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What is Healthy Child Care Ohio?

A partnership between the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA). The goal of the project is to link health care professionals and the child care community to improve the health and safety of children in out-of-home care.

Registered Nurses and Dietitians Can Help

Healthy Child Care Ohio offers registered nurses (child care health consultants) to serve child care centers and family child care homes, in every county of the state. In select areas, registered and licensed dietitians (child care nutrition consultants) can assist with nutrition related topics.

Make a Difference for Your Program!

CHILD CARE HEALTH CONSULTANTS...

- Teach child care providers about health and safety issues
- Assess the needs of child care providers for health and safety training
- Meet on-site with child care providers about health and safety
- Provide telephone advice to child care providers about health and safety
- Provide referrals to community services
- Assist providers with developing or updating policies and procedures for child care programs
- Help manage the care of children with special health care needs

Healthy Child Care Ohio Program Profile JULY 1, 2006 – JUNE 30, 2007

- The Child Care Health Consultants served 1,055 child care programs and the Child Care Nutrition Consultants served 238 child care programs.
- More than 2,000 consultations were conducted with child care providers.
- Over 700 trainings for more than 6,300 child care provider participants.
- The network provided 314 vision screenings and 79 hearing screenings reaching 3,805 and 1,040 children respectively.

How does a Child Care Health Consultant compare to a Licensing Specialist or Certification Worker?

CHILD CARE HEALTH CONSULTANT	LICENSING SPECIALIST
Provides advice on health and safety issues	Regulates programs or centers
Utilizes <i>Caring for Our Children</i> , a national resource on health and safety best practices. In most cases, this resource exceeds minimum licensing and certification rules.	Follows the laws and rules established by the State of Ohio.
Interacts with programs and centers as needed during the year for consultations and trainings.	Visits the program or center twice a year.

* Both share information about resources so providers can know what is available in the community.



Seven Good Reasons to Call a Child Care Health Consultant

- 1 Your child care program has been found out of compliance on health and safety related standards on your latest licensing/certification inspection. You've spoken to your licensing/certification specialist about the issues but would also like information on implementing best practice standards.
- 2 Your center/home has had inquiries about enrollment from parents of children with special medical needs and in order to enroll the child you and/or your staff would need additional training.
- 3 You have a toddler who is biting other children in his/her classroom. You'd like to know what needs to be done when the skin is broken from a bite and tips for talking to parents about the incident.
- 4 Several of your children have been exposed to a lice infestation. You need information on how to talk to parents and staff about the infestation, how to prevent future infestations, and when it's appropriate to allow the children back into your care.
- 5 You have a parent who wants their infant to sleep on their belly. Your staff heard from the licensing/certification specialist that licensing rules mandate that all babies be on their back when sleeping. You'd like information on the updated "Back to Sleep" campaign.
- 6 One of the preschool children in your care does not appear able to see objects at a short distance that other children can see. You're not sure how to access a vision screening, preferably free of cost, for the child.
- 7 You've been approved by your licensing specialist or you've decided to start enrolling infants for the first time in your family child care home and you want information about how to create a safe environment for them.

CONTACT YOUR CONSULTANT TODAY

Toll Free 1-877-547-6978

www.occrro.org/hcco_consult.htm