

BROADCAST FROM THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM OFFICE

CHILD CARE LICENSING CHANGES

The Child Care Program Office (CCPO) is happy to share some exciting changes that have occurred statewide in Child Care Licensing. Effective September 6, 2016, Child Care Licensing was divided into two teams: Central North and Central South.

The Central North team consists of all of the licensing specialists from the previous Northern and half of the South Central regions licensing specialists and covers the western central and northern cities in Alaska, including: Wasilla, Talkeetna, Healy, Fairbanks, North Pole, Delta Junction, Barrow, Nome, Kotzebue, Brevig Mission, Bethel, Dillingham, The Aleutian Islands and Kodiak. The Central North team is supervised by Diana Browne, and has the following Licensing Specialists: Charlotte Allen, James Benedict, Kenneth Carr, Claudia Essley, and Penny Watson.

The Central South team consists of all of the licensing specialists from the previous Southeast and half of the South Central regions licensing specialist and covers the eastern central and southeast cities in Alaska, including: Palmer, Sutton, Kenai, Soldotna, Nikiski, Sterling, Kasilof, Anchor Point, Homer, Seward, Valdez, Cordova, Juneau, Douglas, Wrangell, Haines, Gustavus, Skagway, Petersburg, Sitka, Ketchikan, and Prince of Wales. The Central South team is supervised by Bob Gerwin, and has the following Licensing Specialists: Matthew Barnaby, Joanie Fogel, Judie Klemmetson, Mariana Moreno- Goodwin, and Lewis Watson.

CCPO has not changed the physical locations of any of our offices. The Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau offices remain open for your child care services. For additional location and program information please visit our website at: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/ccare/default.aspx>

These changes were implemented to: increase efficiency, effectiveness, and consistency statewide; ensure more equitability in the number of staff each regional supervisor supervises; ensure more equitability in licensing specialist's workload distribution; and promote teamwork across all regions by increasing the opportunities for Child Care Licensing Specialists and Child Care Providers to interact with each other.

We understand the impact that change can have on Child Care Providers, so we worked diligently to ensure there was no disruption to the licensing services we provide. However, with this change it was necessary for some caseload redistribution, meaning there are some Child Care Providers who will be assigned a new Licensing Specialist. Additional communication will be sent directly to each Child Care Provider regarding whether or not their Licensing Specialist has changed.

Thank you,

