

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 27, 2020 2:26 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Lots of exciting info...waiting list update, Rising STARS Support Grant, tons of PD opportunities and MORE!!

Hi everyone,

I have so much to share with you...again! So, please get comfy...and dive right in!

To see any “attachments” for this e-mail, please visit our Dropbox file at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hactidbacqd74xm/AACUWOSpLETOACNHxspxL2sSa?dl=0>

### ELRC NEWS

**Waiting List:** As of Friday, 2/21/2020, there were only 342 children on the subsidy waiting list in Philadelphia with the earliest date being February 5, 2020! There are no children on the prioritized waiting list, and we continue to enroll each week. This is wonderful news for families who need help paying for child care. Please continue to encourage parents who may be eligible to apply. Parent can apply online at [COMPASS](#), by downloading an application from our website ([www.PhiladelphiaELRC18.org](http://www.PhiladelphiaELRC18.org)) or by calling or visiting one of our three locations.

### Rising STARS Support Grants

***Applications being accepted only until March 10, 2020***

The Rising STARS initiative focuses on increasing access to the highest quality early education services for hard to reach and vulnerable children by providing supports to providers as they move up the quality scale to STAR 3 and 4 levels. Grant amounts are \$2,000 for family child care providers and \$5,000 for center and group child care programs. Funds must be used to support your Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plan. **This is a statewide, competitive grant with a VERY tight timetable.** Please review the following guidelines and contact your quality coach ([list attached](#)) if you would like to apply.

**WHO'S ELIGIBLE** (*you must meet all of the criteria below, plus additional criteria listed in the grant application documents*)

- DHS licensed facilities only – center, GCCH, FCCH
- STAR 1 and 2 programs actively engaged in movement to higher STAR levels
- Current Enrollment Calculation Tool (ECT) reflects at least 40% full-time equivalent (FTE)
- Programs have not previously received a Support grant at their current STAR level (i.e., a STAR 2 program could have received a Support Grant at STAR 1, but not STAR 2)

### TIMELINE

- Your COMPLETE grant must be postmarked (if mailed - or received by ELRC 18 if hand-delivered, faxed, or e-mailed) no later than March 10, 2020. If your application is incomplete or needs to be modified in order to be eligible, everything must be finalized by March 10<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, please do not wait until the last minute to submit your application. If you fax it to us at the end of the day on the 10<sup>th</sup> and you forget to sign it, your application cannot be considered for funding. Those of you who are working on STARS movements with your quality coach (which should be everyone who applies for the grant....) know that there is often quite a bit of back and forth before everything is 100% right. Be sure to build in this back and forth time when deciding when to apply. Most

ELRC 18 quality coaches have more than 100 STAR 1 and 2 programs on their caseload! Did I mention, DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE! ☺

- All eligible grants will be forwarded to OCDEL, which will notify ELRCs on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> which applications are funded and which are not. ELRCs must notify providers by Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> of OCDEL's decision.
  - If your application is not funded and you wish to appeal, this must be received the next day – March 24<sup>th</sup> – in order for it to be considered by OCDEL.
  - If your application is approved, you must submit your acceptance paperwork by March 26<sup>th</sup> or your grant will be allocated to the next eligible program.
- Rising STARS Support Grant funds will be dispersed to ELRCs (which will disperse them to providers) in May. Your final expense report is due to the ELRC by May 29<sup>th</sup>!

#### A FEW MORE VERY IMPORTANT NOTES

- Although the minimum eligibility is 40% FTE, OCDEL will be prioritizing programs with higher full-time equivalencies. Remember that this is a competitive grant. If you have already completed an ECT during the current fiscal year (since 7/1/2019), we will be able to use that ECT for the application. However, you may want to compare it to your current enrollment figures. If your current FTE is significantly higher than the one we have on file, you should consider updating it to improve your change of receiving the grant.
- Because of the timetable, OCDEL is permitting grant funds to be used for previously expended purchases (of course, only for eligible items and you must have saved your receipt).
- There is conflicting language in the grant documents about whether or not Rising STARS Support Grants can be used for bonuses. We have received clarification from OCDEL; then CANNOT. (We have requested updated grant materials, but have not yet received them and due to the timeline, did not want to hold the grant paperwork.)
- If you have not been actively working on movement with your quality coach, please be prepared to have a discussion about what steps you will take to move up to the next STAR level (and when). Quality coaches are required to sign-off on your application confirming that you are actively involved in movement. If you're not sure what that would look like, no worries, just explore it with your quality coach – that's why we're here! Remember, too, that we are here Tuesdays and Thursdays until 7p and on Saturday from 8:30a-5p (Welsh Road location only). Even if your quality coach is not scheduled to work, any quality coach will be able to assist you with the application process.

Grant applications will be available on the PA Keys website (though as of the date of this e-mail they have not yet been uploaded) or [here](#) in our Dropbox. However, I URGE you to contact your quality coach prior to submitting your grant application to ensure that you submit the best possible application for the competitive grant with such a short timeline!

**Merit and Education and Retention (ERA) Grant Updates** – We continue to process grants as they are received. We are getting close to fully expending the money allocated to Region 18. HOWEVER, it is REALLY important for providers to continue to apply for two reasons: 1) It's important for OCDEL to know the true volume of requests for this important source of funding, and 2) Programs who submit eligible grant applications that cannot be funded due to lack of funds receive priority for next year's grant funds! As a reminder you must be at least a STAR 2 for the ERA for all provider types (center, GCCH, FCCH). For the Merit Award, only STAR 2 centers and GCCH are eligible; FCCH can be STAR 2, 3 or 4. You also must have designated or renewed your STAR during the current fiscal year. Please contact your quality coach before applying for additional information!

**[I've attached an updated quality coach listing for your information.](#)** Please share widely, as I continue to hear that providers do not know how to find out who their coach is!

**Provider Self Service (PSS)** – Please note that on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, PSS was upgraded to allow providers to submit designation and coaching requests, enrollment calculation tools and grant requests. While we certainly encourage you to use these tools, it's really important to keep in touch with your quality coach, so that you're not unnecessarily submitting requests. (For example, one provider submitted a request for a STAR 1 designation through PSS, but there is no such thing. All providers are designated STAR 1 when they receive their regular certificate of compliance.)

**Miscellaneous (but IMPORTANT) Updates:**

- *1099 Mailing* – ELRC 18’s Finance staff mailed out ELRC 18 – 1099 forms on Friday, 1/31/2020. [Attached](#) is contact information for providers who were paid by previous CCIS Offices. If you have any questions, please call the Finance Department at (215) 382-4762 ext. 2206.
- *Reminder about the Child Care Tax Credit* – In order for parents to claim the Child Care Tax Credit, they must include their child care provider’s tax ID number. You can provide this to parents on IRS form W10 or in a letter to parents. Subsidy parents can only claim the amount that they paid you directly (co-payments and fees above subsidy, if any), not the amount that ELRC reimburses you for their children’s care. ELRC cannot release the tax ID number for any provider (unless the program has closed).
- *Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation* – There has been much confusion about how to access this given all the changes over the last year (statewide). Please see (and share!) the attached [“6 Steps to IECMH.”](#)
- Please be sure to have ALL staff complete their profile in the PD Registry!!!
- *National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR)* – Be sure that your application is fully completed and that e-mail/ mailing address are clear and correct. (They are getting a lot of bounce backs.) Turnaround time is approximately 14 days. If you do not hear anything after that, DO NOT send a duplication application, but DO contact them to check on the status.
- *Human Trafficking* – If you have any suspicion of human trafficking, please call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888. [Polaris](#) provides resources for human trafficking prevention and tracks data that can be used for targeted systems-level strategies to disrupt and prevent human trafficking. They provide [myths, facts, and statistics](#) to help better explain what human trafficking is and dispel common misconceptions. [Keep Kids Safe](#) provides additional information on human trafficking in Pennsylvania, as well as how to spot the signs of human trafficking for sexual exploitation.
- **REVISED KEYSTONE STARS STANDARDS ARE NOW EXPECTED TO BE RELEASED IN MARCH AND WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020.**

### **No Small Matter – A Film Screening and Panel Discussion – 3/3/2020 (but register by 2/29/2020!)**

Join Dar Al-Huda Early Learning Academy, our partner First Up, and a special panel of guests to view and discuss the documentary, *No Small Matter*, about the importance of early childhood education. Please see the attached flyer, and if you plan to attend [register](#) right away!

### **Little Scientists — Exploring ENGINEERING with Preschoolers – 3/3/2020**

Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 3–4 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Presented by the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching and Learning

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. In this episode, discover the engineering component of STEAM, including how using hands-on materials supports preschoolers in learning why and how things work. Preschool teachers and family child care providers will learn strategies and teaching practices that help all children explore engineering. Explore strategies for using art to encourage engineering concepts and skills.

Topics for the webinar series include:

Describing the engineering component of STEAM, including the importance of early learning environments and interactions that support preschooler’s engineering exploration

Identifying strategies and teaching practices that help preschoolers explore engineering concepts and skills

Describing modifications to learning environments or teaching practices that meet individual children’s needs

Target Audience:

Teachers and family child care providers who interact daily with preschool-aged children

Education managers, coaches, and child development specialists

Support staff

How to Register - Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2079346/9D1B18FE95CC249A06B4C96889145A3C>

## **Infant/Toddler Webinar Series: Feeding Infants and Toddlers: Classroom Practices That Support Early Nutrition Habits – 3/4/2020**

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 2–3 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Join the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness for a four-part series focusing on early childhood health and wellness. Topics will include environmental health, safe sleep, and tummy time. In the first webinar, explore the importance of nutrition during infancy and early childhood and how it is essential to ensure the growth, health, and development of children to their full potential. Discover how early childhood professionals can ensure that young children are given the nutritional food they need in a caring environment.

