

Medical Marijuana Safety in the Home

All In Clayton Coalition is dedicated to keeping kids healthy and safe. This includes protecting children from the negative impacts of marijuana, which was legalized for medical use in Missouri beginning in 2020 and recreational use in 2022. One of the consequences of marijuana legalization is the unintentional ingestion of marijuana products by young children. This often happens when parents are not looking, and marijuana products have been stored unsafely or left within reach of a child. The result can be a visit to the emergency department. If you have marijuana or marijuana products in your home, take the below precautions to ensure the safety of your children and young visitors to your home:

- **Keep marijuana up and away.** Pick a place your children cannot reach.
- **Put marijuana away every time you use it.** Never leave it out on a kitchen counter or at a bedside, even if you anticipate using it again in a few hours.
- **Consider purchasing a medication lock box.** Children, even young children, can easily access marijuana products in their original packaging.
- **Talk to your children about marijuana.** As with all medicines and marijuana products, teach your children about medicine safety.
- **Ask other parents if they have marijuana products in their home** before sending your child to play at a neighbor or classmate's house. If the answer is yes, make sure that all products are stored up and away and out of children's sight.
- **Be prepared in case of an emergency.** Call the Poison Help Center at 800-222-1222 right away if you think your child might have consumed marijuana products.