

Sioux Valley
Empire

Childcare Network

monthly newsletter

September 2006

When:

Tuesday,
Sept. 5th
at
7:00pm

Where:

The lobby of the Women's Resource Center in Medical Building 1 on the campus of Sioux Valley Hospital. Enter up the ramp on the left side of the building. Turn right down a long hallway -- at the end of this hallway is suite 204 this is the lobby of the Women's Resource Center.

Agenda:

The topic for discussion will be on...

"Developing and Maintaining Partnerships with Parents"

This is a workshop I am currently writing for our future FCCPSD conference coming up next May 2007 pending approval.

Future Meetings:

Pam Stefanich
Home.
For Directions
RSVP
To 361-7322 or
stefan@sio.midc.net

As a Childcare Professional, do you need:
support? ideas? encouragement?

SeChildcareNetwork

Cari Lindner, a member of our Networking Group, has developed a discussion group called SeChildcareNetwork. It is FREE OF CHARGE and provided and monitored by Yahoo Groups preventing spam and making the site secure. To receive more information, contact Cari Lindner at 543-5435 or cslindner@msn.com. Please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SeChildCareNetwork> for the opportunity to sign up and view the site Cari created. This discussion group is for childcare providers in South Dakota offering friendship and support in all aspects of our careers from much needed venting to programming and business building ideas.

Family Child Care Professionals of South Dakota

Another great resource for childcare providers is the Family Childcare Professionals of South Dakota. Their web site is found at www.SDFCC.org. Take a peak at the various resources and links that you will find on this site. Check out the Photo Album or Bulletin Board Forum to see and hear from members of our SEN Networking Group. You can get on the forum directly at www.sdfcc.net/forums. A short registration process is all that is required to post messages. I have to say there are some resources that can be found in these posts that my business could not do without.



the Source

Information on Collection Options

It has come to my attention that we have very few options in choosing Collections Services when in a situation where we have a client refusing to pay. This became apparent when a provider from our network was asking if I knew of a collections service. I contacted my Licensing Social Worker and she did not know of any. Most recently, when I put this information out to our network, I received responses and information I would like to share with you. Remember our ***Networking definition: spending time with people who perform similar tasks to share ideas, information, and experiences. It is used to find solutions to problems, gain new knowledge, or help fellow providers cope with difficult situations.***

So, my intent is not to endorse one company over another. Nor do I have the time to investigate all others. I merely want to give you a starting point and information so you could begin to compare the example below with other companies if they indeed are out there.

Here is what Bryce Pattison from AAA Collections Inc. (Advanced Asset Alliance) had to offer:

I'll recap the two key pieces of information we discussed:

