

## FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES SPRING EDITION



### Reminder About Your Days and Hours of Operation

By Julie Oliver, Supervisor, Homes

When you are filling out your renewal application, in the section pertaining to days and hours of operation, we document what you have submitted and that is what goes on the public portal.

If your days or hours should change during the year, please be sure to notify the Child Care Licensing Program (CCLP) office so that the public portal can be updated. There are not just parents looking at the public portal. Other agencies such as the Food Program or Early Learning Coalition also look. If the hours you report to these two agencies do not match what is on the public portal, it may cause issues with your contract with them.

Also remember, when checking off what services you offer on the application, it should also match the days and hours of care. For example, if your days of care circled are Monday-Friday but you check off Weekend Care, that does not match up. Or if you state that your Family Child Care home closes at 6:00 pm but you check off Evening Care or Overnight Care, again it does not match.

Please read the application carefully and document what is happening at your home. Remember, if it changes during the license year, just call our office at: 727-507-4857 or email your Licensing Specialist and we will make the change on the public portal.



**Remember, when checking off which services you offer on the application, it should also match your days and hours of care.**

### Inside This Issue

Layout & Design by



Lisa Zacharia

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With Faith Bornoff, M.Ed.  
Executive Director



### Spring is the Time for Change

This is especially true for the PCLB Board! Our former Board Chair, Commissioner Patricia Gerard, was promoted by the Board of County Commissioners. As a result, the County Commission representative to our Board is now Commissioner Kathleen Peters. A Nominating Committee for our new Board Chair was formed and Mr. Mike Mikurak, our Board member from the Juvenile Welfare Board, was chosen to be our next PCLB Board Chair. The seat held by Barbara Backus was also reassigned due to her retirement, so Emily Ralston will now sit on the Board. Lastly, Pam Gebler stepped down due to the closure of the local association with which she was affiliated, so Lynn Gibson will serve in that seat. Change can be hard and we are all very sad to see our former Board Members move on. We will always be grateful for their many contributions to the children of Pinellas County. But, our staff is very excited to see this new group join our Board and bring with them their many areas of expertise and the heart to serve.



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## Age Appropriate Playground Equipment

**NPPS**  
Information Provided by National  
Program for Playground Safety

If you take your children on a field trip to the park, are you aware that parks generally label the equipment for different ages? Children are developmentally different in size and ability and playground equipment should be marked by signage indicating the appropriate ages for use of the equipment. In order to help ensure play areas are developmentally appropriate, more enjoyable, and safer for children consider the following:

Is playground equipment separated by age levels?

- 6-23 months
- 2-5 years
- 5-12 years

Is the playground equipment at the park labeled for age appropriateness? Are there playground signs and safety precautions to be followed? Remember, if playground equipment is labeled for ages 2-5 years, 1 year olds should not be allowed access to the equipment.



### Ages: 6 months - 23 months

Play areas for children 6 months through 23 months should offer places where children can have space to move and explore. Appropriate play areas for this group should provide places to crawl, stand, and walk.

- Climbing equipment under 32" high
- Ramps
- Single file step ladders
- Slides
- Spiral slides less than 360°
- Spring rockers
- Stairways
- Swings with full bucket seats



### Ages: 2-5 years

Play areas for children ages 2-5 should offer areas with smaller steps and crawl spaces. Appropriate play areas for children ages 2 - 5 could include play areas for children ages 2 - 5 should offer areas with smaller steps and crawl spaces. Appropriate play areas for children ages 2 - 5 could include: areas to crawl; low platforms with multiple access such as ramps and ladders; ramps with pieces attached for grasping; low tables for sand, water and manipulation of materials; tricycle paths with various textures; flexible spring rockers; sand areas with covers; and shorter slides (usually no taller than 4 feet).

- Certain climbers
- Horizontal ladders less than or equal to 60" high for ages 4 & 5
- Merry-go-rounds
- Ramps
- Rung ladders
- Single file step ladders
- Slides
- Spiral slides up to 360°
- Spring rockers
- Stairways
- Swings – belt, full bucket seats (2-4 years) & rotating tire



### Ages: 5-12 years

Developmentally appropriate play areas for school-age children could include: rope or chain climbers on angles; climbing pieces; horizontal bars; cooperative pieces such as tire swings, slides and sliding poles; and open spaces to run and play ball.

- Arch climbers
- Chain or cable walks
- Free standing climbing events with flexible parts
- Fulcrum seesaws
- Ladders – Horizontal, Rung, and Step
- Overhead rings
- Merry-go-rounds
- Ramps
- Ring treks
- Slides





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## COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

## What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

### What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

### Can people in the U.S. get COVID-19?

COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in China, and limited spread among close contacts has been detected in some countries outside China, including the United States. At this time, however, this virus is NOT currently spreading in communities in the United States. Right now, the greatest risk of infection is for people in China or people who have traveled to China. Risk of infection is dependent on exposure. Close contacts of people who are infected are at greater risk of exposure, for example health care workers and close contacts of people who are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC continues to closely monitor the situation.

### Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on CDC's webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>.

### How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but now it seems to be spreading from person to person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some diseases are highly contagious (like measles), while other diseases are less so. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading between people. Learn what is known about the spread of newly emerged coronaviruses at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html>.

### What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath



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### What are severe complications from this virus?

Many patients have pneumonia in both lungs.

### How can I help protect myself?

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

### There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

### If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

### What should I do if I recently traveled to China and got sick?

If you were in China within the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care. Call the office of your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

### Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

### Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

For more information: [www.cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

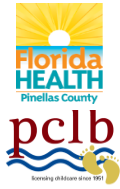


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## Outbreak Management and Reporting for Child Care Facilities in Pinellas County

Children are more vulnerable to infectious diseases when they first enter group settings because it may be their first exposure to germs that cause common infections, and they may be too young to have received enough doses of recommended vaccines to have developed immunity. Childcare facilities (CCFs) face a high risk of disease outbreaks because groups of children spend hours in communal spaces touching toys, doorknobs, tables, and each other, often sharing bathrooms and dining spaces.

The Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) published an outbreak toolkit to help prevent and control outbreaks in CCFs. The entire toolkit can be found at: <http://pinellas.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/environmental-health/pclb/documents/brief-ccf-outbreak-guide.pdf>



**Routine practices** are instrumental in preventing outbreaks, and involves three main measures:

1. Strengthen Immune Health: Vaccines, nutrition, sleep, exercise, health education
2. Manage the Environment: Diaper stations, food preparation, pest control, ventilation
3. Reduce Harmful Germs: Hand hygiene, routine cleaning, exclusion criteria

If an outbreak does occur, facilities can follow **control measures** to prevent further disease spread:

- Contact DOH-Pinellas to report the outbreak and receive outbreak consultation.
- Create a line list of all ill individuals. Include contact information for DOH-Pinellas follow up.
- Post health alerts at entrances and send letters home about the ongoing illness.
- Increase cleaning, enforce hand hygiene, and follow proper cough/sneeze etiquette.
- Consider exclusion criteria and/or halting the acceptance of new attendees or staff.



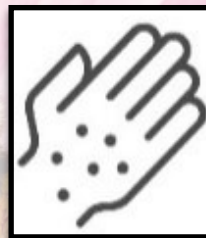
**Gastrointestinal illness** is any combination of diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. An outbreak should be declared when two or more cases occur within 72 hours. Ill individuals should be excluded

**Florida Statute requires CCF's in Pinellas County to notify the Department of Health in Pinellas County upon suspicion of an outbreak at 727-824-6932.**

until 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhea resolve. Some diseases require further testing with DOH-Pinellas prior to readmission (Examples: Salmonellosis\*, Shigellosis\*, E coli).

**Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)** is defined as a fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$  and cough or sore throat. An outbreak should be declared when two or more new cases occur within 72 hours and confirmed once one case has a positive lab result for influenza. Ill individuals should be excluded until fever-free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication.

**Pertussis\* (Whooping cough)** causes violent coughing episodes that make it hard to breathe. Ill individuals can be readmitted after five days of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Vaccination is the best prevention, and boosters are required many times throughout life.



**Hand-Foot-and-Mouth disease (HFMD)** initially causes fever, throat pain, and malaise, followed by the development of non-itchy spots and blisters. It is spread through respiratory droplets, contaminated objects, or fecal-orally.

**Scabies** is a skin infestation that causes itching and a pimple-like rash. It spreads through prolonged skin-to-skin contact and shared clothing or bedding. Treatment is recommended for close contacts, and the outbreak is declared over after the 6-week incubation period passes with no additional infestations.

**Varicella\*** (Chickenpox) causes an itchy rash with fluid-filled blisters and fever. Ill individuals can be readmitted once all blisters have scabbed over. It can be spread through contact with blister fluid and inhalation of lesion fluid or respiratory droplets. Vaccination is the best method of prevention.

\*Certain diseases must be reported to the county health department, even if only one case occurs.

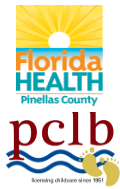


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## E&E Recalls Bedroom Dressers Due to Tip-Over & Entrapment Hazards



E&E toll-free at 844-701-5979 from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. PT Monday through Friday or online at [www.ee1994.com](http://www.ee1994.com) and click on "Recall" for more information.



## Graco Recalls Little Lounger Rocking Seats to Prevent Risk of Suffocation

Contact Graco toll-free at 800-345-4109 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or online at [www.gracobaby.com](http://www.gracobaby.com) and click on Recall Information.



