

Health and Safety: First Things First

Health and Safety is measured in the facility environment through the *Environment Rating Scales* and specifically through the **Personal Care Routines** subscale score.. To ensure that basic health and safety needs are addressed, the *QRIS Facility Profile Improvement Plan* and *Funding Request* be not be considered until plans are made to address minimal health and safety standards. IdahoSTARS Child Care Health Consultants are available to help!

Q: What happens if my home or group child care scores below 3.0 in the Personal Care Routines subscale of the Family Child Care ERS assessment?

A: All *Environment Rating Scale* reports are reviewed by the IdahoSTARS Assessment Specialist, and any score below 3.0 in Personal Care Routines (PCR) /Health and Safety will be noted on the assessment report. In the cover letter that comes with the assessment report, there will be information about how to contact the Child Care Health Consultant program (CCHC) for assistance. A CCHC can be requested free of charge for consultation and training, to give the facility the opportunity to improve the PCR scores immediately. **An important note: Whether a facility chooses to work with a Child Care Health Consultant or not, if the PCR/Health and Safety score is below 3.0 this must be addressed as the first goal in the facility Improvement Plan.**