



# What Parents Can Expect from Providers

Although a close family-like relationship may develop between you and your child's caregiver, make no mistake that child care is a business. Therefore, it is important that you interact on a professional level.

Parents can expect the following things from their child care provider:

**O**pen and frequent feedback about their child's day and development.

**A**n open door to the provider's facility anytime.

**A** safe environment that also allows children to explore.

**A** willingness to work with the parent on particular problems or limitations (toileting, food habits, attachment, etc.)

**A**dvance notice of any changes in care, particularly termination of care.

**A** non-judgemental attitude about family custom or parenting style.

**S**upervision by well trained, trustworthy adults.

**A** positive and stimulating environment that teaches life skills and enhances self-esteem.

**N**otification of changes in the day's schedule.

**W**ritten statement of policies regarding payments, philosophy, illness, and procedures for drop-off and pick-up, etc.

Reprinted with permission from the National Network for Child Care - NNCC. DeBord, K. (1993). *Communicating expectations*. In Todd, C.M. (Ed.), *\*Family Child Care Connections\**, 3(2), pp.3-4. Urbana-Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service.

For more information contact:



**The Center for Parent Involvement** (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at [www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi](http://www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi). The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPIY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Family Empowerment Series, Parent Tip Sheets, #7: Transition: what parents can Expect from providers

© 1999, Tampa, Florida

This is a publication of the Florida Center for Parent Involvement which was funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The opinions contained in this publication are those of the grantee and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Department of Education. All or portions of this work may be reproduced providing the Florida Center for Parent Involvement, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida is properly credited on all reproductions.

---

Events, activities, programs and facilities of the University of South Florida are available to all without regard to race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, Vietnam or disabled veteran status as provided by law and in accordance with the University's respect for personal dignity.

**University of  
South Florida  
USF**