



## *News*

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### **Delaware Children's Department to Distribute Summer Safety Kits to Children**

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Wilmington – Three thousand children throughout Delaware will receive summer safety kits from the Delaware Children's Department. The translucent, colorful plastic kits contain band aids, anti-bacterial ointment, sunscreen, lip balm and information on practical summer safety tips such as water, backyard and playground safety and will be distributed to selected summer camps.

“This is part of the ongoing Child Abuse and Neglect prevention campaign we launched in conjunction with Prevent Child Abuse Delaware this spring. The campaign is designed to spread messages of prevention and safety,” said Children's Department Cabinet Secretary, Cari DeSantis.

Upcoming plans for the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Campaign include distributing information cards with parenting and safety tips in both English and Spanish to parents of children who attend home daycare centers throughout Delaware.

“We have made great strides in keeping children safe,” Secretary DeSantis said, “This campaign furthers our vision to ‘Think of the Child First’ so they can grow into healthy adults.”

On any given day, the Children's Department provides services to approximately 8,200 children who have been abused, neglected, are dependent, have mental health or substance problems, and/or have been adjudicated delinquent by the Courts. For more information, please visit <http://www.state.de.us/kids/>.

Approximately 7,500 reports of suspected or known child abuse and neglect are made each year in Delaware. The actual incidence rate is estimated to be three times higher than what is received by the Children's Department.

To report child abuse and neglect 24 hours a day, please call the Children's Department Hotline at 1-800-292-9582.