated into child care programs.
In-service training offered to Lakewood caregivers, providers and preschool teachers.
Parent education and support through the Lakewood Family Room
Lakewood Early Childhood Professionals consortium.
Expansion of child care services.
Professional early childhood education issues supported at the local, state and national levels.
Resource for Lakewood High School programs: Child/Elder Care and Pregnant/or Parenting Teens
Client contacts, suggestions and grievances directly related to Lakewood Early Childhood Services processed.
“Preschool Super Sunday” and other early childhood activities initiated.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD SCHOLARSHIP/FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: 216-529-5018

◆ Referrals to the scholarship program are made by day care providers, Lakewood City Schools, the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Christian Service Center and child care resource specialists.

◆ Must be a Lakewood resident.

Funding provided by City of Lakewood through Community Development Block Grant (C.D.B.G.)

The Family Room offers resource and support programs which serve parents of children from birth to age eighteen, children, and families in differing ways and in a wide variety of settings. We provide services to every kind of family, from two parents to single parent, from new parent to parents of teens and to grandparents who now care for their grandchildren.

Our family resource and support program is a collaborative effort by the City of Lakewood, Department of Human Services, Division of Early Childhood, Division of Youth, Division of Health and Division of Aging. In general, The Family Room:

◆ Provides direct services to families which may include, but are not limited to parent education, support groups, parent/child activities, resource and referral, time and stress management and more.

◆ Builds on the family’s strengths rather than deficits.

◆ Enhances the capacity of parents to foster the optimal development of their children.

◆ Respects the integrity of the family unit.

◆ Fosters cultural, ethnic and religious sensitivity.

◆ Provides linkages within Lakewood to other systems of services and support.

◆ Provides comfortable settings and opportunities in which parents can work on family issues.

We sincerely hope that you will participate in our programs and events throughout the year. With your interest and support, The Family Room will become an integral part of our community.
CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

BROWNSTONE DAY SCHOOL
18225 Sloane Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-221-1470
Fax: 216-221-1488

DIRECTOR: NANCY RAFFERTY
ADMINISTRATOR: ALYCE MANN

Hours: 6:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Ages Accepted: 8 weeks through Kindergarten
   After School Program - through age 9

Maximum Enrollments: 186
   Infants: (0-18 mos.): 20
   Toddlers: (18 mos. - 3 yrs.): 42
   Preschool: 76
   School Age: 48

Special Needs: Limited due to steps; depending on individual needs.

Transportation Provided: No. Walk over and back from Horace Mann Elementary School

Fees: (Per Week)
   Infants: $215.00
   Toddlers: $205.00
   Preschool: $185.00
   Kindergarten: $185.00
   Part Time Care $43.00/ day
   Before & After School: $85.00 a.m. only
                         $95.00 p.m. only
                         $120.00 per week a.m. & p.m.

Special Needs: Depending on individual needs

Registration: Annual registration fee of $35.00

Discount for Siblings: Yes (15% on oldest enrolled)

Open-door policy for parents; visitors by appointment

S.A.C.C. also provided at Harrison and Emerson Elementary Schools. (see Family Life S.A.C.C. for more information)

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK): Ages 3 - 5

FAMILY LIFE CHILD CARE CENTER OF LAKEWOOD
13523 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
440-260-6001

COORDINATOR: BECKY VOLLE

Hours: Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 6 weeks through Pre-Kindergarten

Maximum Enrollment:
   Infants: 8
   Toddlers: 18
   Pre-School: 40
   School-Age: 10

Fees (Per Day):
   Infants: $39.00 Full-Time $45.50 Part-Time (4 day min.)
   Toddlers: $35.50 $38.50
   Pre-School: $32.50 $35.50

Special Needs: Depending on individual needs

Discount for Siblings: Yes (15% on oldest enrolled)

Open-door policy for parents; visitors by appointment

S.A.C.C. also provided at Harrison and Emerson Elementary Schools. (see Family Life S.A.C.C. for more information)

Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK): Ages 3 - 5

Discount for Siblings: 20% for any sibling

Appointments requested for security.
FAMILY LIFE SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE CENTERS AT EMERSON & HARRISON
13523 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
440-260-6001

COORDINATOR: BECKY VOLLE

Hours: 6:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Ages Accepted: Kindergarten - Grade 5

Fees: Per month, September - May
A.M. only: 5 days, $155/month
P.M. only: 5 days, $195/month
A.M. & P.M.: $340/month
3 day option available!

