

March of Dimes Policy on Child Care

Effective Date: February 2007

Listed below are options for the provision of child care services for participants at trainings and/or workshops funded by chapter community grants and external program grants.

- 1) **Stipend** - A cash stipend, in the range of \$15 - \$25 per person per day, intended as reimbursement for “personal expenses” (i.e. transportation, meals, and also child care services of his/her own selection) can be given to participants. Participants will sign a receipt for the stipend (produced and cleared by the Chapter Program Support, Finance and Legal departments) accepting the stipend and verifying that the cash is to be used by the participant for reimbursement for personal expenses in connection with the recipients’ participation in the session. Appropriate “release” language should be included in the receipt to reflect the participants’ independent determination of child care services to be used. The chapter and/or grantee would be responsible for the careful handling of the cash and collecting signed forms.

- 2) **Contract with Duly Licensed and Insured Child Care Agency** - The grantee should contract with a local child care agency to care for participants’ children that satisfies the following criteria: 1) the agency is duly licensed/credentialed for the provision of child care services, 2) the agency is in compliance with all state and local laws for the conduct of appropriate background checks and screening of its staff of caregivers 3) the agency is duly insured for its provision of child care services, and 4) the agency signs an “indemnification and hold harmless agreement” (a) certifying as to points 1 thru 3 above and (b) indemnifying MOD against all liability (i.e., claims or actions) that may arise in connection with the agency’s provision of child care services.

Note: March of Dimes staff should **not** be directly taking care of children (even if this may allow parents to receive community education) NOR should March of Dimes staff hire **individuals** that are not duly licensed and insured to take care of children at March of Dimes programs or events.

For more information contact your Regional Program Director or the Manager, Chapter Grants in the Chapter Program Support Department at the national office.