



INCLUSION POLICY

PURPOSE

To provide assistance and consultation to child care providers for the purpose of including every child, regardless of ability, in the opportunity to participate fully in a broad range of activities offered in the early learning environment so as to prepare them to enter and succeed in school.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Coalition will pursue inclusion of every eligible child through a wide variety of activities with providers, parents and in the community, to include at minimum, the following activities:

- I. Promote an increase in the number of providers offering quality inclusive programs for children with disabilities and/or special needs.
- II. Increase knowledge, confidence and skills of early educators who care for children with disabilities and special needs.
- III. Assist child care providers and parents with information and access to resources available in the local community for children with disabilities and special needs.
- IV. Increase community awareness of the need for, requirements of and benefits associated with providing inclusive early care and education for children with disabilities and special needs.
- V. Provide mental health services to children and supportive services to families in need of intervention.

Documentation of efforts will be maintained within the Coalition's administrative offices.

Approved: Board of Directors on July 26, 2012