

## **ECKAN**

East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation 1320 S. Ash PO Box 40 Ottawa, KS 66067-0040 (785) 242-7450 FAX (785) 242-0305

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To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Corinne Carr. Corinne has been in partnership with ECKAN Head Start for 10 years. As part of this partnership, Corinne has had to incorporate Head Start Performance Standards into her program. The inclusion of these Standards calls for a bit of restructuring for most Family Childcare Providers.

Corinne is certainly not "most Family Childcare Providers". She has taken the additional requirements of Head Start Performance Standards as a starting point for her program and continued her pursuit of a program of excellence. In our 10 years of partnership, Corinne has acquired her CDA from the Council of Professional Recognition as well as her Associates degree in Early Childhood Education from Butler County Community College.

Upon receiving her degree, she went on to pursue Accreditation through the National Association of Family Childcare Providers. She has also been certified as a Nature Explore Classroom through the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation. While all of these accolades are impressive, what she does on a daily basis with her children and families is even more impressive.

Corinne provides an environment that is inclusive of all children and families. She encourages children to explore freely as well as participate in small group activities throughout the day. Corinne has also implemented several activities that encourage families to be more involved in programming. Families have been invited to participate in the classroom garden as well as "purchase" the vegetables grown in the garden.

While Corinne has had so many amazing accomplishments, she continues to strive for more. She self reflects on her own environments and activities and tries to enhance them whenever possible. She is also very open to supporting other providers in the community. She has offered countless numbers of family childcare providers tips to organization, paperwork and establishing their own outdoor classrooms. She is certainly an expert in the field and is admired by others.

We hold her in high regard and base much of our work, with family childcare providers, on the experiences we have had in our partnership with her. We are proud to have such a wonderful professional in our partnership and support her continued pursuit of excellence. It is with great admiration and pride that I recommend her for this opportunity.

Sincerely

Theresa Whalen

Theresa Whalen, MSE, IMH-II Childcare Partnership Specialist ECKAN Head Start