



Petersburg Children's Center
Eagle's Nest
P.O. Box 138
Petersburg, AK 99833
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The mission of the Petersburg Children's Center is to promote the healthy development of children and families in Petersburg by offering dependable, high-quality child care and by actively working toward the positive growth and development of all children in the community.

Sharlay Mamoe
c/o Petersburg Children's Center Inc.
P.O. Box 138
Petersburg, AK 99833

May 3, 2022

Petersburg Borough Assembly
P.O. 329
Petersburg, AK 99833

Dear Petersburg Borough Assembly Members,

My name is Sharlay Mamoe. I am the Executive Director of the Petersburg Children's Center (PCC/the center), a mother, wife, and a community member. I have been involved in early childhood since I officially moved to Petersburg in 2015. I was the president of the board of directors for the time of 2015 until 2018 when I officially took the role of the Executive Director.

My time with the center from 2015 to now was always the same adage; we would get great staff, but we would not be able to pay them a decent wage because we don't want to cause a burden for parents. This pandemic has truly shown us how important we are to a working economy; however, we are not paid a wage that truly reflects the work we do every day with other people's kids. Our job is extremely important, however a person just starting in our center is only making \$12 starting. In some cases, this is the same wage that a person can start making at a job in Petersburg, with a lot less responsibility and knowledge required to perform the responsibilities. My hope is that this industry gets taken seriously, we are considered professionals and we get some support in doing a very important career.

I plan to work hard for the community on this task force. I plan to work hard for the children in this community, and the caregivers that give so much of themselves for the children and families in their care.

Thank you!

Sharlay Mamoe
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