Topics for the webinar include:

Nutrition needs within the first year of life and in toddlerhood

Hunger/satiety cues

Serving needs and sizes

Mealtime routines

Alignment of nutrition to developmental milestones

Presenter - Stephanie Womack, program manager, American Academy of Pediatrics

Target Audience

Early childhood education teachers and nutrition staff

Family child care providers

Infant/toddler coaches, consultants, and specialists

Child care resource and referral leadership and staff

How to Register - Select the link to register:

<https://ncechw.adobeconnect.com/earlynutritionhabits/event/registration.html>

## **First Up Conference – 3/6/2020**

It's almost here, but you still have time to sign up for the First Up Conference next Friday, 3/6/2020. For information on available sessions or to register, click [here](#). Any when you're there, be sure to stop by the ELRC 18 table and visit with the quality coaches!

## **Serv Safe Manager Certification - 3/7/2020**

This one day certification class will be held at From Theory to Practice on Germantown Avenue. See the [attached flyer](#) for cost, registration and additional information. Please register by 2/29/2020 (**this Saturday!**).

## **PD Offered by From Theory to Practice**

Please see the attached flyers for details, cost and registration information for the following:

- Build a Smart Goal Board – 3/7/2020
- Raising Quality Together Initiative – 3/9/2020

## **PACCA Webinar: Making the Census Count for all PA Kids! – 3/11/2020**

Did you know there is an official 2020 Census song? Or that Sesame Street's Count von Count is sharing the message about the importance of responding to the Census? Do you know how much federal funding Pennsylvania missed over the past 10 years because of undercounting in the last Census? Join PACCA to learn all this and especially how YOU can

help encourage families in your program to participate in the 2020 Census. The federal government uses census data to help allocate over \$800 billion a year in federal funds to key programs that serve children and families. When we miss young children in the census, our communities miss out on funding for public programs for much of their childhood. This can mean anything from overcrowded classrooms to limited public funding available to help families in need of food. It also means that our families in need of child care subsidies stand even less of a chance of getting the funds they need to cover the high price of child care.

**Presenter:** Diane Barber, Executive Director, PACCA

**Sponsor:** Pennsylvania Child Care Association

**Cost:** \$0 for everyone

**Registration Deadline:** Tuesday, March 10 | Noon

**Registration:** [Making the Census Count](#)

For more questions, please contact Maureen Murphy at 717-657-9000 x 107. Please visit [pacca.org](http://pacca.org) or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PACChildCareAssociation/>

### **CLASS Training: Pre-K CLASS Observation Training - March 12-13**

Build your CLASS expertise to unlock the potential of great teaching in your organization. Our regional trainings equip observers, coaches, teachers and everyone in between to see through the CLASS lens, help others see through the CLASS lens and directly impact teaching with CLASS. Learn about the sessions offered at First Up by visiting the [registration link](#). Click for the [flyer](#).

### **CPR Training – 3/20/2020**

Little Dinos will be hosting a CPR Training on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6p. Location is 6044 Castor Avenue (Unit 103). Cost is \$55 per person. For more information or to RSVP, call (215)533-3466.

### **Next SEPECC General Meeting**

The next SEPECC general meetings are **3/24** and **5/19** from **8:45 to 11:00 am** at Children’s Village, 125 N 8th Street, Philadelphia. There’s no better place to get the latest federal, state and local ECE updates and resources for ECE advocacy! If you have thoughts about the agenda, please contact [Jackie Groetsch](#).

### **Request for Information: Family Support Programs – by 3/25/2020**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (“Department”) Shared Services for Health and Human Services, Bureau of Procurement & Contract Management has issued a Request for Information (RFI) on behalf of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning’s (OCDEL), Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports, to solicit input and information concerning Family Support Programs.

The RFI seeks information to assist the Department in the following:

- Gaining awareness of the presence and scope of existing Family Support programs;
- Soliciting input regarding core components and costs of successful Family Support Programs; and
- Ascertaining local interest in the development of Family Support Programs.

This RFI seeks information to assist in developing the direction and next procurement for department-funded Family Support Programs. For the purpose of this RFI Family Support programs include OCDEL funded Evidence-Based Home Visiting programs, Family Centers, Parenting Classes, and Fatherhood Programs. The Department with OCDEL will craft a competitive Request for Application (RFA) and may revise program operations based on the information it receives from this RFI, in conjunction with research and input on best practices. View the bid online at [eMarketplace](#) or by clicking [here](#). Stakeholders have until noon, March 25, 2020 to submit comments.

### **STEM Mini-conference at Children’s Village – 3/28/2020**

Cost is only \$25. See the attached flyer for details and registration information. (Great way for your staff to earn training hours!!)

### **CDA Amnesty Program runs to March 31, 2020**

Early childhood educators whose Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential lapsed or expired can take advantage of a limited time CDA renewal Amnesty program, beginning Jan.1, 2020 – March 31, 2020. This means if an ECE professional completed their CDA anytime after Jan, 1, 2010 and did not submit a renewal to keep the CDA current, they can take advantage of this opportunity to reinstate their CDA credential. The renewal program is eligible for Rising Stars Tuition Assistance (RSTA). To apply for Financial assistance, ECE professionals need to complete their profile in the [PD Registry](#) to see the Financial Assistance tab. For more information about RSTA, please visit the [PA Key website](#). All applications and payments (\$125) must be submitted online by March 31, 2020. [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the PA Keys website for more information on qualifications.

### **Power Up Your Business – starts 4/9/2020**

Community College of Philadelphia, Power Up Your Business, has a FREE 7-week program to learn business best practices on management, financials, funding and human resources for a child care business. This VERY popular program provides practical skills to help grow your child care business. The series will take place on Wednesday afternoons at Children’s Village. See the attached flyer for details and registration information.

### **Are you ready for the 2020 Week of the Young Child™? – 4/11 through 4/17/2020**

Join NAEYC as [they celebrate our youngest learners](#) on April 11–17 with five fun-filled, themed days. All week long they’ll be featuring music, resources, and activity ideas for teachers and families that will make play meaningful and learning fun!

### **FREE Credit-bearing CDA Opportunity**

Grace-Trinity United Church of Christ is collaborating with the University of Pennsylvania to offer Free CDA Classes to all Students at Grace-Trinity Campus, 5200 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia PA 19124. This Free CDA Classes are funded by PHMC. **The classes are held on Saturdays.** The [attached flyer](#) will provide all the information that a student needs to register.

### **PHMC PDO UPDATES**

**PA's Early Childhood Education Career Pathway** - In case you missed it, the recorded webinar *Career Pathways for Directors* is now available! [CLICK HERE](#) for the webinar link on the Career Pathways page of the PA Key website. You can also read more about [PA's Early Childhood Career Pathway](#) and why it's valuable to ECE Professionals. All Early Childhood Educators are encouraged to upload their transcripts to be verified by the PA Key and place on the Career Pathway. This will help set goals for professional growth in the field of ECE. The ECE PDO at PHMC team can help! [CLICK HERE](#) to connect with us and learn how we can support directors and teaching staff to upload transcripts and share resources to promote opportunities for advancement on the Career Pathway through degree or credential programs.

### **Spring 2020 Course Offerings**

#### **Eastern University**

[Basic Skills Assessment Workshops](#) (open to Eastern & non-Eastern students)

[CLICK HERE](#) for Math Registration and Dates/Location

[CLICK HERE](#) for Reading/Writing Registration and Dates/Location

These workshops are FREE! For general workshop and logistical questions, please contact [Professor Tom Bonerbo](#). For registration related questions, please contact [Becky Daly](#).

#### **Manor College**

[CLICK HERE](#) for CDA cohorts in Montgomery County and Online

[CLICK HERE](#) for a full listing of asynchronous, online, or hybrid spring offerings

## Northampton Community College

[CLICK HERE](#) for mid-Spring CDA cohort, Online

### Statewide CDA Cohorts

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on new CDA cohorts offered across Pennsylvania, including our region.

### **10,000 Small Businesses Program**

This Goldman Sachs program is set up in convenient classes which offer valuable skills for growing your business. Benefits include gaining insight about opportunities to access financial capital, creating opportunities for powerful networking and more. This program is known for getting powerful results. It offers access to practical business education covering negotiations, marketing, employee management, and more. With a supportive network of peers and experts, the program helps business owners chart strategic plans for growth. Those selected to participate will receive full scholarships covering all tuition and program materials. Space is limited, apply as soon as possible. Visit their [website](#), or call 267-299-5900. *(Side note from Diane – this is an incredible opportunity for programs looking to expand! Several child care providers have already completed GS10KSB. If you're interested, please take advantage of this program now, before they complete their goal of 10,000 small businesses!)*

### **ECELS EMAIL ALERT: 2019 Novel Coronavirus: Facts to Share with Families and Staff**

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus is in the news. However, the PA Department of Health Secretary, Dr. Rachel Levine emphasizes illness from colds and flu is more likely. More than 45,000 diagnosed cases of flu have been recorded in Pennsylvania since October and no diagnosed cases of the coronavirus have been recorded. To reassure families and staff about the low risk of becoming ill from the 2019 Novel Coronavirus in PA, share facts, credible information and updates from the [Pennsylvania Department of Health Website](#)

Human coronaviruses are a family of viruses that commonly cause mild to moderate illness like the common cold. A new human coronavirus, called the 2019 Novel Coronavirus was discovered in Wuhan City, China in December 2019. Symptoms of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Use these additional credentialed sources to share information and updates with families and staff:

[American Academy of Pediatrics Healthy Children Website](#)  
[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Website](#)

Stay vigilant about infection control practices in your program to reduce spread of all common illnesses. Implement the [daily health check](#) recommended in *Caring for Our Children* Standard [3.1.1.1](#).

