

Regulated Child Care Settings In New York State ...

- **Day Care Center** - typically cares for children with several full-time and/or part-time teaching staff in a center-based setting. Requires NYS Licensing.
- **Group Family Child Care** - typically cares for 6-12 children in the provider's home with a full-time assistant. Requires NYS Licensing.
- **Family Child Care** - typically cares for 3-6 children in the provider's home. Requires NYS Registration.
- **Legally-Exempt Child Care** - may care for no more than two children in the provider's home and does not require NYS registration or licensing.
- **School-Age Child Care Programs** - typically serving children of school age in larger groups in center-based style settings. Often located in schools, churches and/or associated with day care centers. Requires NYS Registration.

Many individuals may claim to be "registered", "licensed", or "certified" child care providers. However, if they cannot show you a valid NYS Office of Children & Family Services registration or license ... they are not. Ask for proof or contact the Child Care Council to confirm their status. Often families are faced with the additional stress and challenges of locating new child care arrangements if their provider is reported and found to be operating outside of NYS regulations.

About The Child Care Council ...

The St. Lawrence Child Care Council is a local not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to coordinate, assist, strengthen and expand child care services in St. Lawrence County with an emphasis on education and networking to promote quality child care environments for all children regardless of income, race, ethnic heritage or family configuration.

Since 1993, the St. Lawrence Child Care Council has helped thousands of families identify child care options and hundreds of child care programs improve the quality of care provided.

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**St. Lawrence
Child Care
Council, Inc.**

Child Care Information Every Family Should Know!



**"Quality Child Care ...
Good Beginnings
Never End"**

(315) 393-6474

Did You Know ...

Providing child care for more than two children for more than three hours per day may require licensing or registration with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services"



That's right! However, many people are not aware child day care regulations exist. If you or someone you know is caring for children, please take a moment to learn more about them. Remember, regulations establish only "minimum standard" for child care settings. Most programs strive go above and beyond regulations to ensure the safety and well-being of the children in care.

If you have a concern about a child care program please call 800-732-207 or (315) 393-6474. We'll be glad to discuss regulations or answer questions you may have. You can also visit the New York State Office of Children & Family Services website at:



www.ocfs.state.ny.us

"Caring for children is everyone's job."

Child Care Options ...

Locating and choosing child care is one of the most difficult decisions any family will make. The Child Care Council can help by identifying child care options within your community. The Council can refer families to only those programs who are licensed/registered to provide child care by the New York State Office of Children & Family Services. The various legal forms of child care in New York State are listed on the inside fold of this brochure.



CHILD CARE REFERRAL POLICY ...

One of the goals of the Child Care Council is to assist families in their search for child care. Choosing the care setting which best suits the need of their child is solely the choice of the parent. The role of the Council is to provide information to families that may assist them with their child care decisions. It is not the role of the Council to make recommendations to parents or make choices for parents. All programs we refer to are regulated by the New York State Office of Children & Family Services. It is the

responsibility of the family to visit potential providers, interview potential providers, and check references of potential providers. The Council will provide families with information they can use to guide them through the interview/selection process. The Council will always try to provide families with at least (3) options for child care in the area requested, if



possible. We will also answer any questions families may have regarding child day care regulations. The Council will also recognize and be sensitive to the various ethnic, cultural,

linguistic, religious, and lifestyle groups in our communities without discrimination or prejudice. The Council will provide information to families regarding child care subsidies which a family may be eligible for to assist in the cost of child care.

**Remember ...
Child Care That Works
Keeps NY Working!**



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