## Ridgewood Recalls Four-Drawer Dressers Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards

Ridgewood toll-free at 888-222-7460 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT, or visit [www.ameriwood.com](http://www.ameriwood.com) and click on "Support" for more information.



## Evenflo Recalls Pillo Portable Napper Inclined Sleepers to Prevent Risk of Suffocation



Evenflo online at [www.evenflo.com](http://www.evenflo.com) and click on "Product Notices & Recalls" or at 1-800-233-5921 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday for more information.

## Quest Products Recalls ALOCANE Emergency Burn Pads Due to Failure to Meet Child Resistant Closure Requirement; Risk of Poisoning



Quest Products at 800-650-0113 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or online at [www.alocane.com](http://www.alocane.com) and click on "Contact Us" for more information.



## B&B Acquisition Recalls Wintergreen Essential Oils Due to Failure to Meet Child Resistant Packaging Requirements; Risk of Poisoning

B&B Acquisition at 800-262-2305 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. MT Monday through Friday, email at [info@airome.com](mailto:info@airome.com), or online at [www.airome.com](http://www.airome.com) and click on "Recall Information" for more information.

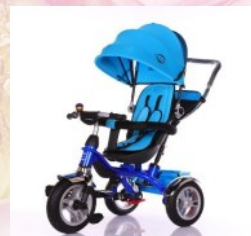


## Delta Enterprise Corp. Recalls Incline Sleeper with Adjustable Feeding Position for Newborns to Prevent Risk of Suffocation

Delta online at [www.deltachildren.com](http://www.deltachildren.com) and click on "Recall Center" or at 1-800-377-3777 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET Monday through Friday for more information.



Thesaurus Global Marketing Recalls Tricycles Due to Violation of the Federal Lead Paint Ban; Risk of Poisoning; Sold Exclusively at Amazon.com (Recall Alert)



Little Bambino toll-free at 866-633-8202 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, email at [info@shoplittlebambino.com](mailto:info@shoplittlebambino.com) or online at [www.shoplittlebambino.com](http://www.shoplittlebambino.com) and click on Contact Us for more information.

Baby Trend Recalls Tango Mini Strollers Due to Fall Hazard



Baby Trend at 800-328-7363 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, email [info@babytrend.com](mailto:info@babytrend.com) or online at [www.babytrend.com](http://www.babytrend.com) and click on "Safety Notices" at the bottom of the page for more information.

## CPSC Consumer Information Hotline

Contact us at this toll-free number if you have questions about a recall:  
800-638-2772 (TTY 301-595-7054) Times: 8 am – 5:30 pm ET Messages can be left anytime  
Call to get product safety and other agency information and to report unsafe products.  
<https://www.cpsc.gov/>

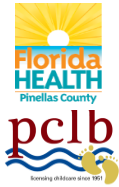


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## Creative Corner

Fun, educational activities kids LOVE

### Springtime Tissue Paper Art for Preschoolers

Show the children how to make a butterfly or a flower and fill it in with tissue paper squares as they like. Tissue paper squares can also be crumpled into little balls and glued on.

Get started by cutting some pastel-colored squares of tissue paper. You or the children can draw the outline of the picture they want to make. Then have them glue on the tissue squares with a glue stick.

These tissue paper squares can be purchased in a pack of pre-cut squares at Hobby Lobby, Oriental Trading, or just buy some colored tissue paper and cut it yourself.

#### Supplies:

- ◆ Tissue paper in pastel colors
- ◆ Markers for outline
- ◆ Glue sticks
- ◆ White paper



From [prekinders.com](http://prekinders.com)



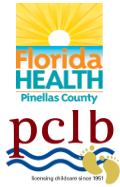


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Homes Edition



## Child Care Licensing Program

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas

8751 Ulmerton Road, Suite 2000

Largo, Florida 33771

**(727) 507-4857**

### *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.

### *Vision*

Every child has access to quality child care and education in an environment that values diversity.

### *Values*

**Commitment  
Integrity  
Quality**

## Staff Spotlight

*Chris Grybauskas,* **Licensing Specialist**

I am originally from Chesterland, Ohio, a small town out in the country. We moved to St. Petersburg in 1985.

When I started having a family and had to find a daycare for my daughter, I was overwhelmed. In the town where I was raised, there was only one day care center and if your child didn't go there, a family member cared for him/her. I found it very challenging to find the perfect fit for my child. What I looked for when choosing a day care facility for my daughter was one that had a friendly and welcoming atmosphere and had a nurturing and stimulating environment.

I worked in Environmental Health inspecting commercial pools and transferred into the Childcare Licensing program 10 years ago. I was nervous and was not sure if I would be welcomed since I had no child care background. The team welcomed me and trained me to be the Specialist I am today. I enjoy what I do and know that when I go into a center/home, I am there to protect the health and safety of children.



**Chris**