



# Quarterly Update

SUMMER 2018

## CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL UPDATE

### *Children's Residential Licensing Program Mission:*

*The Children's Residential Licensing Program licenses and monitors Adoption Agencies, Foster Family Agencies and Certified Family Homes, Foster Family Homes, Resource Family Homes, Group Homes, Crisis Nurseries, Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelters, Small Family Homes, Transitional Housing Placement Programs, and Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs in an effort to ensure that they provide a safe and healthy environment for children who are in residential care.*

### A Note from Pamela Dickfoss, Deputy Director

Welcome to our Summer 2018 Children's Residential Program (CRP) Quarterly Update! Summer is the season for fun and family so we start this season with enthusiasm for great things to come in our division and department.

[Version 3](#) of the Interim Licensing Standards (ILS) for Foster Family Agencies (FFA) were published on March 23, 2018, implementing changes to the Resource Family Approval (RFA) process and changes chaptered in Assembly Bill (AB) 404 (Stones, Chapter 732, Statutes of 2017).

The CRP policy unit in collaboration with the Foster Care Rates Branch (FCARB) and the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) Branch have completed statewide trainings that were created to convey specific changes made in FFA ILS version 3, [ACL 18-25](#) which outlines the implementation of the Intensive Services Foster Care Program and the continued implementation of RFA by FFAs. These trainings held in Los Angeles, Riverside, Sacramento, San Jose and Fresno from April 12-19 were a great success, with 400 FFA and

Regional Office staff attending. We appreciate everyone's participation and positive feedback in response to this new information.

During the 2018 Legislative season, the CRP policy unit is tracking several bills including [AB 2323](#) (Rubio) which would require investigation by the licensing agency within 30 days of reported allegations of child abuse or neglect of foster children. [AB 2605](#) (Gipson) would require a group home, temporary or transitional shelter care facility or short term residential therapeutic program to develop protocols, as specified, dictating the circumstances under which law enforcement may be called in response to the conduct of a child. [SB 1083](#) (Mitchell) would authorize a licensed home or approved relative or non-relative extended family member who had a child in placement at any time between 1/1/2017 and 12/31/2018 to be approved as a resource family and remove the psychosocial assessment requirement for those placements.

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## Most Commonly Cited Deficiencies

The Department has compiled a list of the most commonly cited regulations for 2017. The top two in each facility type are listed below. Click on the hyperlinks for more detail.

- Foster Family Agencies (for certified foster parents)
  - Personal Rights [CCR 22 89372\(a\)\(1\)](#)
  - Personal Rights [CCR 22 89372\(a\)\(10\)\(B\)](#)
- Group Homes
  - Buildings and Grounds [CCR 22 80087\(a\)](#)
  - Responsibility for providing care and supervision [CCR 22 80078\(a\)](#)
- Foster Family Home
  - Buildings and Grounds [CCR 22 89387\(b\)](#)
  - Training Requirements [CCR 22 89405\(a\)](#)

You can review a full list at the following link:

[Most Commonly Cited Deficiencies](#)

## Is It a Cold or Allergies?

Sneezing? Coughing? Congested? Is it a cold or allergies? Learning the difference between the two can be key to finding the right relief fast.

[Web MD](#) says it's probably allergies if mucus is clear or watery, eyes are itchy or watery, if the symptoms stay the same for more than a week. It's probably a cold if there is a cough, low fever, headache, or mild body aches; symptoms change every few days; mucus becomes yellow, green, or thick. It is best to consult a doctor with questions.

The [Mayo Clinic](#) explains that common colds are caused by viruses, treated with pain relievers and over-the-counter cold remedies, such as decongestants. Seasonal allergies are immune system responses triggered by exposure to allergens, such as tree or grass pollens. These can be treated with over-the-counter or prescription antihistamines, nasal sprays or decongestants. A cold usually lasts

three to ten days, although some may last as long as two or three weeks. Seasonal allergies may last several weeks.

