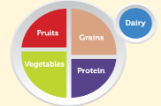## Friendly Reminder:
### *Updated DSS Form 2924*
### Central Registry Release of
### Information and Compliance Statement

➢ All providers should be using the most current DSS 2924 Form, updated in April 2016. To access the current version please click on this link.

➢ All names, addresses, and Social Security Numbers **MUST** be completed fully. If any names, addresses, or social security numbers are incomplete, it will result in delays in processing the form.

➢ All DSS 2924 Central Registry forms require original signatures. Please send the original form in for processing and keep the copy for your records.

## July 2017 Garden Workshops and Culinary Skills Trainings

The SC Farm to Preschool program is excited to announce that it hosting four workshops in July to provide hands-on culinary skills training and gardening in Greenville and Columbia. During these FREE workshops, participants will follow along as South Carolina demonstrate the importance of buying local, teach proper knife techniques, and prepare several dishes using seasonal South Carolina fruits and vegetables. The garden workshops will consist of hands-on gardening training, is designed for all skill levels, and is based on successful gardens in South Carolina.

For registration and more information, please click here.

## Meal Pattern Revisions:
## CACFP Supports Breastfeeding.

On **October 1, 2017,** the following meal pattern revisions will take effect for child care facilities that participate in the Child & Adult Care Food Program:

- Infant meal patterns will have two groups:
    1. Birth through the end of 5 months
    2. 6 months through the end of 11 months
- Introduce solid foods when the child is developmentally ready, about 6 months of age.
- The new age groups are consistent with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program. They are also simpler for child care facilities.
- New age groups will encourage exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life in two ways:
    1. Providers may continue to claim infant meals for reimbursement when a parent or guardian supplies expressed breastmilk for their infant that is fed to the infant.
    2. Child care facilities may begin to claim reimbursement for meals when a mother breastfeeds her infant at the child care facility.

For more information about changes to the meal patterns, visit www.scchildcare.org.

## Beginnings SC Provides Free Hearing Screenings

Hearing loss is a disability that is often late-diagnosed and vastly under-diagnosed. The incidence of permanent hearing loss is 1 in 100 school-aged children. That's nearly 12,000 children in SC alone. Unfortunately, estimates tell us less than 2,000 of these children have been properly diagnosed and are receiving the appropriate services and supports. In addition, 35% of children under age 5 who have ear infections can't hear well enough to learn language. Beginnings SC has worked with DSS as a partner agency since September 2015 to change that. More than 2,200 children have been screened for hearing loss using OAE (Otoacoustic emissions) technology. Beginnings SC is thrilled to partner with child care programs across the state to conduct free hearing screenings for children. But that isn't all Beginnings SC offers. Beginnings SC's staff are certified Technical Assistance providers! Beginnings SC has Certified trainers offering 2.0 credit hours of training in the topic area of Special Needs.

Beginnings SC can help if you:
- Have a child with a hearing aid or cochlear implant in your center and want some tips;
- Have parents or staff with a hearing loss and want to learn how to involve them in your program; or
- Want a FREE, hands-on, comprehensive, and fun training about language development and hearing loss that is flexible and provided at the time and location that is more convenient for your child care program.

**For questions, more information, or to schedule a training, please contact Mary Reaves at mreaves@scbegin.org or 803-216-1171.**

## Product Recalls

DSS Regulation 114-507C(2) states that furniture, toys and recreational equipment shall meet the standards of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), if applicable, and that recalled products shall not be accessible to children. For more information, call CPSC's hotline at **800-638-2772** or visit their website: **www.cpsc.gov**. To report a dangerous product or related injury, go to **http://saferproducts.gov**.

- ☛ **Kreative Kids Children's Robes** due to violation of federal flammability standard.
- ☛ **Lila + Hayes Children's Playwear** due to choking hazard.
- ☛ **Madison Mill Safety Gates** due to entrapment and strangulation hazards.
- ☛ **Little Giraffe Children's Robes** due to violation of federal flammability standard.

### Solar Eclipse Safety

On Monday, August 21, 2017, a solar eclipse will occur and one of the best places to view it will be right here in South Carolina. The following areas will be in the direct path to see the total eclipse: Greer, Easley, Greenville, Anderson, Laurens, Greenwood, Newberry, Saluda, Edgefield, Lexington, Columbia, Orangeburg, Kingstree, Andrews, Summerville, Goose Creek, Georgetown, McClellanville, and Charleston. Witnessing a solar eclipse is a chance of a lifetime experience. Remember, it is important to follow safety precautions to protect children from the sun while viewing the eclipse.

### Eye Protection

Children should not look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun unless they use special-purpose solar filters, such as "eclipse sunglasses" or hand-held solar viewers (find them for free here). Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses are not safe for viewing. Also, children should not view the eclipse through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device regardless of whether they are wearing eclipse sunglasses.

### Heatstroke

Children are more vulnerable to heatstroke than adults. With routine changes due to the eclipse children are at an increased risk of being forgotten in the backseat. Be sure to look before you lock.

NASA                    Eclipse 2017