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| **Steps to Quality** |



Dear [Name of Program] Families,

We would like to share some exciting news!  [Name of Program] is participating in ***Steps to Quality***, Idaho’s Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) managed by the IdahoSTARS project.  By participatingin ***Steps to Quality*** we demonstrate our commitment to offering high- quality early care and education.

You might be wondering – what is a QRIS?  It’s a system to support and recognize child care programs as they improve quality. Every state has one in place or in development.

In Steps to Quality, child care programs achieve key indicators of quality as they move from step to step. Programs are ***Star Rated*** once they meet all the quality indicators in Steps 1 through 3.  Programs continue to build upon their strengths as they move through Steps 4 and 5. The final level in this system is Step 6 which requires accreditation, the highest mark of quality.   ***Steps to Quality*** standards reinforce what we know is good for children’s early learning, health, and development.

By participating in Steps to Quality,  [Name of Program] will increasingly support children by providing a setting where they thrive, learn, and develop. Steps to Quality covers all areas in our program, from activities to working with families and most importantly, interacting and caring for all children.  As a ***Steps to Quality*** program, we receive resources such as coaching, training and scholarships to continually improve and grow.

Partnering with families is an important part of ***Steps to Quality***.  By asking questions, providing feedback and staying involved, you can support our participation and your children’s success.  We will provide more information and proudly share our successes along the way to a star rating.

For additional information about ***Steps to Quality***, please ask us or read more at *idahostars.org*!

Thank you,

(Facility Director/Owner)