Healthy Child Care America Survey 2009

In 2009, Healthy Child Care America (HCCA) conducted a survey of its early education and child care colleagues through various electronic distribution lists. The results from this survey will be used to guide the program's future efforts.

Of the 666 respondents, the majority identified themselves as child care health consultants (24%). This was followed by child care providers/directors at 17%, child care trainers at 16%, and public health employees at 11%.
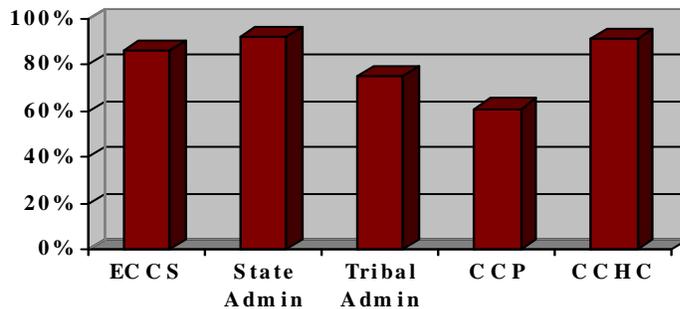
> *"I hope that the health and safety e-news and resources will continue. Your resources are very valuable for child care health consultants to use to improve the health and safety of children in child care."*
> – Child care health consultant

The survey participants were asked to rate the HCCA activities and resources. The Web site, electronic distribution lists, and resource distributions by mail were rated most favorable. Some respondents were unaware of all of the available activities and resources from HCCA. Therefore, future efforts will include marketing what HCCA has to offer.

The publication *Caring for Our Children National: Health and Safety Performance Standard: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs, 2nd Edition* consists of national child care health and safety standards that are endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Overall, 73% (337) of survey respondents were familiar with this resource.

> *"Caring for Our Children is a wonderful resource; the online website is also most helpful. As a Texas CCHC who does not have a health background, these resources are vital in our work of educating the child care workforce."*
> – Child care health consultant

Survey respondents familiar with *Caring for Our Children*

In particular, 86% (12) of Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Coordinators, 92% (11) of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Administrators, 75% (12) of CCDF Tribal Administrators, 61% (42) of child care providers/directors, and 91% (117) of child care health consultants are familiar with this resource.

Regarding its use, 52% (173) of all respondents use it all of the time or most of the time, and 49% (57) of child care health consultants reported using the publication <u>all</u> the time! The survey results regarding *Caring for Our Children* have been shared with the HCCA partners at the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education to enhance their work as well.

> *"This [SIDS online module] would save program time as I currently am a state trainer for SIDS/Shaken Baby and the presentation and training session is about 2 hours. Currently I have to provide for just one or two people at a time so an online module would be more cost effective if it met the state guidelines. (Wisconsin)"*
> – CCDF Tribal Administrator

HCCA is in the process of developing an online module on the topic of safe sleep guidelines and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Health care professionals, child care providers, parents/relatives, and babysitters will be able to complete the educational module for free. Overall, 80% (367) of respondents reported that this online module would be very useful or somewhat useful. Also, 83% (376) of respondents would be interested in additional online modules on other health and safety topics provided by HCCA.

> *"Teachers are always looking for continuing professional education hours. I know my younger teachers are turning more and more to online offerings because they can participate on their own schedules."*
> – Child care provider/director

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The way in which people receive information is also important. Survey participants were asked to select their preferred mean of receiving information

Top 3 selected means of receiving information, by audience:

OVERALL RESPONSE:
1. Printable handouts   76% (330)
2. Web site   71% (307)
3. Online module   59% (257)

CHILD CARE HEALTH CONSULTANTS:
1. Printable handouts   83% (104)
2. Web site   71% (90)
3. Online module   62% (79)

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS / DIRECTORS:
1. Printable handouts   80% (53)
2. Web site   68% (45)
3. Online module   59% (39)

ECCS COORDINATORS:
1. Electronic distribution list   71% (10)
2. Online module   64% (9)

STATE ADMINISTRATORS:
1. Web site   73% (8)
2. Printable handouts   73% (8)
3. Online module   73% (8)

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATORS
1. Web site   71% (10)
2. Electronic distribution list   57% (8)
3. Printable handouts   50% (7)

HCCA has the ability to provide education on various health and safety topics. To help narrow our focus, survey participants were asked to select a maximum of 3 to 5 topics they would like to see covered in the future.

"I think HCCA is an important resource, we have just gone in a different direction in New York State. I think the TA to states is very important and hope we can utilize it in the future as we look to expand our activities in this area."
– ECCS Coordinator

Top 3 selected health and safety topics, by audience:

OVERALL RESPONSE:
1. Social & Emotional Health   51% (222)
2. Infectious Diseases   44% (192)
3. Children With Special Needs   43% (186)

CHILD CARE HEALTH CONSULTANTS:
1. Infectious Diseases   53% (67)
2. Children With Special Needs 49% (62)
3. Child Care Health   44% (56)
   Consultation

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS / DIRECTORS:
1. Social & Emotional Health   57% (37)
2. Developmental Screening   51% (33)
3. Infectious Diseases   48% (31)

ECCS COORDINATORS:
1. Social & Emotional Health   73% (11)
2. Online module   67% (10)
4. Child Care Health   53% (8)
   Consultation

STATE ADMINISTRATORS:
1. Medication Administration   83% (10)
2. Disaster Preparedness   67% (8)
3. General Standards &   73% (8)
   Recommendations from AAP

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATORS
1. Child Development   64% (9)
5. Child Care Health   57% (8)
   Consultation