Hand Washing

Caregivers and volunteers must thoroughly wash their hands with soap and running water:
- at the beginning of each day,
- before and after the administration of medications,
- when they are dirty,
- after toileting or assisting children with toileting,
- after changing a diaper,
- before and after food handling or eating,
- after handling pets or other animals,
- after contact with any bodily secretion or fluid, and
- after coming in from outdoors.

Caregivers and volunteers must ensure that children thoroughly wash their hands or assist children with thoroughly washing their hands with soap and running water:
- when they are dirty,
- after toileting,
- before and after food handling or eating,
- after handling pets or other animals,
- after contact with any bodily secretion or fluid, and
- after coming in from outdoors.

All staff, volunteers, and children will wash their hands using the following steps:
1) Moisten hands with water and apply liquid soap.
2) Rub hands with soap and water for at least 30 seconds – remember to include between fingers, under and around fingernails, backs of hands, and scrub any jewelry.
3) Rinse hands well under running water with fingers down so water flows from wrist to finger tips.
4) Leave the water running.
5) Dry hands with a disposable paper towel or approved drying device.
6) Use a towel to turn off the faucet and, if inside a toilet room with a closed door, use the towel to open the door.
7) Discard the towel in an appropriate receptacle.
8) Apply hand lotion, if needed.

When soap and running water is not available and hands are visibly soiled, individual wipes may be used in combination with hand sanitizer. The use of hand sanitizers on children under the age of two (2) years is prohibited.

Adapted from the Office of Children and Family Services Health Care Plan, Appendix B.
This page is intentionally blank.