



CAP ACTION EBLAST



Do Something! Do One Thing! One Thing Counts!

The Child Abuse Prevention Action Committee is a professional collaborative involved in the planning and promotion of child abuse prevention efforts throughout Oklahoma.

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Child Abuse Prevention and Quality Child Care!

Many people believe that child care is just for children. This is not the case. A quality child care program involves the family as a whole. Finding quality and affordable child care can be time consuming and stressful, however necessary. Help is available – see the information and links below. Children thrive in quality child care environments, and families can focus on their daily tasks knowing their children are safe.

“Quality child care may be defined as child care services that provide a responsive, developmentally appropriate environment for young children. This quality care, added to a quality home environment, leads to the best possible physical, intellectual, and social-emotional development in the child. Parents who know that their child is receiving quality child care can be assured that their child is safe, nurtured, and challenged to learn.”¹

In some cases, however, parents may not know about the resources that are available to help them find child care. A quality child care program will not only provide children with a safe, nurturing environment, it will also direct families to community resources in which they may be in need. (i.e. Child Care Subsidy, WIC, Food Stamps, Counseling Services, developmental screenings for children). Child Care Providers may also find ways to involve families in the child care program. This establishes a relationship between the family and the provider, which will in turn make the family feel they can reach out for help when needed.

With the many factors related to finding quality child care, families can contact local Resource and Referral Agencies for referrals to child care providers and information on local community resources. The referral service is FREE and confidential.



Related Quality Child Care Resources

The Protective Factors Framework

<http://www.cssp.org/reform/strengthening-families/the-basics/protective-factors>

Child Care Warmline (888) 574-5437

The Warmline for Oklahoma Child Care Providers offers free telephone consultation to child care providers on numerous topics of concern. Consultants can also refer providers to appropriate services and resources within their communities.

Reaching for the Stars <http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/cc/stars/>

Is This The Right Place For My Child? 38 Research-Based Indicators of Quality Child Care – brochure

<http://ccapub.childcareaware.org/docs/pubs/121e.pdf>

Choosing Quality Child Care – What makes a good Caregiver?

<http://www.zerotothree.org/early-care-education/child-care/choosing-quality-child-care.html>

The Role of Professional Child Care Providers in Preventing and Responding to Child Abuse and Neglect –

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/usermanuals/childcare/>

¹<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fcs/pdfs/fcs460.pdf>

Do just one thing! Your one thing counts!

- ✓ **Call your local Resource and Referral Agency for a list of licensed child care providers** to get the facts about quality child care. Visit this link for a list of resource and referral agencies statewide - www.oklahomachildcare.org.
- ✓ **Check the records of any licensed child care providers before making a decision.**
- ✓ **Visit the providers and ask questions.** A quality checklist is available on each Resource and Referral Agencies' website or on the Oklahoma State Department of Human Services website - www.okdhs.org.
- ✓ **Do surprise visits to a child care provider.** Do they make you feel welcome at any time?
- ✓ **Stay involved with the child care program** (volunteer for field trips, meetings with teachers, etc.).
- ✓ **Apply for child care assistance** through OKDHS, NACCRRRA Military subsidy or tribal subsidy to help with child care costs.

Agency Spotlight

Rainbow Fleet's Mission is to provide innovative educational child development programs and services that enhance the quality of life for children, their families, and child care professionals.

Rainbow Fleet is a unique resource service that provides a large variety of educational materials and resources to families, childcare providers, teachers and community agencies. Resources offered include training classes on a variety of subjects, a child care food program for Licensed Family Child Care Homes that ensures children are receiving nutritious meals, a resource center (i.e. toy lending library, consumer educational materials, parenting information), as well as a referral service for families looking for child care and other resources. They also provide onsite, technical assistance to child care providers to enhance environments for children and parent resources in child care. www.rainbowfleet.org

Upcoming Events

Next CAP ACTION meeting – Wed, August 21st, 10:00am
CAP Day at the Capitol – Tuesday, April 8, 2014

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EARLY CHILDHOOD
TIP SHEETS

2014 Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Action begins now! Sign Up today to join efforts!