

# Safety Guidelines for Community Underserved Project

Please do not offer to transport patients or families in your private vehicle--this would be a major liability for both the Medical School and you if you were involved in an accident. Ask the social worker (at the clinic or hospital) to arrange for taxi vouchers or bus passes if transportation is needed.

Do not arrange for home visits unless you are accompanying a health professional who has home visits as part of their normal work routine **and** the family agrees that you may come along. (e.g. with public health nurses, social workers, lactation consultants or community liaisons).

Please do not give the patient or family your home phone number or address. If they don't have a telephone at home, arrange for a neighbor, family member or social worker to relay messages.

Be cognizant of HIPAA rules that govern patient confidentiality. You must have written permission from the parent to speak to other health professionals or school officials (teachers or school nurses) before you can discuss health or social information about the child or family.

If you suspect there are issues of abuse or neglect or are concerned about threats to the safety of your patient or members of their family, contact the attending physician (and the clinic or hospital social worker) **immediately** to discuss the case and your concerns.