



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE FOR CHILD CARE

**Emergency Preparedness and Response for Child Care** training is now available at **LOW or NO-COST** to all licensed/regulated child care programs across North Carolina. The training was developed by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health, Department of Maternal and Child Health and funded by the North Carolina Division of Child Development. This **LOW or NO-COST** training gives child care providers and staff members the knowledge, skills and resources they need to prepare and practice with children for potential emergencies.

## ***The Emergency Preparedness and Response for Child Care Training aims to:***

- Introduce standard emergency **preparedness and response procedures** that can be used for all NC child care facilities
- Provide standardized **training for emergency situations**
- Enable child care providers to receive 4 ½ **in-service training credit hours** for emergency preparedness and response classroom training, as well as 4 ½ additional in-service training credit hours for completing an emergency plan after the training

The *Emergency Preparedness and Response for Child Care* training incorporates the recommendations of the [Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards](#) as well as the requirements of the North Carolina Division of Child Development.

## **Emergency Preparedness and Response for Child Care Overview**



### **Planning**

Educates the child care providers and staff members on how to assess the risks in their county and identify community resources.

### **Preparing**

Instructs the child care providers and staff members on how to compile and maintain an emergency supply kit for their facility, create emergency plans, and evaluate the training needs of child care staff members and the families they serve.

### **Practicing**

Informs providers and staff members on how to evacuate with practiced drills at the facility and in the community.

### **Responding**

Reviews procedures that will protect children, providers and staff members during an emergency.

### **Recovering**

Provides information on how to help children and staff members cope with feelings, get needed medical care, and make necessary repairs in order to get back to their routine after an emergency.

# WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

Trained Child Care Health Consultants and Child Care Resource and Referral personnel have already delivered the training to over 1,000 providers and child care staff members across the state. A list of the trainers by county is available at the *Child Care Health Training for Child Care Professionals* website: <http://www.childcarehealthtraining.org/>

## WHAT DOES THE TRAINING INVOLVE?

The Emergency Preparedness and Response training has **two parts**:

1. The first part is **classroom training** with an introduction to emergencies and evacuations and instructions for participants on how to develop their own Emergency Plan.
2. The second part is a **series of assignments** for participants to complete at their facility. When the assignments are complete and approved by the trainer, the participant will have a facility-specific Emergency Plan. The trainer will then submit a summary of the Emergency Plan to the facility's local Emergency Management Office.

Upon completion of the training, participants will have a working knowledge on the benefits of **Planning, Preparing** and **Practicing** for emergencies as well as an understanding of the importance in **Responding** to and **Recovering** from an emergency or disaster in a child care setting.

## In-Service Training Credit for Child Care Providers:

- Child care providers and staff members can receive a total of **9 in-service training credit hours** for *Emergency Preparedness and Response for Child Care* training.
- In Part I, the training consists of classroom instruction. At the end of the training, a certificate citing **4 ½ hours of in-service training credit** will be awarded to the participant.
- In Part II, participants receive the additional **4 ½ hours of in-service training credit** when they successfully complete the required field assignments:
  1. Task Sheets
  2. Their facility's Emergency Plan
  3. The Emergency Plan Summary

## NEXT STEPS

If you are interested in having your facility trained in Emergency Preparedness and Response, contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency, your local Partnership for Children, or your Child Care Health Consultant. You can also find a trainer near you by going to the *Child Care Health Training for Child Care Professionals* website:

<http://www.childcarehealthtraining.org/>

or call the NC Child Care Health and Safety Resource Center at 800-367-2229.

The Department of Maternal and Child Health School of Public Health The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill CB# 8126 116-A South Merritt Mill Road Chapel Hill, 27599



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