

Parent/Provider Newsletter

JULY 2021

Co-Pays Suspended Until Further Notice

ACFS CCDF program received more CARES ACT funding (CRRSA). One thing we are doing with the money is paying all the co-pays on behalf of the parents until further notice. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Trish, CCDF Coordinator at psterling@saulttribe.net or 906-632-5250.

ALL CCDF PARENTS AND PROVIDERS

If you haven't contacted me already, Sault Tribe CCDF program has COVID 19 CARES ACT Fund Dollars available for CCDF Parents and Providers for COVID 19 related items such as masks, gloves, disinfecting wipes, Mr. Clean, hand sanitizer, antibacterial hand soap, laundry detergent, garbage bags, etc. Please make your list and send it to Patricia Sterling, CCDF Coordinator, psterling@saulttribe.net or call 906-632-5250

ANISHNAABEK COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SERVICES ANNOUNCES CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services is excited to announce funding availability for child care assistance for Essential Workers residing in the 7 county service area. ACFS Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program is accepting Child Care Applications for Essentials Workers **without regard to income** for a **limited time** due to the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA).

Essential Workers include:

- Health Care Sector Workers;
- Emergency Responders;
- Sanitation and Janitorial Workers;
- Farm;
- Food Service Workers;
- Security, Law Enforcement, Court;
- Information Technology ;
- Emergency Management Administration ;
- Employees Carrying out Public Assistance
 - Teachers-Giving Face-to-Face Instruction
 - Social Workers
 - Behavioral Health
 - Sanitation/Environmental Health
 - Direct Assistance Staff (MDHHS, ACFS, Community Action, Health Department etc.,)

Children must be:

- Members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Reside in the 7 County Service Area
- Be between the ages of 0 and 13 years of age

Child Care Provider must be:

- Licensed Center
- Licensed Family Home
- Relative Care Provider(Grand Parent, Great Grand Parent, Aunt, Uncle or Sibling not residing in the home.
- In-Home Aide

You can find more information on the website <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund> and click on the CRRSA application link or by calling Trish, CCDF Coordinator at 906-632-5250 or email psterling@saulttribe.net.

You are receiving this newsletter because you are either a parent receiving Child Care Assistance from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians CCDF program, you are a Child Care Provider receiving Subsidies, or you are in a collaboration/partnership with the Tribal CCDF Program.

CCDF is located at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 and you can reach us at 800-726-0093 or 906-632-5250. You can contact Trish, CCDF Coordinator at psterling@saulttribe.net or Angel, Administrative Assistant at apeer@saulttribe.net. Our fax number is 906-632-5266.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Health and Safety are priorities when it comes to caring for children. The Tribal CCDF program provides necessary Health and Safety required items to CCDF Families and CCDF Providers. If you find you are in the need of Health and Safety required items such as Fire/Smoke detector (one for each level of the home/center), fire extinguisher, carbon monoxide detector, electrical outlet covers, drawer safety latches, first aid kit, etc. please contact CCDF Coordinator, Trish Sterling at psterling@saulttribe.net or 906-632-5250.

CONSUMER STATEMENT

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services Child Care and Development Fund program offers Child Care Subsidy Assistance to parents with Sault Tribe member (or eligible to be) children living in the Sault Tribe 7 County Service area who are working, going to school, or in a qualified job training program. Eligible parents can choose high quality child care providers that include State Licensed Centers or Family/Group Homes, Tribal Licensed Centers, Relative Care Providers or In-Home Aides. Relative Care Providers and In-Home Aides must complete requirements prior to providing care for your children.

Please contact CCDF Coordinator, Trish Sterling for more information at 906-632-5250 or 800-726-0093.

Visit https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_63294_5529---,00.html to find State Licensed Centers and State Licensed Family/Group Child Care Homes in your area.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

PARENTS AND PROVIDERS:

If you move, please contact us within 24 hours so that we can update your address and important letter and orders can reach you.

If you change your phone number, please contact within 24 hours so we can update your phone number in our system so that it is easier to reach you.

If you stop working, going to school or end your job training, please contact us with 24 hours so we can update your 'reason for care'.

All billing sheets are due every two weeks according to the Reimbursement Due Dates form and must be submitted within 90 of care being provided in order to be reimbursed as stated on each Child Care Certificate.

All CCDF Rules and Regulations will be adhered to.

If you have any questions about billing, please contact Angel at 906-632-5250 or apeer@saulttribe.net

Any other questions, please contact Trish at 906-632-5250 or psterling@saulttribe.net

Sincerely,

Trish Sterling,
CCDF Coordinator

It's summer time, and that means kids are spending a lot of time at day care. And it also means spending a lot of time outside.

