



Amanda's Law

Amanda's Law went into effect on February 22, 2010. This law impacts family day care and group family day care programs. In order to comply with Amanda's Law, a minimum of one carbon monoxide detector must be installed in every home where there is a carbon monoxide source. A carbon monoxide source is defined as any appliance or system that may emit carbon monoxide: a furnace, fireplace, or a building with an attached garage that houses any type of vehicle. Amanda's Law requires that a carbon monoxide detector be installed on the lowest level of the home where there is a sleeping or napping area. If the area used for sleeping or napping in a family or group family day care home is not on the level of the home where the provider's family sleeps, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) requires the family or group family day care provider to install the carbon monoxide detector on the level of the home where the day care children sleep or nap. It is highly recommended that one carbon monoxide detector be installed on each floor of the residence on which there is either a sleeping area or carbon monoxide source. Carbon monoxide detectors are available in a variety of types. Carbon monoxide detectors that plug into a wall socket must have a battery back up. Registrars and licensors will be confirming compliance of Amanda's Law at the next monitoring visit conducted at each family and group family child care program. Non-compliance with Amanda's law will result in a violation being written against the family or group family child care registration or license. For more information, please contact your registrar or licensor.



Provider Appreciation Day May 7, 2010!

The Community Child Care Clearinghouse of Niagara would like to acknowledge each and every child care provider for their dedication to providing quality child care to the children in Niagara County. Thank you all! From the staff of the Community Child Care Clearinghouse of Niagara.



Attention Parents and Providers

Are you or someone you know in need of assistance locating:

- Family development training
- Parenting classes
- Home repairs
- Energy assistance, home insulation, furnace clean and tune, etc.
- Emergency food, budgeting classes, food stamp assistance
- New and used clothes
- Information on fair housing discrimination and representation, housing location services, landlord/tenant information.



Please contact Niagara Community Action Program, Inc., at 716-285-9681 for further information on eligibility requirements.

Portraying a Positive Image



Successful child care providers are provided and portray a professional business image. When a parent seeking child care leaves a message on a provider's answering machine and that message is not returned, the parent is likely to move on to the next provider on the list. When a parent telephones a child care provider and the call tone they hear contains obscenities or inappropriate music, the parent may re-think whether or not this is the best environment in which to enroll or to leave their child. The way a child care provider speaks to the children in care whether on the telephone or when a parent is present makes a huge impression. Please take the time to evaluate the type of impression you are leaving with a parent whether it is the music on your telephone (cell phone) or your voice mail message. Presenting a professional, positive image from the first contact that a parent has with your program will result in a successful business.

Important Websites for Parents and Providers

Please visit the following websites for important information on quality child care.

www.childcareofniagara.com

www.naccrra.org

www.ocfs.state.ny.us

www.wnyinfanttoddlersolutions.org

www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu

www.earlycareandlearning.org



Healthy Snack Ideas



Eating habits are formed during the early childhood years and last for a lifetime. Presenting children with nutritious foods and limiting their access to "empty calorie" foods can help children learn to make nutritionally sound food choices. Introducing children to healthy snacks and providing plenty of chances for physical activity on a daily basis will help prevent childhood obesity. Here are some healthy snack ideas that children can assist parents and child care providers in making. All of the snacks listed below are creditable snacks for child care providers who participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

- Spread peanut butter on a rice cake and top with banana pieces.
- Fill half of a peach with low-fat or fat-free yogurt and sprinkle with granola.
- Fill celery with peanut butter and top with raisins or nuts.
- Cut up a banana and mix the banana pieces with fresh blueberries or other fresh fruit.

Place low-fat or fat-free yogurt in a cereal bowl. Cover the yogurt with Cheerios, Wheaties or another type of low-sugar cereal. Add the fresh fruit mixture on top.



Administered by the Niagara Community Action Program, Inc.