Note from Pamela Dickfoss, Deputy Director

As the Department of Social Services' proposed Safe Sleep Regulations continue through the approval process, we are launching a statewide Safe Sleep Awareness Campaign to inform parents and caregivers on the risk of unsafe sleep environments. The Department’s Community Care Licensing Division will be actively educating on best practices and providing resource materials to all child care providers across the state with the goal of reducing the risks of sleep related infant deaths.

As providers, we need your help. Please familiarize yourself with safe sleep resources and follow all best practices in your facility. A few simple steps, such as those recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, can reduce the risks of unsafe sleep:

- Place infants on their backs when sleeping
- Use a firm sleep surface, such as a mattress in a safety-approved crib
- Keep toys and soft bedding, such as blankets, pillows, or bumper pads, out of the baby’s sleep area
- Ensure pacifiers have nothing attached to them

In addition, please partner with us in spreading awareness about safe sleep to the families of children in your care. Listed below are informative resources you can give to parents and caregivers:

- A Child Care Provider’s Guide to Safe Sleep
- What does a Safe Sleep Environment Look Like?
- Guide to Proposed Safe Sleep Regulations for Child Care Facilities.

Please review PIN 19-02-CCP, PIN 19-02-CCP Spanish

If you have any questions, please contact your local Regional Office. Together, we can reduce the number of sleep related infant fatalities.
In Memoriam - Darryl Jefferson

The Community Care Licensing Division recently suffered a terrible loss with the passing of our dear friend and dedicated colleague, Darryl Jefferson. Darryl devoted his entire career to protecting the health and safety of children and serving the providers and families of our state. Darryl’s commitment to our Department’s mission was exhibited in his strong work ethic, high moral standards and in his desire to be a positive influence on those around him. Darryl succeeded in his mission by performing his duties with great care, thoughtfulness and competence. He served as a true role model for excellence.

Darryl began his career with the Department in 1992 as a Licensing Program Analyst in the Oakland Child Care Regional Office, where he later promoted to Licensing Program Manager in 1999. After serving in that capacity for 15 years, Darryl promoted to Regional Manager of the Sacramento Regional Office in 2015, and then became an Assistant Program Administrator in 2018. During his 27-year career with the Department, Darryl worked with diverse groups and was committed to treating everyone fairly and with the highest integrity and professionalism. Darryl touched many lives over the course of his long career, and his impact on the children and families of our state is immeasurable.

We will always remember Darryl Jefferson as a kind and joyful person with a warm smile and for always bringing out the best in those around him. He will truly be missed.
Safe Sleep Regulations-Update

The public comment period for draft safe sleep regulations has closed, and final rules are pending. Please check the Child Care Licensing Program Homepage for the latest update on Safe Sleep regulations.

In addition to new regulations, the Licensing Program would like to encourage caregivers and families to seek guidance for best practices, as this information is useful and may be followed by anyone caring for an infant to help them sleep safely.

Put on Your Own Oxygen Mask First

“Put on your own oxygen mask first before helping others.” You’ve probably heard this line as part of your standard pre-flight announcements, but the principle also rings true in child care: you can’t care for others if you don’t take care of yourself first.

Working in the child care industry can be a great experience, but it can also be overwhelming at times and lead to “provider burnout.” Caring for children is challenging, and it is important to recognize and take care of your own mental and emotional health. If you think you are experiencing provider burnout, you shouldn’t ignore it. Signs of provider burnout include:

- Fatigue or physical pain (such as headaches or backaches)
- Indifference or impatience toward children or families served
- Persistent feelings of isolation, anxiety, or stress

The “Put Your Own Oxygen Mask on First” webpage has resources to help you address burnout, stress, and self-care. Provider burnout is real and can happen to the best providers. The secret is being aware burnout is possible and to take steps in advance before you experience issues.