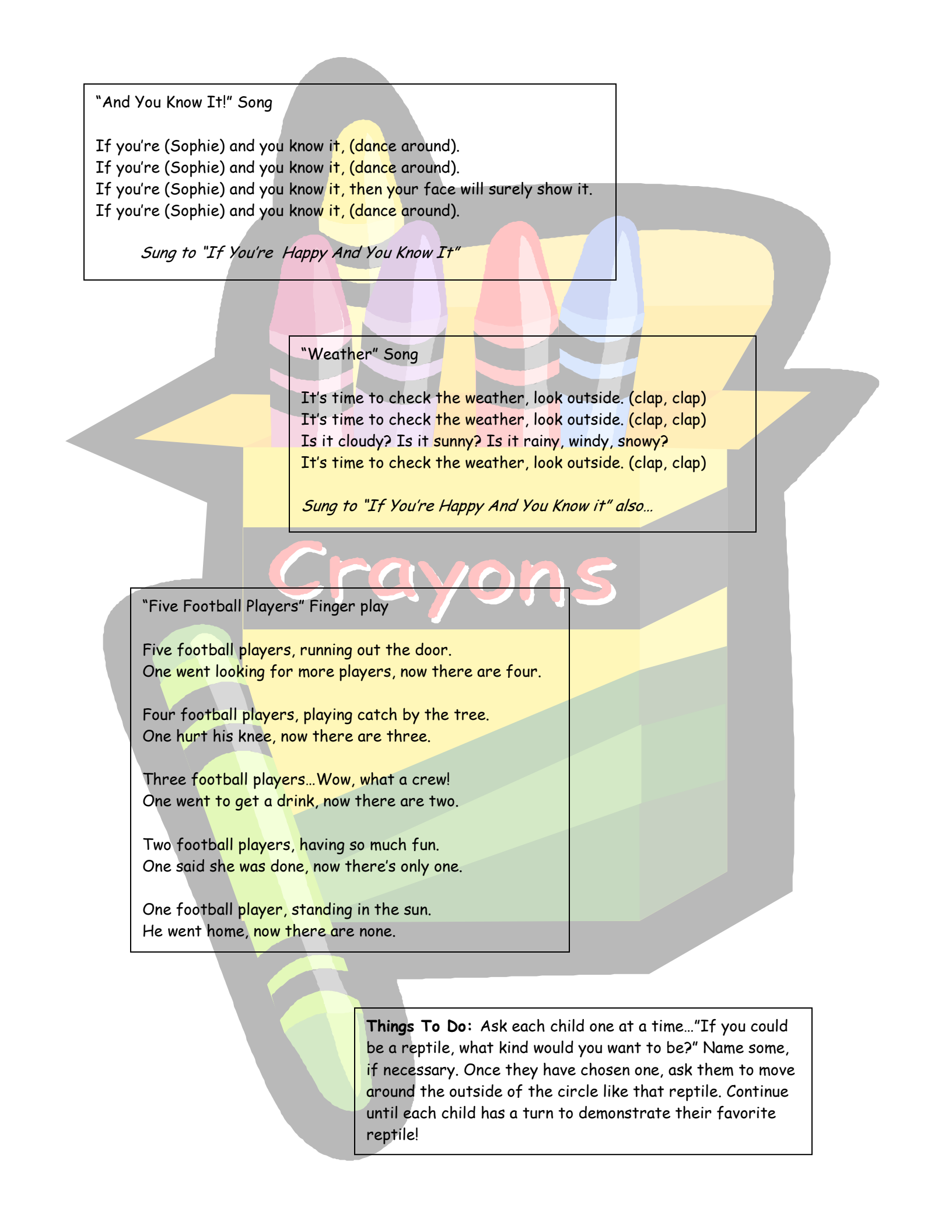
What information do your providers need to send to an agency?

- Name (Parent and child)
- Home Address
- Home Phone
- Work Phone
- Employer Name (of both parents if applicable)
- Amount owing
- Account number or Invoice Number
- Soc. Sec. Number(s)

Service Fee

- Depending on total volumes, etc. from your network: approx. 38 - 40% of dollars collected. (No collections, No charge)
- This fee also applies if the agency litigates your account. (Agency pays all court costs and attorney fees.)

Other suggestions from providers were to contact the Credit Bureau letting them know of your situation. There are times when in the small claims court process, providers can request that a lien be placed on a former client's home or car forcing them to pay their debt before selling either. It was also suggested that when taking on new clients to ask for their social security numbers. We cannot require them to GIVE the information, though. They aren't obligated to do so. You would then have that information if needed in the future. Finally, when writing a contract, if you would like them to help pay for the costs of taking them to collections, you must state a specific dollar amount that will be added to the amount owed if the account goes to a collection agency. Stating "collection fees will be paid by the client" is not sufficient. Potential clients need to be told exactly the amount they are agreeing to pay. The terms for when it goes to collection should also be stated such as, "30 days after the last day of care if the amount owed is not paid in full." The client also needs to sign it. These are business suggestions, only. I am not in a position to advocate that you strictly do what is outlined above. A final source: www.Expresscollections.com



"And You Know It!" Song

If you're (Sophie) and you know it, (dance around).
If you're (Sophie) and you know it, (dance around).
If you're (Sophie) and you know it, then your face will surely show it.
If you're (Sophie) and you know it, (dance around).

Sung to "If You're Happy And You Know It"

"Weather" Song

It's time to check the weather, look outside. (clap, clap)
It's time to check the weather, look outside. (clap, clap)
Is it cloudy? Is it sunny? Is it rainy, windy, snowy?
It's time to check the weather, look outside. (clap, clap)

Sung to "If You're Happy And You Know it" also...

"Five Football Players" Finger play

Five football players, running out the door.
One went looking for more players, now there are four.

Four football players, playing catch by the tree.
One hurt his knee, now there are three.

Three football players...Wow, what a crew!
One went to get a drink, now there are two.

Two football players, having so much fun.
One said she was done, now there's only one.

One football player, standing in the sun.
He went home, now there are none.

Things To Do: Ask each child one at a time... "If you could be a reptile, what kind would you want to be?" Name some, if necessary. Once they have chosen one, ask them to move around the outside of the circle like that reptile. Continue until each child has a turn to demonstrate their favorite reptile!