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For immediate release

Division of Early Child Care and Education plans a public hearing

The Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Children and Families, is conducting a public hearing on the proposed child care and development block grant state plan for federal fiscal years 2010 and 2011. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 22, 2009 from 10:00am until 12:00pm. The hearing will be located at the Marshall University Graduate College, Room 137, 100 Angus E. Peyton Drive, South Charleston, WV.

The United States Department of Health and Human Services requires the plan as a condition of funding. Public insight gathered from the meeting will help guide expenditures for the approximately \$31 million received.

The funds received help provide support to improve the affordability, availability and quality of child care services in West Virginia. Funding assists low income families to cover the cost of child care, supports consumer education for selecting appropriate child care services and provides other key services, such as referral, available resources, necessary training and technical assistance for child care providers.

The plan is currently available for review online at www.wvchildcare.org. Written comments may be submitted online or by mail to WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Attn: Division of Early Care and Education, 350 Capitol Street, Room B18, Charleston, West Virginia 25301. All comments must be received no later than close of business on May 22, 2009.