

CHILD CARE PREPARE:

# ARE YOU READY?

## Emergency Preparedness Considerations for Infant and Toddler Child Care Providers



Findings from Child Care Aware of America's  
Infant Toddler Evacuation Survey



### Written Emergency Plans

Does your child care program...

- Have a written emergency plan?
- Ensure new staff learn about the emergency plan?
- Review and update the emergency plan at least twice a year?
- Update your emergency plan to reflect children's changing developmental needs?
- Practice your evacuation procedure?
- Debrief after a drill to discuss ways to improve the process?
- Ensure someone is available to help with infants and toddlers during an emergency?
- Know how to help children remain calm during an emergency?
- Know how to help staff remain calm during an emergency?
- Assign staff with specific responsibilities during an emergency?

### Preparing for the Weather

Does your child care program...

- Have a plan to protect children from inclement weather during an evacuation?
- Know how your evacuation method can be impacted by inclement weather?
- Have a plan for children who have their shoes off at the time of an emergency?

### Evacuation Method

Does your child care program...

- Know how infants will be carried in an evacuation?
- Have a plan to keep walking toddlers together as you travel to the evacuation site as well as keeping them safe while you are there?
- Use an evacuation crib, pack & play (with wheels), stroller, wagon or other evacuation device?
- Have a plan to keep children safe in evacuation cribs (keep them from standing, falling over, etc.)?
- Regularly check evacuation cribs to ensure they are in working condition and will function correctly in an emergency? (Ensure the wheels work on the terrain around the building; if it fits through doors; it easily rolls over the door threshold; and you're physically capable of moving the device quickly and safely.)
- Know how to make sure children get up or down stairs in your evacuation route quickly and safely?
- Know how to get to an evacuation site outside of your neighborhood?

## Evacuation Location

### Does your child care program...

- Have a planned evacuation site and backup site?
  - Have an evacuation site outside of your neighborhood?
  - Have a written agreement with your evacuation site?
  - Regularly check in with your evacuation site to re-emphasize the agreement?
  - Know the evacuation site meets your needs (*size, safe space, etc.*)?
  - Ensure all staff and families know the evacuation location?
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## Emergency Supply Kit

### Does your child care program...

- Prepare your emergency supplies in a kit you can easily carry?
  - Keep your emergency supply kit where you will be able to easily take it during an evacuation?
  - Know you can meet the children's needs with the supplies in the kit?
  - Have supplies to meet staff needs?
  - Have emergency information for each child and staff member in the kit (*emergency contacts, medical information and a recent picture*)?
  - Know every item in your emergency supply kit is fully stocked and in working order?
  - Have a phone and phone charger ready to take in an evacuation?
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## Meeting the Needs of...

### Individual Infants

#### Does your child care program...

- Have formula or breastmilk available for each child in the event of an evacuation?
- Have comfort items (*pacifier, blanket, etc.*) for each child?
- Have a plan for an evacuation that occurs when an infant is sleeping, being fed or diapered?

### Toddlers

#### Does your child care program...

- Have an evacuation crib, pack & play (*with wheels*), stroller, wagon or similar evacuation device available for toddlers?
  - Have a plan to keep toddlers busy during an evacuation?
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## Parent Communication and Policies

### Does your child care program...

- Ensure parents know your emergency plan?
- Know how you will notify parents in the event of an evacuation or relocation?
- Have a plan to communicate with parents if there is no electricity, phone service or internet?
- Have protocols in place for child drop off and pick up during an emergency?