



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

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Bureau of Children and Adult Licensing

Child Care Homes Letter Series 2014-01

Date: May 12, 2014

To: All Family and Group Child Care Homes

From: James S. Sinnamon, Director
Child Care Licensing Division 

Subject: Infant Safe Sleep

In 2012, 134 infants died in Michigan due to unsafe sleep environments. In 2013, eight infants died in child care settings due to unsafe sleep practices.

As a child care professional, you are responsible for assuring for the safety and well-being of infants by placing infants to sleep on their backs instead of their stomachs. Research has shown that placing an infant to sleep on soft mattresses or other soft materials can increase the risk of death due to positional asphyxiation. Infants have been found dead with their faces, noses and mouths covered by soft bedding, such as pillows, quilts, comforters, and sheepskins. Infants have also died of asphyxiation due to sleeping in bouncy seats, swings and car seats. When an infant falls asleep in unapproved sleep equipment, the licensing rules require you to move the infant to a crib or porta-crib. Remember, suffocation is completely silent. It is up to you to monitor infants while they sleep.

As a result of these incidents, the department has redesigned the Child in Care Statement/Receipt (BCAL-3900). It is now a two-part form so that both you and the parent of a child in care can have a hard copy of the information on the form. The form contains information regarding infant safe sleep rules that you can review with parents. Copies of the form, which must be completed for all families with children currently enrolled in care and any new families you enroll, are included with this letter. This updated form obsoletes the current Child in Care Statement/Receipt. You must begin using this new form immediately. Additional copies of the two-part Child in Care Statement/Receipt (BCAL-3900) can be obtained by submitting a Child Care Forms Request (available at www.michigan.gov/michildcare-forms).

An infant safe sleep poster is also being provided to you. The enclosed poster must be placed in a location that is visible to parents when they come into your home.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact your licensing consultant.

cc: Child Care Licensing Consultants
Child Care Area Managers

Department of Human Services (DHS) will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your area.