News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: Steuben Local Media
From: Child Care Aware® of Steuben and Schuyler, a department of Pro Action Inc.
Contact: Jerine Faber at faberj@proactioninc.org

Child Care Aware® of Steuben and Schuyler, a program of Pro Action, Inc., connects Essential Workers with “CARES Child Care Scholarships”!

Steuben County, NY – Child Care Aware® of Steuben and Schuyler applauds the action of the Cuomo Administration in developing a plan to provide childcare to essential workers at no cost. This allocation of funding for childcare for essential workers comes to the state from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “CARES Act”), which has provided New York with $163.6 million in emergency relief to the childcare system.

New York State is using a portion of this funding to provide free childcare for income eligible essential workers. Essential workers using a regulated childcare provider will receive a scholarship for the cost of care, as long as the funds to support it are available. All licensed and regulated providers who are caring for essential workers are able to participate in this new program.

Access to affordable and safe childcare is a barrier for working parents during the best of times, and even more so during a crisis. New York State’s plan will ensure that the workforce that is needed to protect and care for the public during this pandemic have the childcare that allows them to continue to serve us all. CR&Rs are the childcare experts and the conduit to accessing childcare in New York State.

If you meet the definition of an essential employee and have childcare needs, register using the link on the news page of our website (www.proactioninc.org). You will be contacted by Child Care Aware® of Steuben and Schuyler within one business day. We will follow up on next steps to gather information about your household and help you identify a participating childcare provider or work with your current registered or licensed childcare provider.

Child Care Aware® of Steuben & Schuyler is a nonprofit resource and referral service dedicated to helping all parents obtain affordable care which will benefit their child and meet complex family needs. We build the supply of various childcare options and improve the quality of care through community education and caregiver training, technical assistance and tangible support. For more information contact Michelle Smith at (607) 776-2126.

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