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Deadline for MetroAction Childcare Micro-Grant Program Approaching

SCRANTON, PA, October 9, 2007— Area childcare providers that are interested in receiving grant funding for their organizations are running out of time. Childcare providers have until October 12 to apply for Childcare Micro-Grants.

As part of MetroAction's initiative to improve the quality of affordable childcare in northeastern Pennsylvania, MetroAction will award five \$500 "Micro-Grants" to childcare providers in Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties. The Micro-Grants can be used for projects that will improve the quality of childcare. The recipients will be recognized at The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Luncheon on November 7, 2007.

This past spring, five area childcare providers received Micro-Grants, including Freckles and Frills in Scranton, Keystone College Oppenheim Family Childcare Center in La Plume, Tiny Treasures in Mayfield, Tobyhanna Kids in Tobyhanna, and Watson's Day Care in Pleasant Mount. More than 20 local childcare providers sent in their applications for grant consideration.

"Since our inception, MetroAction has made its primary goal to be the continued success of small, locally owned businesses in northeastern Pennsylvania," stated MetroAction's president, Philip Condron. He elaborates, "Through a variety of programs and services, including our Childcare Micro-Grant program, we are able to assist small business owners in keeping their doors open and continuing the entrepreneurial spirit that our region is known for."

MetroAction, Inc., provides financing, training, and development services to support start-up and expanding small businesses in Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties. MetroAction has helped 168 entrepreneurs including childcare providers obtain more than \$2.5 million in financing. For more information on MetroAction's programs visit www.MetroAction.org.

Micro-Grant applications must be received by 4:00 PM on Friday, October 12. For more information, or to request an application, please contact Desiree Ranella at 570.342.7711 or at dranella@scrantonchamber.com. For more information on MetroAction's programs visit www.MetroAction.org.

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