Village of Skokie

March 23, 2020

To: All Child Care Centers and Child Care Homes in the Village of Skokie

Re: Emergency Child Care and Infection Prevention Requirements for COVID-19

As you are aware, in order to limit the spread of COVID-19, all childcare centers and childcare homes within the Village of Skokie were closed by order effective March 20, 2020. Governor Pritzker similarly ordered the closure of these entities, effective March 21, 2020. The Village of Skokie has the authority pursuant to Section 18 of the Executive Order to issue our own policies and directives, and to enact provisions stricter than those in the Executive Order.

The Village of Skokie continues to believe that the most prudent action is for childcare providers to remain closed, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. However, the Governor’s Executive Order 2020-10, has allowed for these entities to reopen as Emergency Childcare Centers and Emergency Childcare Homes. If, after careful assessment, you are planning to reopen in one of these capacities, you must follow the guidance provided in the attached document from the State of Illinois. You must also notify the Skokie Health Department that you intend to reopen.

Emergency Childcare Centers and Emergency Childcare Homes in the Village are required to follow the COVID-19 infection prevention guidance issued by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The IDPH guidance is also attached, along with a Health Department summary.

Skokie Health Department personnel are available to answer your questions, at 847-933-8252, and may periodically visit your facility.

Thank you for your cooperation with this important matter.

Sincerely,

John T. Lockerby
Village Manager

Michael M. Lorge
Corporation Counsel
COVID-19 Required Infection Prevention Measures
For Emergency Childcare Centers and Emergency Childcare Homes
Skokie Health Department
March 23, 2020

Only children of Essential Workers, as defined in Governor Pritzker’s Executive Order 2020-10 are allowed to be served in these facilities. The order can be found on the Village of Skokie COVID-19 webpage (www.skokie.org).

A. Prior to entering the facility:
   • Post signs restricting entry to anyone with symptoms of illness/respiratory infection.
   • Check the temperature of staff upon arrival, and ask for symptoms. Keep a record.
   • Check the temperature of each child upon arrival, and monitor for symptoms, as well as the adult dropping them off.
   • Exclude any staff or child with symptoms of COVID-19 from the childcare setting, including if the adult dropping off the child has symptoms.
   • Staff must meet parents/guardians at the door for drop-off and pick-up.
   • No outside visitors should be allowed. However, this does not apply to maintenance/repair workers. For these persons, check their temperature upon arrival, and ask for symptoms. Exclude anyone who is ill. Keep a log including date/time, name, phone number and email.

B. Within the Emergency Childcare Center
   • Limit children to 10 or fewer in a room.
   • One dedicated staff member per room, consistent from day-to-day.
   • No mixing of children or staff, including meal, snack, rest and play periods.
   • Childcare staff may work a maximum of 12 hours.
   • Frequently clean all high touch surfaces.

C. Within the Emergency Childcare Home
   • No more than six children.
   • Otherwise as above.

D. If a child or staff member becomes ill
   • Promptly notify the Skokie Health Department:
   • Immediately send the staff member home, if at work.
   • Isolate the child with a procedure mask (as tolerated), and send home, if on site.
   • If the child cannot tolerate a face mask, the staff should wear a facemask.
   • Follow Health Department guidance with regards to closure, notification of staff and parents, and required cleaning.