

CHILD CARE CONNECTIONS REFERRAL POLICY

Child Care Connections believes parents are best able to evaluate and choose child care for their children because they are in the best position to evaluate their children's needs.

Our goal is to assist parents in finding the widest range available for child care, and to encourage parents to act on their own knowledge and feelings as they select among these possibilities.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTING AND EMPLOYING A CHILD CARE PROVIDER RESTS WITH EACH PARENT. CONNECTIONS DOES NOT MONITOR THE QUALITY OF, NOR DOES CONNECTIONS RECOMMEND, THE PROVIDERS LISTED WITH US. PARENTS ARE URGED TO CAREFULLY INTERVIEW AND CHECK REFERENCES BEFORE LEAVING A CHILD IN CARE.

CHILD CARE CONNECTIONS SELF-CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

A child care provider certifies that:

1. I am 18 years of age or older.
2. I will not use physical punishment on children.
3. I will not care for more than 6 children at the same time, including my own children who are under the age of 6 years. No more than three children will be under age 2.
4. I will welcome Child Care Connections' staff into my home at reasonable hours, with or without prior notice, for observation, technical assistance, and/or training.
5. I have experience and/or training in caring for children and am willing to attend an orientation regarding duties of a provider.
6. I will allow parents the opportunity to observe their children in my home at any time.
7. I will allow parents to observe my home for health and safety hazards and/or precautions. These include the installation of smoke detectors, coverage of all electrical outlets, provision of fire extinguisher in kitchen and other appropriate areas, provision of flashlights or other emergency lighting, and an emergency evacuation plan with alternate routes where appropriate.
8. I will administer to a child in my care, medication only upon the parent's written request or the written instruction of the child's physician.
9. I will not release a child to another person including relative or friends, without the consent of the parent.
10. I will not at any time leave children unattended. Substitute care of a child by a provider under the age of 18 will be by prior agreement only with the parent. I will notify the parent of any change in care arrangements or substitute provider.

11. I will develop an emergency plan for meeting medical emergencies, including specific information on how to contact each parent if an emergency arises. I will obtain emergency medical care permission from all parents. A parent of the child and I will agree on plan for substitute care when I am sick or unavailable, or experiencing an emergency.
12. Neither I nor any member of my household, adult or juvenile, has a history of, or has ever been charged with, indicted for, or convicted of child abuse, neglect, child endangering, or any crime of violence.
13. I will complete and will request that parents of children in my care complete all forms provided by Child Care Connection. These include, but are not limited to, a medical release, signed by the parent, to permit emergency care, names and phone number of the child's physician and a doctor's signed permission to dispense medicine; phone number where parents can be reached, names and phone numbers of at least 2 additional persons authorized to care for the child in the event of an emergency or illness.
14. Within 60 days of the date I sign this certification, I will obtain a statement by a licensed physician confirming that I am free of communicable disease.
15. Both I and other adult members of my household are currently free of chemical (alcohol and drug) dependency.
16. I will use no alcohol or narcotics, other than prescribed by a physician while caring for children, nor will anyone who provides substitute care for children in my home.
17. I will have available for inspection by parents proof of rabies vaccination for any dogs or cats on the premises.
18. I will have a working telephone with posted emergency numbers (fire, poison control, police, emergency squad and parents) in my home.
19. I will have first aid supplies and will obtain a certificate for completion of CPR and/or first aid training within three months after my name is placed on the Child Care Connections registry.
20. I understand that I am not an employee of Child Care Connections, that I am in business for myself, and therefore, that the quality of care given in my home is my responsibility.
21. I will keep any guns, ammunition, and other dangerous sporting equipment locked and away from children.
22. I will agree to follow all state laws regarding car seats, restraints, and insurance.