Sibling discount: Yes - For a.m. & p.m. only (15%)

Transportation: No

School age child care provided at Emerson and Harrison Elementary schools only.

A program of the Berea Children’s Home and Family Services.

Add-on days may be available for an additional $25.00/day at Harrison during days when a school closing is scheduled.

Summer Camp Program available June-August. Rates published separately. Program includes weekly activities such as swimming, cookouts and weekly field trips based on the summer theme. Meals are provided. Summer Camp hours are 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday-Friday.

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HOLY FAMILY LEARNING CENTER
14808 Lake Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-521-4352

DIRECTOR: SISTER KATHLEEN, O.S.U.

Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Maximum Enrollment: (license capacity)
Infants: (0 - 18 mos.): 24
Toddlers: (18 mos. - 3 years): 40
Preschool: 64
School Age: 5

Special Needs: Yes, depending on individual needs

Transportation Provided: No

Fees: (Per Week)
Infants: $198.00
Step-up: $198.00
Young Toddlers: $190.00
Older Toddlers: $190.00
Young Pre-School: $186.00
Older Pre-School: $186.00
Pre-Kindergarten: $181.00

Before & After School: No

Catering Food Program: Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks

Open-door for parents; appointments for visitors

$150 non-refundable fee per child
KIDS ADVANCING ACADEMY
2150 Warren Road
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-712-7985
FAX: 216-221-1281

DIRECTOR: NILSHA WILLIAMS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: JENNIFER REEHER

Hours: 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Ages Accepted: 6 weeks – 12 years
Maximum Enrollment: 68
   Infants (0-18 mos.): 11
   Toddlers (18 mos.- 3 years): 20
   Preschool: 26
   School age: 8

Special Needs: Yes, depending on individual needs
Transportation Provided: No
Before & After School: Yes

Fees: Full-time (per week):
   Infants: $191.00
   Toddlers: $181.00
   Preschool: $166.00
   School Age: $140.00 ($80 Before & After)

Discount for siblings: 10%
Registration fee: $50.00 per family

Open door policy for parents. Appointments suggested for visitors.

LAKEWOOD BEGINNINGS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
14321 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-221-4089
FAX: 216-221-4148

DIRECTOR: MARILYN A. HALLENBURG

Registration Fee: $50.00 non-refundable-1 registration fee per family

FULL-TIME PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL-AGE FEES
Full-time Enrichment Preschool Care and school age care is available for children 18 months to 12 years of age. Enrichment programming for the child care program is available in the mornings. The child care and school age programs are open all year Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Full-time Preschool Fees:
   Full-time child care** $175.00 per week
   Toddlers: 18 -24 months old $190.00 per week

School-Age Fees:
   Before and After Kindergarten $145.00 per week
   Before and After School $110.00 per week
   Before School Care ONLY $70.00 per week
   All Day Care**-Summer and school vacation days $155.00 per week

** Additional field trip fee due for Summer Camp
Discount for Siblings: Yes

※ Please see Preschool section for Enrichment Programs.
LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY CARE CENTER
2019 Woodward
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-226-0080

DIRECTOR: PAM MEADE

Hours: Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 6 weeks - 6 years

Maximum Enrollment: 79
  Infants: (0-18 mos.): 17
  Toddlers: (18 mos. - 3 years): 20
  3 - 4 year olds: 24
  Pre-K - 12 years: 24
  S.A.C.C.(K-15 years): 45

Special needs: Yes, depending on individual needs

Transportation Provided: Bus for Kindergarten care

Fees: (Per Day)  
  Full Time  Part Time
  Infants: $38.00  -
  Toddlers: $37.00  $40.00
  Pre-School: $35.00  $38.00
  Pre-K: $34.00  
  Fun Days: $31.00  
  Before & After School: Varies-full-time and part-time rates

S.A.C.C. Program at Lincoln School. Call Julia Dopman, Administrator, at (216) 973-7040.

