Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to 2012! Attached is the Adventist Child Care Network newsletter for the first quarter of 2012.

In it you will find:

- Polillo Feeding Program
- 2012 Teachers’ Convention
- The Purposes of ACCN

In addition, there are several links we would like to share with you that are of importance.

**AAP New Recommendations to Prevent SIDS**

The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education announced Wednesday an important change to a safe sleep standard in Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs, 3rd Edition, 2011. The American Academy of Pediatrics now recommends that blankets not be used in infant cribs. This change can be found in the comment section of Standard 3.1.4.1: Safe Sleep Practices and SIDS/Suffocation Risk Reduction, after "Use of Blankets". [http://capwiz.com/nacerra/utr/1/OXBJREFEKX/KZGMREFJGP/7799500351](http://capwiz.com/nacerra/utr/1/OXBJREFEKX/KZGMREFJGP/7799500351)

**Oral Health for Young Children**

Oral health care can no longer be separated from the rest of body. Having good oral health is key to optimal general health. Why is this important to young children?

- Early childhood caries (cavities) is the number 1 chronic disease affecting young children.
- Early childhood caries is 5 times more common than asthma and 7 times more common than hay fever.
- Tooth pain keeps many children home from school or distracted from learning.
- Children are recommended to have their first dental visit by age 1 by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and the American Academy of Pediatrics. [http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/about/newsletter/spotlight_issues/oral_health.aspx](http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/about/newsletter/spotlight_issues/oral_health.aspx)

**Up and Away**

More than 60,000 young children end up in emergency rooms every year because they got into medicines while their parent or caregiver was not looking. Up & Away is an initiative of PROTECT in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). [www.upandaway.org](http://www.upandaway.org)

**Sex Offenders at Child Care Facilities**
On September 13, 2011, the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report on "Child Care: Overview of Relevant Employment Laws and Cases of Sex Offenders at Child Care Facilities". What GAO found was that federal and state laws failed to keep sex offenders out of child care facilities, including child care facilities receiving federal funding. State child care laws vary greatly. While all 50 states do require a criminal history check, only 10 states require a comprehensive background check, which includes a fingerprint check against state and federal records, as well as a check of the state child abuse registry and sex offender registry.

http://capwiz.com/naccerra/issues/alert/?alertid=53604501

Again, happy new year!

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