

POLICY ON THE RELEASE OF CHILDREN

Each child may be released only to the child's parent or person authorized by the parent to take the child from the center and to assume responsibility for the child in an emergency if the parent cannot be reached.

If a non-custodial parent had been denied access, or granted limited access, to a child by a court order, the center shall secure documentation to that effect, maintain a copy on file, and comply with the terms of the court order.

If the parent, or person authorized by the parent, fails to pick up the child at the time of the center's daily closing, the center will ensure that:

- 1. The child is always supervised.
- 2. Staff members attempt to contact the parent or person authorized by the parent.
- 3. If after more than one hour, the parent or authorized person has failed to pick up the child and the staff members cannot continue to supervise the child at the center, the staff member shall call the 24-hour child abuse hotline (1-877-682-2873) to seek assistance in caring for the child until the parent or person authorized by the parent is able to pick up the child.

If the parent or person authorized by the parent appears to be physically and/or emotionally impaired to the extent that, in the judgement of the director and/or staff member, the child would be placed at risk of harm if released to such an individual, the center shall ensure that:

- 1. The child may not be released to such an impaired individual.
- 2. Staff members will attempt to contact the child's other parent, or an alternative person authorized by the parent
- 3. If the Center is unable to make alternative arrangements, a staff member shall call the 24-hour child abuse hotline 1-877-NJ-ABUSE (1-877-652-2873) to seek assistance in caring for the child.

For school-aged childcare programs, no child shall be released from the program unsupervised except upon written instruction from the child's parent.

Parent's Signature:	Date: