



***Are you concerned about challenging child behavior?
Do you want to develop the skills of your staff and the quality of your child care program?***

Kid Squad Can Help

What is Kid Squad?

- Kid Squad is designed to support the healthy social and emotional development of young children, through strategies that help their child care providers and parents.
- Kid Squad helps young children develop the positive behavioral skills that will lead to success in school, family, and community.
- Kid Squad is about prevention. It helps identify and resolve child behavior problems early in life, before they become deeply established and more difficult and costly to treat.
- Kid Squad is an outreach program. We come to you in the childcare setting.
- Kid Squad is an Early Childhood Consultation Program offered at no cost to eligible child care homes and centers.

Who is Kid Squad?

Kid Squad cares about kids, families and child care providers. We are early childhood educators and mental health practitioners with expertise in early childhood, social and emotional development, and the needs of young families. Kid Squad is a tested model that results in improvement in children's social and emotional development, reduction in behavior problems, and decrease in need for child expulsions from childcare.

What does Kid Squad offer to your childcare center or home?

Kid Squad is based in the ***Positive Behavioral Support*** model. We will help you strengthen the services you offer to young children and their families. We can help you develop staff skills, implement effective classroom strategies, and solve problems with challenging children or families under stress. We can help

caregivers and parents find specialized services for children with more serious emotional or behavioral problems.

Kid Squad Strategies:

- **Program Focused Consultation:** Based on interviews and observations in the child care setting, Kid Squad consultants will work with you to identify training needs and arrange staff or parent training related to positive behavioral intervention and healthy social and emotional development.
 - Develop a Classroom Action Plan, including prevention strategies, curricula and activities to improve child behavior and promote development
 - Build positive staff-parent relationships
 - Assist with parent meetings and conferences
 - Help your staff cope with the stresses of caring for young children
- **Child and Family Focused Consultation:** When a particular child's behavior is a concern, parent consent is obtained. Then, Kid Squad consultants will
 - Observe the child in the classroom
 - Consult with the family
 - Consult with the child care staff
 - Assess the needs of the child
 - Develop a Child Action Plan and help the team implement the plan
 - Facilitate problem solving regarding the child
 - When more significant problems are identified, help the parent find appropriate services.
- **Specialized Consultation:** Two new Kid Squad Partners bring added depth and expertise to the program
 - **Lutheran Family Services** provides consultation and training about sexual behavior concerns of young children
 - **Behav'n** adds to our resources to intervene in the severe range of child behavior problems including aggression, toileting, feeding and sleep problems.

What does Kid Squad offer to parents?

Kid Squad offers confidential individualized consultation and counseling to parents and children. These services are provided **only** with parent or guardian permission and will usually be arranged outside of the childcare center.

Is there a cost?

There is no charge to selected centers for on site consultation or training. There may be a modest cost for individualized parent consultation and counseling outside the center, if parents choose. Medicaid or Health Insurance may cover the cost of counseling.

How can your center participate in Kid Squad?

*Child Care Centers, Homes, and Early Childhood Education Programs in Douglas and Sarpy Counties, serving children age 5 or under, are eligible to apply. Contact **ALICE DRAKE -- 444-4989 -- at Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare for more information.***

KID SQUAD is a cooperative program of the Center for Holistic Development, Child Saving Institute, Early Childhood Training Center, Heartland Family Service, Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Behave'n , Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare, and Munroe-Meyer Institute. The State of Nebraska Health and Human Services System, the Alegent Community Benefit Trust, and the Kim Foundation provide funding support for this program. The Alegent Community Benefit Trust works with organizations to ensure conditions in which people can be healthy.