



News Alert - Crib Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Stork Craft Manufacturing Inc has announced the voluntary recall of more than 2.1 million Stork Craft drop-side cribs, including about 147,000 Stork Craft drop-side cribs with the Fisher-Price logo. The CPSC urges parents and caregivers to immediately stop using the recalled cribs, wait for the repair kit, and do not attempt to fix the cribs without the kit. Consumers should contact Stork Craft to receive a free repair kit that converts the drop-side on the cribs to a fixed side. The cribs drop-side plastic hardware can break deform, or parts can become missing. In addition, the drop-side can be installed upside-down, which can result in broken or disengaged plastic parts. All of these problems can cause the drop-side to detach in one or more corners. When the drop-side detaches, it creates space between the drop-side and the crib mattress. The bodies of infants and toddlers can become entrapped in the space which can lead to suffocation. Also, complete detachment of drop-sides can lead to falls from the crib. For more information on the crib recall please visit the Consumer Product Safety Commission at www.cpsc.gov.



Early Head Start Expansion

With the expansion of Early Head Start come many challenges for new grantees. Along with the opportunity to serve many children and families comes a great responsibility. Therefore, programs planning to provide EHS services must be thoughtful in how they design and implement their program. *Planning for Early Head Start Program Services*, a paper posted on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) will help grantees engage in the activities as they prepare to implement their funded grant, through the planning period and during the early stages of service delivery. Planning for program implementation begins during the grant application process and continues from the time of the award to full implementation of service. Each newly awarded grantee must develop a start-up-plan with identified timelines. In addition, you will find *The Organizational Readiness Chart*, which outlines necessary tasks and steps for successful start-up planning. Allowing sufficient time for a thorough start-up planning process ensures that the program will be ready to provide quality services. Furthermore, programs are encouraged to hire a start-up-planner to assure the program meets the Performance Standards, has developed appropriate policies and procedures and is ready to be fully operational by the target start dates.

To view the above papers and other Early Head Start Tip Sheets please visit the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center at <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov>

Mental Health in Early Head Start

Recently, the Office of Head Start has highlighted the importance of mental health in EHS programs around the country. The following quick tips for staff will help in supporting Mental Health Services for Early Head Start Programs.

Use formal and informal opportunities to ask questions, discuss concerns and learn through ongoing training, groups and seminars. Reflect on your own views about mental health. Consider how your views affect your ability to support your own mental health and promote mental health for infants, toddlers and their families.

Develop partnerships with mental health providers by forming a Mental Health Advisory Committee (MHAC) composed of community providers, representatives from the Health Advisory Committee, and HS/EHS staff.

Additional information can be found on the Early Head Start National Resource Center website at www.ehsnrc.org

Our Pledge: The KY T/TA State Office pledges to provide timely, current, and interesting monthly newsletters for the Head Start and Early Head Start communities and others interested in the field. In keeping with our mission to be more "green," we will provide our easy to read newsletter via email. We would like to hear from you and encourage your suggestions for newsletter content. Contact the editor: **Joyce Roach**

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