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**COMPONENT: TRANSPORTATION**

**SUBJECT: SAFETY EDUCATION**

**PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE:** To provide training for parents and children in pedestrian safety. The training provided to children must be developmentally appropriate and an integral part of program experiences. The need for an adult to accompany a preschool child while crossing the street must be emphasized in the training provided to parents and children. The required transportation and pedestrian safety education must be provided within the first thirty days of the program year. To ensure that children are taught safe riding practices; safety procedures for boarding and leaving the vehicle; safety procedures in crossing the street to and from the vehicle at stops; recognition of the danger zones around the vehicle; and emergency evacuation procedures, including participating in an emergency evacuation drill conducted on the vehicle the child will be riding. To provide training for parents that emphasizes the importance of escorting their children to the vehicle stop and the importance of reinforcing the training provided to children regarding vehicle safety; and complements the training provided to their children so that safety practices can be reinforced both in Head Start and at home by the parent. To ensure that children participate in evacuation drills. To develop activities which remind children of the safety procedures. These activities must be developmentally appropriate, individualized and be an integral part of the Head Start or Early Head Start program activities.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE:**

Within the first 30 days of the program year; parents, children and staff will receive pedestrian safety information.

- Children will view I'm Safe which will cover:
  1. Safe riding practices
  2. Procedures for boarding and leaving the vehicle
  3. Procedures for crossing the street
  4. How to recognize danger zones around vehicles
  5. Emergency evacuation procedures
  6. Pedestrian Safety
- Emergency Evacuation Drill: Emergency evacuation drills are conducted monthly. (Drivers should review skills with children so they understand the procedures).
- Education staff is responsible for reminding children of safety procedures through the year, especially during field trips.

- Parents receive, within the first 30 days, safety training during first home visit or parent orientation.
- Training will specifically include, escorting children to and from the bus.
- Staff will receive safety training during pre-service.