



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SEVERE FOOD ALLERGY POLICY

To ensure that there is proper management of food allergies in the classroom setting and to minimize exposure and risk to children with known food allergies, the F.M. Kirby Children's Center of the Madison Area YMCA follows this policy. It is based on "Caring for our Children", 3rd edition, section 4.2.0.10., the National Health and Safety Performance Standards Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs.

1. Each child with a food allergy must have a **Food Allergy Care Plan** signed by both a physician and a parent or guardian which includes:
 - i Written instructions regarding the food(s) the child is allergic to and steps that need to be taken to avoid that food.
 - ii A detailed treatment plan to be implemented in the event of an allergic reaction, including the names, doses and methods of administration of any medications that the child should receive in the event of a reaction. The plan should include specific symptoms that would indicate the need to administer one or more medications.
2. At least one of the child's caregivers/teachers will be certified in first aid training which includes demonstrating competence in, and implementing measures for:
 - i Preventing exposure to the specific food(s) to which the child is allergic.
 - ii Recognizing the symptoms of an allergic reaction.
 - iii Treating allergic reactions.
3. Parents/guardians are responsible for:
 - i Providing the necessary Food Allergy Care Plan and the prescribed medications to treat the allergy.
 - ii Notifying the F.M. Kirby Children's Center immediately if it is determined that their child is allergic to additional foods and for providing written documentation from the child's doctor stating what foods are to be added.
 - iii Notifying the F.M. Kirby Children's Center and providing signed documentation from the child's doctor if it is determined that the child is no longer allergic to a certain food(s).
 - iv Keeping track of expiration dates of medications and Food Allergy Care Plans and providing new ones to the nurse prior to expiration dates.
 - v Providing a **signed list** of foods served at Kirby that can be given to their child. Kirby menus are available online and at the Center. Lists of ingredients of foods served at Kirby are available to parents at enrollment, when new menu items are added and or at any time when they are requested.

* Note: for the safety of a child, a teacher may choose not to give a child a food on the list if they believe it contains an allergen for that child.



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SEVERE FOOD ALLERGY POLICY CONTINUED

4. The list of approved foods for the individual child will be reviewed and signed by the child's teachers and the school nurse and kept in the child's classroom.
5. In some cases, especially for children with multiple food allergies, the parents/guardians may need to take responsibility for providing all of the child's food. In this situation, the nurse will work with the parents, the child's teachers and the director to come up with an appropriate plan to best meet the child's needs.
6. Caregivers/teachers will promptly and properly administer prescribed medications in the event of an allergic reaction according to the instructions in the care plan.
7. The facility will notify the parents/guardians immediately of any suspected allergic reactions, the ingestion of the problem food or contact with the problem food, even if a reaction did not occur.
8. The facility will recommend to the family that the child's primary care provider be notified if the child has required treatment by the facility for a food allergic reaction.
9. The facility will call 911 immediately whenever epinephrine has been administered.
10. Parents/guardians of all children in the child's class will be advised to avoid any known allergens in class treats or special foods brought into the classroom.
11. Individual child's food allergies will be posted prominently in the classroom where staff can view them and/or wherever food is served.
12. The Food Allergy Care Plan, a cell phone and proper medications for appropriate treatment if the child develops an acute allergic reaction will be carried on field trips or transport out of the F.M. Kirby Children's Center.



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By signing below, I agree that I have received, read and will follow the Severe Food Allergy Policy while at the F.M. Kirby Children's Center.

Child's Name: _____ **Program Enrolled:** _____

Child's Birthdate: _____

Parent or guardian's printed name: _____

Parent or guardian's signature: _____

Date: _____

Updated: 8.23.16