Of course, you can only let the kids run through the sprinklers so many times before they get bored. So, to get your creative juices flowing, we've put together eight fun and safe activities to do with children this summer.

1. Paint with Water Balloons

It's not as crazy as it sounds, according to Emily Timmons, editor of AllFreeKidsCrafts.com. Just put some non-toxic, washable craft paint inside water balloons, fill them up with water and let the kids throw them onto poster boards in the grass. It's a bit messy, but the kids will end up with a splatter-paint keepsake that to take home or give as a gift. Take that, Jackson Pollock.

2. Cool Down with Ice Chalk

Another artsy alternative for beating the summer heat is modifying that time-treasured outdoor activity of sidewalk chalk. All you need to do is: Whip up a batch of homemade chalk paint using equal parts corn starch and water. Split it up into smaller batches then add in your favorite washable paint colors. Pour the mixtures into ice cube trays and freeze them. Note: Timmons recommends doing this prep the night before you intend on using the chalk. When it's time to play, pop the ice chalk out of the trays into a bowl and let the kids draw and experiment on the pavement. The colors get more vibrant as they melt.

3. Play in the Water

Water is where it's at in the summertime. It keeps the kids cool, and there isn't a lot of prep required. Pools and sprinklers are great, but they're not the only option, says Darcy R. Shapiro, one of the founders of Cribsters.com, a resource for busy parents. Water tables are a great way for children to cool off and splash around," Shapiro says. When it comes to water play, however, just make sure to let the kids' parents know to pack a bathing suit, change of clothes and towel for those warm weather days.

4. Start a Garden

You don't have to be cool to be cool. Take the nice weather as an opportunity to teach kids about nature by letting them plant something and watch it grow. "There are some easy growing herbs and plants that will flourish even under the littlest hands," Shapiro says. Gardening can be a fun daily project, and you could even rotate the responsibility of watering among the kids to give them each a chance at participating.

5. **Rediscover the Sandbox**

You can't go wrong with letting the kids play in some sand. If your child care program doesn't have one, it's a good idea to invest in one. Filling a sandbox with plenty of tools and toys will encourage the kids to be creative as they dig, pour and create designs. Just make sure to get one with a cover, so you can keep out rainwater and critters when the kids aren't playing in it.

6. **Nature Explorers**

You don't have to reinvent the wheel to take advantage of the summer sun. Just get outside and create your own adventure. "A simple walk around the yard boasts lots of fun activities like collecting rocks, playing I Spy and teaching the little ones about the different flowers, says Robert Daddy Nickell, a father of seven and founder of the Daily Daddy Blog.

7. **Have an Indoor Picnic**

The weather won't always cooperate. So, for those rainy days (or total scorchers) it's a good idea to have indoor activities on tap. For instance, an indoor picnic can be a lovely way to simulate outside play. If you see a rainy day in the forecast, invite the kids to bring their favorite stuffed animal as their guest.

8. **Start a Band**

Another idea for those rainy or sweltering days is to encourage a bit of noisy indoor fun by forming a band. Shapiro suggests collecting empty plastic bottles and filling them with dried rice to create maracas. "Or take elastic bands and an empty tissue box to make a guitar, she says. Get creative -- the kids will love playing the instruments they helped make.

There are so many other activities you can put together for summer play, both outdoors and in. Keeping kids engaged is what matters. Boredom shouldn't be a factor when there's fun to be had.

FIREWORKS SAFETY

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public fireworks show put on by professionals. Stay at least 500 feet away from the show. Many states outlaw most fireworks. If someone is setting fireworks off at home, they should follow these safety steps:

- Never give fireworks to small children, and always follow the instructions on the packaging.
- Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.
- Make sure the person lighting fireworks always wears eye protection.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight "a dud."
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.
- Leave any area immediately where untrained amateurs are using fireworks.



Cultural Awareness

The Ojibway story of the seven grandfathers' teachings was passed down from parent to child for many generations. The story goes...

The Creator gave the seven grandfathers, who are very wise, the responsibility to watch over the people. The grandfathers saw that the people were living a hard life. *There was all kinds of sicknesses and bad things around. The Messenger was told, "Go down there, look around and find out what is happening. Bring back someone who we can tell about what life should be, with the Ojibway"* He left immediately and went to all places in the North, South, West and East. He could not find anyone. On his seventh try, while he was looking, he saw a baby. The grandfathers were happy with the choice made by the helper.

