

What is a Child Care Wellness Consultant (CCWC)?

An RN Child Care Wellness Consultant (CCWC) is a specially trained registered nurse (RN) with knowledge of health and safety issues unique to caring for young children in group childcare settings. The CCWC is versed in State Child Care Licensing Regulations and Caring for Our Children National Health and Safety Performance Standards as well as other health and safety resources available to support child care providers to improve the health and safety aspects of their programs.

Child Care Wellness Consultants are approved by both the Child Development Division of the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) to provide funded services in this project.

What can a Child Care Wellness Consultant do for my child care program?

A CCWC can improve the health and safety of children in your care by:

- Collaborating and networking with you to address health and safety topics of interest to you, your childcare program staff and the families you serve
- Providing referrals to community services in your area
- Assisting you to develop or update health policies and procedures in your child care program
- Interpreting best practice standards and providing technical advice, separate and apart from the role of a state licensor
- Helping to ensure that each child in your care who has special health care needs has a plan, and that your child care program has the resources to implement that plan
- Consulting with a child's health care professional about medication (i.e., with written permission from the parent/guardian)
- Meeting on-site with you about health and safety topics
- Providing trainings on-site for you and your child care program staff about health and safety topics (e.g., infection control, medication administration)
- Assessing the needs for health and safety training of childcare providers and parents/guardians.
- Providing informational resources for you and the families you serve including but not limited to Bright Futures resource materials (see http://brightfutures.aap.org/tool_and_resource_kit.html.)

Who is eligible for Child Care Wellness Consultant Services?

How do I request services?

Child Care Wellness Consultant services are available to all registered and/or licensed Family Home and Center Based providers. To request a visit from a Child Care Wellness Consultant, call the Help Me Grow 2-1-1 line.



Who pays for Child Care Wellness Consultant services?

This project is supported by federal grant funding (i.e., Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems funding and the Early Learning Challenge-Race to the Top funding) that is administered by the Child Development Division (CDD/DCF) in collaboration with the Vermont Department of Health (VDH). Both DCF and VDH are part of the Vermont State Agency of Human Services (AHS).

With this funding CCWC services will be “free” (*underwritten*) through December 2017 for STARS participating providers. While CCWC services are available to **any** childcare provider, there is a fee for providers not currently enrolled and rated in STARS. CCWC services including preparation, delivery on-site and follow up are currently billed at \$65 per hour.

What is my Role? What do I have to do?

In order to offer these services at no cost to STARS providers, it is essential that we gather data on how this program is working to inform future funding and program guidelines. Therefore, all programs will need to complete the following in order to participate:

- A short intake form to request services (fewer than 10 minutes- either online or via telephone)
- A program health and safety review with help from your CCWC
- A short follow-up outcome form evaluating the CCWC services provided (less than 5 minutes)

At your first scheduled visit, you will need to share your review of your program practices related to the Health and Safety topics for which you would like consultation services. A program review may consist of **one or a combination of the following examples** focused on the health and safety aspects of your program. **Alternatively, a CCWC can provide you with a checklist that she will help you complete** at your first visit, as a resource for this review. The review may include:

- Any assessments used for your STARS assessment (such as ECERS)
- Your parent handbook and/or your written health and safety policies
- Your program’s health and safety related practices
- Your program’s Medication Administration procedures including: authorization forms; receiving, storing and administering medication; and training of staff
- Observation of your program’s infection control practices, including but not limited to handwashing, diapering, toileting, cleaning and sanitizing
- Your emergency plans, and grab and go supplies
- Environmental safety practices in your program such as integrated pest management, cleaning

supplies used, water sources, etc.

- Other health related aspects of your program

This review is designed to help you and your CCWC make the best use of your time together.

How Often Can I Work with my RN CCWC?

For each content area you and your CCWC select, you will receive an initial visit and an on-site follow-up visit. *How often you work together depends upon your needs.....*