



QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

CHILDREN'S CENTERS

SUMMER EDITION

Tammy's Tips

By Tammy Sharpe, Centers Supervisor



New Attestation of Good Moral Character

Recently DCF sent out an updated Attestation of Good Moral Character (AGMC). If you already have an AGMC on file you do not need to complete the new one. Any AGMC signed after 4/30/2025 must be the updated version.

New Number for DCF Help Desk for Background Screening

850-300-4247

Pools

Please remember that pools and inflatable slides are not permitted. The regulations state that **"Wading pools, including inflatable water slides with landing area where water collects, are prohibited."**

Reporting Incidents and Accidents

If you have an incident or accident that needs to be reported to the license board, especially if it involves police, 911 services or abuse, please call the office and speak to someone directly. **Please do not email your specialist, also do not leave them a voice mail.**

Call the office at 727-507-4857 after hours or on the weekends. When you call, you will have the option to leave a message for someone to call you back on the next business day, or call the number in the voice mail to speak to someone if your report is an **emergency situation** that cannot wait until the next business day. **Incidents and accidents are must be reported to child care licensing within 24 hours per regulation.**

Fire Inspections

Your license cannot be renewed without an approved fire inspection. Expired fire inspections are a **non-compliance**. To avoid a **non-compliance**, call your local fire department 30 days prior to the fire inspections expiration date to schedule an inspection. This leaves time in case a repair is needed.



QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

CHILDREN'S CENTERS

SUMMER EDITION

Emergency Preparedness

it's that time of year!



Faith Borno, M.Ed.
Executive Director

Hurricane Season begins on June 1st. Although we hope that this year's season is uneventful, we must be diligent and prepared.

Last year's hurricane season was busier than usual, and it gave us the opportunity to see our processes in full swing. Overall, we were not pleased with the options available for post storm reporting, so we have added a post event survey link to the Emergency Preparedness Booklet for your convenience.

Please keep in mind that child care regulations require licensed programs to report their operational status within 24 hours of an event. We hope that this new survey option makes it easier for you to complete this reporting requirement. You will find the newly updated Emergency Preparedness Booklet attached to this publication.

It is also important to note that the PCLB staff work at the local Special Needs Shelters when they are open, so our office will be closed. Please do not Call/email our office, or your licensing specialist, to give your post storm update as the message will not be received in an appropriate timeframe. This is why the special emergency hotline and survey link are available to you for post event reporting.

Be prepared to provide the best contact person and phone number on the survey. If your center is closed following a storm event, we will need this information to set up an inspection to reopen your center, or answer any questions.

Please read the attached Emergency Preparedness booklet and let us know if you have any questions. Let's hope that being over prepared leads to a slow hurricane season and that this information is not needed this year.

Faith





QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



CHILDREN'S CENTERS

SUMMER EDITION

Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

NEWS FROM EPIDEMIOLOGY

By: Rachel J. Ilic, MPH, CPH, CIC

Raw Milk Consumption

Cow's milk pasteurization was introduced in Chicago in 1908 but wasn't widely adopted until 1916. Public health officials became concerned about bovine tuberculosis transmission from cow's milk to humans and estimated that as many as 10% of all human tuberculosis cases were caused by infection via milk consumption. In 1910, a tuberculosis epidemic spread through Illinois infecting over 300,000 cattle and because tuberculosis-free herd certifications became more difficult to manage, pasteurization became popular.

In 1924, the U.S. Public Health Service developed the Standard Milk Ordinance for voluntary adoption by state and local agencies and is now called the Grade "A" Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO). More states began adopting the PMO approach in subsequent decades and infections from milk borne disease outbreaks decreased from 25% (prior to 1938) to less than 1% (2015).

While tuberculosis infections are less of a concern in the United States, there are other human pathogens that raw milk can be contaminated with. Several countries have monitored the presence of different type of pathogens in raw milk and some studies have identified almost a third of all milk samples contained at least 1 type of pathogen such as *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Salmonella*, *Brucella* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The FDA notes that raw milk is particularly unsafe for children due to their vulnerability and susceptibility to certain pathogens including *E. coli* O157:H7 which can lead to the development of Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS). The FDA notes several claims for the benefits of raw milk and provides an explanation based on scientific literature [here](#).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notes the risk for Influenza A (H5N1) infection from raw milk consumption and advises against consumption as a way to obtain antibodies to prevent future illness. H5N1 can be found in the mammary glands of cattle which can be passed to humans if pasteurization is not performed.

Raw milk can contain a variety of disease-causing pathogens and has frequently been identified as the source of disease outbreaks in the United States. Studies indicate over 200 recorded outbreaks since 1993 with recent investigations showing a 4-fold increase in outbreaks reported during 2007-2012. While the investigations are well documented, these numbers likely represent a small proportion of illnesses associated with raw milk consumption due to lack of healthcare seeking behavior for gastrointestinal related illnesses.

Resources:

1. (<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4890836/>)
2. (<https://www.fda.gov/food/buy-store-serve-safe-food/raw-milk-misconceptions-and-danger-raw-milk-consumption>)
3. (<https://www.cdc.gov/food-safety/foods/raw-milk.html>)



QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

CHILDREN'S CENTERS SUMMER EDITION UPCOMING TRAININGS

RECORD KEEPING FOR CHILDREN'S CENTERS

Is a four and a half (4 1/2) hour training comprised of an overview of regulations regarding record keeping including personnel, children, and facility records. Participants will receive a training packet that includes required and optional forms and learn practical ideas for setting up and maintaining files in order to be in compliance with regulations. This training is appropriate for prospective or new owners/directors and as an update for current child care personnel with record keeping responsibilities. A certificate documenting four and a half (4) hours of annual in-service training will be issued.