Even if someone has never had allergies before they can develop them at any time. The body may respond to seasonal allergies throughout the year. Doctors can do skin tests that can identify exactly what someone is allergic to.



## Fun Summer Activities

Engaging in activities is not only required, but is an important part of fostering a child's development. There are a number of places to look that can provide ideas to keep youth engaged and busy over the summer months.

Below is a list to help with ideas:

- Visit your local library for activities, internet access and books. Participate in, or start your own summer reading program.
- Look on [Pinterest](#) for ideas for DIY crafts for all ages, or for inspiration on DIY decorations for a summer party with all kinds of themes.
- Get involved in summer sports: basketball, volleyball, frisbee golf, soccer, flag football, street hockey, tennis, baseball, surfing, skateboarding, and biking.
- Theater: put on a play with the neighborhood kids, or take the kids to your community theater or a local/community college to see a performance.
- There are camps for science, tech, religion, sports, art and theater, to name a few. For

a good resource on finding the right camp for your youth [click here](#).

- Get active with simple outside toys such as jump rope, sidewalk chalk, or a ball.
- Go to the beach or a local park.
- Visit [California Parks & Recreation](#) to find a list of camp sites and state parks along with details about each park. You can also find local parks, swimming pools, playgrounds, and summer day camps.
- Go for a hike or a walk outside and take nature pictures.
- Go on a scavenger hunt or try [geocaching](#). [Definition of geocaching](#)
- Go swimming or play in the sprinklers.

With just a little effort you can find some fun activities for the youth in your care. Keep in mind, summer can bring extreme heat that will increase the risk of dehydration, heat stroke, and other health risks, so be sure to practice safety first and provide plenty of fluids. Don't forget sunglasses, a hat and sunscreen.



## The Heat Is On

During the summer months, youth may be spending more time participating in outdoor activities. According to the National Weather Service, during extremely hot and humid weather the body's ability to cool itself is challenged. Providers/caregivers should take precautions to avoid heat related illness in youth. Keep youth hydrated, avoid outdoor activities during the hottest part of the day, protect youth's skin with sunscreen and/or lightweight protective clothing. California Department of Public Health has tips for [treating heat-related illness](#) should it occur.

For more information:

See [PIN 17-08-CCLD Extreme Heat in California](#)

[National Weather Service Heat Safety: Common Heat Illnesses, Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke](#)



## New Inspection Process Project Updates

The new inspection tool and comprehensive tools for the Adult and Senior Care program is currently being updated. The division is updating the plan and tools to incorporate several recommendations from stakeholders and will continue to work on implementing the pilot. The pilot is scheduled to begin on

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and is anticipated to last for three months. The pilot plan and tools are posted on the [Inspection Process Project website](#) and will be updated to include stakeholder feedback prior to the pilot. The division will subsequently complete tools for the Children's Residential and Child Care programs.



## New Name New Location

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Community Care Licensing Division is pleased to announce a name change and the relocation of our Culver City Regional Office. The new name is El Segundo Regional Office and its new location is 300 North Continental Blvd, Suite 290-B, El Segundo, CA 90245. Telephone: (424) 301-3077; FAX: (424) 301-3086.

Click [here](#) for a CDSS-CCLD Children's Residential office near you.

## Management Changes

Cynthia Gray was promoted to LPM I for the San Diego and Orange County Regional Offices effective May 18, 2018.



Are you interested in becoming part of the Community Care Licensing team?

Please apply at: [CalCareers](#)

- Information on how to apply for a State job can be found [here](#).

Please remember to check for new [Provider Information Notices \(PINS\)](#).

### IMPORTANT INFO AND PHONE NUMBERS

Centralized Complaint Information Bureau (CCIB)	1-844-538-8766
Foster Care Rates	916-651-9152
Caregiver Background Check Bureau (CBCB)	1-888-422-5669
Foster Care Ombudsman	1-877-846-1602
CCL Public Inquiry and Response	916-651-8848
Technical Support Program	916-654-1541