



## **Mission and Vision of STARS**

**Mission:** To support high quality early care and education programs for child care and education through a quality rating and improvement system that strengthens programs and practitioners with continuous improvement strategies and assists families to make informed decisions.

**Vision:** A quality rating improvement system to support early childhood education programs in continuous quality improvement.

## **What Is STARS?**

The Best Beginnings STARS to Quality Program is a voluntary quality rating and improvement system that aligns quality indicators with support and incentives for early childhood programs and early childhood professionals. The Early Childhood Services Bureau has enjoyed watching the program grow and develop with the input from the various stakeholders, and has listened carefully to early childhood professionals, parents, and national experts to provide a strong program, desired by many.

STARS has several components:

1. Workforce development
2. Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)
3. Infrastructure to administer the programs and provide training, coaching, and technical assistance to validate the STARS program