



CALGARY & REGION FAMILY DAY HOME AGENCY Inc.

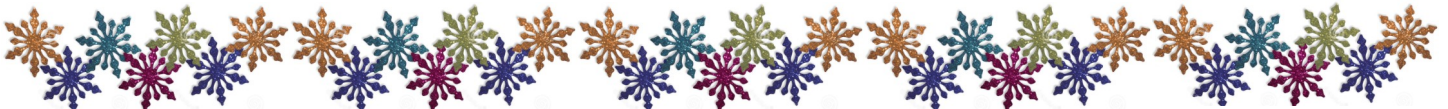
February Newsletter 2014

Dates to Remember:

Invoice due date: February 20th, 2014

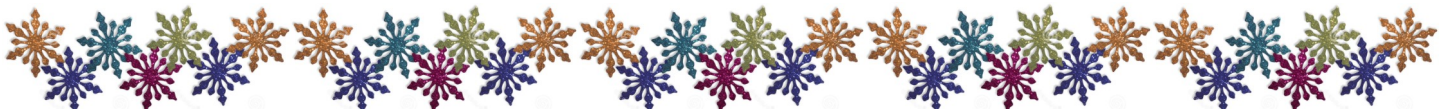
In-service Date: Monday, February 24th, 2014 from 7:00-9:00. 3224 28th Street SW. Workshop is on Caregiver Sensitivity, presented by Chastity Plamondon and guest from Collaborative Mental Health

March Provider Conference: Saturday March 8th, 2014. Your Consultant will send out the registration information when it becomes available. Please send in your Conference Deduction Agreement to have the payment taken off your monthly invoice if you are planning to attend this conference.



Office Updates:

We are proud to announce some changes here at the Calgary and Region Family Day Home Office! Susan Bencini is now in the role of the Director, Jessica McKay in the role of Assistant Director and of course Gail Blixt remaining as our Executive Director. Many Providers may have also noticed a new face on their monthly visit in January; the agency is pleased to welcome Heather Myers to our consulting team!



Groundhog Day: Sunday, February 2nd, 2014



What is Groundhog Day?

Groundhog Day is a day celebrated each year on February 2nd. According to folklore, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, then spring will come early (if the groundhog does not see his shadow). If it is sunny, the groundhog will see its shadow and retreat back into its burrow, and the winter weather will continue for six more weeks

From the desk of Gail: Executive Director

Hello Everyone,

What a busy month January was! Besides all the snow, we had our annual Agency Review by Calgary & Area Child and Family Services. Karen Thiessen our Licensing Officer visited 15 of our family day homes.

These are her findings:

Providers did not have child information for all children in their homes.

As a result we are now implementing for March 31, 2014 that all Providers must have a fax machine. Each Provider must know how to receive the child information on their fax. The fax must be equipped with paper and ink. **NO PROVIDER IS TO ACCEPT CHILDREN IN THEIR HOME UNLESS THEY HAVE ALL THE CHILD INFORMATION RECORDS; INCLUDING THE EMERGENCY PORTABLE RECORD STATING IMMUNIZATIONS (VERSION DATED JANUARY 2014). EVERY BACK UP CHILD YOU ACCEPT INTO YOUR HOME MUST HAVE AN EMERGENCY PORTABLE RECORD COMPLETED BY THE PARENT BEFORE THEY LEAVE.**

Attendance Records

Children's attendance must be recorded when they are dropped off and picked up by the parents or the providers. These records must be current and not pre-signed or signed at a later date.

Provider out of ratio, 7 children in her home for 30 minutes.

If you ever find yourself in a situation where you would have 7 children in your home you **MUST** say to the parent that they cannot drop off their child. **YOU CAN NEVER HAVE 7 CHILDREN IN YOUR HOME.**

Playpen not approved for sleeping.

All playpens used for napping **MUST** state that they are approved for sleeping. Graco Pac N Play states on the playpen mattress it can be used for sleeping.

