Finding the Right Tax Professional By: Tom Copeland <u>www.tomcopelandblog.com</u>

I often hear family child care providers ask at my workshops, "How can I find a tax preparer who understands my

business?"

Here are some tips on where to look:

- If you are a member of the <u>National Association for Family</u> <u>Child Care</u> you have access to a tax preparer directory that I developed. This directory is somewhat outdated, so there will be listings of those who are no longer in business. Those on this list do have experience in preparing family child care tax returns. I am not recommending any name on this list but it is a good place to start.
- The <u>National Association of Enrolled Agents</u> has a listing of their members on their website. An Enrolled Agent (EA) is someone who has passed an IRS examination and is likely to be familiar with tax issues affecting small businesses such as yours. An EA can also represent you in the event of an IRS audit – 202-822-6232.
- The <u>National Association of Tax Professionals</u> has a listing of their members on their website. Members of this professional as sociation include individual tax preparers, EAs, accountants, attorneys and financial planners.

- The <u>IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)</u> program offers free tax help to low to moderate income taxpayers (\$40,000 net income). Not all VITA sites will help you with your business tax forms. To find the VITA site closest to you, call 800-829-1040.
- Ask these people for the names of tax professionals in your area: fellow providers, your local family child care association, and your local child care resource and referral agency.

Once you find a tax professional you want to feel confident that he or she is correctly filing your tax return.

My book – the <u>Family Child Care Tax Companion</u> is designed for child care providers who use tax professionals. It is a series of worksheets tied to specific IRS tax forms that you can use to compare against what your tax professional puts on your tax return. It is the perfect tool to help you identify potential errors – before your taxes are filed – and contains help on resolving problems with your tax preparer.

Tax Preparation

Any referral by Child Care Resource & Referral of Washington County does not imply a recommendation or endorsement.

Cornerstone Tax Services 315 E Main St. Suite 301 Hillsboro, OR 97124 (503) 681-8500	Heaton & Co PC 1927 Pacific Ave. Forest Grove, OR 97116 (503) 357-9423	H&R Block- multiple locations *Bilingual 1050 SW Baseline St. Ste C5
Vicki B. Sarazin, CPA 27701 SW Grahams Ferry Rd. Sherwood, OR 97140 (503) 682-0800 <u>vicki@vbscpa.com</u> *Specializes in child care provider preparation Website: vbscpa.com (has lots of provider resources for tax information)	Liberty Tax – multiple locations *Bilingual 17895 SW Tualatin Valley Hwy. Aloha, OR 97003 (503) 217-2865 4525 SW Watson Ave. Beaverton, OR 97005 (503) 217-2445	Hillsboro, OR (503) 648-9298 875 NE 25 th Ave. Hillsboro, OR (503) 640-5776 2467 SE Tualatin Valley Hwy. Hillsboro, OR (503) 693-7936
Jeffrey C. Schuh 239 NE Lincoln St. #A Hillsboro, OR 97124 (503) 640-8609	Jackson Hewitt Tax Service *Bilingual 1075 SE Baseline St. Suite O (503) 342-2829	*Barbara Falck specializes small child care businesses 20649 SW Roy Rogers Rd. Sherwood, OR 97140
Jones & Roth CPA 5635 NE Elam Young Pkwy. Ste 100 Hillsboro, OR 97124 (503) 648-0521	Carol Stearns at Cornutt, Stearns and Archibald 10700 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy. #11 Beaverton, OR (503) 641-6143	(503) 625-5176 20431 SW Tualatin Valley Hwy. Aloha, OR 97006 (503) 591-9550
Sergio's Tax Services *Bilingual 2249 NE Cornell Rd. Hillsboro, OR 97124	Cornerstone Tax 126 NE 3 rd Ave. Hillsboro, OR 97124 (503) 648-4880	14645 SW Teal Blvd. Beaverton, OR 97007 (503) 579-0232