Discount for Siblings: 10%

Open-door policy for parents — visitors make appointments

LAKEWOOD CHILD CARE CENTER
1450 Belle Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107-4202
216-228-KIDS (5437)

DIRECTOR: HOLLE BRAMBRICK
EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR: JUDY SALMON

Hours: Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 6 weeks - 5 years (to age 8 summers only)

Maximum Enrollments:
  Infants: 12
  Toddlers: 15
  3-5 yrs: 48

Fees: Full-time (Per Day)
  Infant: $44.50
  Toddler: $42.50
  Pre-School: $39.00
  Pre-Kindergarten: $39.00

Fees: Part-time (Per Day)
  Infant: $47.00
  Toddler: $44.00
  Pre-School: $42.00
  Pre-Kindergarten: $42.00

Kindergarten/Enrichment: $39/day full time; $42/day part time

Full-Day School-Age: $41.00/day
Public Schools are closed

School-Age Vacation/Snow Days: $42.00/day

Summer School Age Program (6-8 year olds)
  $35.00 per day/$80.00 Transportation Fee/Field Trip Fees/Swim Fees

Registration Fee: $75.00 per family

Special Needs: Yes, depending upon individual needs

Discount for Siblings: No

Open-door policy for parents. Appointment suggested.
LAKEWOOD CITY SCHOOLS
Lakewood Early Childhood Program
1470 Warren Road
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-529-4256

PUBLIC PRESCHOOL FACILITATOR: SUSAN MICHELS
PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR: LISA RYAN CURTIN

Integrated program available to Lakewood children who meet eligibility criteria.
The curriculum is aligned with the Ohio Department of Education Pre-Kindergarten Standards.

Hours: 2 1/2 hours per day in select elementary buildings
AM Session: 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM
PM Session: 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Requirements:

Public Preschool:

- Children must be Lakewood residents
- Children must be 4 years old by September 30th
- Children must be toilet trained
- 5 days a week
- Tuition is based on a sliding fee scale

Please call 529-4256 for more information.

Early Childhood Special Education:

- Serving children 3-5 years old based on eligibility for service
- Continuum of services provided including itinerant and center based and integrated preschool programming
- Classes meet 4 day a week

Please call 529-4201 for eligibility information.

LAKEWOOD Y - S.A.C.C. PROGRAM
16915 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-521-8400

DIRECTOR: TAMMY SCHROTH

Hours: 6:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Fees:
- A.M. only: $47.50 per week
- P.M. only: $62.50 per week
- A.M. & P.M.: $82.50 per week
We also have 1-3 day rates.

School age child care provided at Grant, Hayes and Roosevelt Elementary Schools.

All Lakewood public schools served at sites above with transportation provided from Horace Mann, Emerson, Lincoln and Harrison.

Maximum Enrollment: 36 in each group

FULL DAY PRESCHOOL CHILD CARE
at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 15700 Detroit Avenue

Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
3 - 5 year olds

Fees: $124 per week

Maximum Enrollment: 19 Children

Special needs: Yes, depending on individual needs

Sibling discount - NO

Summer Camp available at Lakewood United Methodist Church, Lakewood YMCA and Roosevelt School locations. Call for more information.

HALF DAY PRE-SCHOOL (at Lakewood YMCA, 16915 Detroit Ave.)
Monday-Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Monday-Thursday 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Maximum Enrollment: 10 per class
ST. PETER’S CHILD CARE CENTER, INC.
18001 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH  44107
216-226-2840
FAX: 216-226-0354

DIRECTOR: DENISE PHILLIPS MINOR
ASST. DIRECTOR & SACC ADMIN.: COURTNEY POLINSKI

Hours:  Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 6 weeks - 12 years

Maximum Enrollment:
- Infants (6 wks.-18 mos.): 7
- Toddlers (18 mos.-3 yrs.): 14
- Preschool (3 - 4 yrs): 16
- Pre-K (4 - 5yrs): 14
- School Age at Horace Mann Elementary (K-5): 48

