

# Parent/Provider Update

Child Care Information Services of Indiana County

## Relative/Neighbor Provider Training

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The due date for the first round of Relative/Neighbor Providers to have their DPW required training completed is coming soon.

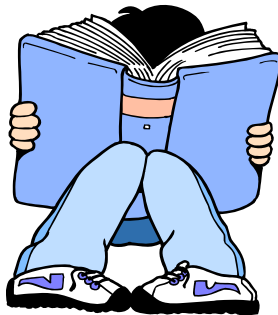
The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is committed to assuring that all children have access to high quality early learning programs. In an effort to reach that goal mandatory R/N provider training was instituted on July 1 2009. Beginning on that date all Relative/Neighbors who signed agreements with CCIS were instructed to obtain 12 hours of training over the next two year period. The two year period is tracked in conjunction with the provider's CareCheck clearance renewal. Due dates for those providers signing agreements on or after July 1, 2009, will begin on July 1, 2011.

Acceptable training topics include: child growth and

development, health, nutrition, safety, etc. Organizations that can provide PQAS (PA Quality Assurance System) approved training are: Regional Keys, Better Kid Care, Penn State Extension, American Academy of Pediatrics and ECELS.

If you have questions concerning training contact Wendy at the CCIS Office, 724-349-8830.

If a current provider fails to complete training by the time her renewal comes due, her agreement will be ended. A



**YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN**

provider wishing to continue care can not enter into a new agreement for 30 days and would have to have a new fingerprint scan completed.

### UPCOMING CCIS HOLIDAYS

- ◆ Monday, May 30th  
Memorial Day
- ◆ Monday, July 4th  
Independence Day

## REGULATED PROVIDER REMINDER

Recently all center, group home and family day care providers received a letter from CCIS requesting an updated Provider Agreement Appendix B for the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011. Regulated providers may request up to 15 closed days per fiscal year which always starts July 1.

Things to consider when requesting closures. Once you identify your days you may not change them, if you initially choose fewer than 15 days you may add more at a future date, you must make a request no later than two weeks prior to the closure.



**Appendix B  
Provider Closures  
Due May 6, 2011**

## NEW CRIB STANDARDS

Beginning June 28, 2011, all cribs manufactured and sold (including resale) must comply with new and improved federal safety standards. The new rules, which apply to full-size and non full-size cribs, prohibit the manufacture or sale of traditional drop-side rail cribs, strengthen crib slats and mattress supports, improve the quality of hardware and require more rigorous testing.

Beginning on June 28th all cribs sold in the United States must meet the new federal requirements. After that date, it will be illegal to manufacture, sell, or resell a crib that does not comply with the new standards. As an owner of a crib not meeting the new standards it will be illegal to donate it, give it away or sell it at a yard sale or online auction site such as Craig's List.

Even if your current crib is sturdy it is

unlikely that it will meet the new crib standards. If you continue to use your current crib, you are encouraged to check the crib frequently to make sure that all hardware is secured tightly and that there are no loose, missing or broken parts. Also check the CPSC's crib recall list to make sure that your crib has not been recalled. Stop using the drop-side function of your crib. If the manufacturer of your crib has recalled the item, request a free immobilizer.

For information check out the Consumer Product Safety Commission at [www.cpsc.gov/](http://www.cpsc.gov/) Look for the new crib standard questions and answers.



Let's keep our babies safe!

## CRIBS IN CHILD CARE FACILITIES

Child care facilities and family child care homes that use drop-side cribs will also have to comply with the new and improved federal safety standards. Providers will have until **December 28, 2012**, to ensure that the cribs used in their facilities meet the requirements of the CPSC's new standards.

Providers should expect that parents will be asking about the types of cribs used in their facility and the plan of action for replacing the

outdated cribs. Parents may also want to check that the cribs presently used have not been recalled.

Once the cribs are replaced the drop-side cribs should be disassembled before discarding. Under no circumstances should they be donated or sold.

**Periodically check your crib type against the Consumer Product Safety Commission recall list.**

## UPDATED INCOME GUIDELINES

Income eligibility for subsidized child day care is established and updated by the Department of Public Welfare. Need for subsidized child care is based on the parent/caretaker(s) in the household being employed at least 20 hours per week or a combination of work and training to equal 20 hours per week. Eligibility is determined on family size and monthly **gross** income, before taxes. Effective May 2, 2011, the income guidelines have been increased as follows:



Income is based on wages before taxes.

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Monthly Gross Income</u>
2	\$2451
3	\$3088
4	\$3725
5	\$4361
6	\$4998

Gross income includes wages, child support, SSI payments and all other income.

## UPCOMING PROVIDER TRAINING

Scheduled May trainings are as follows:

Northwest Regional Key will sponsor **“Medication Administration”** on May 10, 2011, at Great Expectation Child Care & Learning Center in Blairsville. Participants will gather at 6:15 pm for this 3 hour training. Topics covered will include: an examination of the 5 rights of medication administration; discussion of medication administration policies and documentation; and a problem-solving module. To register call ECELS at 1-800-395-3948. Cost: \$10.

Directors can come together to share tips, concerns and ideas regarding their after-school programs on May 10, 2011, from 11am to 1pm at Hoss’s Restaurant in Indiana. **“After-School Director’s/Lead Teacher’s Club Indiana County: Summer Program”** is sponsored by Northwest Regional Key. To register contact Chuck Lytle at NW Regional Key by calling 1-814-836-5898 ext. 132.

**“Pediatric First Aid with Infant & Child CPR”** will be offered on May 21, 2011, beginning at 9 am and ending at 3 pm. Lead by a certified trainer, participants will learn how to administer first aid and infant/child CPR. Training will occur at the American Red Cross Indiana County Chapter office at 610 Kolter Drive. Call Beth Burns at 724-465-5678 to register. Cost: \$20.

Jennifer Vargo from NW Regional Key will present **“Literacy Series Session 1: Facilitating Early Emergent Literacy to Promote Future Reading, Writing and Language Success”** on May 24, 2010. participants will meet at the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office in the Courthouse Annex Bldg. in Indiana at 6:30-8:30 pm. Call 1-800-860-2281, Ext 128 to register. Cost: \$5.



Check the training calendar on the PA Keys website, [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org) for future trainings.

## TYKES ON BIKES

Warm weather brings everyone outside to enjoy the sun and stretch muscles that have long been neglected over the winter months. One of the most fun activities for older children is to hop back on their bikes and for the smaller ones to get their first tricycle or big wheel. If your children are going to play with big kids toys they need to learn the rules for being safe on them. Most children under the age of five are not ready to ride bicycles so their first experience is likely to be on a tricycle or big wheel. As parents and providers we must make sure the size of the trike or bike is appropriate for the size of the child. Other safety rules to keep in mind include:



**Children riding in a trailer being towed by a bicycle must also wear helmets.**

- **WEAR A HELMET.** PA law requires all children under the age of 12 to wear a helmet that meets Consumer Product Safety guidelines.
- Actively supervise children. Children under 10 should ride on the sidewalk; older children should use bike paths or lanes
- Helmets, clothing and bikes should have reflective stickers.
- Periodically inspect bikes for properly working brakes, gears and tires.
- Stay in single file when riding with friends.
- Watch out for grates, holes and bumps in the road.
- Do not wear long or loose clothing that may get caught in bike chains or wheel spokes.

-[www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)

*According to DPW policy, payment to providers for child care services is the 20th of the month. Please **DO NOT** call our office about payments unless it is after the 20th.*