



Child and Adult Care Food Program Newsletter * Winter 2011

703 S. Main Street, Suite 211 * Akron, Ohio 44311
1-800-407-5437 * FAX 1-800- 777-0655 * www.childcare-connection.org

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Ohio Professional Development Registry.

Thank you to all Family Child Care Providers for attending one of the mandatory C.A.C.F.P. nutrition/record keeping trainings that were offered at Child Care Connection and throughout our 6 county service area. Since everyone registered for those trainings in the OPDN- Ohio Professional Development Network, you now have a pin number or OPIN that has been generated for you to use to log back into the system to explore additional training opportunities in your area. Child Care Connection offers many different training sessions throughout our 6 county service area on various days and times to meet the needs of busy Family Child Care Providers, Administrators and Teachers in Child Care settings. If you need any additional support logging back into the Registry at WWW.OPDN.ORG, please feel free to give us a call at 800-407-5437. Our Professional Development staff will be happy to assist or refer you to someone that can help you with answers.

Reminders for Daily Programming

- Remember to call the office if you are not serving a meal for the day or will be serving that meal away from home.
- Weekend and Holiday forms can be downloaded from our website.
- **They must be received by the 5th of the following month in order to validate those days and to be paid for the claimed meals.** If you are keeping attendance and menus up to date daily, this should not be a problem.

- If you are caring for a child with a special diet, contact us if we have not contacted you. A "Special Diet" form completed by the child's physician is mandatory.
- If you are caring for a child over the age of 13 that has special needs and wish to continue claiming that child, give us a call. We will do everything we can to assist you in ensuring that child's participation.
- Leann and Teresa had the opportunity to attend training in Columbus hosted by the *Ohio Child and Adult Care Food Sponsors Network* that featured National Tax expert Tom Copeland. Tom imparted a wealth of information related to the specifics of record keeping and tax information specifically related to the needs of Family Child Care Providers. We are hoping to present a Record Keeping/ Tax Information sessions as part of our annual CACFP mandatory training sessions this year.

Insurance Director Urges In-Home Child Care To Check Insurance Coverage

Columbus, Ohio - Many Ohioans may be considering providing child care out of their homes for the children of working parents. Ohio Department of Insurance Director Mary Jo Hudson is urging those who are considering becoming in-home child care providers to check with their insurance agent to make sure they have adequate liability coverage in the event a child were to be injured while in their care.

"Accidents happen, especially when young children are involved," said Director Hudson. "It's important that in-home child care providers have the proper amount of liability coverage in the event something was to happen."

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According to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), which together with county departments of job and family services, regulates and monitors child care activity in Ohio, in-home child care providers are not required to purchase liability insurance for their homes. However, if they do not, they must inform the parents of the children they are watching that they have not purchased that coverage.

"Child care providers who are interested in learning more about certification, licensing requirements and health and safety training opportunities should visit their county department of job and family services or visit www.jfs.ohio.gov," said ODJFS Director Douglas Lumpkin.

Director Hudson offers this guidance when considering purchasing liability coverage for in-home child care providers:

- Liability coverage for accidents that occur in an in-home child care provider's home would fall under the provider's homeowner's insurance policy.
- Contact your homeowners insurance agent and inform them that you wish to start offering child care services out of your home.
- Many homeowners' insurance policies have exclusion provisions in that liability coverage will not be provided for incidents arising out of the operation of in-home child care services for a fee.
- Liability coverage is typically included for incidents where you are providing child care for family members or other children for free.
- However, if the coverage you need is excluded, most homeowners insurance policies can be endorsed to provide the

desired liability coverage for an additional premium amount.

- Consider purchasing an umbrella policy for protection additional to that which is provided by your homeowner's policy.

It's important to note that homeowners that fail to notify their agents about operating a child care service out of their home may be subject to having their insurance policy cancelled for not providing full disclosure regarding usage of the home for business purposes.

Also, the insurance company may refuse payment for any child care related accidents that may occur. If that were to happen, the homeowner would be required to pay all damages. If the homeowner didn't have the funds to pay for the damages, they could face legal action and long-term debt. The homeowner and the homeowner's family could end up paying for one accident for the rest of their life! The Department strongly encourages consumers to talk with their insurance agent to discuss the risks of only getting the bare minimum levels of insurance coverage.

Consumers with questions about insurance can call the Ohio Department of Insurance at **1-800-686-1526**. Consumer tips on homeowners insurance can also be found at the Department's website, www.insurance.ohio.gov.

This article was reprinted from the Department of Job and Family Services website, www.ohio.gov.

When Enrolling A Child That Has Previously Been In Your Care...

In Minute Menu, go to "Child Information" area, to the right of page and go to "Filter Child List" select "All " Find the child's name you wish to re-enroll, click on the child's name, review their information, update the form with any changes, print the enrollment form, have the parent sign it

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and turn it in to Child Care Connection. Please do not add the child/children again. Our Minute Menu systems are filled with duplicate, triplicate and sometimes quadruplicate names of the same child! If you do not claim on line, children that have left and returned to your program must have a new enrollment form (the bubble enrollment form) mailed into our office as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding this process, please give us a call. Also when completing on line enrollments, be sure to enter the child's gender. We do not need their height and weight but we do need to know the child's gender. If you'll notice all enrollments end on 12/31/2010- we make that change in our office based on the re-enrollment process that occurs at the end of each year.

Healthy Meal Choices

As we move toward another year of participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, please use this time to reflect on your recordkeeping practices, policies and procedures of your programs and review the menus you have created to serve to the children in care at your family childcare home. When reviewing menus on a monthly basis, we often see a repetition of foods; chicken nuggets, tator tots, french fries, pickles and other convenience foods that are not necessarily of the best nutritional value. We understand that it is difficult to prepare and serve nutritious meals to the children in your care; after all you take on the role of teacher, cook, administrator and every other responsibility you carry as a family childcare provider. Yet it is vital to the health of each child in your care that you give them a sound nutritional foundation that will propel them through their day and create habits and tendencies for healthy eating throughout

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their lives. Of course we know that a child's primary influence is their parent's but when considering the time they spend in your home, you can realize that they are influenced by you dramatically. One of the easiest ways you can make an initial small change in the meals you serve children is to move toward changing out some of the enriched products you serve your children such as pasta, crackers and other grains, and to move to whole grain choices. Become familiar with reading the labels of the foods you buy for your day care children- look for these references to see if the products you purchase are *whole grains*:

- Amaranth
- Barley
- Brown rice
- Bulgur (cracked wheat)
- Whole-wheat pasta or couscous
- Flaxseed
- Millet
- Oats
- Quinoa
- Rye
- Spelt
- Wheat berries
- Wild rice

A slice of commercially prepared white bread has 66 calories, 1.9 grams protein and 0.6 grams fiber. A slice of whole-wheat bread has 69 calories and provides 3.6 grams protein and 1.9 grams fiber. It isn't hard to see which one is the better nutritional bet!