



DEVELOPING DAY CARE CENTRES

If more than 6 children are cared for by any other than the parents or legal carers, this service must be registered in terms of the Children's Act 38 of 2005. Although it is a statutory requirement, there are however day care centres that have just started and are developing or that have already applied for registration, but do not yet comply with all the requirements.

In poorer communities these developing day care centres play an important role to ensure that children who otherwise would have been without care, not only receive basic care, but are also exposed to essential development programmes. As these developing centres sometimes function within very poor communities and do not receive state subsidies, these centres are normally dependent on donors and partnerships.

Congregations that are interested to get involved in early childhood development are advised to investigate whether there are any of these developing day care centres in their communities where they can get involved. It is however important that the expected outcome of such involvement should always be to support the centre so that registration can take place. An additional outcome should be to ensure the sustainability of the centre.



The needs of developing day care centres are often:

- Effective managing systems
 - Food
 - Appropriate salaries for carers/educators
 - Sufficient training of carers/educators
 - Sufficient educational apparatus
 - Shortage of adequate, durable toys.
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- *Norms and standards for registration*
 - *List of educational apparatus*