June 10, 2025, September 9, 2025, December 9, 2025

Registration Fee: \$40 prepaid prior to training, non-refundable
Class Time: 9:00a.m.—1:00p.m.



PINELLAS DIRECTOR'S BASICS



Is a three (3) hour training required for new directors who have not been directors previously in Pinellas County or have not been a director in Pinellas County in the last 12 months. This course is designed to foster success by covering regulations unique to Pinellas County, our website as a resource and best management practices. A certificate documenting three (3) hours of annual in-service training will be issued.

July 8, 2025, October 14, 2025

Registration Fee: \$25 pre-paid prior to training, non-refundable
Time: 9:00a.m.—12:00p.m.

DIRECTOR'S ORIENTATION FOR INFANT CARE

Is a three (3) hour training comprised of regulations pertaining specifically to infant care and best practices in caring for children from birth to 2 years of age. Participants will receive a training packet that includes a copy of the Infant Standards, required and sample forms, and brochures. This training is required for directors who plan to start an infant program. A certificate documenting three (3) hours of annual in-service training will be issued.

August 12, 2025, November 11, 2025

Registration Fee: \$25 pre-paid prior to training, non-refundable
Class time: 9:00a.m.—1:00p.m.



All classes are held at 8751 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33771

These classes are subject to cancellation based on restrictions and requirements in the state at that time.

Call the CCLP office prior to class if you need to reschedule in order to avoid repaying the registration fee.

Any persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations should call the CCLP office no later than two (2) weeks prior to the training.

Please call 727-507-4857 to register for a class.



QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

CHILDREN'S CENTERS

SUMMER EDITION



CPSC Warns Consumers to Immediately Stop Using Queerick Infant Swings Due to Risk of Serious Injury or Death from Suffocation;



Name of product: Queerick Swings

Hazard: The swings were marketed for infant sleep and have an incline angle greater than 10 degrees in violation of the Safe Sleep Babies Act and the federal Infant Sleep Products Rule. In addition, the swings fail to meet mandatory warning requirements for infant swings. These swings create an unsafe sleeping environment for infants and can cause death or serious injury to infants.

Consumer Action: CPSC urges consumers to stop using the infant swings immediately and dispose of them. Button cell and coin batteries are hazardous. The battery in the remotes should be disposed of or recycled following local hazardous waste procedures. Do not sell or give away these hazardous infant swings.

Product Safety Warning Date: May 15, 2025

Primark Recalls DTR Plush Bag Stitch and DTR Plush Bag Angel Due to Choking and Ingestion Hazards

Hazard:

The zipper pull on the back of the plush bag can detach, posing a risk of serious injury or death from choking and/or ingestion of the zipper pull.

Remedy:

Consumers should immediately take the recalled plush bags away from children, stop using them and return them to a Primark store for a full refund in the form of original payment.



CPSC Consumer Information Hotline

Contact this toll-free number if you have questions about a recall:

800-638-2772 (TTY 301-595-7054) Times: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. ET. Messages can be left anytime.

Call to get product safety and other agency information and to report unsafe products.

<https://www.cpsc.gov/>



QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

CHILDREN'S CENTERS

SUMMER EDITION

Creative Corner

Fun, educational activities kids **LOVE!**

<https://myboredtoddler.com/easy-crafts-for-toddlers/>

Finding crafts for young children can be difficult. This website offers multiple craft ideas to keep hands busy. Things such as a paper plate lion, summer flower craft, or a newspaper puppy paper craft. Each link for each craft also offers many tips and tricks as well as instructions on how to create the crafts.





QUARTERLY NEWS!

Child Care Licensing Program Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County



Summer
2025
Volume 8
Issue 1

CHILDREN'S CENTERS

SUMMER EDITION

Employee Spotlight: Rajiv Rambaran

How did you get your start in this field?

I started college with plans to become an elementary school teacher.

After getting my associates degree and taking some education courses, I interned with Pinellas County Schools and took a job with a before/after care provider. I loved working with children, and this would then lead me to becoming a pre-school teacher briefly.

What is your favorite part of being on this team?

My favorite part is working with the team to protect the children/families of Pinellas County.

What did you do before this role?

I switched my major to a Public Policy and Administration having a deep interest in policy, politics, and government.

Since graduating with my Bachelor's I have worked in city administration, for a state college, and a youth counseling shelter non-profit agency. I feel this is a position that incorporates all of my areas of interest: government, policy, serving our local community, and protecting our families.

Tell us about your family.

I have a rather large family, and we have been living in Pinellas County almost 30 years.

What do you love to do when you are not at work? Do you have any hobbies?

I am a homebody, but I do love the beach, road trips, movie nights, exotic foods, and keeping up with pop culture.

What do you think makes a great childcare provider?

I think what makes a great provider is passionate, diligent staff, good organization, and excellent leadership.



Child Care Licensing Program

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas, 8751 Ulmerton Road, Suite 2000, Largo, Florida 33771

727-507-4857 pclb.org

Mission

To protect and promote the health, safety, and mental development of children cared for in children's centers and family child care homes in Pinellas County.