Fees: (Per Week)
- Infants Full Time: $200.00 (part-time not available)
- Toddlers Full Time: $195.00
- Toddlers Part-time: $123.00 for 3 days
- Preschool/Pre-K Full Time: $180.00
- Preschool/Pre-K Part-Time: $114.00 for 3 days
- School Age at Horace Mann Elementary:
  - Before School (7:00 a.m.-8:45 a.m.): $55.00
  - After School (3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.): $70.00
  - Both Before & After School: $120.00
- Summer Camp: $140/week or $30/day Maximum Enrollment: 30

Special Needs: Yes

Transportation Provided: No

Discount for Siblings: Yes (20%)

Open-Door Policy for parents and guardians; visitors must schedule an appointment with the Director.

S.A.C.C. provided at Horace Mann Elementary School for Horace Mann students.

PRESCHOOLS

CALVARY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
16305 Hilliard Avenue
Lakewood, OH  44107
216-221-4324

DIRECTOR:  Elaine Latsko

Hours:  Tuesday - Friday: 8:50 a.m - 11:10 a.m.

Choice of 3 or 4-day program

Ages Accepted: 3, 4 & 5 year olds

Maximum Enrollment: 16 per group

Special needs: Yes, depending on individual needs

Transportation Provided: No

Tuition: For 3 days:  $88.00 per month
          For 4 days:  $116.00 per month
          Infant Care: $34.00 per day
          $45.00 registration fee (non-refundable)

Before & After School: No

Appointment preferred - individual attention to visitor
GRACE PRESCHOOL
13030 Madison Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-529-1081
gracepreschool@truevine.net

DIRECTOR: BONNIE SEARS

Hours: 3 yr. olds Mon. Tues. Wed. 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.
4 yr. olds Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. 8:30 - 11:15 a.m.
(mixed preschool class of 3 and 4 yr. olds)
older 4’s Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. 12:15 - 3:15 p.m.
5 yr. olds Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. 12:15 - 3:15 p.m.
(mixed pre-kindergarten class)

Ages Accepted: 3, 4 & 5 yr. olds
Maximum Enrollment: 18 (morning), 20 (afternoon)

Special Needs: Yes, depending on individual needs

2011-2012 Tuition:
Morning Program: 3-day/4-yr. olds $90/month
2-day/3-year olds $80.00/month
Pre-K $116/month or $810 for 9 months
Afternoon Program: older 4 & 5-yr. olds

Registration Fee: $40.00 (non-refundable)

HAYNES NURSERY SCHOOL
(located at Lakewood Congregational Church)
1375 West Clifton Boulevard
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-221-9557
www.haynesnurseryschool.com
haynesnurseryschool@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR: TANYA COUGHLIN
REGISTRAR: TANYA COUGHLIN & KELLY HENDRYX

Hours: 3 yr. olds: Mon & Tues: 9:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
3 yr. olds: Wed, Th, Fri: 9:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Young 3 yr. olds: January Start - January through May
Mon & Tues 9:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Pre-K, 4/5 yr. olds:
Wed, Th, Fri: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Pre-K, 4/5 yr. olds:
Tues, Wed, Th, Fri: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Pre-K, 4/5 yr. olds:
Tues, Wed, Th: 12:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 3, 4 & 5 yr. olds
Maximum Enrollment: 3 year olds: 16 children/class
4 & 5 year olds: 18 children/class

Special Needs: Yes, depending on individual needs
Peanut/Tree Nut Free

Fees:
3 yr. olds - 2 days: $720.00 or $80.00/month
3 yr. olds - 3 days: $900.00 or $100.00/month
Pre-K (4 mornings): $1710.00 or $190.00/month
Pre-K (3 mornings): $1440.00 or $160.00/month
Pre-K (3 afternoons): $900.00 or $100.00/month
(3 morns or afternoons):
January 3’s: $400.00 or $80.00/month

Registration Fee: $25.00
Discount for Siblings: One registration fee per family of $35.00
LAKEWOOD BEGINNINGS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
14321 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-221-4089
Fax: 216-221-4148

DIRECTOR: MARILYN A. HALLENBURG

Registration Fee: $50.00 non-refundable - 1 registration fee per family

PART-TIME ENRICHMENT CLASSES
Enrichment classes are available for children
3 years to 5 years of age.

