

Our parent helper service provides child care in your own home to make the everyday life of a parent more manageable. Our service is available 24 hours a day and is flexible enough to support recurring and one-time needs for child care. Care is available even in circumstances where a child has a mild illness that causes the child to be excluded from child care or school.

Caring Hands & More goes to great lengths to make sure that each of our parent helper's are considerate, experienced, and professional individuals for your peace of mind!

The following are just several of the situations where relying on a parent helper is a great choice:

- School holiday, teacher's day, weather related dismissals, and other breaks where you must work but your child care arrangement is temporarily unavailable
- A parent's work or school day is extended and temporary care is needed
- A parent must run errands or work away from home on a recurring or one-time basis
- Filling a gap between permanent child care arrangements or while searching for a permanent arrangement
- Date night, GAME DAY, or special individual and group care needed (up to 5 children per parent helper)
- A child that has a mild, short-term illness, or symptoms of a mild illness which caused the child to be excluded from normal child care or school

Please note: *If it appears to staff of Caring Hands & More, Inc., that the illness is more than mild, care may be denied to protect the safety of the child. A mild illness, where we are available to provide care, typically includes the following:*

- *a mild fever, a mild sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, tiredness, coughing, crying,*
- *and other symptoms of similarly mild severity*

Eligibility

Our parent helper service is for children within Iowa City, Coralville, Cedar Rapids, and neighboring areas. And of course we are proud to serve University of Iowa faculty, staff, and students.

The following are additional terms of our service:

- Children must be at least 6 weeks of age and are typically no more than 12 years of age

(This form was adopted by us and modified from forms created by The University of Iowa.)

- We may care for children beyond the age of 12 in special circumstances and for children with disabilities
- Hours, Days & Location
 - Care is typically available every day of the year, 24 hours per day
 - Services are provided in the home of the child and parent
 - Services can be denied if staff is not available or if the staff available is not qualified to care for a child's specific illness or disability

Parent Responsibilities

- Complete and submit the "Child Information" enrollment form to Caring Hand's & More
 - University of Iowa families MUST return forms to the U of I Family Services Office.
 - Forms must be completed and received by Caring Hand's & More or the Family Services Office, for parent's affiliated with the University of Iowa, at least three business days in advance of the first day of care.
 - [Click Here to Download Child Information Form](#)
- The "Child Illness" form and "Permission to Give Medication" form, are to be completed, as needed, each time care is requested (not during the pre-enrollment process). These completed forms are to be reviewed with and given to the Caring Hands & More parent helper at the start of care.
 - [Click Here to Download Child Illness Form](#)
 - [Click Here to Download Permission to Give Medication Form](#)
- Reserve care by calling Caring Hands & More Inc. at (319) 337-8922. If you're a University of Iowa faculty, staff or student or the spouse/partner please state this to Caring Hands & More staff. Your parent helper is not reserved until you have received confirmation directly from a Caring Hands & More staff member.
- Provide food/formula, clothes, recreation/learning materials, directions for care, and medicine in its original container as well as directions for taking the medicine. (Permission to Give Medication Form required to give medicine)
- Notify Caring Hands & More Inc. if delayed in returning home and pay late fees, if required.
- Pay parent helper fee

Fees to the Families

The cost of the care is \$18.50 per hour for up to two (2) children. Each additional child is \$1.00 per hour per child. A maximum of five (5) children can be cared for at one time.

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- Enrollment is FREE.
- A cancellation fee of \$18.50 will be charged to the parent if a reservation is cancelled less than 48 hours before scheduled care.

Please note: *If the parent does not cancel within the required 48 hours and does not pay the cancellation fee, future requests for care can be denied.*

Reservation Process for Care

A parent may call Caring Hands & More Inc. at anytime to reserve care by calling (319) 337-8922. Staff is on call 24 hours a day.

- University of Iowa faculty, staff, student or spouse/partner please inform Caring Hand's & More staff of your University of Iowa affiliation
- Request a reservation as soon as a child care need is known to improve our ability to fulfill your request.
- The "Child Information" forms must be completed and received by Caring Hand's & More or the Family Services Office, for parent's affiliated with the University of Iowa, at least three business days in advance of the first day of care.
- The forms, "Child Illness" and "Permission to Give Medication", are to be completed when requesting care for an ill child. Both of these forms are to be reviewed with and then left with the staff member of Caring Hands & More, Inc. providing care.
- Care can be denied if
 - staff are not available;
 - appropriate care cannot be provided;
 - the parent has not followed the reservation process; or
 - the parent has made a reservation in the past, but did not follow the cancellation policy

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