It also may be helpful to network with other child care providers and for support —your local Resource and Referral Office can assist you in forming these connections and may have free resources for training and help with the operation of your child care facility.
Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID)/Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Spring Training Information

The California SIDS Program is hosting their SUID/SIDS Spring Training on April 26, 2019 at the Solano County Events Center in Fairfield, CA. Registration is now open!

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Safety Reminders

Spring is a good time of year to check your safety equipment in your home or facility. Did you know that smoke and carbon monoxide detectors have expiration dates? Carbon monoxide detectors are said to have a lifespan of five to seven years and smoke detectors approximately eight to ten years.

You may locate these dates on the back of the alarm as pictured below. For more information on smoke and carbon monoxide safety, you can visit the National Fire Protection Association or California Department of Public Health websites.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

As places of public accommodation, licensed child care facilities have obligations under federal and state disability laws including Title III of the Americans with Disability Act 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12181, et seq. (“ADA”) and the California Unruh Civil Rights Act and California Disabled Persons Act (Cal. Civ. Code §§ 51 et seq. and 54 et seq.). Each child care licensee is responsible for determining its legal obligations under these laws in relation to its employees, the enrollment of children, the provision of care and supervision of children and public access to the facility. You may want to consult with an attorney for advice on ADA and CA Unruh Civil Rights Act requirements.

The United States Department of Justice operates a toll-free ADA Information Line to provide information and materials to the public about the requirements of the ADA. To get answers to technical questions, obtain general ADA information, or order free ADA materials, child care facilities, parents, and other members of the public may call (800) 514-0301 (voice)/ (800)514-0383 (TTY).

DOJ publications also include a Commonly Asked Questions about Child Care Centers and the ADA.
Prevent Child Lead Exposure by Meeting New Requirements for Sharing Information

Beginning January 1, 2019, new law AB 2370 (Chapter 676, Statutes of 2018) requires licensed homes and centers to share information on the risks and effects of lead exposure with enrolling and re-enrolling families. Visit the Child Care Licensing website to obtain a copy of the Lead Poisoning Facts Information Flyer designed to help providers meet new information requirements.

Did you know water is a leading source of child lead contamination? AB 2370 also requires Child Care Centers to test facility water beginning January 1, 2020. Please continue to check future Quarterly Updates for information regarding the new center requirement taking effect next year.

Also, learn if a water filter is certified to remove lead and see the Environmental Working Group website for helpful information regarding water filters certified for lead removal.

Allergies in Child Care Facilities

Allergens are substances in the environment that cause a hypersensitive reaction in the immune system. Some common allergens include:

- Certain food items and medications
- Pollens from trees, grasses, weeds, or molds
- Venom from insect stings or animal dander
- Dust mites that live in carpeting, bedding, and other areas that hold moisture

Recently, there have been shortages of EpiPen (epinephrine) auto-injectors, which are used to treat severe allergic reactions. In response, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it will be extending the dates through which some EpiPens may be used beyond the manufacturer’s labeled expiration date. Please review PIN 19-03-CCP, PIN 19-03-CCP Spanish which addresses how providers should respond to the EpiPen shortages and the FDA’s extended expiration dates.

In addition, it is important for providers to be aware of children’s allergies and any medication they are taking. The provider and staff should be trained in administering medications as needed. Medication should be stored in a centralized location which is accessible only to the provider and staff. If the facility has children that are on medications, the facility should have a current Incidental Medical Services (IMS) plan in place and submit a copy of the plan to the local Child Care Regional office. Below are some of the medical related forms that the facility should have on file, as needed:

- LIC701 Physician’s Report
- LIC627 Consent for Medical Treatment
- LIC9221 Parent Consent for Administration of Medications and Medication Chart
- LIC9166 Nebulizer Care Consent/Verification
- LIC702 Child’s Preadmission Health History – Parent’s Report

For further information related to allergies, please visit: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Food Allergies and Allergies- Questions Answered
Checking the Megan’s Law Sex Offender Registry

Previous restrictions in law that limited where some convicted sex offenders may live have been struck down by the courts. However, convicted sex offenders must report their home address to authorities and many of those individuals are listed on California’s Megan’s Law Website.