3-day classes: 3 year olds
Mon., Tues & Wed. - 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
4-day classes: 4 year olds
Mon, Tues, Wed & Thur - 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Bus service available within Lakewood for additional charge.

Special Needs: Yes, depending on individual needs.

Fee: (per month)
3-day classes: $115.00 per month + $70.00 for bus
4-day classes: $138.00 per month + $89.00 for bus

Discount for Siblings: Yes

Open-door policy for families, visitors requested to make appointments.

* Please see Child Care Section for child care
and school-age fees

LAKEWOOD CATHOLIC ACADEMY PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM
14808 Lake Road
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-521-0559
www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com

PRINCIPAL: Maureen Arbeznik

General School Hours: 8:10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Pre-School Hours:
Half-Day, Mornings: 8:10 AM – 10:45 AM
Half-Day, Afternoons: 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Full Day: 8:10 AM - 3:00 PM

Preschool Ages: 3 – 5 Years Old

Preschool Options:
· Three-year olds, ½ day, Mornings, Tuesday through Thursday (Three days)
· Three-year-olds, ½ day, Afternoons, Tuesday through Thursday (Three days)
· Four-year-olds, Mornings, Monday through Friday (Five Days)
· Four-year-olds, Afternoons, Tuesday through Thursday (Three days)
· Four- and Five-year olds, All Day, Monday through Friday (Five days)

Maximum Enrollment Levels:
Pre-Kindergarten Three-Year Olds, ½ Day P.M., Three days/week: 14
Pre-Kindergarten Four-Year Olds, ½ Day A.M., Five days/week: 14
Pre-Kindergarten Four-Year Olds, ½ Day P.M., Three days/week: 14
Pre-Kindergarten Four/Five-Year Olds, Full Day: 18

Special Needs: Consult with Principal

Registration Fee: $120 per student, Maximum of $300 per family

Tuition (2011-12 School Year):
Half-day Pre-Kindergarten Age 3 (three days): $165 per month
Half-day Pre-Kindergarten Age 4 (three days): $165 per month
Half-day Pre-Kindergarten Age 4 (five days): $250 per month
Full-Day Pre-Kindergarten Age 4/5: $490 per month

Sibling Discount Available? No (discount available only in grades
Kindergarten through Eight)
LAKEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
14502 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-226-0514

DIRECTOR: JOAN BOSKEN

Hours: 3 yr. olds: Mon & Tues: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
4 yr. olds: Wed, Th, Fri: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Pre-K: Mon - Th: 12:15 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 3, 4 & 5 yr. olds

Maximum Enrollment: 3 yr. olds: 18
4 yr. olds: 18
Pre-K: 16

Fees: (Per Month)
3 yr. olds: $70.00
4 yr. olds: $90.00
Pre-K: $110.00

Special needs: Yes, depending on individual needs

Transportation Provided: No

Before & After School: No

Discount for Siblings: One registration fee ($40.00) per family

Open-door policy for parents; scheduled appointments for visitors.

LAKEWOOD Y PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER
16915 Detroit Avenue Located at Lakewood United Methodist Church
Lakewood, OH 44107 15700 Detroit Avenue
216-521-8400

Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (3-day : M,T,W)
12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. (4-day : M, T, W, R)

Accepting 2 1/2 year olds who are potty trained

Ages Accepted: 2, 3, 4 & 5 year olds

Registration Fee: $30.00/year

Fees: (Per Month)
3-day: $97.00
Pre-K: $132.00

Transportation Provided: No

Open-door policy for parents

Unique blend of Traditional and Montessori
**THE ACHIEVEMENT CENTERS FOR CHILDREN**

24211 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake, Ohio  44145  
216-292-9700

DIRECTOR: PATRICIA NOBILI  
SOCIAL WORKER: ROBIN WEBBER

**Hours:** 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Ages Accepted: Birth through Young Adults

Special Needs: Individuals with disabilities

Transportation: Limited

Fees: Sliding fee, United Way funded & health insurance

Accepting children with disabilities and typically-developing peers in Champ Camp and Daycare programs. Preschool programs for children 3-5 years with Autism.