### **Special Announcement from PA Early Ed News: Coronavirus Information & Resources**

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common throughout the world. These viruses can live in animals, such as camels, cats and bats, and at times, evolve and infect people, before spreading through human to human contact. Human coronaviruses spread just like the flu or a cold—through the air by coughing or sneezing; through close personal contact, like touching or shaking hands; by touching an object or surface with the viruses on it; and occasionally, through fecal contamination. This has occurred previously with the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreaks.

People most at-risk of contracting a coronavirus are those who have traveled to places where the virus is occurring. In the case of the novel coronavirus, that location is China, and particularly the Wuhan area and the Hubei province.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) frequently exercises and prepares for a potential infectious disease outbreak. They have been monitoring the coronavirus outbreak in China using information from federal and local partners and are preparing response teams in case of an outbreak here. DOH has talked with health care partners about the potential spread of the coronavirus into the United States and how they will work with public health to evaluate potential cases.

DOH has issued several fact sheets related to the Coronavirus.

[Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#)

[Coronavirus Information for Pre-K](#)

[Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) Returning Traveler Information](#)

Please share these fact sheets with early childhood education professionals and community partners.

In addition, the Bureau of Certification recently released [information pertaining to child care professionals](#).

For more information, visit the [PA DOH website](#).

### **Important Message from the Bureau of Certification Regarding Clearances**

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) Bureau of Certification wants to clarify the responsibility of child care providers as it relates to confirming clearances for EITA, the Pennsylvania Key, therapists, OCDEL staff or staff employed by other OCDEL business partners that may enter the child care center. Child care programs are responsible for verifying that employees and volunteers working directly with children within their organization have the appropriate clearances and qualifications. The Child Protective Services Law does not require child care providers to ensure that Early Intervention staff, Program Quality Assessors, IECMH Consultants, or other professionals that work within a program have appropriate clearances and thus it is unnecessary to require these staff to present clearances to gain access to staff or children.

### **Just for School-Age Programs....**

**[PSAYDN Annual Meeting and Reception](#) - Wednesday, March 11 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. | Hilton, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

Join the Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network for a celebration of Pennsylvania quality out-of-school time efforts. Learn about PSAYDN activities over the past twelve months, enjoy youth entertainment and celebrate the 2020 PSAYDN Afterschool Champions. The Annual Meeting and Reception will take place in conjunction with the 2020 Extra Learning Opportunities Conference for 21st CCLC grantees being held March 10-12. Grantees can register for the meeting and reception at the same time when registering for the ELO conference. If you have already registered for the ELO Conference and are unsure if you selected to attend the meeting and reception, and for any other registration or general event questions, contact [PSAYDN](#).

**[PD Opportunity for School-Age Providers through Better Kid Care](#) - [Click to Science: Group Management During STEM](#)** - Managing active children during science and engineering projects can be challenging even for seasoned out-of-school time staff. Learn how to structure STEM experiences and space for the most positive group interactions and learning. Through the advice of experts and front line staff, this module provides resources for safe, engaging group time during STEM experiences. Planning checklists and several activity instructions are included in this module.

**[Federal Food Program Sponsors](#)** - If you are an after-school program and want to check out your options for CACFP sponsor organizations, please visit the following website: <https://www.cacfp.org/resources/afterschool-meals/>

### **Art Contest for student in grades 1-6 (March 6<sup>th</sup> deadline) -**

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Lyme%20poster%20competition%20guidelines%20with%20release%20form.pdf>

### **Do You Fiscal Hub???**

Are you a **child care center** that has been open since 2016?

Do you have at least one location in Philadelphia?

**If yes, you can now meet Keystone STARS 3 and 4 Performance Standards (LM.3.4.7 and LM.3.4.11) by participating in the Fiscal Hub.**

Participating in the Fiscal Hub includes:

- Meeting eligibility requirements - [click here](#) to see a list of requirements.
- **Completing a 3-part survey and submitting your organization's fiscal year 2018 federal tax return to be eligible to participate and receive technical assistance.**
- Access to technical assistance to help your center create a salary scale. ***This helps to meet STARS standard LM.3.4.7.***
- Access to an online tool that calculates the cost of care by age level based on your survey data submitted, shows your center's financial and programmatic information along a set of key benchmarks, and shows how you center's performance compares to peers. Limited technical assistance is also available to help analyze your financial data, as well as improve policies and procedures around budgeting and reporting. ***This helps to meet STARS standard LM.3.4.11.***

### **Start now!**

[CLICK HERE](#) to complete a **short survey (8 - 10 minutes)** that is designed to understand the business practices and financial needs of child care providers in Philadelphia. Your responses will help develop technical assistance, training, and resources to support Philadelphia child care providers.

Email [FiscalHub@phmc.org](mailto:FiscalHub@phmc.org) with any questions or for more information, see the [attached flyer](#) or visit our website by [clicking here](#).

### **ECE Fellowship-Cohort 11**

The First Up Early Childhood Fellowship, presented by [PNC](#) is designed to educate, connect, and support emerging leaders working to effect positive change in the field of early childhood. Through five two-day sessions over the course of a year, fellows will take a deep dive into the systems, finance, research, policy, and advocacy needs in ECE, as they build a network with other emerging and current advocates and leaders. [Click here](#) for an application, or email [James Nicholson](#) with any questions.

### **Start-up Company Offering Weekend Staffing Assistance**

Seven Thirty Daycare has identified weekend staffing as a particularly challenging area for providers and is providing a solution. Please check out their flyer in our [Dropbox](#)!

### **Phila School District Kindergarten Registration**

Kindergarten Registration opened on Monday, January 27, 2020 and closes on Friday, May 29, 2020. [Kindergarten Registration Information Page](#)

Kindergarten Open House Week: May 4-8, 2020

Online registration available this year.

Contact: [ktransition@philasd.org](mailto:ktransition@philasd.org)

### **Grant season is now open!**

Please email Ellen at [evrpp@yahoo.com](mailto:evrpp@yahoo.com) for more information about any of the following opportunities:

Right now there are at least four really great grants for childcare providers that are garden/Dept of Agriculture-related. Also there are ton of great grants from the State and City related to taxes/finances. These are a little technical and so most centers will need help with the applications but the rewards can be quite substantial.

One other thing that is worth noting - So many people in childcare are going after the same funds/grants. By going after grants outside of the industry we are bringing more resources (money) into childcare AND doing so without having to lobby Harrisburg!

We are also giving some of the smaller centers a better chance of getting funds because they are not up against "the same five centers" who seem to get all of the grants.

Final thought, here is an example of something that might be of interest to childcare centers: The flower show has a special workshop for young people who are interested in agriculture as a career. The workshop is free and comes with free admission to the flower show for the child and their chaperone.

## **FREE Gardening Workshop**

Seeds to Live By has a new gardening workshop this spring. This workshop is available for any childcare program family, group or center. The workshop features everything that you will need to get your garden off to a great start this spring. For your convenience workshops can take place at your center

Customized workshop - Programs can customize the workshop to suit their centers.

Free Supplies - The program will receive courtesy of the PA Dept of Agriculture: \$100 in plants, seeds, tools, soil, containers and garden supplies.

Free grant application - As an added bonus, programs will be given - free of charge - one completed application to an Agricultural grant (PA Dept of Ag, Whole Foods, Captain Planet - it is your choice).

PQAS Credits are available if desired for a fee of \$7 - \$14 per participant. Credits are NOT required to receive the free gardening workshop.

Please contact Ellen at [evrpp@yahoo.com](mailto:evrpp@yahoo.com) to sign up for a workshop

## **Quality Influential Professionals Gala – 8/8/2020**

Come celebrate all the wonderful work you do all year round with your family, friends and colleagues! Tickets are on sale now at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). Please see the [attached flyer](#) for additional details!

## **Community Arts Education Leadership Institute**

The Community Arts Education Leadership Institute (CAELI) provides an eight-month intensive, transformative experience through which both seasoned and emerging leaders advance their skills by engaging with top leadership trainers, nationally renowned practitioners, and a diverse cohort of peers. Join the [applicant webinar on Wednesday, March 18](#) to learn more about the program and hear from CAELI faculty and alums.

## **Now Available from NAEYC: *Each and Every Child: Teaching Preschool with an Equity Lens***

This thoughtfully curated (and much anticipated!) collection provides concrete strategies and tips for implementing recommendations from NAEYC's position statement "Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education" in your work with children ages 3 through 5.

## **Join the next ECE Apprenticeship Cohort in Philadelphia!**

District 1199C Training and Upgrading Fund is recruiting for the next cohort of apprentices to participate in an accelerated Associates Degree Program with Community College of Philadelphia. You will receive credit for your CDA and on-the-job-learning! [Click here](#) to learn more about the program requirements and how to join this opportunity!

## **Free Job Training For Young Men Impacted by Violence**

The Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice at [Drexel University](http://Drexel University) developed a free job training program for men ages 18-30 with lived experience of violence to receive dual certification as Community Health Workers and Certified Peer Specialists. This program is a good fit for young men interested in becoming healers and helpers in their communities,

and entering the human service or healthcare fields. Applicants are expected to commit to 9 weeks of training four days per week (Monday - Thursday). The deadline to apply is **March 13**. Click here [to apply](#), and here for the [info sheet](#) and [flyer](#). For additional information contact [Casey Chanton](#).

