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Faces of Hope Child Development Center, Inc.

District of Columbia Zoning Commission
Case No. 15-17 (Text Amendment-Child Development Homes)
441 4th Street, NW
Suite #220
Washington, DC 20001

November 1, 2015

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

I, Shirley Cox, am writing in support of the text amendment which will allow Expanded Child Development Homes to care for up to 12 children. My name is Shirley Cox, and my child development facility is in Ward 7. My business has been in operation for four years. This change will allow me and other providers like me to care for more children in our programs, thus helping more families have peace of mind when they go to work.

This is a very important step because.

- Quality child care is the number one consideration for working families. For parents with multiple children they can drop their children in one location and not have to worry about finding accommodations at another site.
- This economic advantage will allow us to hire and pay employees a living wage as mandated in the Living Wage Act of 2006.
- As licensed providers we will be in compliance with DCMR-29 and other provisions of the law as outlined by OSSE (Office of the State Superintendent of Education).
- There is minimal impact to the community and the neighborhood. Most parents do not arrive and leave at the same time so the concern with traffic congestion is negligible.
- Children are outdoors for an hour a day. The noise the children make as they play can hardly be characterized as noise pollution.
- The benefit to families and the community as a whole include children being cared for in an environment which fosters a foundation for growing and learning that will last a lifetime.

I trust that the commission will take into consideration the potential long term benefits as they deliberate the merits of this amendment.

Thank you.

3008 K Street, SE Washington, DC 20019 ♦ (202)581-0208 ♦ (202)746-0536

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ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 15-17
EXHIBIT NO. 20

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441 4th St NW, Suite 220
Washington, DC 20001

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Statement of Support

I, Renita Simril-Hill, am writing in support of the text amendment to allow Expanded Child Development Homes for up to 12 children. My Child Development Home is in Ward 8 (eight). My business has been opened for 10 (ten) years. I currently can care for up to 5 (five) children in my program and this change will allow me to increase the amount of children I can care for.

I have a waiting list with over 25 (twenty-five) requesting parents – women and men. When I hit that limit I do not add anyone else until the list goes down. I constantly try to network with other daycares in my area, but they too are full due to our limitations.

I have Parent's begging to be bumped to the top of the list. One couple went as far as to go to a fertility Doctor to ensure they got pregnant before their current child left my facility. This child has my last slot when born in February.

I currently have Parents that had their oldest child attend my facility, and their middle child is currently enrolled. Now they have a newborn that will have to attend a different facility, which means dropping off 3 (three) children in different locations. Who wants that headache with the District's traffic problems?

I feel it is important that we increase the available slots within Child Development Homes immediately. This has been a demanding NEED in the District and we seem to be the only one behind time. I also feel that a CDH should be able to hire a person that meets all guidelines, but not be forced to have a CDA-Child Development Associate credentials, as long as the owner is CDA certified. The cost to pay someone with a CDA will bring a hardship on a small facility.

Please consider these changes for Child Development Homes - consider the change for the children and parents in need.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Renita Simril-Hill

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 15-17
EXHIBIT NO. 29