He took the baby back to where the Grandfathers were sitting in a circle. He was still very small and still wrapped inside the cradleboard. One of the grandfathers looked at the baby very carefully. "This is the one. Messenger, pick up the baby. Take him all over; teach him carefully the way the Ojibway should lead their lives." The Messenger took him; they went around the earth.

When they came back seven years later, the boy again saw the Grandfathers. He was already a young man. The Grandfathers noticed that this boy was very honest. He understood everything that was taught. One of the grandfathers took a drum and started singing. Each of the grandfathers gave the boy a teaching. "These are the ones you take with you," he was told.

Nibwaakaawin—Wisdom: To cherish knowledge is to know Wisdom. Wisdom is given by the Creator to be used for the good of the people. In the Anishinaabe language, this word expresses not only "wisdom," but also means "prudence," or "intelligence."

Zaagi'idiwin—Love: To know Love is to know peace. Love must be unconditional. When people are weak they need love the most. In the Anishinaabe language, this word with the reciprocal theme indicates that this form of love is mutual.

Minaadendamowin—Respect: To honor all creation is to have Respect. All of creation should be treated with respect. You must give respect if you wish to be respected.

Aakode'ewin—Bravery: Bravery is to face the foe with integrity. In the Anishinaabe language, this word literally means "state of having a fearless heart." To do what is right even when the consequences are unpleasant.

Gwayakwaadiziwin—Honesty: Honesty in facing a situation is to be brave. Always be honest in word and action. Be honest first with yourself, and you will more easily be able to be honest with others. In the Anishinaabe language, this word can also mean "righteousness."

Dabaadendiziwin—Humility: Humility is to know yourself as a part of Creation. In the Anishinaabe language, this word can also mean "compassion." You are equal to others, but you are not better.

Debwewin—Truth: Truth is to know all of these things. Speak the truth. Do not deceive yourself or others.

The boy, because of all the time spent with the Grandfathers, was now an old man. The old man gathered all the people around and told them of his journey to the seven grandfather's lodge. He explained how to use the gifts and that it was now up to the people to try to follow the path of a good and healthy life using the seven grandfather's teachings.

They told him each of these teachings must be with the rest, you cannot have wisdom without love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility and truth. You cannot be honest if you only use one or two of these, or if you leave out one. And to leave out one is to embrace the opposite of what that teaching is.

Keep Mosquitoes and Ticks From Bugging You This Summer:

Take Steps to Prevent Bites

Summer allows more time for children to play outdoors, but when kids are covered with bug bites after spending time outside, parents may start to worry about disease spread by ticks, such as Lyme disease, or by mosquitoes, such as West Nile virus. Luckily, parents can take simple steps to prevent bites and diseases spread by bugs.

www.cdc.gov/westnile or www.cdc.gov/lyme, or call CDC Info at 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Use an effective insect repellent

Parents may feel overwhelmed by the many bug protection products in the grocery aisle, wondering which ones are best. CDC recommends a variety of effective products. Check the label for one of the following active ingredients:

- DEET
- IR 3535
- Picaridin
- Oil of lemon eucalyptus

Most pediatricians recommend using products with 30 percent or less of these ingredients on kids. Once you've bought an insect repellent, use it whenever you and your children are outdoors. Put a few bottles or packets of repellent anywhere you might need them— in the car, by the door, in your bag. Make it easy so you'll remember. As hard as it may be to think about, any single bug bite has the potential to bring illness, so it's worth taking a moment for prevention.

Check for ticks

After playing outside, don't make ticks an uninvited guest in your home. Ticks can ride in on parents, kids, and even the family pet, so check your gear and pets as soon as you get inside, even if your outdoor adventures were only in the backyard.

Parents should check themselves and their children for ticks under the arms, in and around the ears, inside the belly button, behind the knees, between the legs, around the waist and especially in the hair.

If you find a tick, remove it using fine-tipped tweezers as soon as you notice it. If a tick is attached to your skin for less than 24 hours, your chance of getting Lyme disease is extremely small. But to be safe, watch for signs or symptoms of Lyme disease such as rash or fever, and see a doctor if they develop.

Bathing when you get inside can also help you find ticks and remove them. Additionally, you can tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for an hour to kill any remaining ticks.

By following simple prevention steps, parents and kids can keep pests away so they can focus on fun outdoor activities like gardening, camping, hiking and just playing outdoors.

For more information, please visit www.cdc.gov/westnile or www.cdc.gov/lyme, or call CDC Info at 1-800-CDC-INFO.

