

Steps for Happiest Baby Certification

Dr. Karp's *Happiest Baby on the Block* Certified Educator Program is a self-study program designed and implemented by Dr. Karp. Dr. Karp's *Happiest Baby on the Block* Program is solely responsible for the certification process including mailing of kits, determining the eligibility of educators, grading self-study tests, issuing certificates, monitoring certified educators, and renewing certification. Once certified, educators must follow the guidelines and procedures for training as outlined by Dr. Karp.

Prevent Child Abuse Illinois is working to establish a network of *Happiest Baby on the Block* certified educators in Illinois. Those wishing to join this network can do so by completing the following steps.

1. The agency, program or individual wishing to become part of the PCA Illinois *Happiest Baby on the Block* network should contact Belinda Farr, Prevention Specialist (815-922-4811 bfarr@preventchildabuseillinois.org) or other PCA Illinois staff to express their interest.
2. PCA Illinois will forward a Letter of Agreement, quarterly report form, and follow-up evaluation form to the interested person/organization for their review.
3. After reviewing the material the person/organization will return the signed Letter of Agreement to PCA Illinois indicating the name(s) of staff to be certified
4. The person/organization will then contact Dr. Karp's *Happiest Baby on the Block* program in California (909-980-8062) to order the appropriate number of certified educator kits. The person/organization must let the *Happiest Baby on the Block* program know they are working with PCA Illinois in order to receive a reduced rate for each training kit.
5. The person/organization is responsible to Dr. Karp's program for the cost of the certification kit(s).
6. PCA Illinois maintains a limited number of the two required additional reading books, *The Nursing Mother's Companion* and *Your Amazing Newborn*. Once the person/organization receives their certification kit(s) they may contact PCA Illinois (217-522-1129) to see if free copies are available.
7. Once the self-study course is complete materials are submitted to Dr. Karp's program for grading and certification.
8. PCA Illinois will maintain contact throughout the process and after certification for support and follow-up purposes.

