

# High-Quality Child Care Standards for Lenawee County

High-quality early care is crucial to a child's success now and in the future. When surveyed, Lenawee County parents and licensed center and home providers had much to say about what high-quality care means to them. **All** environments for children should be safe, clean and loving/nurturing. These groups recognize high-quality child care goes above these fundamental components.

## High quality environments for children should include:

- 1 Educational and age-appropriate activities
- 2 Qualified, educated staff who receive ongoing training
- 3 Low staff-to-child ratios and small group sizes overall
- 4 Effective and open communication between providers and parents
  - 5 Low staff turnover and consistent caregivers
  - 6 Fun, stimulating activities and environment
- 7 Providers who have knowledge of community resources and supports
  - 8 A program that follows a schedule and routine
  - 9 Providers who advocate for children and families
- 10 Promotion of good nutritional choices and healthy habits
  - 11 Positive peer-to-peer relationships

**When looking for, or creating, a high-quality environment for children, please consider these important recommendations.**



*These standards are accepted and recommended by the Lenawee Child Care Association (LCCA) and the Lenawee Early Childhood Directors Association (LECDA).*

*Please note that if a person is caring for one or more children in their home who are not related to them, he/she needs to be licensed. Please visit [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs) for more information.*

*If you are looking for licensed child care options for your child, please visit [www.GreatStartToQuality.org](http://www.GreatStartToQuality.org).*