Early intervention, home-based and individual therapy

Appointments necessary

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**PARKWOOD HEAD START**

13714 Madison Avenue  
Lakewood, OH  44107  
216-228-2455

FAMILY SERVICE WORKER: MICHELE HOSKINSON

**Hours:**  
Tues - Fri, 8:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
Tues - Fri, 12:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Ages Accepted: 3 - 5 year olds

Maximum enrollment: 34

Special needs: Accepted

Transportation provided: No

Fees: Based on sliding fee scale
WEST SIDE ECUMENICAL MINISTRY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS, INC.
FAITH HEAD START
12601 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-228-8918

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR: Jen Taggard  216-631-1555

Hours: 4 days a week Tuesday through Friday
A.M. Session: 8:00 - 11:30
P.M. Session: 12:30 - 4:00

Ages Accepted: 3-5 Years
Fees: Free to income eligible families
Special Needs: Accepted and accommodations made
Open door policy, appointment suggested for individual attention.

A few things to look for when choosing a CHILD CARE CENTER

◆ Be sure to visit all the centers in which you are interested.
◆ Ask to see their Ohio State Licenses.
◆ Talk to other parents who use the Center.
◆ Ask questions, such as:
  - What are the hours of operation?
  - What is payment policy?
  - What are the child/staff ratios?
  - Are children busy and happy?
  - Are the teachers actively involved with the children?
  - Is the physical space inviting and safe?
  - What is the schedule of activity?
  - Is the curriculum and equipment age-appropriate?
  - Are parents welcomed and involved?

REMEMBER, AN OPEN-DOOR POLICY — THAT’S THE LAW!

Notes:
A few things to look for then choosing

**FAMILY HOME CARE**

- Ask questions, follow up on references.
- Visit the home, by yourself and with your child.
- Check hours of operation.
- What are the fees and do they include food and/or formula?
- Are there six or fewer children — no more than 3 under the age of 2 years.
- What is caregivers experience and training?
- Is the caregiver responding to the children in a warm and caring fashion?
- Is the physical space safe and inviting — both inside and out?
- Are there smoke detectors and fire extinguishers?
- Are toys and equipment age-appropriate?
- Are there scheduled daily activities and quiet times?
- Is the home care provider involved with a USDA Food Program or certified through the County? If not, has the home care provider had a fire and health inspection and a BCI (Bureau of Criminal Investigation) check?

**REMEMBER, AN OPEN-DOOR POLICY — THAT’S THE LAW!**

**TEN TIPS FOR FAMILIES**

1. Set aside time each day for just you and your children; play a simple game, visit someplace new, talk and listen together.
2. Establish routines in your home, especially around bedtime and meals. Children need structure.
3. Enjoy and respect your children for who they are, not what you want them to be. Avoid comparing children to others.
4. Set aside time for yourself, and time for yourself and your partner; “adult-only” time helps reduce stress.
5. Allow your children to make their own choices whenever possible and expect your children to help around your home; appropriate responsibilities build self-esteem.
6. Hug, kiss and cuddle your children. Physical attention does not spoil children but rather helps them feel loved and secure.
7. Children watch what you do more than what you say; practice what you preach.
8. Read books to your children and read books yourself: instill a joy of reading.
9. Set limits for your children: be specific, be brief, be consistent.
10. Seek out support and education from agencies and other parents; there are many resources available.

**Notes:**
Division of Early Childhood  
17400 Northwood Avenue  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
(216) 529-5018  
Fax: (216) 521-0276

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE LAKEWOOD DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES/EARLY CHILDHOOD IS TO BUILD ON THE STRENGTHS OF FAMILIES RAISING YOUNG CHILDREN, BY PROVIDING SERVICES AND RESOURCES TO ENHANCE PARENTING SKILLS AND TO IMPROVE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF CHILD CARE IN THE LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY.

Michael P. Summers, Mayor

City Council:
Mary Louise Madigan, President, Ward 4
David Anderson, Ward 1
Thomas Bullock, Ward 2
Shawn Juris, Ward 3
Ryan Nowlin, At-Large
Brian Powers, V.P., At-Large
Monique Smith, At-Large