

Child Care Health Consultants Trained!

Healthy Child Care Wyoming is happy to share that health consultants for child care are now available in many communities across the state! **46 Certified Consultants are now available to offer health and safety consultation in child care settings.** Public health nurses, school nurses, UW nursing students and various other professionals have completed the coursework and the hands-on training required for certification in Wyoming. Topics included: consultation skills, children's mental health, child care health and safety, child abuse and neglect, nutrition, oral health, sick child care, injury prevention, working with children with special needs, issues of diversity, and model child care policies. In addition, the participants in the training learned about child care across the state and how state agencies, organizations and child care providers work together to provide care for young children and their families.

Two types of consultants are certified through the training. A Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) is a registered nurse or health professional and a Child Care Consultant (CCC) is an early childhood professional. **CCHCs and CCCs can work as teams to provide child care homes and centers consulting services and training on a variety of health and safety related topics. These consultations can be on the telephone or through on-site visits.**

One of the first responsibilities of child care providers is to assure children are healthy and safe. Most child care providers are not trained as health and safety specialists, yet they deal with health and safety related issues every day. To provide the best quality care for every child, caregivers need access to reliable information and resources for health and safety. This is the role of the CCHC/CCC to deliver information, conduct training, and provide other direct or referral services to Early Care and Education professionals. Child care providers and staff can benefit from trainings in health and safety, assistance with child health and immunization records, referrals for their own care, health and safety program assessments and more. Monthly health consultation is also one of the criteria choices for a 2-year license.

For a list of certified health and safety consultants in your area contact one of the following:

- **Wyoming Children's Action Alliance 1-800-400-3999**
- **Child Care Finder 1-800-578-4017**
- **Healthy Child Care Wyoming - Joan Bangen, Consultant 307-577-1394**

**For more information about child care health consultation, contact the
Healthy Child Care Wyoming Project.**

http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/FAMILY/UW_HCCW_website/HCCWWebPage.htm

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