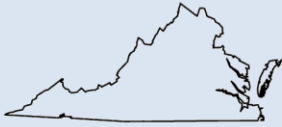


## Child Care in...



# Virginia

- ✘ Child care providers are not subject to a background check with fingerprints.
- ✘ Providers in child care centers are only required to complete 16 hours of training annually.
- ✘ More than 14 percent of children receiving CCDBG are in unlicensed care.

### Child Care Aware® of America's Parent Polling shows:

88 percent believe that child care providers should have training in health and safety practices and child development before working with children.

Child Care Aware® of America

703-341-4100

[www.usa.childcareaware.org](http://www.usa.childcareaware.org)



**Stephanie Serafini** of Newport News is a mother of two children, including a boy who has been diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). It has been a continuous battle for her to find affordable, convenient, safe, quality child care for her son.

Serafini has placed her son in a local park district after-school program, family child care homes, a church child care center, and in a government program for children with more severe disabilities. Providers either were not willing to address her son's special needs and he was asked to leave, centers shut down, or Serafini removed him when she saw that his needs were not being met.

Throughout this ordeal, her son began to feel that he was at fault and was not loveable, and it broke Serafini's heart to know he felt this way. Ultimately, she found a licensed child care center that advertised its ability to care for children with special needs. Serafini wishes there were more child care options for parents of children with special needs.



### Child Care Aware® of America's Policy Recommendation:

- As part of the reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant, the quality set-aside should be increased to at least 12 percent so that states could address more quality issues such as training for special needs children.
- Require at least 30 hours of initial training in key areas such as health and safety and child development for all paid providers caring for unrelated children.

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