# CHILD CARE CHECKLIST

| | Provider 1: | Provider 2: | Provider3 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **The Caregiver** | | | |
| Is the caregiver regulated or licensed? | | | |
| What are the caregiver's credentials and experience? | | | |
| How many children does the provider care for and what are their ages? | | | |
| Is the caregiver nurturing and patient with the children in her care? | | | |
| How does the caregiver manage to give individual attention to each child? | | | |
| Are you comfortable with the caregiver to child ratio? | | | |
| Is the caregiver trained in first aid and administering medication? | | | |
| **The Program** | | | |
| Does the caregiver serve nutritious meals? | | | |
| Is she enrolled in the USDA Food Program? | | | |
| Are there routine nap times and outdoor play? | | | |
| Does the caregiver use a structured curriculum? | | | |
| Is this a learning environment? | | | |
| Is there a balance of activities i.e. indoor/outdoor, structured/free play, individual/group? | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Does the program offer transportation? | | | |
| Can the program accommodate any special needs that your child's care may require? | | | |
| **Policies** | | | |
| Is there a contract and/or handbook outlining the policies of the home or center? | | | |
| What are the days and hours of care available? | | | |
| What are the rates, additional fees, and when is payment expected? | | | |
| Are there menus and daily schedules posted? | | | |
| How does the caregiver handle discipline? | | | |
| Does the caregiver have a late pick-up and/or payment policy? | | | |
| **Environment** | | | |
| Are the surroundings bright, colorful, and cheerful for children? | | | |
| Is the facility clean and safe from harmful objects and substances? | | | |
| Is there adequate space for children? | | | |
| Are there educational toys available for interactive play? | | | |
| Is this a smoke-free environment? | | | |
| **Parental Involvement** | | | |
| Are parents welcome to visit at any time and without notice? | | | |
| How does the caregiver communicate with the parents regarding the child's progress? | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Is the parents' involvement expected and encouraged? | | | |
| Have you talked with other parents about their experiences with this caregiver? | | | |
| **Notes** | | | |
| | | | |