

CHILDCARE IS IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE IN THE **NHS**

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR TARGETS

**For senior
managers,
board members,
HR directors**

Childcare is a vital part of your Improving Working Lives Accreditation, which in turn affects the star rating of your organisation. All NHS staff must have access to a Childcare Co-ordinator and organisations must have a childcare strategy to achieve IWL practice. Childcare has a demonstrable impact on recruitment, retention and return and should be a key part of your workforce strategy and local delivery plan.

For staff

Recognition, support and advice on childcare needs and the development of childcare for NHS staff can make beginning, continuing or returning to work in the NHS much more manageable. It can ensure that vital skills and experience are not lost and can help to renew commitment to working in key public services.

**For staff
side
organisations**

Support for childcare is a key aspect of the staff support measures local NHS organisations should be providing. Ensure the issue is regularly on the agenda in union and management discussions and ensure NHS employers continue to build support around these needs.

**For
Primary
Care Trusts**

From 2004/05 the revenue that the Department of Health has committed to the NHS Childcare Strategy will be included in PCT general allocations.

In the coming months PCTs need to develop a clear sense of how in their role, as commissioner and service provider, childcare is a vital support to local NHS workforces. The IWL practice accreditation and local delivery plans require a clear commitment to childcare, but it also makes good sense as part of the effective funding and running of local health services.



THE NATIONAL CHILDCARE CAMPAIGN



What help is available to **NHS** organisations developing childcare support

The NHS Childcare Strategy has been led since 2001 by the Department of Health. The department has worked chiefly through Workforce Development Confederations and Strategic Health Authorities to distribute funds to establish Childcare Co-ordinators, workplace nurseries and a range of other childcare support for NHS staff.

Since April 2001 the Department of Health has commissioned Daycare Trust, the leading childcare campaigning charity, to support the NHS Childcare Strategy.

Daycare Trust provides a helpline service for NHS organisations and Childcare Co-ordinators and a range of other support including:



- Training days and seminars for Childcare Co-ordinators
- Quarterly NHS childcare newsletters
- An NHS version of 'Your Guide to Choosing Childcare'
- Two NHS Childcare Toolkits to support and advise NHS organisations and Childcare Co-ordinators
- An annual NHS Childcare Conference
- General promotion of childcare and the childcare strategy in the NHS

Daycare Trust is also working for a number of individual NHS organisations supporting a range of work including staff surveys and strategy development.

At the end of May 2003 the NHS Childcare Strategy has achieved:

- **155 Childcare Co-ordinators with recruitment continuing.**
A central database is available at www.doh.gov.uk/iwl
- **120 on site nursery schemes, which will provide 5,200 new nursery places**



Childcare is vital to everyone in the NHS.

To find out more contact Thom Crabbe or Pauline Graham at Daycare Trust on 020 7840 3350 or via e-mail to pgraham@daycaretrust.org.uk

Or call Gill Littlehales or Nicola Nutter at the Department of Health on 0113 254 5779 and visit www.doh.gov.uk/iwl