New Grant Opportunity

A one-time grant is available to licensed or registered child care providers. License-exempt providers enrolled in the ABC Quality program and not operating in a school building are also eligible. The purpose of this grant is to allow providers to clean and sanitize their child care facility which may allow them to reopen; or to continue to purchase additional cleaning supplies or services necessary to keep the center or child care home safe and sanitary. To apply, please click here to complete the application form and email to: COVID19cleangrant@dss.sc.gov.

CACFP Waivers Due to COVID-19

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) has been granted several nationwide waivers by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to provide CACFP operators the maximum flexibility during this pandemic. Information on these waivers including the waiver request form can be found by clicking here. Each waiver request form must be approved prior to the institution implementing any or all the flexibilities listed. Waivers will be approved on a case by case basis.

During a pandemic, you are taking extra precautions to keep your center (children and staff) safe and prepared, including making sure you have everything you need to serve nutritious meals. For more information and tips please click here.

Best Practices for Staying Healthy

- Make sure children, staff, and visitors are washing hands as directed by SC DHEC.
- Clean and disinfect all surfaces within the facility regularly.
- Practice social distancing when possible.
- Consider changing your sign in procedures for parents and other visitors (e.g., move handoffs closer to the front door to minimize parents coming into the classroom space and avoid possible exposure to children and caregivers).
- Limit visitors to the facility.
- The careful handling of your food service to children is important. Please limit communal sharing of food, and donations where possible.
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.

- **Joybird Dressers** due to tip-over and entrapment hazards.
- **The Vitamin Shoppe Energy Formula Multivitamins** due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement.
- **Wyndmere Naturals Birch Sweet Essential Oil and Aches & Pains Synergistic Essential Oil Blend** due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement.
- **Natural Health Dr. Mercola Wintergreen Essential Oils** due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement.
- **Naturo Sciences Eiji Essentials Wintergreen Oil** due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement.
- **BioFinest Wintergreen Essential Oil** due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement.
- **Ximi Vogue Children’s Neck Pillows** due to violation of the federal lead paint ban.
- **Essential Trading Post Wintergreen and Birch Essential Oils** due to failure to meet child resistant packaging requirement.
- **Prepac 4-Drawer Chests** due to tip-over and entrapment hazards.