

To Whom it may concern.

We currently have the capacity for 30 Children and are a QRIS Step 3 Program We are a second term (each term being 3 years' time), Step 3 Program. April / 2024 completing a 10-month cohort to recertify, our Step 3 Quality. Step 1-3 are 10-month cohorts individually. I explain this to help the reader understand our level of commitment to quality practices. Currently we are active in our Step 4 Cohort. Each Cohort (Step) is a 10-month process of onsite coaching, classes, assessments and observations of our program implementing short- and long-term goals, ensuring best practices are always being met. We are a Best-In-Class Kindergarten readiness program offering a sliding fee scale for the Best-In-Class children in the program, we are a member of the Childcare Aware Alliance program offering The Learning Beyond Paper Curriculum for our 0–4-year-old children incorporating purposeful play and meaningful teaching. We work with inclusions (Uspire), also Early Childhood intervention for speech. We are a Unique Program going above and beyond the day-to-day operations in childcare as the programs we participate in are not mandatory rather voluntary it takes a tremendous amount of dedication, time and effort to continue our education in maintaining Quality Practices, our goal is to provide a Quality Childcare Center with a focus on early childhood development incorporating social and emotional growth educating the whole child. We follow the practices of the ND Learning Standards in our curriculum, individual learning plans, documentations and assessments being purposeful in filling all the gaps the year before kindergarten.

We are a unique group of staff members; we are a very strong unit as a team effort in training all new staff. We have a 7-year staff member who came to us as a stay home mom wanting to get social for her young child, she is now nearing completion of her (CDA) Child Development Associates Certificate, We have a 3-year staff member with her Degree in Early Childhood Development, we have a 5-year Staff working towards her (CDA) who started with us through the high school work program part time and is now full time, and a one-year staff who came to us wanting to work nearer to young children with a focus in college on inclusions in early childhood development, alongside myself with 21 years of experience in childcare holding a (CDA). These walks of life are potential staff we seek out as they are the puzzle pieces that help to create quality care in childcare. This is what makes Ragamuffins Ranch Daycare Unique! We will be starting our new building of a center offering 120 spots for children in our area Mountrail County, we are a rural area and the needs are tremendous! We utilize the services through Bright and Early, Uspire, Right Track and take children on the CCA (Childcare Assistance). We remained committed to childcare services throughout Covid 19 and believe beyond a shadow of a doubt that the service and grant funding is what has held us above water and has been fortunate to remain open for 12 years in our rural area.

Carol Maurer

