December 26, 2012

MEMO CHILD WELFARE LICENSING SECTION MEMO 2012-19L

To: Private Child Placing Agencies
    Residential Care Center Providers
    Group Home Providers
    Shelter Care Providers

From: Ron Hermes, Director
      Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care

RE: Important Influenza Information

The Department of Children and Families is encouraging providers to review the Wisconsin Department of Public Health website regarding influenza information. The WI Division of Public Health’s Influenza website [https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/influenza/index.htm](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/influenza/index.htm) contains important and late-breaking information about influenza including an item titled, “Influenza Risk to Pregnant Women”. On December 6, 2012, Jeffrey P. Davis, MD, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist for Communicable Diseases and Emergency Response within the WI Division of Public Health, issued a letter stressing the importance of vaccinating pregnant women against influenza.

The Department of Children and Families is recommending that all children in out-of-home care over the age of 6 months obtain an influenza shot. For additional information on influenza, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/current.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/current.htm)

If you have any questions, please contact your licensing specialist.

CHILD WELFARE LICENSING SECTION CONTACT:
Child Welfare Licensing Program Specialist
Division of Safety and Permanence
262-446-7856

MEMO WEB SITE: [https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy)