

# Why Should Parents and Child Care Providers Vote?

**Election Day is fast approaching!** This year in Minnesota, we will elect 134 members to the Minnesota House of Representatives, as well as 1 U.S. Senator and all 8 members of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. President.

Did you know that *between 1/3 and 2/3 of parents with young children and 1/3 and 1/2 of child care providers didn't vote in the 2000 election?* **As parents and caregivers of young children, your vote matters—it matters a lot!**

## Never doubt that your vote matters!

State primary: **Tuesday, September 9, 2008**

State general election: **Tuesday, November 4, 2008**

## One vote CAN make a difference.

- ✓ In the 2000 election, just over half the population (51%) voted. In the 2004 elections, among the eligible voters, 61% of the population turned out to vote. Minnesota led the nation with the highest voter participation rate.
- ✓ Even though the 2004 voter turn out rate was higher than in 2000, the people who did not vote gave up their chance to make a difference and have their voices heard!
- ✓ In 2000, the Presidential vote in Minnesota was decided by 6,000 votes.
- ✓ In 2002, Dan Sparks was elected to the Minnesota State Senate by 5 votes.

### To register to vote, please contact:

Minnesota Secretary of State's office  
180 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 296-2803

[www.sos.state.mn.us/election/register.html](http://www.sos.state.mn.us/election/register.html)

If you need help registering to vote, please contact Child Care WORKS at (612) 455-1055 x12.