## **OCDEL Policy Fellow Creates Community Inclusion Resource**

A new resource, Pennsylvania Community Inclusion for All, created by an [OCDEL Policy Fellow](#), Sadia Bartool, highlights the importance of and provides resources for meaningful Community Inclusion, geared towards Pennsylvania children, ages birth to grade 6, and their families. The [PA Community Inclusion for All web page](#) and [public Facebook group](#) can help increase opportunities for meaningful interaction between families and children with and without disabilities. It can provide professionals the resources for Community Inclusion to share with families they serve and use the resources when practicing coaching in the community with families. Early learning partners and families are encouraged to share the resources with community partners to inspire them to create and provide for a more inclusive environment and promote and highlight the ones practicing inclusion effectively by sharing their stories of why and how they are doing it. Families are invited to [share their stories](#) highlighting the struggles/challenges, professional support, effective strategies and outcomes of Community Inclusion.

## **Job Openings**

- **Children's Village** is looking to hire an Early Childhood Education Director. This person supervises the toddler and preschool rooms and is part of a six person admin team. Because we provide PA PreK Counts services and preschool leaders must be PA Certified in ECE. See the [attached flyer](#) for a full job description (and please share widely!)
- **Promise Neighborhood is Hiring!**  
\* THIS POSITION IS NOT WITH AFEL. THIS IS A PROJECT MANAGER POSITION FOR THE PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE. \*  
The PN Team is actively recruiting for a new Project Manager.

### **Job Summary:**

Drexel is seeking a full-time experienced Project Manager to support its Promise Neighborhoods Initiative. Functions include reporting, performance measurement for contracted partners, grant administration, and compliance, and team operations/administration. This position reports to the Promise Neighborhood Project Director.

### **Essential Functions:**

Support implementation and success of activities and partnerships in coordination with content area managers. Perform administrative activities such as correspondence, mailings, data entry, preparation of spreadsheets, reports, and other materials. Schedule staff meetings and events, including planning and logistics, preparing materials, recording and distributing minutes, and supporting administrative follow-up tasks, as requested. Develop and implement processes and procedures for bi-annual federal reports and quarterly partner check-ins. Manage strategic planning and priorities for meetings with contracted and community partners. Facilitate bimonthly and monthly meetings with partners. Serve as key liaison between Data & Research Core and Implementation team. Assist Communications Specialist with the creation and maintenance of relevant communication and media, including newsletter, printed materials and grant website. Create strategic and meeting plans for both Project Management Team and Community Advisory Council meetings. Support community outreach events. Supervise student workers, interns, and/or other staff as required.

Please see full posting here: <https://careers.drexel.edu/en-us/job/494394/project-manager>

## **Conquering Kindergarten Campaign Launch**

**Conquering Kindergarten (CK) is a School District of Philadelphia Campaign that aims to support both families and teachers to help children learn 14 important social-emotional skills assessed on the kindergarten report card and is supported with funding from the William Penn Foundation. <http://conqueringkindergarten.org/>**

AFEL and Promise Neighborhood team members joined forces to support the launch of the School District's new Conquering Kindergarten program at McMichael School at the end of January. To assist with the kick-off, Kindergarten and Eighth Grade students from McMichael presented the 14 social emotional skills crucial to Kindergarten success that are at the heart of the Conquering Kindergarten campaign. Also participating were Kindergarten students from Locke School, who entertained the audience with a powerful performance of the song "Dynamite," including slightly revised lyrics that assured everyone within earshot that they were definitely going to graduate! Special thanks to McMichael Principal Dollette Johns-Smith, Locke Community School Coordinator Ms. Pam Evans, AFEL Family Navigator Mr. Dwayne Walker and William Penn Foundation Program Director Elliot Weinbaum for their special support of the ceremony! AFEL along with the Promise Neighborhood will continue to promote Conquering Kindergarten in schools and childcare centers in the West Philadelphia Promise Zone to increase awareness about the importance of bridging skills between Pre-K and Kindergarten for long-term education success. Please see the article by Huntly Collins in *The Philadelphia Public School Notebook*: <https://thenotebook.org/articles/2020/01/29/how-to-conquer-kindergarten-organization-respect-and-cooperation/>

### **Gee Whiz Curriculum**

Gee Whiz is recognized by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning as aligned to ALL domains for both Infants/Toddlers and Pre-Kindergarten:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Early%20Learning/Early%20Learning%20Standards/Pages/default.aspx>

In answer to the many requests, they've created [a PDF flyer](#) (which also contains a discount code and sample lesson plan). They also recently hosted a webinar titled, "An Introduction to Gee Whiz" that many providers find extremely helpful when 1) evaluating whether Gee Whiz is a good fit for their programs and 2) learning more about implementing the curriculum with fidelity. The recording of this webinar can be found on their YouTube channel. Here is the direct link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEQJsmwMYhg>

### **Daycare Center for sale**

Daycare for sale in the 19111 area code. License capacity 30 children. Has 2 1/2 years left on lease. Rent is \$2,200 per month. This location has a yard. Looking for a preferably seasoned daycare owner looking to expand and fully understand the license process, as you will need to obtain your own license. Will work with buyer to coordinate a seamless transition for you and our families and staff if necessary. Daycare will come fully furnished. This is not a lease to own. Buyer must be able to provide proof of funds, and able to afford the monthly obligations, in addition to the full sales price.

Sale price upon request.

If interest is found, please forward the following to [Daycarebusinessforsale@outlook.com](mailto:Daycarebusinessforsale@outlook.com):

Name

Daycare if any

Number

Years in business

Short bio

### **Property For a Daycare or preschool**

I have a small music school with an adjoining property that would be great for a daycare or preschool. It would be terrific to grow this site into a complete kid center for education and performing arts.

Many thanks,

Wendy L H Hellyer  
[whellyer@hpacinc.com](mailto:whellyer@hpacinc.com)

Hellyer Performing Arts Center, Inc.  
2000 Bensalem Blvd., PA 19020  
PH: (215) 757-7775  
Cell: (215) 801-1718

### **USDA Resources - Choose Low Sugar**

Appendix D: Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Lower in Added Sugars - [https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/FI\\_AppendixD\\_0.pdf](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/FI_AppendixD_0.pdf)

Appendix E: Choose Yogurts That Are Lower in Added Sugars - [https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/FI\\_AppendixE.pdf](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/FI_AppendixE.pdf)

So, assuming that you have made it to the end, I PROMISE that I will try and get these e-bulletins out more frequently to avoid including SO much in one "little" e-mail! In the meantime, please reach out if we can be of assistance.

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, March 2, 2020 4:03 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin - Rising STARS Support Grant Updates and more!

Happy March, everyone!

I have some important updates/clarifications to the Rising STARS Support Grant to share with you, so I figured that I'd throw in a few other timely tidbits, too! (There are some REALLY good ones all the way at the bottom!)

After receiving clarification from OCDEL late last week, I am reposting information about Rising STARS Support Grants. The type in red is either new or (more important) different than what was previously shared with you! Of course, this really reinforces the importance of connecting with your quality coach BEFORE applying for the Rising STARS Support Grant!! (I'm just sayin'....)

### **Rising STARS Support Grants (STAR 1 and 2 programs only)**

***Applications being accepted only until March 10, 2020***

The Rising STARS initiative focuses on increasing access to the highest quality early education services for hard to reach and vulnerable children by providing supports to providers as they move up the quality scale to STAR 3 and 4 levels. Grant amounts are \$2,000 for family child care providers and \$5,000 for center and group child care programs. Funds must be used to support your Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plan. **This is a statewide, competitive grant with a VERY tight timetable.** Please review the following guidelines and contact your quality coach ([list attached](#)) if you would like to apply.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE (*you must meet all of the criteria below, plus additional criteria listed in the grant application documents*)

- DHS licensed facilities only – center, GCCH, FCCH.
- STAR 1 and 2 programs actively engaged in movement to higher STAR levels
- Current Enrollment Calculation Tool (ECT) reflects at least 40% full-time equivalent (FTE)
- **The provider must hold a regular Department of Human Services (DHS) Certificate of Compliance. The provider location or legal entity has never been denied a certificate or license, had a certificate of compliance or license revoked or had a certificate of compliance or license non-renewed in PA or any other state.**
- ~~Programs have not previously received a Support grant at their current STAR level (i.e., a STAR 2 program could have received a Support Grant at STAR 1, but not STAR 2)~~

***Active STAR 1 providers must meet all of the following criteria:***

- Hold a regular DHS certificate of compliance,
- Actively working on a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plan that includes moving up to a STAR 2 in a reasonable amount of time.
- Have not received the maximum of two Rising STARS Support Grants.

***Active STAR 2 providers must meet all of the following criteria:***

- Hold a regular DHS certificate of compliance,
- Actively working on a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plan that includes moving up to a STAR 3 or 4 in a reasonable amount of time.

***Active STARS 2 providers may fall into one or more of the following grant scenarios below:***

- Have received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants and moved up from STAR 1 to 2 using one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants.
  - Example 1: If a STAR 2 provider received the maximum number of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants and moved up from STAR 1 to STAR 2 after receiving one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants, they are eligible for a Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year.
  - Example 2: If a STAR 2 provider received the maximum number of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants and did not move up from STAR 1 to STAR 2 after receiving either one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants, the provider is **NOT** eligible for a Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year.
  
- Have not received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants.
  - Example 1: If a STAR 2 provider has not received the maximum number of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants, they are eligible for a Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year.
  
