

## Childcare Resources:

### NM-Owned Child Care Centers

NM has child care centers in the Central, North and Northwest regions. All three are currently operating at reduced capacity in accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and state and local health authorities. All three centers offer care from ages 6 weeks – 5 years. Bernice E. Lavin Early Childhood Education Center in Chicago and McHenry Hospital Childcare Center in McHenry have school-age childcare options from ages 6 – 12 years.

For questions about the center or program availability, please call the centers directly. The requirements and forms are available at [Enrollment at Bright Horizons](#).

- Bernice E. Lavin Early Childhood Education Center - Chicago, IL – 312.926.5437
- DearHaven Childcare Center - Lake Forest, IL – 847.535.7507
- McHenry Hospital Childcare Center - McHenry, IL – 815.363.2356

### Bright Horizons Study Club – Bernice E. Lavin Early Childhood Education Center

The Bright Horizons Study Club is an in-center supervision program for school-aged children attending school virtually. It is dedicated space for children to attend classes online with teacher oversight while still participating in supplemental activities at the center including STEM, art and movement. To ensure the safety of children, the center has implemented enhanced health and safety protocols that meet all CDC and local/state guidelines.

Enrollment for the study club can be 2, 3 or 5 days a week but children may not be in other group care. Children must bring their own devices, login information and required school materials. For more information, please contact the Bernice E. Lavin Early Childhood Education Center at 312.926.5437. Please note that this option is currently only available at the child care center located in the Central region.

### KinderCare

NM employees are eligible to receive a 10% discount on the tuition rate at KinderCare Childcare Centers including before and after school programs. For availability and rates, please reach out to the center you are interested in or click [here](#). Staff should mention that they are a Northwestern Medicine employee and request to receive NM tuition savings.

### Illinois Child Care Assistance Program

During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, children of essential workers in healthcare are eligible to receive child care through the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).

- A dedicated help line has been created so Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs) can help connect essential worker families to emergency child care. **Call toll-free 888.228.1146.** The helpline will be available from 9 am - 3 pm, Monday through Friday to answer calls. Note that callers may leave a message 24 hours a day.
- To find emergency child care in your area, visit [COVID-19 Emergency Provider Search](#).
- The [COVID-19 Prioritized Essential Workers Child Care Application](#) includes instructions that clarify who is eligible to receive child care through this program.
- For residents in Cook County, Illinois Action for Children (IAFC) has launched a temporary text messaging service to answer CCAP questions during IAFC's office closure. Text: 312.736.7390 from 8:30 am – 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Priority will be given to first responders, healthcare workers and essential workers to help them find and pay for child care.

### Employee Assistance Program

NM's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can assist employees navigating child care in addition to providing adverse event counseling, anxiety or substance abuse resources, and financial and legal advice.

- To schedule a phone or videoconference appointment with an EAP counselor, call 800.456.6327 anytime or email [info@perspectivesltd.com](mailto:info@perspectivesltd.com). Please include your name, home address, phone number, date of birth and job title in the email.
- Connect online at [www.perspectivesltd.com](http://www.perspectivesltd.com) for webinars, articles and a wealth of other resources.
- Live chat options are also available.
- For more information please click [here](#).

### Sittercity – Partnership with the City of Chicago

In partnership with the City of Chicago, Sittercity is providing all Chicago parents working as a first responder free access to Sittercity Premium as part of its “Chicago Responds” program for three months upon sign up. The program will connect city employees and other members of the public with the families of first responders, so they can volunteer to provide free child care right in your home. You can sign up to take advantage of this program by visiting: [www.sittercity.com/chicagoresponders](http://www.sittercity.com/chicagoresponders).

Based in Chicago, Sittercity has been digitally connecting families with quality child care since 2001. Sittercity is working to support your family during this unprecedented time. They provide tools to help families build a child care support network with ease including:

- Detailed Profiles
- Secure Messaging
- Interview Scheduling
- Background Check Options

### YMCA

Most YMCAs are still working on their programs for the fall. We will continue to provide updates to this list as more information becomes available.

- **Kishwaukee Family YMCA**

2500 W. Bethany Road  
Sycamore, IL 60178

Starting August 24, part-time and full-time care is available for kindergarten through sixth grade, Monday through Friday, from 7 am to 6 pm. For pricing and more information, please click [here](#).

- **Fox Valley Family YMCA**  
3875 Eldamain Road  
Plano, IL 60545

Before and after school care is available Monday to Friday. For pricing and more information, please click [here](#).

- **YMCA Camp Duncan**  
32405 N. US Highway 12  
Ingleside, IL 60041

Starting August 24, care is available for kindergarten through eighth grade from 7:00 am – 4:30 pm. Children can be signed up in two day blocks and camp staff provide support with remote learning in addition to outdoor education and other activities. For pricing and more information, please click [here](#).

- **B.R. Ryall YMCA of Northwestern DuPage County**  
49 Deicke Drive  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Offering a Safe 'n Sound "Learn and Play" full-day remote learning camps. Click [here](#) for more information.

#### NM's Microsoft Teams Channel

NM has created an NM Childcare Assistance group on Microsoft Teams enabling staff to post requests or opportunities for child care. There are 10 different geographic channels in the group (seen at the top of the page – e.g. Chicago – South Side; Northwest Suburbs – please ensure that you visit the appropriate channel prior to posting or searching for options.

- Please keep posts on this channel related to child care assistance connections only and ensure you are using the appropriate geographic channel.
  - For example, *Sitter needed in Riverside, IL or My high school age daughter is available to babysit in Oak Park, IL all week.*
- Do not post personal contact information on the channel - once you have found an option that may fit your needs, move the conversation to a personal chat, email or phone conversation.
- The group should not be used for open discussions – just to post and find child care connections.
- The group chat will be monitored and inappropriate posts will be removed.

[Click here](#) or open Microsoft Teams to join the "NM Childcare Assistance" group (on the left side of the page under "Teams.")

### Well-Being Fund

To help address the unique needs during COVID, NM is allowing service subscription fees for resources that can assist our staff in finding child care, elder care and tutoring to be submitted for reimbursement under the Well-Being fund. Examples of these services are sites such as Care.com and Sittercity. The actual cost of the service is not eligible and only the subscription may be submitted for reimbursement. Care-related subscription fees paid during calendar year 2020 can be submitted for reimbursement effective September 1, 2020. To apply for reimbursement, please click [here](#).