

Jenkintown Day Nursery Baeder & Hilltop Roads Jenkintown, PA 19046 (215) 884-1992 www.jenkintowndaynursery.com

April 1, 2010 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information: Dana Brady Blackman Brady Communications Office: (267) 757-0726 Fax: (267) 757-0725 Email: <u>DanaBradyPR@aol.com</u>

JENKINTOWN DAY NURSERY MAKES CHANGES TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF AREA CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Jenkintown, Pa -- Jenkintown Day Nursery (JDN), a nonprofit organization dedicated to quality affordable early childhood education and care for families in need, has hired a new social worker, added an additional toddler room and maintained its Keystone Stars Star 4 Rating and Quality. These actions allow JDN to better serve the community.

Mrs. Kimberly Clark has been hired as JDN's Social Worker. Mrs. Clark holds a masters degree in Social Work and is licensed to provide both child and family therapy. Her years of experience in the field will make her a valuable addition to JDN.

"The Social Worker position is pivotal at JDN," said Kim Jones, Executive Director. "Mrs. Clark will aid us in identifying tuition assistance needs while offering the needed emotional support to the families and students."

The 2010-2011 school year will mark a huge change in the dynamics of JDN. JDN will no longer be offering Kindergarten but instead will address the growing need for quality affordable early childhood education and care for families in need with toddlers by adding an additional toddler room.

Jenkintown Day Nursery provides age-appropriate learning experiences that enable children to acquire knowledge through discovery and exploration, both individually and in groups.

Our teachers provide many hands-on learning experiences for personal and social growth, language and literary skills, mathematical thinking, intellectual development, scientific thinking, social studies, the arts, and physical development and health. The program includes a monthly theme and color. Each week, a music teacher, an art teacher, and a movement teacher further enrich our program.

JDN is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. The center was among the first in the state to achieve the top rating – STAR 4 – in Pennsylvania's Keystone STARS program, which sets quality standards for early childhood education centers. We were an original participant in the state's Pre-K Counts program, which supports high-quality early education. Recently, JDN received high scores on the Environmental Rating Scales conducted by Keystone Stars. As a result, JDN was able to maintain its Star 4 Rating and Quality.

About the Jenkintown Day Nursery

The Jenkintown Day Nursery (JDN), a nonprofit organization, seeks to ensure that no child is refused quality early education and care because of the family's inability to pay full tuition. The story of JDN traces back to 1903, when Mrs. Theodore B. Culver discovered small children left in a barn to fend for themselves while their parents worked. She quickly took action to help, finding a safe, warm place for the children and recruiting volunteers to care for them. JDN has been operating continuously since then, serving families who live and work in Philadelphia, Montgomery, Bucks, Chester and Delaware Counties.

The center has evolved into a nurturing learning environment, rich with opportunities for children's physical, emotional, social and intellectual growth. JDN offers 2-year-old, 3-year-old, 4-year-old, pre-k and kindergarten programming. With 90 children, the center is currently at full enrollment. It is located at Hilltop & Baeder Roads in Jenkintown. When making admission decisions, the center gives preference to working families who need assistance. Tuition is set along a sliding scale based upon family size and income. A dedicated, volunteer Board of Directors raises funds to help provide tuition subsidies that allow our families to obtain superior early education and care for their children.

JDN has been recognized for the quality of its learning environment, earning the highest rating, STAR 4, in the Pennsylvania Keystone STARS Program, which sets standards for early learning centers. It was among the first centers selected to participate in the state's Pre-K Counts program, which supports high-quality early education. JDN participates in the Pennsylvania Subsidized Day Care Program (Child Care Works / Child Care Information Service) and is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. It receives grants as well as donations to provide further tuition support. Jenkintown Day Nursery is registered as a tax-exempt, charitable organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the federal tax code.

###