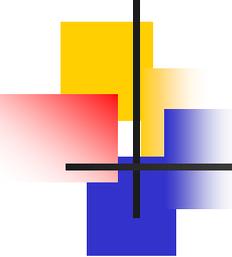


Rule Making Team

Licensed Family Home Child Care Disaster & Emergency Preparedness

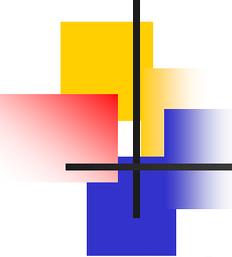
Presented April 11, 2009 by Seattle-King County Emergency Management and Public Health
to the DEL Negotiated Rule Making Team



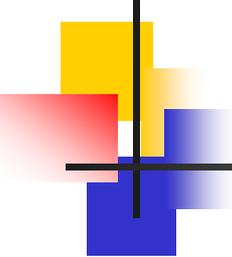
Goals

- **Understandable** – Providers and licensors alike should be able to read and come to the same conclusions about what is being required.
- **Meaningful** – The regulations have a positive impact that leads to a safe, healthy and well-prepared place for children and staff. Should have obvious benefits.
- **Attainable** – No matter the size of the home childcare program, each provider should be able to comply with the regulations.

Our definition of a well-prepared program:

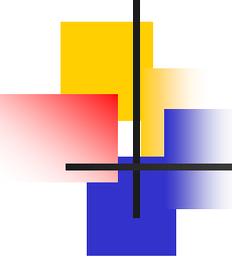


- Written all-hazards plan that clearly identifies staff assignments and priority actions during and immediately following an event.
- Incorporates a training plan for staff, kids (when age appropriate) and families
- Has Supplies for staff and kids, enough to be self sufficient for a minimum of 3 days.
- Conducts effective drills – on a regular basis and focusing on the events that are most common (evacuation & shelter in place) or the events that will have the biggest regional impact (earthquake).
- Reduces hazards for both earthquake and fire.



Written plan

- Address the types of emergencies and disasters that can happen and the appropriate response for each
- Provides basic emergency contact information and communications plan
- Promotes as safe an environment as possible
- Outlines essential actions needed to protect life and property until help arrives
- Leads to documenting preparedness activities and ultimate compliance with the WAC



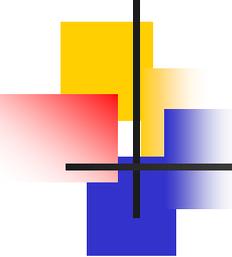
Training

- Three areas of training:

- 1.) Staff

- Personal and family preparedness
- Actions to take during and immediately following the emergency/disaster
- How to teach kids about the plan and what to do when something happens
- How to reduce earthquake and fire hazards in their program area

Suggested frequency: Upon hiring and annually

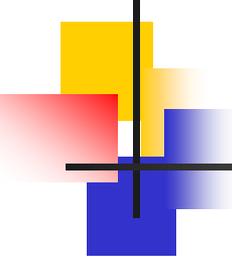


Training (continued)

2.) Children

- What to expect when an emergency or disaster happens
- Age appropriate training for kids that identifies the actions they should take for fire evacuation, earthquake and shelter in place.

Suggested Frequency: Prior to practice drills

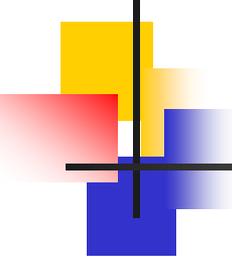


Training (continued)

3.) Parents/families

- About the plan
- What their role is in the plan
- Family home care's communication plan
- How they can support the plan

Suggested Frequency: Written information upon enrollment and annually



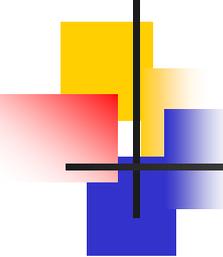
Supplies

- Family home programs should have enough supplies to take care of the staff and children for a minimum of 3 days.

Examples:

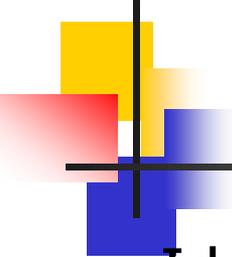
- Food
- Water
- Medications/medical supplies
- Basic care items such as diapers, blankets etc.
- Source of emergency light (not open flame)
- Am/Fm radio – battery or self-powered (crank)
- Kid-friendly activities
- Tools such as a wrench to shut off natural gas if needed

Standard lists are available to help guide programs in the supplies they need, and how to maintain the supplies since some supplies expire.



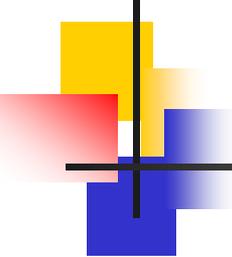
Practice Drills

- Every time you physically practice what you are supposed to do in an emergency or disaster, you over double the chance of taking that action when it counts.
 - Evacuation drills
 - Already addressed by requiring monthly fire evacuation drills
 - Disaster drills
 - Less frequent but regular practice is important
 - Should include the events that are most common (evacuation & shelter in place) or the events that will have the biggest regional impact (earthquake – drop, cover and hold) .



Hazard reduction

- Identifying and taking actions to reduce the chances that someone will get hurt.
 - Keeping fire evacuation exits clear at all times
 - Securing tall furnishings so that they don't fall during an earthquake (also keeps them from falling when toddlers climb on them!)
 - Keeping heavy objects low on shelves
 - Reducing hazardous materials and storing them safely
- Educating home providers on how to identify hazards
- Providing information on how to mitigate the hazards
- Document improvements to safety.



Summary

- Each of the components that cumulatively create an outstanding emergency plan are:
 - Easy to understand
 - Simple enough to be implemented with limited time and resources
- Remember, Parent/guardians & Neighbors can be a resource
- Emergency Management as a resource