



Date: March 14th, 2016

**FOR RELEASE THE WEEK OF:
Immediate Release**

Contact: Terry Eimen, PIO Officer
(815)432-2483
teimen@co.iroquois.il.us

Updated Emergency Preparedness Planning Guide for Child Care Centers & Child Care Homes

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), in conjunction with the Loyola University Chicago, has released an updated version of the Emergency Preparedness Guide for Child Care Centers & Child Care Homes. This guide is meant to help child care facilities throughout the State of Illinois develop plans for various types of emergencies and disasters. It explains the different phases of emergency preparedness, gives recommendations for response to certain emergencies, and provides tools to help create a plan.

“The best thing an institution can do to be prepared for a disaster or emergency is have a plan” says Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Eric Ceci. “The act of writing a plan forces an individual to consider the details of contingencies and what-ifs. It also eliminates guessing and debate when an actual event occurs.”

To find a copy of the Emergency Preparedness Guide for Child Care Centers & Child Care Homes, visit the Iroquois County Public Health Department website at www.co.iroquois.il.us/health-department/, and navigate to the Emergency Preparedness page underneath Environmental Health. There you will find a handful of disaster preparedness pamphlets, including this guide for child care centers and child care homes. Any questions, contact the Iroquois County Public Health Department at (815) 432-2483.