

Jim Doyle
Governor

Roberta Gassman
Secretary



State of Wisconsin

Department of Workforce Development

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Media Advisory

Quality Counts for Kids Task Force to meet in Milwaukee

The Quality Counts for Kids Task Force will hold a public hearing on the task force's recommendations on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 at 12:00 p.m. at the Milwaukee Area Technical College, 700 W. State Street, Room S120. The Task Force has been working to develop a recommendation to Governor Jim Doyle that will provide a Quality Counts for Kids Rating Scale that will – for the first time – rate the quality of child care providers in Wisconsin and guide parents in choosing a provider for their children.

The Rating System will give child care providers incentives to go above and beyond the basic health and safety standards, and it will give parents more information about the quality of the child care program. Wisconsin spends \$300 million a year on the Wisconsin Shares Child Care program for W-2 participants and other low-income working parents. The Quality Counts for Kids program will ensure that this money is well spent.

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's Child Care Section, the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services' Bureau of Regulation and Licensing, and the KidsFirst: Quality Counts for Kids Task Force will be holding public hearings around the state on the Task Force Members' Recommendation for a Quality Rating Scale and Tiered Reimbursement System.

WHERE: **Milwaukee Area Technical College**
Room S120
700 W. State Street
Milwaukee, WI

WHEN: **Wednesday, October 20, 2004**
12:00 - 3:00 p.m.