

In the Event of an Emergency, Call 911

Unfortunately, emergencies can happen in our day-to-day lives. Sometimes those emergencies involve children in care. It is extremely important to seek out help when needed and never delay in obtaining emergency assistance for a child. By calling **911**, you are able to access prompt assistance from trained professionals. If an emergency occurs involving a child in your care, follow these steps:

- Call 911.
- Follow your Health Care Plan and any Individual Health Care Plan for the child.
- Make sure the CPR and First Aid certified person is assisting.
- Make sure other children in care are safe and keep them, and yourself, calm.
- Contact the child's parent.
- Contact OCFS to report the incident.

Sometimes there may be hesitation in calling 911 as you may feel a situation may not warrant the call. However, 911 operators are trained to ask appropriate questions to determine the level of response needed for any call they receive. Some situations that may prompt the calling of 911 are listed below. **Keep in mind this list is not all inclusive.** These are examples of situations where 911 must be called. With children, it is always best to err on the side of caution.

Call 911 if...

- any injury or illness requires more than simple first aid;
- a child sustains a serious injury;
- a child is in respiratory distress, unable to breathe/has labored breathing;
- a child has lost consciousness;
- you suspect a child has internal injuries or injuries to the neck/spine;
- a child has uncontrollable bleeding;
- a child has a seizure;
- a child has a rapid rise in temperature;
- a child is choking;
- a child has an allergic reaction or an epi-pen is utilized;
- signs of anaphylactic shock;
- a child falls, has a head injury;
- vomiting after an injury, especially injury to the head;
- a child is dehydrated or shows signs of dehydration;
- a child is burned;
- a child's location is unknown; and if
- a child has ingested a poisonous substance or ingested a food/substance he/she is allergic to.

