

## Media Release

16 July 2009



### Family Day Care Australia gives evidence at today's Senate Inquiry

Family Day Care Australia, today gave evidence at the Federal Government's Senate Inquiry in light of the demise of the ABC child care centres and the recent COAG *National Quality Reform Agenda*.

Family Day Care Australia is encouraged by the government's focus on high quality child care services and is pressing for diversity in the childcare sector and choice of services for parents.

Family Day Care, like all other child care services is bound by the National Quality Assurance system.

Rhonda Bignell, CEO, Family Day Care Australia says, "I welcome the Senate's focus on putting the child at the centre of child care. This is about bringing high quality into all services equally and ensuring the well being and high-end learning for our children."

"Our service is provided in a child's first and natural learning environment – the home. Every child starts learning from birth and our programs in family day care assist and support the development of the child.

"Our Coordination Units with our family day care carers plan the program, record and document the learning objectives in line with the National Childcare Accreditation Council's quality assurance. Our small group setting of one carer to four children in most instances provides concentrated attention to each child's needs," says Ms Bignell.

Family day care is a unique, home-based childcare service providing quality care for children in the homes of family day care carers, supported by a local specialist coordination and resource team.

Family day care provides learning and development in a safe, secure and stimulating home environment for babies and children up to 12 years of age.

Family Day Care Australia is here to support, enhance and resource family day care services, whilst leading the way for family day care in the Australian childcare industry. We work on behalf of the family day care community – carers, coordination unit staff, families and operators/sponsors – to ensure the strength and continued growth of family day care in Australia.

<ENDS>

Media enquiries – Sisenanda Santos – 0408 447 139