

SSCC Patri-Tots earns state award for excellence

In recognition of excellence and an ongoing commitment to children, the Patri-Tots Learning Center on Central Campus (Hillsboro) of Southern State Community College has received a One-Star Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) award from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The award was presented by the ODJFS Bureau of Child Care and Development which is the state agency responsible for licensing and promoting high standards among Ohio's early care and education programs.

"We congratulate SSCC Patri-Tots Learning Center for its high-quality early care and education program that goes above and beyond Ohio's licensing standards," said Terrie Hare, chief of the ODJFS Bureau of Child Care and Development. "By reaching for the stars, SSCC Patri-Tots Learning Center is helping our youngest children develop in a warm, nurturing environment that fosters growth and a love for learning."

Step Up To Quality is a voluntary, three-star quality rating system created to improve the quality of early care and education programs in Ohio. Programs can earn a one-, two- or three-star rating by meeting the quality benchmarks for the state of Ohio. Each star signals a higher standard of staff qualifications and planned early learning activities.

"I commend my staff for their dedication and commitment to the Patri-Tots children and families," said Site Administrator Kathe Chaney. "Our staff will continue efforts to be a learning center with a known reputation for excellence. Our Central Campus site is very proud to join North Campus Patri-Tots in this achievement."

SUTQ helps parents identify early care and education programs that go beyond the minimum standards of licensing. The star ratings ensure there are fewer children per classroom, highly trained teachers, a more comprehensive early education experience for children, and a focus on continuous improvement.

The Patri-Tots Learning Center is a year-round program that serves community members, students, faculty and staff. The center is licensed to care for children from 18 months to 5 years. To learn more, please contact Kathleen Chaney (Hillsboro site) at 1-800-628-7722, ext. 2629, or Karee Shaw (Wilmington site) at 1-800-628-7722, ext. 4629, or visit www.sccc.edu/services/patri-tots.shtml.

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