



# State needs carers

FAMILY day carers are in short supply all over Queensland.

Wavell Heights Family Day Care coordinator Kathy Webb said the issue was particularly alarming in Brisbane's north, although areas like Carina, Wynnum and Ipswich are also facing shortages.

"This is particularly an issue in inner Brisbane north where there are more young families," she said.

Holland Park Family Day Care team leader Kathy Eisentrager said her centre could not keep up with community demand.

"We currently have 22 carers on our books but we need many more to meet community needs," she said.

"Demand is quite high."

Ms Eisentrager said the child-care industry is a very attractive one for many, as it provides the opportunity to combine work and home.

"It is a great opportunity for people to work at home with their own children as well as look after other kids, while also setting your own hours," she said.

Day care worker Kathie Jordan from Holland Park, who has been in the industry for twenty-six years, says every day is a reminder of the close bonds and satisfaction she gets out of working with children.



■ With love. . . Care provider Linda Hartwig with Charlie, 3, left, and Joshua, 3, right, and Amity, 2, seated.

"I still see kids that I had from years ago," she said.

"They always ring me and tell me what they are up to. It makes my work all the more satisfying."

"To any potential day care workers, I'd say 'Go for it' "At the end of a day, when a child runs up to you and

says 'Kathie, I love you', it makes it all worth while."

Family Day Carers cater for ages ranging from birth to 12.

For anyone interested in Family Day Care, phone Kathy Webb on 3260 6000 or Kathy Eisentrager on 3399 1111.