



Cancer Prevention in Action (CPIA) and Community Youth Center

Sun Safety Policy

Rationale: Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. The risk for skin cancer can be greatly reduced when certain precautions are practiced. One blistering sunburn in childhood doubles the risk of skin cancer later in life. Therefore, the Community Youth Center in Canajoharie, NY is committed to ensuring that all children and staff are protected from skin damage caused by harmful UV radiation of the sun by implementing the following sun safety policy.

Policy: Community Youth Center will promote basic personal strategies for preventing skin cancer to the children and youth in their care.

Sunscreen:

- Sunscreen use will be encouraged for children and staff.
- Sunscreen cannot be provided by nor administered by Community Youth Center. Children will be encouraged to bring sunscreen for their own use, and the child must apply it themselves.
- Education will be provided to children and staff for correct sunscreen use and application.

Scheduling and Shade Protection:

- Shade will be considered when planning outdoor activities.
- When possible, provide sufficient areas of shade on outdoor play areas and encourage children to seek shaded areas during outdoor activities.
- Staff will remind and encourage children to use available shade during outdoor activities.
- Monitor the UV index and schedule outdoor activities accordingly, when possible. Staff and children will be watched carefully for heat-related illnesses, including sunburn.
- Limit sun exposure between 10am – 4pm, when the UV radiation is strongest. The availability of shade will be considered when planning excursions and outdoor activities during those times.

Hats, Protective Clothing & Sunglasses:

- Staff and children will be permitted and encouraged to wear sun-protective clothing when outdoors. This includes wide brimmed hats, UVA and UVB protective sunglasses and sun-protective clothing including long sleeves, pants, and rash-guards for swimming.

Parents/Guardians will be encouraged to model sun safe behaviors themselves and practice guidelines with their children when they are not at Community Youth Center.

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Policy Implementation Date: 2/21/2024