Child care providers should regularly check the Megan’s Law Sex Offender Registry Website by using the ‘Map Search’ to enter your facility address and select a mapping radius (up to 10 miles). You can help better ensure the safety of children by staying aware of sexual offenders who may live near your facility.

New Inspection Process Project Updates

CCLD continues to develop standard and domain focused tools for the Child Care Program. In the coming months, CCLD will launch a three-month pilot of the Child Care standard and domain focused tools. These tools will facilitate inspections that focus on three priority areas: prevention, enforcement, and compliance. The tools developed through the Inspection Process Project will support the Department’s efforts to conduct inspections that are consistent and thorough throughout the state and across licensing categories. To support this vision, CCLD is employing a data-driven continuous quality improvement (CQI) approach to the evaluation and improvement of policies and business processes. Through the CQI approach, CCLD will evaluate the overall health of licensed care in California, assess the underlying conditions that contribute to the overall health of licensed care, refine policies, procedures and inspection tools to target opportunities for improvement, and evaluate the success of the revised policies, procedures and tools. The new inspection tools and processes will be person-centered and will facilitate a robust qualitative and quantitative review of each licensed setting.

The Department has partnered with California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) to complete an in-depth analysis of the Senior Care Inspection Tool Pilot. Highlights of the RCFE Pilot findings from CSUS can be found on our website. Also review PIN 19-01-CCP, PIN 19-01-CCP Spanish.

Management Information

Maria Valencia was promoted to LPM III, El Segundo, Palmdale, Santa Barbara, San Diego and San Diego North Regional Offices, effective 2/4/19.
Maria Mayorga was promoted to LPM I, Sacramento Regional Office, effective 1/22/19.
Keven Peters was promoted to LPM I, Sacramento Regional Office, effective 1/3/19.
Garfield Leung was promoted to LPM I, San Bruno Regional Office, effective 1/1/19.
Wynn Norona was promoted to LPM I, Oakland Regional Office, effective 1/3/19.
Sharon Green was promoted to LPM II, Monterey Park South West Regional Office, effective 1/31/19.
Monica Cuddy was promoted to LPM I, San Diego North Regional Office, effective 1/31/19.
Leslie Lepori LPM I transferred to Rohnert Park Regional Office, effective 3/1/19.
Diana Stephenson was promoted to LPM I, San Jose Regional Office, effective 2/14/19.
Valarie Reed LPM I Fresno Regional Office, retired effective 12/30/18.
Sharon Howell  LPM II San Bruno Regional Office, retired effective 2/1/19.
Suzanne Roman-Clark was promoted to LPM II, San Bruno Office, effective 2/11/19.
Gilbert Sena was promoted to LPM I, Riverside Regional Office, effective 3/1/19.
Patty Gutierrez, LPM I Santa Barbara Regional Office, retired effective 4/5/19.

Are you interested in becoming part of the Child Care Licensing team?

Please apply at:  CalCareers

• Information on how to apply for a state job can be found at the Cal Careers Website.

Helpful Reminders and Information

• Please remember to check out new PINS: Provider Information Notices
• Latest Recalls from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
• Regional Office Locations and Numbers
• Short Child Care Videos addressing common questions on licensed care for families and providers.
• Free Online Mandated Reporter Training
• Resources for Preventing Suspension and Expulsion in Child Care Settings
• Healthy Schools Act Training, Department of Pesticide Regulation

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<tr>
<th>IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centralized Complaint &amp; Information Bureau (CCIB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Care Advocate Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protective Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caregiver Background Check Bureau</td>
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<tr>
<td>CA Child Care Resource and Referral Network</td>
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Program Administrator: Shanice Orum
Assistant Program Administrators: Robert Garza- North
Maria Hendrix- South
Maria Valencia- South