Day Home furnishings were not clean

All day homes' furnishings, toys, equipment and environment must be clean and free from clutters and in good repair.

Visual Identity not displayed in a prominent place in day home

If your red door sign becomes faded please ask your consultant for a new one; keep your old one posted until you can replace it with the new one

Programming for January not completed or posted.

Please ensure that your monthly programming is completed and displayed on or before the 1st working day of the month.

Personal Care products were accessible to children.

All personal care products must be inaccessible by a u-clamp or a lock. A cabinet over the toilet is not acceptable unless it is locked.



From the desk of Louise: Parent Accounts Manager

Wow! It is February already! As they say, time flies!

Parents: Your tax letters will be at your provider's home by February 28th.

Providers: Do you have copies of all your 2013 invoices for tax purposes? Check your files.

Please Note: Effective February 2014 Jessica MacKay will be taking over the provider invoicing and time sheets as Alanna will be leaving on Maternity Leave in March 2014. For all questions about invoices, time sheets and provider support funding please contact Jessica MacKay. (jessicam@calgaryfamilydayhomes.com)

Valentines Day Activity Paper Hug



What you need:

- Construction Paper
- Cardboard (old cereal boxes work great!)
- Paint
- Googly Eyes

Directions:

1. Gather your materials. You will need some cardboard or other sturdy paper, paint, construction paper (red, black or any color), googly eyes, scissors and some glue.
2. Draw one large heart and 2 smaller hearts on the cardboard.
3. Have the children paint the small hearts
4. Paint the large heart. Let dry.
5. While that is drying, take your red paper and fold it into a fan. Cut two pieces off for the arms.
6. Cut a mouth out of the black paper.
7. When the paint is dry cut out the hearts.
8. Add the glue for the mouth and the eyes.
9. Add the eyes and mouth.
10. Glue the small hearts onto the ends of the arms for hands.
11. Glue the arms to the big heart!

Training Sessions / Workshops in the Community

February 19th, 2013,. Alberta Children's Hospital
 'Youth, Sexuality & New Media'

February 20th, 2014. Alberta Children's Hospital
 'Physical Literacy as a Solution'

February 21st, 2014. Alberta Children's Hospital
 'Raise your Kids without Raising your Voice'

February 21st, 2014. Saddletowne Public Library
 'Families Achieving Inclusive Relationships'

February 24th, 2014. Hull – Child and Family Services
 'Early Psychosis – What's it all about?'

February 25th, 2014. Alberta Children's Hospital
 'Pediatric Bipolar Disorder: Current Controversies and Conundrums'

February 26th, 2014. Arbor Lake School
 'Supporting Anxious Children and Teens: From Recognition to Response'

For more dates and information of the workshops please visit

http://fcrc.albertahealthservices.ca/course_registration/public_course_list.php

What Parents are saying

About: Sara A.

We really like her, she's consistent, honest, open and I find her respectful of our wishes regarding S. She's always pleasant no matter what kind of day she's had, and the real proof is that S is happy to go to her and has lots of smiles for her when I pick him up at night. We're happy with his diaper changes, his meals, his naps. [We] think of her as Mom 2. She's great.

What Parents are saying

About: Rasha M.

As far as Rasha and the day home as a whole go, both my wife and I are MORE than pleased! R has settled in very well and is excelling at rate that has exceeded our expectations.

What Parents are saying

About: Asma B.

I am extremely happy with the care K is getting at Asma's Day home. He loves it there and I think they feel the same way about him. I have been really working with K regards to speaking and communicating in general, I believe Asma is as well. I am pleased with his progress. Recently I have weaned him from the bottle and Asma is very supportive when I tell her something like no more bottles, she does it right away. I honestly don't think I could have put him in a home he would have done better in than when he is now.

What Parents are saying

About: Elizabeth P.

