

14-506-34

Original: 2539

Lau, Jennifer

From: Ricky Pfeifer [rpfeifer@philaymca.org]
Sent: Monday, July 03, 2006 2:11 PM
To: irrc@irrc.state.pa.us
Cc: jlau@state.pa.us
Subject: Proposed change in Child Health Assessment #14-506

Dear Members of the Independent Regulatory Review Commission,

As a site director for the Rocky Run YMCA, I supervise the care of over 125 children at one site. During this past academic year, our staff cared for 15 special needs children. We were alerted to their special needs through the mandatory annual health assessments, not oral or written communication from parents. Blind in one eye, one five year old needed special accommodations on the bus and in the classroom. Another little girl had severe nerve damage in one arm, and we needed to be especially vigilant with her safety supervision on the playground and in helping her with her lunch routine. Neither family had contacted the staff previous to their enrollment to advise of their child's special needs.

As advocates for the health, welfare, safety, and optimum development of young children, we providers need as much current medical information as possible to offer quality and individualized service to all the children in our care. Preventative screenings give families and child care providers an early edge in resolving problems before the child is of school age and are very cost effective. Please retain the mandate for health screenings for young children, as part of a quality assurance program. We are proud to be associated with the Pennsylvania Keystone Stars and want to continue to prepare our children to become strong, healthy adults and successful members of our communities.

Thank you for heeding my thoughts about Regulation #14-506(#2539).

Growth Through Caring,

Ricky Pfeifer
Site Director

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OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Please check out the child care service link @www.rockyrunymca.org

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