

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Providers who need more information about the Healthy Child Care Illinois Project should contact the Illinois Department of Human Services at 1-800-252-8635 (Voice) or 1-800-447-6404 (TTY).

For more information on a variety of health care services including parenting, child health, Early Intervention, WIC/family nutrition services or statewide referrals for child care call the Help-Me-Grow/Futures for Kids Helpline at 1-800-323-4769 (Voice/TTY).

Parents who are looking for child care programs or for help in obtaining assistance to pay for child care should call the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies' statewide toll free number at 1-877-202-4453 (Voice) or 1-800-649-1884 (TTY).

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For more information:

Call or visit your local Department of Human Services office.

If you have questions about any Department of Human Services (DHS) program, call or visit your local DHS office. We will answer your questions. If you do not know where your local DHS office is or if you are unable to go there, you may call the automated helpline 24 hours a day at:

1-800-252-8635

1-800-447-6404 (TTY)

You may speak to a representative between:

8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Monday - Friday (except state holidays)

For answers to your questions, you may also write:

Illinois Department of Human Services
Bureau of Customer and Provider Assistance
425 South 4th Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Visit our web site at:

www.state.il.us/agency/dhs



futures for
kids

Programs, activities and employment opportunities in the Illinois Department of Human Services are open and accessible to any individual or group without regard to age, sex, race, sexual orientation, disability, ethnic origin or religion. The department is an equal opportunity employer and practices affirmative action and reasonable accommodation programs.

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MISSION & VISION

To enhance the quality, health and well being of children in Illinois' child care settings; to ensure that all children have access to comprehensive, affordable child care; and to provide the highest level of training to center and home based child care providers.



GOALS:

- ★ Improve the health status of children in child care.
- ★ Facilitate children's use of health services.
- ★ Increase health promotion and disease prevention in child care.

CHILD CARE NURSE CONSULTANTS ARE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES WHO WORK WITH CHILD CARE PROVIDERS TO:

- ★ Ensure a safe, healthy child care environment for all children.
- ★ Ensure access to effective health, dental and developmental screenings and follow-up for all children in child care.
- ★ Provide health, mental health, nutrition and safety education for children, families and child care providers.
- ★ Provide individualized attention to children with special health care needs.

WHAT IS A CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL AGENCY?

Illinois Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies work to make high quality child care available to Illinois families. CCR&Rs make child care referrals, provide an array of services to child care professionals, and assist communities with improving child care. The Child Care Nurse Consultant works directly with other CCR&R staff to enrich training, programming and problem-solving initiatives.

Special attention is given to addressing issues relative to children with special health care needs.

HISTORY

In 1995, the Healthy Child Care America campaign was launched on the principle that families in partnership with child care and health care providers can promote the positive development of children in child care settings. In 1996, the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), local health departments and the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies partnered together to improve the health and safety in Illinois' child care settings. Today, the State of Illinois, due in large part to the benefits derived from the 1996 partnership, is on the leading edge of implementing collaborations to directly increase the health and safety in child care settings.

