



Media Contact:
Lora Mosley
501-920-1426
lmosley@comgroup.com

ARKANSAS BETTER BEGINNINGS CONGRATULATES PROVIDERS ON NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

NINE CHILD CARE FAMILY HOME PROVIDERS AWARDED NATIONAL ACCREDITATION



Better Beginnings shares the accomplishment of nine child care family home providers that received national accreditation.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (March 17, 2022) – [Better Beginnings](#), a program of the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education focusing on giving children the best care possible, is congratulating nine Arkansas child care family home providers for receiving national accreditation from [National Association for Family Child Care \(NAFCC\)](#).

These recently awarded providers advanced to Better Beginnings [Star Level 3](#), the highest quality level that can be achieved, upon completing a rigorous accreditation process. Accreditation was earned after completing 120 hours of professional development and an

extensive review, including observation and council approval.

“These providers worked hard to achieve this goal,” said Kelli Hilburn, program administrator for Better Beginnings. “We are proud of their work and are glad to share and celebrate their accomplishment.”

The nine child care family home providers who received the accreditation are:

- **Bentonville** – Mary Line, IDC & Nursery School FCCH
- **Booneville** – Rita Neve, Mother’s Touch Preschool
- **Evening Shade** – Lorene Cahall, Evening Shade Family Home Daycare Center
- **Farmington** – Carolyn Carney, Happy Day Child Care Center
- **Fayetteville** – Susan Meek, Sue Meek Home Daycare
- **Garfield** – Michelle Mendoza, In His Care Children’s Center
- **Huntsville** – Krista Houston, Little Eagles Nest
- **Prairie Grove** – Lisa Wood, Lisa Wood Daycare
- **Siloam Springs** – Linda Adams, The Hunny Tree

These nine child care family home providers worked together as part of a cohort, supporting each other along the way. Those involved in managing the cohort reported significant improvements developed in the service of these homes throughout the process.

“Two of the homes transformed both physically and in their interactions with children,” said Debbie Mays, program manager for the cohort. “The accreditation raises the standard of quality care in these providers’ communities. Hopefully, that encourages others to increase their own care.”

Any child care family home provider can apply for accreditation on the NAFCC’s [website](#). The [standards](#) providers must meet to earn accreditation are available to the public.

For more information on finding quality child care in Arkansas or to learn more about Better Beginnings, follow their social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), or visit [arbetterbeginnings.com](#).

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About Arkansas Better Beginnings:

[Better Beginnings](#) is Arkansas’s tiered quality rating improvement system for child care, early education and school-age programs that have gone above and beyond the state minimum requirements. Better Beginnings is administered by the [Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education](#). Better Beginnings connects Arkansas families with the information and care that helps children experience a safe, happy and healthy childhood.