

## Salem Forum Summary 10/20/05

### Salem Issues

- DHS Subsidy Program – the gap between the rate of reimbursement and cost of child care
  - ParentCo-pay is too high
  - Reimbursement rates are too low
- Lack of financing:
  - Limited or no benefits and insurance for child care providers
  - Lack of supplies
  - High Turnover of staff
- Lack of care for children with special needs, Infant/Toddler care and weekend and evening child care

### Success

- Training is available at a lower cost and there are more options offered
- Resource and Referral is a great resource
- Pilot programs such as Cares, Nurse Consultant, Mentoring program, Inclusive child care
- Community Forums such as this

### Changes

- Increase funding for supplies, child care provider insurance and benefits
- Provide child care provider incentives such as Cares
- Higher subsidy reimbursement from DHS subsidy program - should match skill level of provider