

What's New From The Bureau of Child Care

CareFinderIndiana
www.childcarefinder.IN.gov



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A. Message from the Child Care Administrator Michelle Thomas

As many of you probably know, April is the Month of the Young Child. This is a time to celebrate and recognize each other for our hard work and dedication to improving the lives of our youngsters. Many things are happening in child care that demonstrate our long term commitment to young children.

Paths to QUALITY is already being implemented in the Evansville and Ft. Wayne regions. Over 300 providers have enrolled and received assistance and a sign on package. And we are ready to begin enrollment in 40 more counties. To see if you are in an area that is part of the next phase and to find out when Open House events in those areas will be held, go to: www.childcarefinder.in.gov and click on:



The Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children is offering their annual child care provider conference. Hundreds of sessions are being offered and large turnout is always expected. It's a chance to further your professional development, and to spend time with your colleagues. For more information about the IAIEYC conference, please go to: www.iaeyc.org.

B. CCDF Program Policy



INDIANA PROVIDER WEB PAGE FOR CCDF!

Did you know that you can access your CCDF clients swipe activity, voucher and your own CCDF payments? Simply go to <http://www.hoosierchildcare.com/ecc/login.eppic> and log on to obtain hands on, user friendly information about the child care attendance information that is recorded in your Point of Service (POS) device.

For initial set up you will need to click on "forgot password" and enter your provider ID, facility zip code and last payment received, then set up your password.

We hope you find this web page to be both informative and useful as we value your services and would like to thank you for the quality child care you provide to Indiana's children.

C. Unlicensed Registered Child Care Ministries

ATTENTION UNLICENSED REGISTERED CHILD CARE MINISTRIES:



Do you have questions about the Voluntary Certification Program (VCP) standards?

- How do I begin?
 - Download an application and the checklist from our website www.childcarefinder.in.gov, click on Licensing Forms
- Who is my 1st point of contact?
 - Your Bureau of Child Care (BCC) registered ministry inspector. They will explain the VCP checklist and give you guidance on how to assess your readiness
- How can I get assistance with meeting some of the standards?
 - Your local Child Care Resource and Referral Office can offer
 - ❖ Safe Sleep Training
 - ❖ Inclusion Training
 - ❖ Orientation to the Foundations to the Indiana Academic Standards
 - ❖ Resource Library
 - BCC Health Consultant - 1-877-511-1144
 - ❖ Food and nutrition training
 - ❖ Menu writing
 - ❖ Assistance with writing health and sanitation policies and procedures
 - Staff orientation
 - Infant/toddler feeding plans
 - Other sanitation and health issues/questions

D. Child Care Health Consultants



SNACKS: THE OTHER MEALS PROVIDED TO OUR CHILDREN

Snacks are an important part of a child's diet. We, adults, tend to think of snacks as sweet little bits of foods that we eat for enjoyment more than to provide nutrition. This is not true for young children. Snacks are needed to support growth and development. A child's stomach is so small they need to eat more often than adults. When children are active they require more calories. Snacks provide 20-25% of a preschoolers total energy intake. The preschoolers' day has many more social "events" than an adult's day. Activities that revolve around food are an excellent way to not only learn social skills but to introduce new foods. Snacks can increase a child's intake of dairy, fruits, grains, and vegetables. Snacks should be planned using two different food groups. They need to be as healthy as the meals you serve. Healthy snacks can include: lowfat fruited yogurt, puddings made with lowfat milk, unsweetened cereals, frozen fruit bars, colorful fresh fruit (peeled and cut up), individual servings of applesauce or canned fruits sweetened in their own juice, cut up vegetables served with lowfat salad dressings (which can include cucumber rings or green/red pepper strips and zucchini strips), fruit dips to use with cut up fruit pieces or fruit breads, sliced fruit served with cheese strips or cheese cubes, soft pretzels served with cheese dip, bread sticks, cottage cheese, hard cooked eggs sliced or in wedges, bagels, wheat crackers and animal crackers. Snacks can be fun for everyone. Chosen carefully, snacks help children eat for health. They can supply nutrient - rich food groups that may be missing from the child's daily meals.

E. Child Care Operations

FYI

CENTRALIZED MONITORING PROCESS

In February 2007, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) issued "Improper Authorization for Payment Data Collection Instructions." Over the next three years, ACF will collect data from the states on improper authorizations to use to determine an acceptable error rate. It is anticipated that once an error rate is established, penalties may be assessed to states that exceed the maximum acceptable error rate.

In response to this initiative, the Bureau will be implementing a scanning system that will centralize the monitoring process. This will greatly increase the number of case files that can be monitored without significantly increasing costs or staffing. In the future, Intake agents will be able to scan all backup documentation from remote offices. Scanned documents will be collected in a central database. CCDF program monitors will be able to conduct the full monitoring process from one location without the need for travel. Monitoring software will enable efficient monitoring, produce detailed and aggregate monitoring reports and interface with the scanning system.