- Have received the maximum of three (3) Merit Awards
  - Example 1: If a STAR 2 provider received the maximum number of three (3) Merit Awards but has not received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants and is ready to move up to STAR 3 or 4, they are eligible for the Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year.
  - Example 2: If a STAR 2 provider received the maximum number of three (3) Merit Awards, has received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants, has moved up from STAR 1 to 2 using one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants, and is now ready to move up to STAR 3 or 4, they are eligible for the Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year.
  - Example 3: If a STAR 2 provider received the maximum number of three (3) Merit Awards, has received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants, but has **NOT** moved up from STAR 1 to 2 using one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants, they are **NOT** eligible for the Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year even if they are now ready to move up to STAR 3 or 4.
  
- Have not received the maximum of three (3) Merit Awards
  - Example 1: If a STAR 2 provider has not received the maximum number of three (3) Merit Awards, has not received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants, and is ready to move up to STAR 3 or 4, they are eligible for both the Rising STARS Support Grant and Merit Award in this fiscal year.
  - Example 2: If a STAR 2 provider has not received the maximum number of three (3) Merit Awards, has received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants, moved up from STAR 1 to 2 using one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants, and is ready to move up to STAR 3 or 4, they are eligible for both the Rising STARS Support Grant and Merit Award this fiscal year.
  - Example 3: If a STAR 2 provider has not received the maximum number of three (3) Merit Awards, has received the maximum of two (2) Rising STARS Support Grants, but has **NOT** moved up from STAR 1 to 2 using one of those previous Rising STARS Support Grants, they are **NOT** eligible for the Rising STARS Support Grant this fiscal year even if they are now ready to move up to STAR 3 or 4. However, they are eligible for a Merit Award this fiscal year.

## TIMELINE

- Your COMPLETE grant must be postmarked (if mailed - or received by ELRC 18 if hand-delivered, faxed, or e-mailed) no later than March 10, 2020. If your application is incomplete or needs to be modified in order to be eligible, everything must be finalized by March 10<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, please do not wait until the last minute to submit your application. If you fax it to us at the end of the day on the 10<sup>th</sup> and you forget to sign it, your application cannot be considered for funding. Those of you who are working on STARS movements with your quality coach (which should be everyone who applies for the grant....) know that there is often quite a bit of back and forth before everything is 100% right. Be sure to build in this back and forth time when deciding when to apply. Most ELRC 18 quality coaches have more than 100 STAR 1 and 2 programs on their caseload! Did I mention, DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE! 😊

- All eligible grants will be forwarded to OCDEL, which will notify ELRCs on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> which applications are funded and which are not. ELRCs must notify providers by Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> of OCDEL's decision.
  - If your application is not funded and you wish to appeal, this must be received the next day – March 24<sup>th</sup> – in order for it to be considered by OCDEL.
  - If your application is approved, you must submit your acceptance paperwork by March 26<sup>th</sup> or your grant will be allocated to the next eligible program.
- Rising STARS Support Grant funds will be dispersed to ELRCs (which will disperse them to providers) in May. Your final expense report is due to the ELRC by May 29<sup>th</sup>!

#### A FEW MORE VERY IMPORTANT NOTES

- Although the minimum eligibility is 40% FTE, OCDEL will be prioritizing programs with higher full-time equivalencies. Remember that this is a competitive grant. ~~If you have already completed an ECT during the current fiscal year (since 7/1/2019), we will be able to use that ECT for the application. However, you may want to compare it to your current enrollment figures. If your current FTE is significantly higher than the one we have on file, you should consider updating it to improve your change of receiving the grant.~~ **If you have already completed an ECT during the current fiscal year (since 7/1/2019), we MUST use that ECT for the application. Providers may only submit one FTE in the fiscal year; FTE revisions will not be accepted.**
- Because of the timetable, OCDEL is permitting grant funds to be used for previously expended purchases (of course, only for eligible items and you must have saved your receipt).
- There is conflicting language in the grant documents about whether or not Rising STARS Support Grants can be used for bonuses. We have received clarification from OCDEL; then CANNOT. (We have requested updated grant materials, but have not yet received them and due to the timeline, did not want to hold the grant paperwork.)
- If you have not been actively working on movement with your quality coach, please be prepared to have a discussion about what steps you will take to move up to the next STAR level (and when). Quality coaches are required to sign-off on your application confirming that you are actively involved in movement. If you're not sure what that would look like, no worries, just explore it with your quality coach – that's why we're here! Remember, too, that we are here Tuesdays and Thursdays until 7p and on Saturday from 8:30a-5p (Welsh Road location only). Even if your quality coach is not scheduled to work, any quality coach will be able to assist you with the application process.

Grant applications are available on the [PA Keys website](#) (though as of the date of this e-mail they have not yet been uploaded) or [here](#) in our Dropbox. However, I URGE you to contact your quality coach prior to submitting your grant application to ensure that you submit the best possible application for the competitive grant with such a short timeline!

### **ELRC 18 Waiting List Update**

As of Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, there were only 92 children on the regular waiting list with a waiting list date of February 5, 2020! There are still no children on the prioritized waiting list.

### **And one more job opening .....**

**ELRC 18** is looking for a **STARS Quality Coach**. The Quality Coach works directly with center and family child care programs; providing information, resources and guidance in building quality and meeting STARS standards. This fulltime position requires a car for travel within Philadelphia. For more information, email [sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:sbadanes@caringpeoplealliance.org).

### **BabyTalks Webinar Series: Addressing Infant and Toddler Behaviors That Challenge Adults – 3/12/2020**

Thursday, March 12, 2020 3–4 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

All infant and toddler behaviors have meaning, even if adults sometimes find those behaviors challenging. In this webinar, learn the developmental reasons why young children behave in ways that are challenging to adults. Discover key strategies for addressing behaviors adults find challenging and learn how to support infants and toddlers when they

exhibit these behaviors. Join Beth Zack, Ph.D., from the Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences, University of Washington.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Developmental reasons why infants and toddlers exhibit behaviors that adults find challenging
- Reframing how adults view challenging behavior to behavior that has meaning
- Strategies for how to respond and support infants and toddlers when they show behaviors that are challenging to adults

Target Audience

- Head Start, Early Head Start, Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, and American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start program staff, directors, managers, and administrators
- Child care program staff, directors, managers, and administrators
- T/TA managers and specialists
- Federal and Regional Office staff
- State Collaboration Offices

How to Register - Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2067282/254A442CDD6AE376DD956F4161835269>

Questions? To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdctl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdctl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

### **Quality Influential Professionals Gala – 8/8/2020**

Come celebrate all the wonderful work you do all year round with your family, friends and colleagues! Tickets are on sale now at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com). Please see the [attached flyer](#) for additional details! **For more information about either QIP or the gala, please contact Diane Gardner ([gardnerd2@cs.com](mailto:gardnerd2@cs.com) or 215-329-0576) and/or Ineeze Gainey ([ineeze2002@yahoo.com](mailto:ineeze2002@yahoo.com) or 215-350-8532).**

### **2020 Census: Every kid counts, so let's count every kid**

The Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) Deputy Secretary, Tracey Campanini, [shares important information about the upcoming 2020 Census](#). We know that children are woefully underrepresented when it comes to Census recording. Over 25,000 children were estimated to not have been counted in the 2010 census in Pennsylvania. OCDEL is asking Early Childhood Education (ECE) professionals to make a concerted effort to explain to families how important it is to include their entire household when reporting.

The information gathered during the Census determines how many representatives each state has in congress and potential funding for important programs like:

- Subsidized Child Care
- WIC
- Head Start
- CHIP
- National School Lunch Program
- and more!

ECE professionals and programs work hard to build genuine, trusting relationships with their families and families trust these professionals to keep their children safe. For many families, a child care site might be one of the only place outside their home where they feel safe and secure. This relationship puts every ECE professional in a unique position to help families understand how participating in the census can help their child, their family and their community in the long run. OCDEL is working closely with stakeholders and advocates to help equip ECE professionals with the tools needed to make families feel comfortable and safe in completing 2020 Census forms.

The Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA) will host a 2020 Census information webinar, *Making the Census Count for all PA Kids!*, as part of their Webinar Wednesday Series on March 11 from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. In this short, free webinar, find out what ECE professionals can do to help encourage families in ECE programs to participate in the 2020 Census. [Click here to register for the March 11 webinar.](#)

### **Adventure Aquarium Offers FREE Pre-K Adventure Pass!**

The Camden Adventure Aquarium has implemented a special way to experience all of their underwater fun like never before. Last week the Adventure Aquarium launched their free Pre-K Kid's Adventure Pass. This initiative marks the first time a cultural attraction in the Philadelphia area will offer a free Pre-K Pass for unlimited attendance, making the venue more accessible for families than ever before. The new pass will be available to children under five years old at the time of registration. Parents can register online at [AdventureAquarium.com/PreK](http://AdventureAquarium.com/PreK) and visit the aquarium to activate the pass in advance of the deadline on **April 3**. For more information, visit [adventureaquarium.com](http://adventureaquarium.com)

### **Free Legal Clinic Celebrating Women's History Month – 3/14/2020**

Learn about your legal rights, talk to volunteers and find out if your criminal record in Philadelphia County can be erased, sealed or pardoned. The event will be held at Shepard Recreation Center at 5700 Haverford Avenue, Philadelphia on Saturday **March 14, 2:00-4:00pm**. Click here for the [flyer](#) with additional details.

### **FREE Lesson Plans from PNC Grow Up Great!**

PNC's Lesson Center for preschool teachers has tons of lesson plans based on Grow Up Great funded projects. They have been tested and approved by ECE experts. [Explore and get inspired today!](#)

That's all for now.

