

## FOCUS Update #1



Good morning!

This is the first of many email updates that we hope to send. There is SO MUCH happening, we want to be sure that you have all the latest news. We'll organize the information based on the questions that we get asked most frequently –

### How many programs are in FOCUS?

There are 144 programs currently participating in FOCUS. Within the next month we will be adding 50–60 more programs.



### How many programs have gotten their FOCUS 3 STAR License?

Twenty-four programs have now been verified at the FOCUS 3 STAR level and approximately 25 more have indicated that they will be ready to be verified by the end of December.

***Congratulations*** goes to:

Early Learning Center of UWSFC PreK

Little Forest Playschool

Miss Bev's Childcare

Downtown Child Care Center

El Camino YDI PreK

YMCA Zona

Ark Child Development Center

Nancy's Daycare

Child Care Castle

Chaparral Family Development

ABC Rio Rancho

Raquel Castillo

Congregation Albert

Mi Casita Feliz

St. Francis of Assisi

Children's Promise Center

Playschool for the Arts

Angel Fire Resort

Alpha Schools

The Children's Garden Sonoma

Wesley Kids

Children's Playhouse

Rocking Horse

Arcoiris II

### What's happening with the FOCUS Ratios and Group Size?

Back in August, Steve Hendrix (our Early Childhood Services Division Director) sent out an email with revised Ratios and Group Size criteria. We want to thank those of you who took the time to send us your thoughtful feedback. Based on that feedback, we have made a few changes to the 3 STAR criteria to ensure that it is consistent with our child care regulations. (see attachment) Once again, we would appreciate any feedback you might have.

We will post all the new and revised criteria on [www.NewMexicoKids.org](http://www.NewMexicoKids.org) to be effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Remember, FOCUS will be in a pilot phase for the next two years, so we will continue to gather feedback and make improvements to the FOCUS criteria.

If you have any feedback or questions, please direct them to Dan Haggard at [dan.haggard@state.nm.us](mailto:dan.haggard@state.nm.us)