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Dear Child Care Provider,

Enclosed you will find Maryland's streamlined Market Rate Survey (MRS). The MRS is used to collect data on the fees all regulated providers charge across the State. The survey can also be completed online at the following web address:

<http://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/cost-of-child-care-in-maryland>.

Data collected from the MRS is used to set subsidy provider reimbursement and parent co-payment rates for the Maryland Child Care Subsidy Program. It is very important that all providers complete the MRS even if you do not have a child with a voucher in care. The information gained allows the state to determine the cost of child care services across the State and make important decisions that affect the subsidy program. By completing the survey you are providing families within our communities with a better opportunity to select care that meets the needs of their children.

Confidentiality of the data collected will be strictly maintained. OCC will only use the data for analysis to determine the cost of quality care in all child care programs across Maryland.

The State's child care associations participated in the creation of the MRS and have provided a letter expressing their support of the collection of this important information. Their letter is enclosed.

Please know that the time you take to complete this survey provides critical information to advocates for children and families. The person who completes the survey on behalf of the child care facility will be awarded one (1) Professional Activity Unit (PAU) that may be used toward meeting the requirements of the Child Care Credentialing Program. We cannot determine the cost of child care without your completed and returned survey.

Thank you for your participation!