

Wright County Family Child Care Newsletter

April 2016

Wright County
Health & Human Services

MISSION STATEMENT

- Strengthening Community
- Supporting Health and Well-being
- Serving Basic Human Needs

Use of Teen Helpers in Family Child Care

(Article written by the Department of Human Services Family Systems Unit)

The family child care rule defines a helper as “a person at least 13 year of age and less than 18 years of age who assists the provider with the care of children.”

Providers are responsible for the supervision of their helper(s), and are ultimately accountable for the actions of anyone assisting or having contact with the children in care. Helpers can assist the provider with meal preparation, activities, interaction, or reading with the children. They can also provide a second set of eyes and ears, but should never be left alone with children. By doing so, providers are protecting everyone in their family child care home.



“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” - Winston Churchill

After careful consideration, if providers choose to use a teen helper, they must make sure their helper has met the following requirements:

1. A completed background study prior to assisting with the care of children.
2. Training on reducing the risks of sudden unexpected infant death prior to assisting with the care of infants.
3. Training on reducing the risk of abusive head trauma prior to assisting with the care of infants and children.
4. Completion of 6 hours of child care related training within the first year of employment.

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“Babysitting” in a Family Child Care Home

Often times teenage children of family child care providers are a perfect option as babysitters for the families enrolled in their parent’s child care. The families are already familiar with the teenagers, and the teenagers have experience with children growing up in a child care home.

When your teenagers are employed by a family to babysit, the best option would be for the babysitting to occur in the family’s home, NOT the licensed child care home. The reason for this is that there is not a clear line for when a home is operating as a licensed child care and when it turns into “babysitting”. A provider’s policies may state that they close at 5:00, but if children

enrolled in your care are still at your home after your hours of operation, the Department of Human Services has interpreted that to mean that you are still open and operating. For example, you “close” at 5:00, but after 5:00 your 15 year begins babysitting daycare children. If an injury occurs or there is some kind of incident, DHS will not accept that you were closed. They will most likely make the determination that child care never ended.

With this being said, we would recommend for provider’s own business liability, that daycare children are babysat in their own home. Please contact your licenser with any questions.



Baby Bird Eats the Worm! {fine motor sensory bin}

Wiggly worms!

Mother birds feed their babies wiggly worms while they stay safe in their nest. Those wiggly worms can be hard to hang on to! This sensory bin is a big bird nest full of wiggly worms and baby birds waiting to be fed. Strengthen fine motor muscles, work on color sorting, and have fun playing all at the same time!

Baby Bird Nest Supplies:

- shredded brown paper (definitely [paper](#), not Easter grass)
- colored pipe cleaners
- plastic birds (like these [fun colored birds!](#))
- clothespins
- bowls for sorting

There are different ways to play in this sensory bin, depending on the learning level and age of the preschoolers. Use clothespins to carefully pick out the colored worms. Drop the colored worm into the correct color bowl for the birds. Sort all the worms by color. Be careful not to pull apart the nest, so no baby birds fall out!

Let younger learners use their own fingers to find the worms. Instead of sorting colors, toddlers could also just collect and feed the birds with any worms they find!

Pretending to be a mommy bird has never been more fun!
www.modernpreschool.com



Rule Reminder:

MN Statute 245C.20 LICENSE HOLDER RECORD KEEPING.

A licensed program shall document the date the program initiates a background study under this chapter and the date the subject of the study first has direct contact with persons served by the program in the program's personnel files. When a background study is completed under this chapter, a licensed program shall maintain a notice that the study was undertaken and completed in the program's personnel files. Except when background studies are initiated through the commissioner's online system, if a licensed program has not received a response from the commissioner under section [245C.17](#) within 45 days of initiation of the background study request, the licensed program must contact the human services licensing division to inquire about the status of the study.

This section of the licensing rule can be maintained by keeping an accurate [Background Study Documentation Log](#). Logs are sent in re-licensing packets to providers, as well as being available on the Wright County website.

Frequently Used Phone Numbers

New providers are often overwhelmed with all of the information they have just learned through the licensing process, and all of the information they are required to keep track of as licensed providers.

This is one of the reasons we created the Provider Handbook, and put a variety of information on the county website. Hopefully providers are able to find what they need, or can call their licensor for assistance.

