

WHAT TO ASK YOUR CARE PROVIDER ABOUT EMERGENCIES

You expect your child care provider to be prepared for medical emergencies, but do they have a plan for weather and other disaster-related emergencies? Use this checklist to talk to your child's care provider or pre-school personnel and ask: "How are you prepared to protect children in case of a disaster?"



WRITTEN EMERGENCY PLANS

- Do you have a written emergency plan that accounts for multiple types of disasters?
 - ___ Do you have an **evacuation** plan that includes moving kids to a safe offsite location?
 - ___ Do you have a **shelter-in-place** plan?
 - ___ Do you have a **lock down** plan?
 - ___ Do you have a family **reunification** plan?
 - ___ What are your primary evacuation locations?
 - ___ What information or identification is needed to pick up a child from evacuation location?

Little Ones and Special Needs

- ___ Is there a plan for infants or other children with **special needs or access and functional needs** who will need additional help evacuating?
- ___ Are plans in place for children needing medications or medical equipment?
- Do local emergency responders have a copy of the plan?

NOTE: While being familiar with the safety measures at your child's program is important, as a parent/guardian you don't need a copy of the program's complete emergency plan, as sharing all its details or having it get into the wrong hands could compromise children's safety.



COMMUNICATIONS

- What emergency **communications** plans do you have in place?
 - ___ How will I be notified in case of an emergency?
 - ___ Do you have at least two ways to contact parents/guardians (e.g., cell phone, work phone, email, etc.)?
 - ___ Do you have an out-of-town contact on file for each child (in case local communications are affected)?
 - ___ During an emergency, where will information be posted (local broadcast news, social media, phone number etc.)?
 - ___ How can I contact you (the care provider) during or after an emergency?

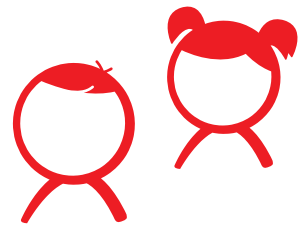


STORING SUPPLIES AND INFORMATION

- Do you have a **disaster supplies kit**?
 - ___ Does the kit meet the needs of all staff and children for a minimum of 72 hours?
- Do you have a plan to store and access vital program records in case of loss of power or damages?



PREPARATION AND DRILLS




- Do you practice emergency **drills**?
- ___ Do you drill for different types of emergencies (i.e., not just fire drills)?
- Has the staff had adequate emergency training (e.g., emergency procedures and roles, CPR, First Aid, etc.)?

IF YOUR CARE PROVIDER DOES NOT HAVE A PLAN:

- Have you expressed that having a plan is essential for the safety and well-being of your child?
- Have you considered sending your child elsewhere?
- Did you ask other parents to ask about emergency plans?

YOU CAN HELP YOUR CARE PROVIDER PREPARE!

- Make a home plan.** Make sure that children are safe at home and at care/school. Identify ICE (In Case of Emergency) contacts, evacuation routes, meet-up locations, and safe rooms for sheltering. Pack an emergency kit, including food, water, flashlights, radio, blankets, first aid supplies as well as activities and comfort items for your children. 
- Talk to children about emergencies.** Reassure them that in an emergency there will be caring adults working to keep them safe-including their teachers.
- Help care providers** stay up to date with your child's medical and emergency contact information. Is your provider aware of any special needs of your child, including medications and allergies?
- Pack a comfort kit** for school with items that could help your child in an emergency—it may include an extra pair of clothes, snacks, a note from you, a family photo, and a stuffed animal.
- Make a Wallet Card** with key information about your care provider's emergency plan and keep it with you to reference during an emergency.

WALLET CARD TEMPLATE

<p>CARE PROVIDER: _____</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>ALT. PHONE: _____</p> <p>PRIMARY EVACUATION LOCATION: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>ALT. EVACUATION LOCATION: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>IN AN EMERGENCY: SITE INFORMATION WILL BE POSTED ON: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>SITE WILL CONTACT ME BY: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>I CAN CONTACT CARE PROVIDER BY: _____</p> <p>_____</p>
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