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 3:59 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: OCDEL response to COVID-19 and more

Hi all,

I suspect that you will be hearing from me a little more frequently over the coming days and weeks. As expected, we have received MANY questions about how the virus COVID-19 (corona virus) will impact operation at your child care programs, including your subsidy reimbursement. Following is a series of responses that we received from OCDEL yesterday (March 10<sup>th</sup>). If after reviewing this information, you have additional questions, please e-mail them to me. We are compiling a spreadsheet of questions for the State to address.

### **OCDEL COVID-19 Q&A**

- **Can providers deny care to a child that is asymptomatic and has not been known to be in contact with anyone who has or may have COVID-19?** – There is no legitimate public health reason to deny care to asymptomatic children. Since that is the case, providers will not be paid for CCW children turned away under these circumstances.
- **Can providers turn away children who are sick?** – Yes. Sick children should stay home with their parent(s) or caregiver. This is applicable all the time, not just during the COVID-19 situation.
- **Is there any flexibility on attendance requirements and provider payments?** Not at this time. Children are allowed 40 absence days in total, and can request a suspension of eligibility after 5 days (so as not to accrue more days to the 40 day limit). Per the current CCW policy, providers will not be paid for children who are in a suspended status.
- **If facilities must close temporarily due to staffing issues, or in adherence to guidance from the health department, will providers continue to get paid?** – Providers do have 15 days of paid closures per year which they can use at their discretion. OCDEL is not currently entertaining a change to this policy to allow for more closure days.
- **If schools close, should providers in those school districts also close?** Not necessarily. Schools are empowered to decide whether or not to close and for how long, and may or may not decide to do this in coordination with or adherence to Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. Should community spread of COVID-19 become an issue, and mitigation efforts more stringent, DOH will inform your community what additional efforts are suggested or necessary to combat further spread of the virus. OCDEL recommends you pay attention to and follow guidance from DOH on this topic. Visit <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>.

Again, if you have additional questions, please forward them to me via e-mail, and we will share them (daily) with OCDEL. I will send a separate e-mail with additional resources to help you keep your staff, your families and yourself safe, but wanted to get this out right away.

Take good care,  
diane

Diane Getzinger

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2020 6:18 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID 19 update

Hi everyone,

Thank you all for your calls and e-mails today (and over the last weeks). I know that you have been waiting patiently for an update. I will share with you what I have for now, but realize that it does not answer many of your most pressing questions – specifically those around the business implications to decisions you need to make.

### ELRC18 Updates

- There will be no delay in the February 20<sup>th</sup> provider payments. In fact, you will likely receive this at least a day early.
- ELRC18 will be open for business tomorrow - Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> - from 8:30a-5p, but that will be our last Saturday office hours until further notice. Effective immediately, all three ELRC18 locations will be open to the public Monday through Friday from 8a to 5:30p. Staff will additionally be available by phone on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 7p.
- We realize that this is a rapidly evolving situation. Please check our website – PhiladelphiaELRC18.org – for timely updates and encourage parents to check it, as well.
- We shared your questions and concerns with OCDEL daily via a spreadsheet and will communicate any answers we receive right away.
- Please continue to use our department e-mail addresses as necessary:
  - **Eligibility:** [ELRCeligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRCeligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org)
  - **Provider/STARS:** [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org)
  - **Fiscal:** [ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org)

### From Certification:

#### **Operational Recommendations for Early Childhood Providers Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement C-20 #02, Operational Recommendations for Early Childhood Providers Due to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

In response to growing concerns about the spread of COVID-19 and its potential impact on the delivery of services to children and families the Department of Human Services, Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has developed the following operational recommendations for services. This document will be updated and re-released on a recurring basis as new information becomes available.

Information will continue to be shared and disseminated going forward to address questions and concerns that have been brought to our attention. We continue to monitor information from [the Pennsylvania Department of Health](#) and [the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). Guidance developed by DHS will be centrally located on [this page](#), which will be updated as additional guidance becomes available. We encourage you to continue to consult these resources for updates on COVID-19, information on staying healthy, and updates on the situation in Pennsylvania.

The document contains recommendations, OCDEL Points of Contact, and next steps. [Click here to view the document.](#) I thank you, again, for your patience as we await further direction and will communicate with you whenever we have updates.

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:52 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID 19 update

Hi everyone,

As many of you know, child care programs in the surrounding counties have been directed to close. While there is no directive yet for Philadelphia, late this afternoon, Certification released an announcement that is applicable to all programs that close due to COVID 19 concerns – either by mandate or by choice. Although I still do not have answers for you about how this will impact your subsidy participation, please carefully read the announcement and be sure to report any closings as directed below. There is also a phone number for questions at the bottom of the announcement.

### **Announcement, Reporting Early Learning Programs Closings Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the Announcement, [Reporting Early Learning Programs Closings Due to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). The announcement specifies the method for reporting to OCDEL closure of early learning programs, including child care, Early Intervention, PA Pre-K Counts, Head Start and Home Visiting programs due to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) may require an early learning program to close to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Child care centers and other early learning programs may experience a high number of child or staff absences due to COVID-19. As a result, some programs may choose to close based on the inability to sustain operation.

**OCDEL needs information about program closures in order to gain information about the impact of COVID-19 and to assess areas of COVID-19 spread.**

The Announcement includes the procedure for reporting early learning programs that choose to or are directed to close due to COVID-19.

[Click here to see the Announcement.](#)

### **Following is the text of the Announcement:**

#### **PURPOSE:**

This announcement specifies the method for reporting to the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) closure of early learning programs, including child care, Early Intervention, PA Pre-K Counts, Head Start and Home Visiting programs due to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Department of Health may require an early learning program to close to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Child care centers and other early learning programs may experience a high number of child or staff absences due to COVID-19. As a result, some programs may choose to close based on the inability to sustain operation. OCDEL needs information about program closures in order to gain information about the impact of COVID-19 and to assess areas of COVID-19 spread. Information will continue to be shared and disseminated going forward to address questions and concerns that have been brought to our attention. We continue to monitor information from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Guidance developed by DHS will be centrally located on this

page, which will be updated as additional guidance becomes available. We encourage you to continue to consult these resources for updates on COVID-19, information on staying healthy, and updates on the situation in Pennsylvania.

**DISCUSSION:**

Early learning programs that choose to or are directed to close due to COVID-19 must do the following:

1. Email OCDEL at [RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov) to report that the program is closing due to COVID-19.
  
2. Use one of the following subject line, as appropriate for the program:
  - Child Care Closure - < Insert Name of County>
  - PKC Closure - < Insert Name of County>
  - HSSAP - < Insert Name of County>
  - EI Closure - < Insert Name of County>
  - HV Closure - <Insert Name of County>
  
3. Include the following information in the email to OCDEL:
  - a. Program name
  - b. Program address
  - c. Program telephone number
  - d. Number of children enrolled at the program
  - e. Date of closing
  - f. Anticipated date of reopening, if known
  - g. Reason for closure (child/family illness, staff illness, general mitigation efforts)

**NOTE:** If programs have multiple locations or funding streams that are affected by a closure, please list all programs within the body of one email.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Follow the steps listed above to report closures.
- 2. Direct comments and questions regarding this announcement to OCDEL at (717) 346-9320.**

Take good care, and again, when I have more details to share, I will be sure to send them out as soon as possible.

Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

---

**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 14, 2020 7:15 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** FW: SURVEY: COVID-19 Business Impacts City of Philadelphia

Hi everyone,

Please see the following shared by Aliya Johnson Roberts of Pratt Street and Bustleton Learning Centers...

---

**From:** Aliya Johnson Roberts [<mailto:ajroberts@prattstreetlearningcenter.com>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 14, 2020 7:00 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger <[DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: SURVEY: COVID-19 Business Impacts City of Philadelphia

Hi Diane,

I thought this could be helpful for providers to complete so that the city knows the true impact. We don't want to leave our providers out. The more responses they get, hopefully, the more benefits can be offered as well as a true understanding of the impact.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** PIDC <[PIDCphila@PIDCphila.com](mailto:PIDCphila@PIDCphila.com)>  
**Date:** March 14, 2020 at 3:32:27 PM EDT  
**To:** Aliya Johnson-Roberts <[one2accomplish@yahoo.com](mailto:one2accomplish@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** SURVEY: COVID-19 Business Impacts City of Philadelphia  
**Reply-To:** [PIDCphila@PIDCphila.com](mailto:PIDCphila@PIDCphila.com)

No images? [Click here](#)



Driving growth to every corner of Philadelphia

**COVID-19 Update for the Philadelphia Business  
Community from our Partners**



## COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update for the Philadelphia Business Community

The City of Philadelphia acknowledges the deep concerns surrounding COVID-19 and how it could affect your organization's operations. We share your concerns and recognize the gravity of the situation and how it is affecting businesses of all sizes across the country. The City of Philadelphia continues to focus on the health and safety of the public as we also seek to limit the economic impact of the spread of coronavirus in Philadelphia.

Please know that the Philadelphia Department of Commerce and PIDC are working on a COVID-19 business relief package, and we will share details in the near future. We are asking the business community to **please fill out this [brief survey](#)**, which will help inform us of your most pressing needs.

[COMPLETE THE SURVEY](#)

This is an unprecedented challenge for businesses—large and small—around the country. The situation remains extremely fluid, so please know that we're doing everything in our power to assist the public in navigating through this difficult period.

