Dear Friends,

The Eastern Kentucky Child Care Coalition (EKCCC) was established in 1990 when community leaders in several rural Eastern Kentucky counties came together to share their concerns regarding the lack of good quality child care in the region. They have been assisting communities in promoting quality child care ever since. Thirty years later, EKCCC continues to do this work, but struggles to maintain support for child care businesses and families in need of care in the most remote and underserved Appalachian counties. As these counties work to rebuild their own economic base, adequate child care continues to be scarce, but essential. We believe community leaders like you understand the need and have a desire to expand the training opportunities and support services needed to build a robust network of family child care homes and support quality child care programs in eastern Kentucky.

The Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky has agreed to provide backbone support for EKCCC to gather a group of community leaders to consider relocating and reigniting their work, purpose, and focus in eastern Kentucky by building a strong coalition of advocates from across the region. We hope to create the conditions to nurture children and support parents by strengthening the infrastructure in place for working families. We would like to invite you to participate in a conversation about the current state of child care in southeastern Kentucky, what must change, and how we will begin to make the necessary changes. Please join us – we will buy you lunch!

**Strengthening Families in Appalachia – Building a Strong Child Care Network**  
Monday, April 22, 2019 – 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
Hazard City Hall  
Please RSVP to [gerry@appalachianky.org](mailto:gerry@appalachianky.org) or [kristin@appalachianky.org](mailto:kristin@appalachianky.org)

Hope you can join us. Thank you.

Gerry

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