Dear Family:

Your child may have been exposed to Fifth Disease at the Head Start/ECEAP center. A mild rash illness caused by a virus. It usually occurs in late winter or early spring, sometimes in clusters or outbreaks.

**What are the symptoms?** Fever, headache, sore throat, chills. A week later the appearance of a red rash on the face that looks like slapped cheeks. Sometimes the rash will appear on arms and legs. The rash may fade then reappear.

**How is it spread?** Through direct contact with discharge from nose or throat of infected person. By the time the rash appears the person is no longer contagious.

**When do symptoms start?** 1-2 weeks after exposure.

**Need to keep child home?** No, unless unable to participate in activities.

If your child presents with these symptoms please notify your Head Start/ECEAP classroom. Please notify health care provider with any concerns.

Staff ________________________________ Phone __________________

Center ________________________________