



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New York State is dedicated to the well-being of its children and recognizes that their future depends on the quality of early childhood experiences provided to them today, and our residents understand that high quality early child care services represent a worthy commitment to our children's future; and

**Whereas**, all children deserve the care and nurturing that will help them reach their full potential, with research showing that early childhood is the most critical developmental period in a child's life; it takes a special person to work in the early childhood services field and the contributions these individuals make to the quality of life for children and families are often unnoticed and overlooked; and

**Whereas**, it is estimated that there are nearly 2.8 million child care providers in the United States and that nearly 11 million children under the age of five years are in their care and, in New York State, there are over 21,000 regulated providers serving nearly 680,000 children and an additional 51,000 legally-exempt providers serving nearly 96,000 children; and

**Whereas**, child care providers carry out valuable work, sharing with parents the responsibilities of early teacher, role model, and nurturer, and quality day care and after-school programs encourage the positive development of children and at the same time give parents a greater sense of security while they are at work; and

**Whereas**, May 11, 2012 has been designated as "Provider Appreciation Day" in order to acknowledge and express gratitude to child care providers, teachers, and educators of young children and to commend the selfless dedication, commitment, and compassion they demonstrate each and every day; and

**Whereas**, New York State will never stop moving forward or working to develop progressive measures that increase the availability of nurturing child care to working parents, and we take the opportunity to join in observing this special day set aside to recognize the dedicated work of trained child care providers who assist many families across our state through the exceptional services they offer in the field of child care;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 11, 2012 as

## PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this second day  
of May in the year two thousand twelve.

  
Governor

  
Secretary to the Governor