

## **CONTINUE TO MONITOR YOUR CHILD CARE**

- Get to know other parents at the child care facility. Talk with them see if they have any concerns or problems. Exchange phones numbers so you can call other parents occasionally when you are not pressed for time.**
- Make a point to speak to your child care provider daily. Schedule a conference after business hours if you have any concerns you would like to discuss regarding your child or the style of care. Build a relationship with your provider.**
- If the provider does not hold regular conferences with parents once or twice a year, take the responsibility for scheduling one yourself. Use this time to ask the provider if she has remained up-to-date with her CPR/First Aid certification and to confirm that the smoke detectors still work and other safety requirements are still in place. Be sure to maintain a positive attitude and to let the provider know what pleases you about the facility as well as any of your concerns.**
- Periodically arrive unannounced at different times of the day so that you can see what's happening when parents are not present.**
- Be sensitive to your child's happiness in the child care facility. Although many children experience separation difficulties at different times in their development, extreme displeasure about going to child care, especially after the child has been at the facility for a month or more, should be investigated. Encourage children who are verbal to talk about their activities in child care and their feelings about being there.**
- Go into the child care facility when you are dropping off or picking up your child; don't just meet the provider in the entry way. This will give you an opportunity to look around for any unusual, unsafe or unhealthy conditions.**
- Call your licensing agency and your Resource and Referral agency a couple of times a year to see if any complaints have been filed against your provider.**
- Never be afraid to withdraw your child from any program if you suspect a problem. Call your local Resource and Referral agency and the local licensing agency if you have any complaints or concerns.**