

Benton County Family Child Care Providers Fall 2015

Wow, can you believe that it is the middle of November already? Where has the time gone? It has been great to have such beautiful weather and hopefully you were able to get out and enjoy the sunshine! Wishing you well!

Staff

Our staff has remained the same this past year but just wanted to give you our contact information again.

Pam Foss – 320-968-5158 (usual hours are Monday- Thursday 7:30am to 4:00pm) Best way to reach me is by email at pfoss@co.benton.mn.us

Rachael Wyatt – 968-5094 She completes most of the drop ins as well as the off year paperwork.

Gun Safety

Just a reminder to ensure that guns are unloaded, locked in a separate area from the ammunition. The ammunition also needs to be in a locked box. If you are using a gun cabinet that has two separate compartments, just ensure they are both locked.

Home Visits

MN DHS has told us that they would like all of our home visits to now be unannounced so as of January 2016, I will no longer be able to schedule your relicensing visits. It will be explained to you in the letter that you get from us with your relicensing paperwork as to when we will be coming out. I have narrowed down the month for you and would ask that you notify me if there are days you are closed so I do not come out when you are not there.

Training

We know the training requirements have brought a lot of confusion and frustration by providers. Here is breakdown....

Each caregiver that works more than 30 days per year and the license holder needs to have 16 hours of training per year.

Of those 16 hours....

- Each Year: 2 hours must be in an Active Supervision class (there are currently about 5 options but more will be coming) This training needs to be taken through Child Care Aware and can be taken in person or online at www.eagertolearn.org under Anytime Learning * These classes need to be taken less than one year apart from each other!
- Each Year: 2 hours must be in a Core Competency IV class. There are many options throughout the Child Care Aware catalog or you can take an online course through www.eagertolearn.org under Anytime Learning * These classes need to be taken less than one year apart from each other!
- Every other year: CPR (infant and child) and First Aid need to be taken. This needs to be an in person class and certified through American Red Cross or American Heart Association. There are some options of where this training can be found such as Child Care Aware; American Red Cross; local Community Education; Emergency Outfitters; St Cloud Technical College; Private Parties such as Tanja Burthwick 218-821-1340; Susie Wistrom (320) 248-3679 * These classes need to be less than 2 years apart from each other!
- SUIDS and AHT class needs to be taken every other year. You will need to watch the videos in the off year. This needs to be done through Child Care Aware or online at www.eagertolearn.org Anytime Learning. Some people are deciding to take the class each year and that is just fine. * The class/video need to be less than one year apart from each other!
- If transporting, you need to take the CARS class every three years. This is currently offered through Benton County Public Health and Child Care Aware.
- The rest of your hours can be in any classes of your choice, please get a certificate! Please be advised that most of the CARE courses at this time are not approved by Minnesota so it is not advisable to take these classes at this time.

