

# Childproofing Criteria

## Physical Environment

- We have safety proofed all rooms and common spaces for infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We have access to indoor space for physical activities for infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We have access to outdoor space for physical activities for infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We have space for parents to spend time with infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We have space for parents to eat with infants, toddlers and preschoolers

## Policies on Young Children and Families

- We have policies that specifically describe how we assess the needs of infants, toddlers and preschoolers and their families
- We have policies to address infants', toddlers' and preschoolers' enrollment into early education and care programs and services
- We have policies to address infants', toddlers' and preschoolers' needs other than enrollment into early education and care programs
- We invite feedback from parents of infants, toddlers and preschoolers on our policies related to supporting young children and their families
- We have policies in place to support infants', toddlers' and preschoolers' specific needs during a natural disaster or emergency

## Qualified Workforce

- Our staff receive training on basic child development and the impact of homelessness and unstable housing on infants, toddlers and preschoolers and on parenting
- Our staff receive training on resources for infants, toddlers and preschoolers and on parenting; e.g., health, mental health, nutrition, etc.
- We have designated staff who assess and address the needs of homeless infants, toddlers and preschoolers and their parents and serve as points of contacts for serving young children
- Our staff are knowledgeable regarding accessing IDEA services for developmental/behavioral issues

## Programming

- We have sponsored activities on site for infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We provide parenting education specific to families of infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We have sponsored activities specifically for parents of infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We modify meal plans/food donation policies/food access to address the nutritional needs of infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We provide nutrition education to parents specific to infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We ensure that all young children receive health/developmental/behavioral screening and referral

## Funding

- We target some funds from our budget for basic needs of infants, toddlers and preschoolers
- We take advantage of the CACFP to help support nutritional needs of infants, toddlers and preschoolers

## Tracking and Evaluation

- We track the number of infants, toddlers and preschoolers who are without stable housing and monitor service trends over time
- We track the numbers of young children who are not with their parents while staying at the shelter

## Building Awareness

- Our Board/community are kept aware of the needs of infants, toddlers, preschoolers and families