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PRESS RELEASE

From Babysitters to Business Owners

Author Raises the Bar on Professionalism in Family Child Care

Caring for children in the home, otherwise known as family child care, has long been a field that earned little respect and appreciation. A workforce dominated by women, these providers have most often been referred to as "babysitters." However, as parents expectations for their children's development rises and state regulations tighten, providers are rising to the challenge and offering a higher quality of care, earning a higher level of education, and forming successful businesses.

Patricia Dischler, of Prairie Du Sac, Wisconsin, and a family child care provider for over 15 years has created a guide for providers to use to transform their careers. Her book, *From Babysitter to Business Owner: How to Get the Most Out of Your Home Child Care Business* (Redleaf Press, 2005), teaches providers how to set higher goals for each part of their business, and how to reach them.

Patricia shares personal stories of trials and triumphs over her career. Her goal is to empower the women who love and care for children to extend this passion to the business aspects of providing child care. Creating curriculums, writing policies, and building partnerships with parents are a side of providing child care that often are daunting. The caring for children side of child care comes easy, it's the business side that is overwhelming. Step by step Patricia gives providers a plan for improvement.

Family child care providers are teaching over 4 million children in the United States today. They are responsible for the most critical years of development, the early childhood, when almost 90% of a child's brain is developed. This important work should not go unnoticed. Patricia encourages providers to find a new attitude about their careers – to be proud of their careers and their improvements, to stand up and be recognized as the professionals they have become.

Patricia speaks nationally at child care conferences to inspire and empower others in the field of early childhood. Please visit her website to view her lecture schedule. Patricia is available for interview by phone by appointment or for personal interviews when in your area, contact information is below.

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