F. Licensed Child Care Homes

CHILD CARE HOME ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We would like to welcome the newest member of the Child Care Home Advisory Committee:

Heather Colglazier of White Co. - heathercolglazier@hotmail.com

The next meeting of the committee is 4/29/08 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Indiana Government Center South in Conference Room A.

+3 REMINDER

It won't be long until school is out for the summer. This is just a reminder that the +3 approval must be obtained yearly. Below are some of the requirements to be eligible for the 3 additional school age children:

- You must have been licensed for one year
- You cannot have had a probationary license in the past year
- You had to have been licensed for 12 children for the past year
- The 3 additional school age children must have been enrolled in the home for 4 months prior to the time the summer care begins or they must have a sibling attending the home

It's also important to remember that anytime you go over 10 children, you need an additional staff person. This can vary depending on the number of children under age 16 months and whether or not all of the children are age 3 and older. Contact your child care licensing consultant if you are unsure about the number of providers required for the number of children present in the home.

CELL PHONE NUMBERS FOR CONSULTANTS



Recently our consultant staff received work cell phones. Many of our staff will be moving their offices within the next year and the only phone they will have will be their work cell phones. Below are the numbers for the consultant staff. Please call during work hours and work days.

CONSULTANT	CELL PHONE NUMBER
Allen, Sue	317-519-0804
Allen, Vicki	317-519-0803
Colter, Charity	317-519-0837
Doyon, Ron	812-340-2423
Hall, Karen	574-807-4315
Hodges, Deanna	574-807-5194
Jones, Annette	260-415-6168
McDade, Brenda	219-798-6485
Misch, Marleta	765-412-1628
Sater, Erin	812-230-8299
Shell, Joy	812-454-9237
Snodgrass, Roxanne	812-621-1893
Spaulding, Julie	812-620-7370
Turner, Melissa	812-830-8475
Wignall, Jay	317-670-9942
Williams, Yvette	765-914-2193

G. Licensed Child Care Centers

NATIONAL PLAYGROUND SAFETY WEEK 2008 IS APRIL 21-25, 2008

National Playground Safety Week is a time to focus on children's outdoor play environments. A time to pledge to use good judgment when playing.

In the year 2007 we had a 41% increase of injuries on playground equipment at licensed child care centers. The National Program for Playground Safety web site at: www.uni.edu/playground/resources/funding.html has tips on potential resources for playground safety funding. The NPPS also has online training which would count towards the required in-service training hours. This week would be a good opportunity to review proper supervision and safety on the playground with your staff and children. Remember, the mere presence of an adult does not mean that quality supervision is occurring.

The only way we can gather information is by your cooperation in reporting these injuries to our office. Please continue to send us your injury reports.

H. EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER ANNOUNCES



TWO SUMMER CLASSES

The Early Childhood Center at IIDC announces the availability of two "hot topic" summer classes for busy Early Childhood Education Professionals, Kindergarten Teachers, Head Start and School Administrators, and Graduate Students in Early Childhood and Education.

Building a Foundation for Success: Early Education Program Practices that Promote School Readiness

A hybrid class (on-line and face-to-face components) examining current teacher practices, supportive administrative practices, family involvement, and transition plans between the early education providers and kindergarten classrooms— all critical components for school readiness. Face-to-face component, is offered simultaneously in Bloomington, Gary, and Evansville June 24th through 26th.

Assessment: Exploring and Refining Your Skills

This fully on-line class will engage participants in exploration of their knowledge and practices in the assessment of children's readiness for school. Enrollees will investigate and discuss the wide variety of assessment tools and methods, the components of sound assessment, and the development of a system to successfully engage all critical partners in the assessment process. The course will be offered on-line from June 15th through August 10th, with assignments due throughout the course.

Each summer class can provide 3 hours of IU graduate credit, (Satisfactory completion of this course will earn 3 credit hours for renewal of your teaching license or, with approval of your advisor, credit toward completing your master degree requirements) or 4.5 Continuing Education Units. Non-credit enrollment is also available.

Enrollment fee for each class is \$150. IU credits and CEU fees are additional.

Registration is due by June 1. Registration forms and additional information is available at www.iidc.indiana.edu/ecc

Content questions: Pat Cole, pacole@indiana.edu

Registration: Jackie, dutkowsk@indiana.edu

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The Bureau of Child Care works hard to try and keep child care professionals informed and involved in the latest news. This section is dedicated to convey information that could be frequently requested, widely unknown, or sometimes just plain misunderstood.

Did You Know That:

- The local Child Care Resource and Referral offices have lending libraries that allow you to borrow and return materials and activities to use with the children you serve?
- The Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children has scholarships available to providers wishing to obtain their CDA?
- The Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children can provide onsite and financial support to providers who wish to become accredited? (Child care providers who participate in accreditation or CDA process do not have to sign the NAEYC Code of Ethics to complete the process)
- The CCDF voucher program serves almost 37,000 children, over 70% of whom are enrolled in a Licensed care setting?
- Unlicensed, Registered Child Care Ministries who meet Voluntary Certification Program standards may be eligible to receive up to 5% more than the exempt facility market rate for voucher reimbursements?