



Photos by Roey Yohai/www.rohai.com

Our Homes.

Significant research has provided evidence that warm, loving and home-like settings are natural environments for children during early childhood. While offering the safety and comfort of home, and providing a consistent caregiver throughout the years, family child care is the care of choice for many parents.

Nationally accredited homes offer higher standards in child care and set the benchmark for quality.

Our Profession.

What began years ago as an informal approach to providing child care as a way to support working parents, family child care providers today are making an intentional career choice to offer quality early care and education in their homes. When providers choose to become nationally accredited, they are making a professional choice to offer the highest quality of care available.

Our Commitment.

Family child care providers are dedicated to delivering high quality, emotionally secure and educational child care to children of all ages in every community across the country. Home by home, NAFCC is working to strengthen the profession of family child care and help parents identify high quality programs and make informed decisions about their child's care.

NAFCC Accredited family child care providers offer children early care and education that often exceeds local regulations because of the high quality of the standards implemented by the providers.



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Website: www.NAFCC.org



Why Choose Nationally Accredited Family Child Care?



The National Association for Family Child Care is dedicated to helping parents find high quality child care for their children by informing them of the many benefits and values of family child care.



WHO USES FAMILY CHILD CARE?

Family Child Care is a widely used type of out-of-home care for young children in the United States, and is a preferred choice for infants and toddlers. Research has shown that family child care has unique qualities that make it the preferred arrangement of many parents. In fact, nationally 38% of all children under age 5 with working parents are in family child care programs and/or are in the care of relatives. (URBAN INSTITUTE 2000).

WHY CHOOSE NATIONALLY ACCREDITED FAMILY CHILD CARE?

- Family child care is conveniently available within neighborhoods where parents live and work.
- Because family child care is so unique to each community, the type of care available is very diverse and may more closely match the child's home environment.
- The foundation of family child care is relationships. Relationships between parents and providers, providers and the children, and the children with each other. Family child care fosters emotionally secure interpersonal relationships with all families involved in care.
- Family child care providers care for multi-aged groups of children allowing children to remain with one caregiver for many years. This develops trust and security in children.

Being a family child care provider "requires the wisdom of a parent, the knowledge of a social worker, the skill of a pediatrician, the tact of a mediator, the patience of a saint; not to mention the savvy of an entrepreneur running a small business".

(June Solnit Sale, 1988)

- In multi-aged settings, siblings are able to stay together and learn from one another.
- Family child care tends to offer smaller ratios of children to adults, often allowing early intervention and special needs care to be more readily available.
- Family child care providers can offer parents more flexibility with hours of operation such as including odd hour care, evening, weekend and/or overnight care.
- Infant care tends to be more readily available in family child care programs and the benefits of this form of care are tremendously advantageous to very young children.
- As many children remain in family child care when they begin school, before and after school care is also generally available within the same early care program.
- Providers who have achieved national accreditation consider themselves professionals and offer quality early care and education to children in their programs.



*Our Homes.
Our Profession.
Our Commitment.*

WHAT DOES NAFCC DO?

The National Association for Family Child Care provides professional and association development for providers to promote quality child care by strengthening the family child care profession.

NAFCC's primary goal is to build a network of highly-qualified family child care providers in every community across the country. Members of NAFCC are offered the following benefits:

- Provider Accreditation
- Association Leadership Institute
- Professional Development Institute
- Discounts on conferences and products
- Resources and advocacy on behalf of the family child care field

To learn more about high quality family child care or NAFCC, visit www.nafcc.org or call 1-800-359-3817.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

- Choose family child care for early care and education for your children.
- Get involved in strengthening family child care and become a member of NAFCC.
- Encourage your provider to become a member of NAFCC and pursue Accreditation.

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