

## **Report Shows Negative Impacts on Suffolk Economy of State Funding Cuts to Suffolk Child-Care**

### **For information contact:**

**Suffolk County Legislator DuWayne Gregory**

**631-854-1111**

**Richard Koubek, PhD, Chair - Welfare to Work Commission**

**631-499-6725**

**WHAT:** Suffolk County Legislator DuWayne Gregory and the Welfare to Work Commission of the Suffolk County Legislature will hold a press conference on **Friday, November 16, 2012 at 11 AM in the lobby of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building in Hauppauge** to announce the results of an economic study and report: **The Negative Impacts of State Reductions in Child-Care Funding On the Suffolk County Economy.**

### **WHO:**

- Legislator DuWayne Gregory, Chair of the Legislature's Human Services Committee
- Legislator John M. Kennedy Jr, Minority Leader of the Suffolk County Legislature
- Richard Koubek, PhD, Chair of the Welfare to Work Commission
- Kathy Liguori, Vice Chair of the Commission and Chair of its Child Care Committee
- Adrian Fassett, Chief Executive Officer Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk

**WHY:** The economic stakes for Suffolk County are high in due to inequitable and insufficient State child care allocations. For this reason, the Commission is providing their report, "The Negative Impacts of State Reductions in Child-Care Funding on the Suffolk County Economy." Based on a careful analysis of the impacts that the funding cuts have had on nine large Suffolk Day Care Centers, as well as other data, the study concluded that the \$3.5 million in funding reductions by the OCFS, which led to the loss of subsidized child care to 2,000 children in working poor families this year:

- Could lead to 400 layoffs of child-care workers;
- Have already forced some child-care providers to reduce or end services;
- Might cost providers \$17 million in lost revenues this year that will result in a \$34 million loss to the Suffolk economy.

*"These funding cuts are a major setback for Suffolk's struggling economic recovery"* Suffolk Legislature Human Services Committee chair DuWayne Gregory.

*"It does not make any sense that Suffolk County children are being denied the same equal opportunity for an educational childcare offering that Nassau County children are being provided",* said Kathy Liguori, Commission Vice Chair and Co-author of the study. *Not only are these children Suffolk County's youngest students, but they are an integral part of the current and future NYS economy as well.*