

## CHILD CARE RALLY PLANNING TIPS

The members of the Child Care Advocacy Forum are looking forward to working with you to plan for coordinated rallies on child care across the province on:

**Friday, October 1, 1999**

**We suggest - 11:30 - 1:00 but choose a time that works best for your community**

The rallies are a key part of our on-going campaign around two simple messages to the provincial government. By October 1, 1999 we are calling on the government to:

- Provide fair and equitable access for child care to the wages and benefits established for the rest of the community social services sector at no additional cost to parents
- Make a commitment to and plan for a publicly funded child care system that provides all children and families with access to a range of quality, regulated child care services.

If government is going to respond, we need to let them know that many parents, caregivers and community members across the province are prepared to act to back up our commitment to children and families! **We think that a series of coordinated rallies across the province, all with the same message can make a real difference.**

The Child Care Advocacy Forum can provide background information, press releases, rally handouts and suggestions - but if the strategy is going to be effective, individuals and groups in each community will need to do the 'on the ground' organizing.

Here are some suggestions for how you might proceed:

1. **Work with a group** - organizing a rally will require the involvement of a number of people. It would be best to work through an existing child care group in your community (eg. The local ECE branch) but, if necessary, you can create an ad hoc committee to organize the rally. **Seek co-sponsors** for the rally by approaching other service, advocacy women's and labour groups for support.
2. **Contact the Forum** to let us know that your community will be holding a rally. We will add the details of your rally to a centralized information package
3. **Choose the location and tone** that will work for your community's rally. Two different approaches to consider are:
  - **A family style rally** - Choose a central, public location where parents can join the rally on their lunch hour. In this format, children can also participate. Disruption to services will be minimal, but this approach needs to attract lots of people to be effective.