**Coronavirus:**  
Know the Facts

Please refer to the following resources in the coming days and weeks:

- For updated information and guidance from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, visit [www.phila.gov/COVID-19](http://www.phila.gov/COVID-19). There is a section [specifically dedicated to businesses and nonprofits](#).
- Require sick staff to stay home. Learn more about Philadelphia's [sick leave policies here](#).
- Be vigilant in your washing hands and not touching your face.
- Refer to the [CDC's website](#) for additional information.

Finally, the Office of Business Services at the Department of Commerce stands ready to support businesses. They can be reached via a hotline (215-683-2100) and by email at [business@phila.gov](mailto:business@phila.gov).



1500 Market Street  
Suite 3500 West  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

[Unsubscribe](#)

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## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2020 12:15 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 update...direction for programs including those located in Philadelphia

Hi everyone,

This morning, OCDEL released an updated announcement that answers many of the questions you've been asking, and that I hope to ease your anxiety. I have sent a message to our program representative asking for additional clarification for programs that remain open and provide full-time care to school-age children, and will share that, as well, when I receive it.

### **OCDEL Releases Announcement: ELRC-20 #04 Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement: ELRC-20 #04, Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). The Announcement provides additional information to child care programs participating in Child Care Works (CCW) and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This is an updated policy, providing additional information and replaces ELRC-20 #03.

During this emergency period, child care providers are encountering complex challenges that exceed the scope of normal operations. The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) recognizes that providers may be faced with mandated closure for significant periods of time, or voluntarily close due to COVID-19 impacts. In order to support child care providers through facility closures resulting from COVID-19 impacts, DHS is updating its previously issued guidance involving CCW payments.

Effective March 13, 2020 through April 30, 2020 all CCW payments to child care providers will be made regardless of program operation or reason for closure. In addition, during this time period, child absences will not count toward the annual 40-day limit. CCW payment will not be made based on children's attendance in the program but will be made based on current enrollment.

If child care closes, the ELRC should not suspend children due to the closing of the facility but allow all children who are enrolled in CCW at the time of the closing to remain enrolled. ELRCs may not enroll a child with a new provider under any circumstances. The enrollment must stay with the closed provider.

OCDEL recognizes that families will also be impacted by changes to their own work schedule and income, during child care closures related to COVID-19. Child care providers will not collect the family co-pays for CCW for the period of the closure.

In consultation with DOH and the Governor's Office, these payment practices may be extended to support child care providers' return to full operating capacity.

[Please see the Announcement for additional details.](#)

**The text of the announcement follows:**

**PURPOSE:**

To provide additional information to child care programs participating in Child Care Works and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This is an updated policy, providing additional information and replaces ELRC-20 #03.

**BACKGROUND:**

COVID-19 is active in Pennsylvania. The information about managing COVID-19 is continually being updated. This announcement focuses on the clarification of payments for Pennsylvania's child care subsidy program, Child Care Works (CCW), for the duration of COVID-19.

On March 6, 2020 Governor Wolf signed a Proclamation of Emergency Disaster. The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) is serving as the lead agency to coordinate information at the state and local level.

Information will continue to be shared and disseminated going forward to address questions and concerns that have been brought to our attention. We continue to monitor information from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Guidance developed by DHS will be centrally located on this page, which will be updated as additional guidance becomes available. We encourage you to continue to consult these resources for updates on COVID-19, information on staying healthy, and updates on the situation in Pennsylvania.

PA DOH has routinely shared that Pennsylvanians should be prepared for the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus and is urging continued planning. As a result, child care programs serving children and families enrolled in CCW have inquired whether they would continue to receive CCW payments in the event child care facilities closed due to COVID-19.

On Friday March 13, DHS issued a policy announcement addressing CCW payment in the event child care was mandated to close by the Governor. In times of emergency, the commonwealth strives to support citizens to the greatest extent; therefore, processes and policies are evaluated and updated to be responsive to community needs. As a result, this policy provides further flexibility for CCW payments for child care services.

**DISCUSSION:**

During this emergency period, child care providers are encountering complex challenges that exceed the scope of normal operations. DHS recognizes that providers may be faced with mandated closure for significant periods of time, or voluntarily close due to COVID-19 impacts. In order to support child care providers through facility closures resulting from COVID-19 impacts, the Department is updating its previously issued guidance involving CCW payments.

Effective March 13, 2020 through April 30, 2020 all CCW payments to child care providers will be made regardless of program operation or reason for closure. In addition, during this time period, child absences will not count toward the annual 40-day limit. CCW payment will not be made based on children's attendance in the program but will be made based on current enrollment.

If child care closes, the ELRC should **not** suspend children due to the closing of the facility but allow all children who are enrolled in CCW at the time of the closing to remain enrolled. ELRCs **may not** enroll a child with a new provider under any circumstances. The enrollment must stay with the closed provider.

OCDEL recognizes that families will also be impacted by changes to their own work schedule and income, during child care closures related to COVID-19. Child care providers will not collect the family co-pays for CCW for the period of the closure.

In consultation with DOH and the Governor's Office, these payment practices may be extended to support child care providers' return to full operating capacity.

This updated policy statement replaces in its entirety the recently issued ELRC-20 #03.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Child care programs
  - a. Share with staff completing CCW attendance reporting and invoicing.
  - b. Please direct any questions to your ELRC.

Again, I hope that this helps you in your decision-making process. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I will forward them along.

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

---

**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2020 1:32 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Doing business with ELRC and other resources

Hi everyone,

I realize that there is a great deal of confusion about the Governor having mandated the closure of centers and commercial group child care homes and Philadelphia having deemed child care an essential service. OCDEL is aware of this conflict and will be issuing a clarification. I will send it out when I receive it. In the meantime, please continue to use your best judgment to make decisions for your staff and families. If you choose to close, remember to both 1) let ELRC 18 know (you can just reply to this e-mail), and 2) let the State know by following these directions:

Early learning programs that choose to or are directed to close due to COVID-19 must do the following:

1. Email OCDEL at [RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov) to report that the program is closing due to COVID-19.

2. Use one of the following subject line, as appropriate for the program:

Child Care Closure - < Insert Name of County >

PKC Closure - < Insert Name of County >

HSSAP - < Insert Name of County >

EI Closure - < Insert Name of County >

HV Closure - < Insert Name of County >

3. Include the following information in the email to OCDEL:

a. Program name

b. Program address

c. Program telephone number

d. Number of children enrolled at the program

e. Date of closing

f. Anticipated date of reopening, if known

g. Reason for closure (child/family illness, staff illness, general mitigation efforts)

**NOTE:** If programs have multiple locations or funding streams that are affected by a closure, please list all programs within the body of one email.

## ELRC 18 UPDATES

Effective immediately, all three ELRC 18 offices are closed to the public. Staff are available to assist you Monday through Friday from 8a to 5p. You can reach us in any of the following ways:

- By calling (215) 382-4762
- By sending an e-mail to any of our three departments:
  - Eligibility: [ELRC-Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC-Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org) *(please note that there was a typo when we initially published this e-mail address)*
  - Provider/STARS: [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org)
  - Fiscal: [ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org)
- We also have a drop box located at each of our three offices if you need to hand deliver any documents.
  - 2363-2371 Welsh Road - 19114
  - 1701 W. Lehigh Ave., Suite 2102-2103 – 19132

- 5548 Chestnut St., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor - 19139

As you can imagine, this is a rapidly changing situation. We will keep our website ([www.PhiladelphiaELRC18.org](http://www.PhiladelphiaELRC18.org)) and our telephone greeting updated with any changes.

Additional notes:

- We are not doing any face-to-face meetings (client or provider).
- We are not confirming any enrollments (new or transfers) at this time.
- Parents are encouraged to continue to apply for subsidy and submit redeterminations online at COMPASS.
- There are still several questions that are pending answers from OCDEL. As soon as we have them, I will share them with you.

## **From Certification**

- **Waiver Request** - The Department of Human Services, recognizes the temporary closure of child care facilities is a burden for all Pennsylvania families who depend on this service. Because it is especially burdensome for essential services personnel such as health care workers, first responders, direct health care staff and long term care facility staff who must have safe and stable care options for their children to report to work, OCDEL has implemented a waiver process for child care facilities serving these families. Operators seeking a waiver from the commonwealth's temporary closure order should contact OCDEL at [RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov) . Child Care Certification staff will respond to requests as quickly as possible. Email subject line should read, "Waiver Request – (insert county name)".
- **Regarding the Provisional Hire Waiver Application** - If you plan to submit a provisional hire waiver please do so by sending an email to the RA account [RA-PWDRACERT@PA.GOV](mailto:RA-PWDRACERT@PA.GOV) and not through postal mail or fax as Commonwealth employees who work in Dauphin County and the Capitol Complex will not be working in the office beginning March 16, 2020 and extending for a period of 14 days.
- **Certification has temporarily tabled annual inspections**, though staff are still fielding complaints.

## **First Up Launches COVID-19 Resources Website**

Dear First Up Community,

I hope this note finds you well, taking good care of yourself, and your loved ones.

As our lives are being affected by this novel coronavirus (COVID-19), I am struck by the fact that we are living through unusual times - and the news is changing faster than we can process it. None of us know how it will all play out - or by when.

The good news is, we are in this together and we will get through this, like we have gotten through everything else before. Challenges also have a way of bringing out the best in some people in our communities. As one of our own ECE Champions once said: *When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'* - Mister Rogers. Many of us have already seen some incredible helpers out there.