I would like to take the opportunity to recognize Elizabeth. Not only do my children love her but they look forward to day home every day and she has always provided me with constant reassurance that my children are being cared and loved for every moment :) My boys come home on a regular basis singing new songs and in good spirits :) My 3 year old is always sharing what he did that day with excitement! I could not ask for a better woman to care for my children :) Our time with Elizabeth is almost over but her impression she left in our hearts will always be :)

Making Connections

Your home is your day home child's second home. Supporting an interactive connection between the child's home and day home is an important aspect in having a successful day home. Promoting activities and conversations that reflect individual children's lives is beneficial for the children, parents and the provider.

Here are some fun interactive ideas and activities that you can try in your day home!

- Ask parents to bring their child's favorite CD from home.
- Ask parents to teach you and the day home children songs that they sing at home
- Initiate conversations with parents regarding things the child has done over the weekend (or evening) and talk to the child about these events during the day
- Plan a day home / family event. Christmas party, Day home pancake breakfast, family Easter egg hunt, holidays that you celebrate or a holiday the day home child might celebrate
- Ask parents to collect recyclables for day home projects
- Ask parents to bring in family photo's
- Make a day home family tree with photo's of have the child draw a picture
- Show and tell
- Invite Grandma, Grandpa or another family member to the day home for an afternoon tea

Benefits for parents:

- Feel included in their child's day
- Feel more connected, informed, and feel like they have a voice and important role in the day home
- Helps build trust
- Can see their family, culture and beliefs are being reflected

Benefits for you:

- Better relationships and communication between you and the day home families
- Children feel more at home in your day home
- Helps build trust between provider and family
- Is a fun activity you can do with the children



Benefits for the children:

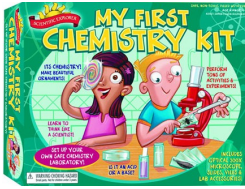
- Sense of connection between home life and day home
- Having a chance to share something that makes the child feel important and special
- Gives the child a chance to feel pride in showing parents or provider where they spend their time
- The child can share their culture and beliefs, which can help promote self esteem

Health Canada Recalls: POOF®-Slinky®/Scientific Explorer Lava-Blasting Volcano Kit and POOF®-Slinky®/Scientific Explorer My First Chemistry Kit

Health Canada's sampling and evaluation program has revealed that the recalled kits contain hazardous chemicals and have been sold in Canada without the required safety warning statements and labels. These labels direct the user to important safety information regarding use of the chemicals provided with the product. In addition, it has been identified that the Lava-Blasting Volcano Kit contains a substance in a quantity which exceeds that allowed under the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act and its Regulations. Inclusion of prohibited quantities of substances and a lack of required labeling can both lead to serious adverse health effects.

Playtex recalls Pacifier Holders

Health Canada said approximately 150,000 holders distributed in Canada at various retailers. Products affected include the Playtex pacifier holder clips that attaches a pacifier to items like clothing, diaper bags and strollers. The pacifier holders are identified by UPC number 7830005924 and were sold from July 2010 through October 2013 in Canada and the United States. No injuries have been reported. The pacifier holder was sold in green with a monkey figure, pink with a flower and blue with a tow truck. Consumers are told to stop using the pacifier holder and contact Playtex Products Inc. for a refund at (888) 220-2075 or online at www.playtexproducts.com



Websites to Visit

www.aelcs.ca Accreditation for Early Learning and Child Care Services

www.child.alberta.ca This site accesses programs and services in Alberta's government monitored child care industry. Find the Family Day Home Standards Booklet on the website.

www.parentsmatter.ca This site provides information relating to parent-child development through the Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs.

www.zerotothree.org A great site to get developmental, researched information on children age zero to 3 years of age.

www.mentoringboys.com This Canadian site focuses on boys and their unique needs. Check out their monthly newsletter for some great information.

www.positivediscipline.com This website looks at what is positive discipline.

www.familyfuncalgary.com This Calgary website links you to current family events offered in the city.

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24hr Emergency Line: 403.852.3894

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