What You Will Learn About Multihazard Planning for Child Care

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Child care providers will be able to:

- Describe why it is important to be prepared
- Identify hazards and threats that impact your childcare site
- Describe how to prevent or mitigate the impact of likely and high-consequence hazards and threats
- Describe procedures for when an emergency occurs
- Identify how your childcare site will recover from an emergency
- Describe how to develop and maintain your plan
- Describe how you will communicate, train, and practice your preparedness procedures
- Identify the emergency preparedness information you will share with your community
- Describe when to update your plan

QUALITY INDICATORS

Caring for Our Children (CFOC) Standard 9.2.4.3 Disaster Planning, Training, and Communication

CFOC Standard 5.6.0.1 First Aid and Emergency Supplies

CFOC Standard 9.4.1.16 Evacuation and Shelter-In-Place Drill Record

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE- CHILD CARE PROVIDERS NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IS CHILDREN'S SAFETY.

What this looks like in practice

1. Providers must know the hazards that are possible, develop an emergency plan based on those hazards, and test and update their plan frequently
2. Practice evacuating your building regularly
3. Install, test, and clean smoke alarms
4. Post emergency contact information in easy to access locations around your child care program

5. Track when children, families, and guests enter and exit your child care program
6. Teach children what to do during an emergency

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE- PARENTS NEED TO BE INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD CARE PROGRAM'S EMERGENCY PLANNING AND RESPONSE

What this looks like in practice

1. Parents always need to be notified when something happens
2. Provide parents with information about the emergency procedures, such as where you will evacuate to, how you will shelter when necessary, where you will take any injured children, and how you will notify them of a site closure
3. Gather, and update regularly, parent/guardian contact information

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE- CHILD CARE PROGRAMS MUST IDENTIFY HAZARDS TO FOCUS ON, DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO PREVENT THE HAZARD, MINIMIZE THE IMPACT OF THE HAZARD, AND PREPARE FOR THE HAZARD

What this looks like in practice

1. Identify hazards in your area, specifically those most likely to occur
2. Describe how to prevent or mitigate the impact of hazards and threats
3. Develop shelter-in-place procedures
4. Develop evacuation procedures
5. Develop program closure procedures
6. Gather emergency supplies to keep on site (evacuation supplies, shelter-in-place supplies, and supplies needed for individual children)
7. Identify your program's emergency shut-offs for water, gas, and electricity
8. Childproof the facility
9. Have a landline phone that does not require electricity

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE- CHILD CARE PROVIDERS NEED AN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN READY AT ALL TIMES, ALONG WITH AN EMERGENCY KIT AND A COMPREHENZIVE PLAN TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF ALL CHILDREN AND STAFF

What this looks like in practice

1. Develop individualized emergency plans for children with specialized needs
2. Document written permission for emergency transport and medical treatment
3. Get written permission to release children to anyone other than their parents/guardians
4. Schedule visits with emergency responders in your area for information and input around emergency planning
5. Have supplies ready that will meet all of the children's needs

6. Ensure that the doors and windows lock
7. Build a relationship with the local law enforcement in the area

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE- EMERGENCY PLANS NEEDS TO BE REVIEWED, COMMUNICATED, TRAINED, AND PRACTICED

What this looks like in practice

1. Have parents, first responders, local schoolers, childcare site insurance carrier, local/country emergency manager, and childcare organizations review your emergency plan
2. Develop a schedule for regular review and updates to your emergency plan
3. Provide trainings such as briefings, seminars, classroom trainings, and workshops to talk about specific information regarding roles, responsibilities, and possibly to develop or revise a new plan or policy.
4. Conduct a training with the children on how to react in an emergency, and include the children in the emergency drills practicing procedures for evacuation and shelter-in-place
5. Make sure that everyone who works at the site know the emergency procedures
6. Have relationships with emergency management officials and first responders before something happens