Below is a link to one of the resources in Chapter 17 of the Provider Handbook. It is a list of frequently used phone numbers. Everything from places where providers can get their fire extinguishers serviced, to who to call for a well water test kit, to where to refer a family who would like to apply for WIC.

www.co.wright.mn.us/DocumentCenter



Upcoming Trainings:

SUID/AHT (Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Abusive Head Trauma) Training

Please register by calling or emailing Terri Burkhardt. If you are not familiar with the training location, please ask for directions and plan extra travel time. Training does not have to be taken in the county in which you are licensed. Registration is required in order to make sure that enough materials and space are available. Payment can be made over the phone. Class fees are non-refundable unless you reschedule. A minimum of 10 participants need to be registered in order to hold class. Class will be canceled one week prior to class if the minimum is not met. There is no admittance to the class after 6:05 P.M. Note: These trainings are approved on the MNCPD Registry

Date:	May 19, 2016
Time:	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Location:	Wright County Health & Human Services 1004 Commercial Drive Buffalo, MN 55313
Contact:	763-682-7516 or terri.burkhardt@co.wright.mn.us
Cost:	\$10.00

Date:	April 18, 2016 or May 5, 2016
Time:	5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Location:	Wright County Health & Human Services 1004 Commercial Drive Buffalo, MN 55313
Contact:	763-682-7516 or terri.burkhardt@co.wright.mn.us
Cost:	\$15.00 for Wright County residents; \$20.00 for providers outside of Wright County

C.A.R.S (Children and Restraint Systems)

To make sure there is available space in each class, you must pre-register by calling Terri Burkhardt or emailing. Class fees are non-refundable unless you reschedule. A minimum of ten participants need to be registered in order to hold class. Class will be canceled one week prior to class if the minimum is not met. No admittance after class has started. Note: These trainings are approved on the MNCPD Registry.



Other Training Sources:

www.mnstreams.org

www.eagertolearn.org

www.developoolmn.org



Physical Activity Training

Sponsored by:
Wright County
Public Health
and



- ✧ Catch Early Childhood (CEC) is an evidenced-based program for preschool-aged children.
- ✧ Participants will gain the knowledge and tools needed to plan and lead structured physical activities.
- ✧ Participants will then practice leading group activities, adapting them for their specific ECE setting.

**Saturday, April 2, 2016
8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M
Howard Lake Community
Room, 617 6th Ave, Howard
Lake, MN 55349**

**MNCPD Approved
Training Hours: 3 hours
Parent Aware Topic Area: 6
MN Core Competency Area: VI**

- Cost: \$10 non-refundable; limited to 18 participants**
- Pre-registration is required in order to make sure that enough materials and space are available.
 - Greg and Steve Complimentary CD
 - Light breakfast will be served
 - **Dress Comfortably! Active Participation is Encouraged!**

**Please register by calling or emailing Patty Malecek: 763-682-8931 or patty.malecek@co.wright.mn.us
Payment can be made over the phone. No Refunds
If you are not familiar with the training location, please ask for directions and plan extra travel time.**

These trainings are Supported by the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP)



The Minnesota Quality Improvement & Registry Tool

Develop Account (Needed for Training Registration)

- Go to www.developtoolmn.org
- In the top right corner of the screen, you'll see a **Signup** icon that looks like a pencil.
- Click on that icon to go to the Signup page.
- Under the words, **Sign up as a...**, click on the word **Individual**.
- You will then be asked to enter your name, email address, birth date, and the last five digits of your social security number. Then click **Continue**.
- You will then enter additional information to get your account set up.
- After reviewing and signing the Notice of Privacy Practices, your password and Individual Develop ID Number will be emailed to you at the email address you provided.
- Look for that email with your Individual Develop ID Number and password and then use your Individual Develop ID Number and password to log in to the system.

Full Develop Membership

- On your Account Summary page, click the box next to **Become a Member**, then click on the **Apply** button.
- You will then be asked to create your professional profile by entering information about your education, your employment history, the trainings you have attended, and other ways in which you contribute to the profession.
- When you have entered all relevant information, be sure to click **Submit Application** on the last page of the application.
- You will then need to send in documentation of your professional achievements so that they can be verified.
- When all materials are received and verified, you will be issued a Certificate congratulating you for your Career Lattice Step.

If you have questions or problems, please contact the Minnesota Center for Professional Development toll free at 855-378-3131.