

TO: Greater Beloit Area Employers

FROM: Andrew Janke, Executive Director, GBEDC
Michael Ace, Executive Director, Beloit YMCA

DATE: April 15, 2009

SUBJECT: Greater Beloit Area Child Care Needs Assessment Study

We are pleased to announce that the Young Men's Christian Association of Beloit, in cooperation with the Greater Beloit Economic Development Corporation, is conducting a study of child care needs for Greater Beloit. More specifically, we are assessing the potential feasibility of locating a child care facility within the Gateway Business Park to better address identified unmet needs of both employers and employees in the area.

We all are increasingly realizing that the availability of appropriate, responsive, and quality child care is an important factor in workforce development issues including recruitment, retention and productivity. Variables such as identification of child care related barriers to employment experienced by employees (e.g. hours of operation, special needs), quality of life issues, as well as ascertaining direct and indirect costs associated with child care will be included in this study. We are requesting two levels of assistance from area employers to allow us to successfully complete the study phase of this initiative:

- a) Designate a responsible party within your business to respond to a brief (10 minute) employers' survey to collect information on your child care related work place practices and impacts;

and, for those businesses that indicate an interest in the pursuing the program further:

- b) Designate a responsible party within your business to work with us to facilitate the distribution and collection of a brief (10 minute) employees' survey designed to better understand current child care arrangements, satisfaction levels, unmet needs and potential interest in the use of a Gateway Business Park-based community child care operation.

We plan on kicking off the data collection portion of this process at an informational meeting scheduled for 4:00 pm on May 11th, 2009. This meeting will be held at Kerry Ingredients and Flavours' new North American Headquarters and R & D facility located at 3400 Millington Road. The informational meeting will take approximately 30 minutes and will be followed by a tour of Kerry's new facility. This will be an outstanding opportunity to be one of the first to tour this truly impressive new addition to Greater Beloit. You and any number of associates are invited to attend the meeting and tour but please RSVP to Shauna El-Amin at 608 364-6610 no later than May 1st.

Summary reports of aggregate results will be shared with all participating businesses. In the mean time please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or if you require additional information, Mike Ace, YMCA 608 365-2261 or Andrew Janke at 608 364-6748.