

February, 2010

Dear Colleague:

In addition to the attached letter that informs you about Amanda's Law and the requirement for carbon monoxide alarms, the Division of Child Care Services would also like to update you on the following important matters.

- Shaken Baby Syndrome on-line training;
- Recall reminders;
- Website additions; and
- Census information.

Shaken Baby Syndrome

The Office of Children and Family Services and the Early Childhood Education and Training program now offers FREE 24/7 online e-learning courses. You can register anytime by visiting www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu select "Sign Up for Early Childhood e-learning". This is a one-hour web-based training. As you complete each 10-15 minute section, the application saves your progress and allows you up to 30 days to complete the entire course. The self-directed online *Preventing Shaken Baby* course fulfills the following required topics: education and information on the identification, diagnosis and prevention of shaken baby syndrome and principles of childhood development. Two additional on-line training topics are being planned. Stay tuned and check our website for announcements.



In the past few months the Consumer Protection Bureau has announced at least two product recalls. A Graco stroller was recalled due to cases of fingertip amputation and laceration hazards and more than 2 million drop-side cribs were recalled due to infant entrapment and suffocation. Additional information about these two recalls and others can be found at the Consumer Protection Bureau website: <http://www.nysconsumer.gov/>. In addition, you can sign up to be notified of product recalls at: <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx>.

Nassau and Suffolk counties have both passed laws prohibiting the sale of drop-side cribs. If you are a provider in Nassau or Suffolk County and need more information about these laws, please contact your Nassau or Suffolk County government offices.



The Division of Child Care Services continues to revise, renew and update its website to better serve you, the child care provider. Please visit the website for important messages concerning: training opportunities, product recalls, policies, regulations, child care forms, contact information, and much more. The website address is:
<http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/default.asp>.



The 2010 Census is a nationwide effort to count the more than 310 million people living in the United States – including the nearly 20 million residents of New York. In March 2010, the Census Bureau will mail, or hand deliver, its shortest questionnaire ever to each American household – just 10 questions – that can be answered in less than 10 minutes.

Why take a Census?

This information is used to:

- Distribute money to community programs;
- Determine the number of representatives New York State will have in Congress for the next 10 years;
- Help decide where to put hospitals, schools, bus routes, senior citizen centers, child care centers and other facilities that serve you;
- Help businesses decide where to locate in your community and offer products you want; and
- Get a picture of your neighborhood and a look at how it is changing

For more information about the 2010 Census, visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>.

I hope this information is helpful to you. If you have questions or concerns regarding the topics covered in this letter, contact your licensor or registrar.

Sincerely,

Janice M. Molnar, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services