CHILD CARE WELLNESS CONSULTATION UPDATE!

The Child Care Wellness Consultants are visiting Child Care Programs throughout the state! (Thanks to the Early Learning Challenge grant monies!)

Is bleach is a safe disinfectant for all child care programs? How can child care programs identify children who may bite and how can they work on this issue? How can child care providers help picky eaters? Are child care programs really breastfeeding friendly? Are child care programs practicing evidence-based safe sleep? Are child care programs using best practice techniques when washing hands? How can child care programs get their kids up and moving more? What can a child care program do if a child seems behind developmentally?

Our RNs are collaborating with child care programs on subjects from improving nutrition and increasing physical activity, to infectious disease policies and improving medication administration. We will also assist programs with many other topics like injury prevention, emergency preparedness, developmental screening and children with special health care needs, getting connected with appropriate resources, to name just a few.

We are beginning with any STARS-participating homes and centers and our work will be free of charge to the provider and supported through the Early Learning Challenge grant monies. Currently site visits to non-participating STARS providers can also be arranged, however the provider will be required to pay a fee for service directly to the consultant.

All providers will be required to complete short visit intake and outcome forms (10 minutes each) and our RN Consultant will talk with you about which type of program review will best prepare you both for your visit. Examples of review information can be a CCWC program review checklist (brief) OR your most recent STARS program self-assessment, or a collection of your program's policies and practices related to health and safety issues for which you would like consultation services.

If you know of a child care program you think might benefit from our consultation please contact Rosemeryl Harple, our Infant Child Care RN Coordinator at 802-652-2095 or via email at rosemeryl.harple@state.vt.us.

If you would like to refer a child care program who expresses interest, please contact the Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council via email wccicc@comcast.net or phone 985-2700 to see when a visit can be arranged for your program.