



FBI's Tips for Summertime Hiring

As the school year draws to a close, many parents will be trusting summer camps, nannies, tutors and babysitters with their children's well-being. Just like parents have expectations about their children's teachers and school, they also have expectations about the organizers of their children's summertime programs. There are a small percentage of individuals who use childcare as a means to gain access to children for the purpose of victimizing them. The FBI is sharing important safety tips to ensure the children within your employees' care remain safe.

Know your employees. Parents choose babysitters, nannies and tutors with care and you should, too. Make sure you check the references and produce background screenings of every employee who will come in contact with children, including part-time and seasonal employees. Many states now have registries for public access to check criminal history or sex-offender status. Observe your employees' interaction with children, and ask the children how they feel about your employees. For access to sex-offender registries visit www.nsopw.gov.

Invite parents to meet your employees before they enroll their children. After you have produced background screening checks, be prepared to provide parents with written documentation stating that you have done so on every one of your employees who comes in contact with children. Make sure that all activities are sanctioned and supported by employees who have had their backgrounds checked and that all field trips are coordinated with appropriate management.

Be involved in your employees' activities with children. Observe how your employees interact with children. Notice when an individual shows a child a great deal of attention or tries to give them gifts without another adult's knowledge. Take the time to talk to other employees who may observe suspicious behavior. If you are concerned about the behavior of an adult who is interacting with children, discuss your concerns with law enforcement.

Talk to parents and their children about safety and encourage children to tell you or another trusted adult if anyone or anything makes them feel sad, scared or confused. Teach them it is OK to tell you what happened and they will not be "tattletales." Pay attention and listen to children in your employees' care. If you don't, someone else who has ulterior motives may.

Provide training to your employees about how they can play a role in child safety. An employee who is alert to signs of child abuse is an invaluable resource. Make sure your employees tell children which adults are "in charge" and who can be trusted should a child feel scared, uncomfortable or confused.

Remember you are your best resource for safeguarding children left in the care of you and your employees. Stay alert, informed and focused about personal security issues of your employees. Being available and taking time to really know and listen to children in your employees' care helps build feelings of safety and security. Make sure children know what to do in case of an emergency and how to reach their parents or a trusted adult.

The FBI's Child ID App Putting Safety in Parent's Hands



Every year, thousands of children go missing. The FBI's Child ID App can help. Encourage parents to download the free FBI mobile application from the App Store on iTunes, add the

latest photos of their child, enter key information about him or her and update it regularly. In the unlikely event that a child goes missing, the parent can quickly email the photos and information to authorities. The app also includes safety advice and checklists for parents. Be assured, no information about a parent or child will be collected or stored by the FBI or iTunes.

For more information, contact the FBI's Child Exploitation Task Force at 1-800-CALL-FBI or your local FBI field office. For additional child safety tips, visit FBI.gov or National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at www.missingkids.com.