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GPTF Supports Child Development Training

S & S Family Childcare Center, located in the heart of Bad Axe, is dedicated to nurturing and educating children ages 0-12. With a comprehensive range of services, including preschool, Latchkey programs, and daycare, the center has been a cornerstone of early childhood education in the community. However, like many employers in the childcare industry, S & S Family Childcare Center faced a significant challenge: finding qualified individuals to care for and educate the children.

Recognizing the importance of having well-trained staff, Sarah, the Center Director, explored opportunities to enhance the qualifications of her current employees. Together, we identified the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential training as a valuable program that covers essential aspects such as establishing a safe and healthy learning environment and understanding the principles of child development and learning.

To make this training accessible, we discussed applying for the Going PRO Talent Fund Grant. The GST Michigan Works! Business Solutions Professional guided Sarah through the application process, and her diligent efforts paid off when she was awarded the grant! This funding enabled two of the center's employees to attend the CDA training locally at the Huron Area Technical Center.

The two employees completed their training and earned their CDA Credentials. This achievement has significantly enhanced their ability to plan and implement activities that support the children's intellectual and social development. Due to the seasonal availability of the class, which is only offered in the Fall, we could not train as many employees as initially planned. However, the success of the two employees who completed the program has set a positive precedent and demonstrated the value of continuous professional development.