Shelter in Place: What Does This Mean for Childcare Programs and In-Home Childcare Services in the Bay Area?

Childcare programs and in-home care services are essential sectors of our community and maintaining key services provided by these institutions, to the extent possible, is a priority. These guidelines may be adjusted as necessary as the COVID-19 epidemic continues to evolve and to allow for continued provision of childcare for essential workers.

**Childcare Programs**
- Childcare facilities may operate if they serve parents who work in essential businesses* and comply with the following conditions to the extent possible:
  - children must be cared for in stable groups of 12 or fewer (stable: the same children are in the same group each day)
  - groups of children may not mix with each other (If more than one group is cared for at one facility, each group shall be in a separate room)
  - providers may not circulate between groups
- Common area(s) (entry/exit areas; bathrooms; outdoor play space) may be shared by multiple groups however their use of these areas should be staggered as much as possible so as to minimize contact with each other.

**In-Home Childcare**
- In-home care (i.e. nannies) are allowed in the following situations:
  - If the nanny provides medical/health care for the child
  - If the nanny lives with you
  - If the parents are required to work away from home for essential services*
- In all other situations, a nanny is not permitted.
- A nanny should remain with a specific household and should not circulate between households. A nanny should not care for children from different households unless all parents in both households are required to work in essential businesses and there are no other childcare options.

Examples of Essential Businesses:
- Healthcare organizations, such as hospitals, medical and mental health clinics, doctor offices, pharmacies, health care supply stores, and other health care facilities.
- Grocery stores, certified farmers’ markets, farm & produce stands, supermarkets, food banks, convenience stores, & other store groceries.
- Food cultivation.
- Gas stations and auto-supply, auto-repair, and related facilities.
- Banks and related financial institutions.
- Garbage and sanitation services and collection.
- Hardware stores, and plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety and sanitation.
- Schools, for distance learning and providing meals.
- Laundromats and laundry service providers.
- Restaurants/other prepared food facilities, but only for delivery or carry out.
- Businesses that supply products needed for telework.
- Businesses that supply other essential businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate.
- Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences.
- Airlines, taxis, and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for Essential Activities.
- Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children.
- Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children.
- Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities.
- Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted.