



2-1-1
CHILD CARE



For more information: Dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-505-1000 | www.211childcare.org | www.ctunitedway.org

Child Care with a Family Member, Friend, Neighbor or Nanny

As you begin your search for a caregiver, keep in mind there are a variety of options to choose from:

- a licensed child care center
- a licensed family child care home
- a nanny or au pair agency
- a friend or neighbor to watch your child (in your home)
- a relative to watch your child (in your home or their home)

If you choose to use a licensed child care center, family child care home or would like more information on these options, contact 2-1-1 Child Care.

If you choose to use a nanny or au pair, the agency is responsible for screening the individuals as well as conducting background checks. You may want to ask to see this documentation. You may also want to check with the Better Business Bureau for additional information on the agency you choose to work with. There are various agencies in the state to help you find a nanny or au pair, contact 2-1-1 Child Care to find one that services your area.



If you choose to use a friend or neighbor to watch your child, the care must take place *in your home* to be considered a legal child care arrangement. If your child is taken care of in the home of your caregiver it must be for less than 3 hours a day and not on a regular basis to be considered legal.

When using a family member, friend or neighbor, you may want to conduct your own background check through the [Department of Public Safety](#). Also, ask for at least 3 references, not more than one from a relative and be sure to [check them](#). You may also want to consider having the person caring for your child be certified in first aid and child CPR.



Please refer to the following documents to help with choosing a quality person to care for your child:

- [Helpful Tips](#)
- [Interview Questions](#)
- [Child Care Agreement](#)

Remember, you will need to choose someone that will be the best fit for *your* family and needs.