

FCC license required for childcare providers

60th Services Squadron

Many parents who live or work at Travis depend on others to take care of their children. Family Child Care along with the Child Development Centers and the Youth Center are programs that many parents utilize. Family Child Care (FCC) was created to provide additional spaces for the families in need of quality child care. The care in FCC is provided in the home of individuals licensed under AFI 34-276 guidelines. These licensed child care providers must complete at a minimum 20 hours of orientation, be certified in CPR/First Aid, complete AF child care training modules, obtain liability insurance and have their home meet fire prevention, health, and safety guidelines.

Unfortunately, not all individuals that are watching children in their home meet these guidelines. Some of those loving babysitters are unwittingly violating Air Force regulations by not getting a child care provider license. “If you are taking care of someone else’s children in your home for more than 10 hours per week, that constitutes unlicensed care”, said Ms. Shenethia Carter, 60th Services Squadron’s Family Member Programs Flight Chief.

The total number of hours is computed by multiplying the number of hours the provider offers care on a regular basis by the number of children in their care. If that number exceeds 10 hours per week, a license is required.

“For example, if an individual provides care for three hours one afternoon a week for four children they must be licensed,” said FCC coordinator Shirley Collins.

The key phrase is “regular basis.” Providing care for a friend occasionally or while the parent is deployed does not require a license. Neither does teenagers babysitting in the parents home nor parent cooperatives where parents take turns watching each other’s children.

“Residents of base housing who knowingly provide unlicensed childcare are in danger of loosing their base housing privileges,” said Ms. Carter. If you know of someone that is watching children in their home without a license please call the unlicensed child care information line at 424-4596.

The Travis Family Child Care Program is continually recruiting providers, especially for infants, toddlers, shift care and special needs children. If you are interested or know someone who would like to become a licensed Family Child Care provider, stop by the FCC office at 450 First St., Bldg 251 and pick up an application package. The knowledgeable staff is ready to assist you in becoming a licensed provider. Call the Family Child Care staff at 424-4596 for details.