

**2011 1st Quarter Narrative Report
Kindering Center
Early Care and Education Consultation Program**

One trend our educators are continuing to see this year – both in the City of Renton and in the six other Eastside cities where this program provides services – is the increased importance and urgency for families around finding suitable child care for their children. Given the uncertainties of the current economy, we're interacting with even more families who are dependent on two incomes just to make ends meet. These parents tell us they simply don't have the option of one parent staying home to care for their child(ren) fulltime. Early this year one of our educators received a call from a mother with questions about her two year old who had been expelled from child care for a behavioral problem. It quickly became clear that in addition to having concerns about her daughter's behavior the mom was additionally stressed trying to creatively find back-up child care options because she wasn't able to take any more time off work. In this case the educator was able to attend a meeting with the child care provider and mom and put together a strategy for her daughter to re-enroll, that included a plan to manage aggressive behavior both at child care and at home. Additionally, the mom now has our educator's direct cell number and knows she can call for a consultation in the future if other questions or concerns arise.

We look forward to providing the City of Renton with updates highlighting additional insights from and accomplishments of our program throughout the year.