

ABC Quality and the **SC Program for Infant and Toddler Care** are offering scholarships to attend one of the three professional conferences in SC (SCAEYC: Oct. 1-3; SCECA: Jan. 28-30; and SCAECE: Feb. 6). If you would like more information on the ABC Quality and SCPITC scholarship opportunities, call ABC Quality at 800-763-2223.

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IT'S HURRICANE SEASON—are you prepared for an emergency?



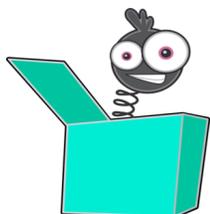
During a disaster or emergency, child care providers must report damage or closure or can request expanded capacity by calling the Div. of Early Care and Education at **888-825-7174**.

Regulations require child care facilities to have a plan in place that addresses emergency medical situations and evacuation in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Prepare an **emergency kit** that contains items such as batteries, flashlights, bottled water, a fire extinguisher, non-perishable food, prescription medications, a first aid kit, rain gear, matches and important documents (immunization records, passports, insurance policies, social security cards, etc.) in a waterproof container.

Spotlight on Head Start Collaboration Office

The Head Start Collaboration Office is located within the DSS Div. of Early Care & Education and facilitates collaboration among Head Start agencies and all entities that carry out federal to local activities designed to benefit low-income children from birth to school entry and their families. The Office provides a structure and process for Head Start to work and partner with state and local agencies and organizations to leverage common interests around young children. The Office assists Head Start with formulation, implementation and improvement of state and local practices. For more information on the Collab. Office, visit www.scacap.org, www.sc-headstart.org or call 803-898-2550.



Product Recalls Related to Child Care

DSS Regulation 114-507C(2) states that furniture, toys and recreational equipment shall meet the standards of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), if applicable, and that recalled products shall not be accessible to children. For more information, call CPSC's hotline at **800-638-2772** or visit their website: www.cpsc.gov. To report a dangerous product or related injury, go to <http://saferproducts.gov>.

- ◇ Pacific Cycle Infant bicycle helmets because of choking hazards caused by the chin strap
- ◇ Hillsdale Furniture Children's bunk bed because of fall hazard caused by support rails
- ◇ Phil&Teds Dash stroller because of risk of injury caused by the hinge
- ◇ Auldey Toys Sky rover toy because of fire hazard caused by USB charging cord
- ◇ Mayborn Tommee Tippee Sippee Spill-proof cups because of risk of mold exposure from valve
- ◇ Far East Brokers Children's chairs & swings because of violation of federal paint standard
- ◇ Osprey Child backpack carrier because of fall hazard caused by plastic buckle
- ◇ Saro Trading Nightgowns because of violation of flammability standard

BACK TO SCHOOL: HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SAFE*

Across South Carolina, teachers and families have been preparing for the 2016-2017 school year. Ensure children get to school safely and prepared for success with these tips:

Make the First Day Easier

- ✎ Remind your child that other students are also nervous on the first day
- ✎ Refresh your child's memories about positive first day experiences in the past
- ✎ Find another child in the neighborhood with whom your child can walk or ride the bus
- ✎ Make it a special day by walking or driving your child to school and picking him/her up

Backpack Safety

- ✎ Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back
- ✎ Pack lightly—the pack should NOT weigh more than 10-20% of your child's body weight
- ✎ Adjust the pack so the bottom sits at your child's waist
- ✎ Consider a rolling backpack if permitted by the school

Travel Safely

- ✎ Remind your child to wait for the bus to stop before leaving the curb
- ✎ Remind your child to look both ways before crossing the street
- ✎ Make sure your child walks where she can always see the bus driver (this means the driver can see her too!)
- ✎ Require a helmet if your child rides a bike to school
- ✎ Dress your child in bright or reflective clothing if she will be outside before sunrise or after sunset
- ✎ Consider having a parent accompany a group of children walking to school from the neighborhood

After School Child Care

- ✎ Children still need supervision after school during middle and early childhood. Find a quality child care facility near your home, work or child's school at www.abcquality.org.