At First Up we are committed to making sure you have what you need when you need it - that during this time of change and uncertainty, you are not scrambling around looking for what's necessary. We have created a [webpage](#) with important information from central resources related to ECE needs and concerns:

- resources for families, such as activities to do at home, community resources, information on how to talk with your child
- updates by county, so you can be clear about the situation regarding ECE in your own county
- [OCDEL](#), including the latest information on closing requirements, CCIS payments, etc.
- [NAEYC](#), including their statement on how essential child care is in these unprecedented times

- [PA Department of Health](#), including up-to-date information about the outbreak in Pennsylvania
- [Unemployment compensation](#), including the groups of people who might be eligible and the procedures for applying
- [CDC](#), information about how to protect yourself and your loved ones, and what to do if you think you are sick

We are committed to keeping these resources in an easy to find central location on our website right here: [www.firstup.org/covid-19/](http://www.firstup.org/covid-19/)

We will continue to update the [website](#) as the situation develops. We'll soon be posting Virtual PD workshops and Community of Practice sessions available to you.

Please [stay in touch](#) and let us know what else you need from us - and what you're dealing with in your respective centers and situations. We are continuing our advocacy work and making recommendations to local and state governments through this ever-evolving situation.

Do not forget to bookmark [this page](#) and share it with others. Follow us on our social media platforms, [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for up-to-date information.

Warmest Regards and Stay Safe,

Carol Austin

### **FC3 \$200 Grant for a family provider**

During this national crisis FC3 has the opportunity to offer a small financial relief grant to 1 family provider. The grant is for \$200.

To apply for the grant you must

1. Hold a full DHS certification
2. Be a member of FC3 (Please note: If you are not a member you can purchase the membership in advance of submitting your application.)
3. Write a 500 word essay answering the following question: How are you committed to advancing the field as a family provider?

All applications must be submitted [to:latonta@fc3philly.org](mailto:latonta@fc3philly.org) by 5 pm Friday March 20th.

Be sure to submit a copy of your current DHS certificate along with a cover page that includes

The program name

Contact name and email

Location

And the essay

### **PSAYDN Needs Feedback from Afterschool Programs**

Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network requests afterschool programs to please complete this short survey to let us know about your current situation and what kinds of supports might benefit your program during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic. If you are able to respond by March 18, 2020, PSAYDN will share information in virtual meetings with federal legislators taking place that day. Please respond to the survey at

<http://www.psaydn.org/covid-19/>

Last but not least, please share this list of [Free Meals and Safe Spaces for Children in Philadelphia](#) with families.

## Diane Getzinger

---

**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Clarification about mandatory closures

Hi everyone,

We just received the following communication from the City of Philadelphia's Office of Early Childhood Education:

Updating you all on the most recent order by the City of Philadelphia, and waivers for Philly. **Child day care facilities are non-essential business, unless they obtain a waiver to operate from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the City of Philadelphia.** See Page 4 (Section 3; B) here: <https://www.phila.gov/media/20200317124459/Order-and-Explanation-of-Prohibition-on-Non-Essential-Businesses.pdf>

I have also received lots of calls and e-mails from family child care providers. Please note that family child care homes and residential group homes are not mandated to be closed at this time. You can, and should, make decisions that are in the best interest of your families and staff and can, therefore, choose to close if necessary.

Again, programs will receive their full subsidy reimbursement (based on last week's enrollment) until at least April 30<sup>th</sup>. This is true whether you are open or closed – mandatory or by choice.

Here, again, is the information if you need to apply for a waiver to remain open:

- **Waiver Request** - The Department of Human Services, recognizes the temporary closure of child care facilities is a burden for all Pennsylvania families who depend on this service. Because it is especially burdensome for essential services personnel such as health care workers, first responders, direct health care staff and long term care facility staff who must have safe and stable care options for their children to report to work, OCDEL has implemented a waiver process for child care facilities serving these families. Operators seeking a waiver from the commonwealth's temporary closure order should contact OCDEL at [RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov). Child Care Certification staff will respond to requests as quickly as possible. Email subject line should read, "Waiver Request – (insert county name)".

Lastly, as a reminder, if you close, please be sure to both 1) let ELRC 18 know (you can just reply to this e-mail), and 2) let the State know by following these directions:

Early learning programs that choose to or are directed to close due to COVID-19 must do the following:

1. Email OCDEL at [RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov) to report that the program is closing due to COVID-19.

2. Use one of the following subject line, as appropriate for the program:

Child Care Closure - < Insert Name of County >

PKC Closure - < Insert Name of County >

HSSAP - < Insert Name of County >

EI Closure - < Insert Name of County >

HV Closure - < Insert Name of County >

3. Include the following information in the email to OCDEL:

a. Program name

- b. Program address
- c. Program telephone number
- d. Number of children enrolled at the program
- e. Date of closing
- f. Anticipated date of reopening, if known
- g. Reason for closure (child/family illness, staff illness, general mitigation efforts)

**NOTE:** If programs have multiple locations or funding streams that are affected by a closure, please list all programs within the body of one email.

I realize that there are still questions around the co-payment and reimbursement for full-time care for school-age children, as well as how to fill out you invoice for March, and will share that information as soon as I have it.

Thanks for all of your cooperation and patience, and please reach out if we can be of assistance. Be well!!

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

---

**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 11:20 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Updates and resources

Hi everyone,

I have just a couple of important updates and reminders for you tonight, and then wanted to share some resources and opportunities. When I started to see these coming in today, they brought me a sense of assurance that we will be able to move beyond this (whatever “this” winds up being), because we’ll do it together. I hope you have the same reaction!

### ELRC18 Updates

- All provider payments for February have been processed. If you receive an ACH payment (direct deposit), you should see it in your account tomorrow or on the 20<sup>th</sup>. All paper checks were mailed by the end of today’s workday. If you have questions about your payment, please contact our finance department at [ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org) or by calling (215) 382-4762 ext. 2206.
- We are awaiting release of the new Keystone STARS Standards that go into effect July 1, 2020. Although I do not yet have details to share with you, I did want to let you know that the **proposed higher staff qualifications that were to take effect July 1, 2020 have been postponed**. *Informing this decision was feedback received from the field as well as the need to gather more PA workforce data. While such data is now being captured in the PD Registry, additional workforce data is needed to inform policy decisions. Thus, OCDEL has decided to maintain current Staff Qualifications requirements with changes only to incorporate the Career Pathway language into the quality indicators. The new Keystone STARS Standards will not include an Appendix A but rather a copy of the PA Early Childhood Education Career Pathway.*

### Waiver Update

As I hope you are all now aware, Governor Wolf has mandated the closure of child care centers and commercial group child care programs. (Note: This requirement does not apply to family child care homes or residential group homes at this time. Although you may choose to close, you do not need a waiver to remain open at this time.) In Philadelphia County, there is a two-step approval process to be granted a waiver:

1. **You must first get approval from the state** - The Department of Human Services recognizes the temporary closure of child care facilities is a burden for all Pennsylvania families who depend on this service. Because it is especially burdensome for essential services personnel such as health care workers, first responders, direct health care staff and long term care facility staff who must have safe and stable care options for their children to report to work, OCDEL has implemented a waiver process for child care facilities serving these families. Operators seeking a waiver from the commonwealth’s temporary closure order should contact OCDEL at [RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov). Child Care Certification staff will respond to requests as quickly as possible. Your email subject line should read, “Waiver Request – Philadelphia County”. (Be sure to include information about your program in the body of the email to streamline the approval process.)
2. **The state then sends approved waivers to the Mayor’s Office of Education**. Staff in the Mayor’s Office will follow-up with programs that were granted a waiver by the state. They will send you a link to a more detailed information sheet. You must return this information sheet in order to be considered for waiver approval from the Mayor’s Office of Education. They will only approve sites that will serve:
  - a. Children of medical, police, fire, and essential city employees
  - b. Children of all other essential services ([list here](#))
3. **You must wait for approval from the Mayor’s Office before reopening your center.**

## **Other COVID-19 Resources**

Please remember that our good friends at First Up have created a comprehensive resource page to help you with a wide variety of reliable resources to help you understand and navigate the COVID-19 crisis - <https://www.firstup.org/covid-19/>. Please be sure to bookmark it and visit it regularly for updates or when looking for information.

## **PD Webinars from First Up...**

First Up has made it a priority to be a resource to assist the ECE community during this unsettling time. We have received numerous requests to provide professional development webinars from our partners. We have been able to schedule 64 hours of PQAS training beginning tomorrow (Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>). Please see [this flyer](#) for details! We have some free opportunities along with some additional webinars that we are charging a nominal fee.

## **Webinars for supporting ECE professionals during COVID**

### **Head Start:**

*If you cannot make these live webinars, just register now and you will be sent a link to the recording after the webinar ends.*

- [Responding to the Challenges of COVID-19 Webinar](#) - March 18 @ 12pm - 1pm
- [Being Your Own Emergency First Responder: Leaders Managing the Stress of Working in Response to COVID-19](#) - March 19 @ 10a – 11a
- [Help! What Can We Do? Emergency Response Strategies for Early Childhood Educators Supporting Children and Families During COVID-19](#) - March 19 @ 12pm - 1pm

### **From Early Childhood Investigations:**

*If you can't make the live webinar, just register now and you will get a link to the recording.*

- [Bracing for COVID-19: What Early Childhood Programs Need to Know and Consider Now, by Julie Looper Coats, M.A., Jessica Rose-Malm, M.A. and Tom Copeland](#) - March 20 @ 2p

## **Children's Village presents a variety of PD Opportunities in May and June**

There's something for EVERYONE:

- Diversity, Infant/Toddler, and STEM Mini-conferences;
- Two days fill with a wide range of professional development opportunities, and
- YES! – the popular Beginner Business Administration Series (one for center directors and one for family child care owners)

Check out [the flyers](#) for details and registration information!

## **Fire Safety Inspections**

Remember the good ole' days when the hot topic in ECE circles was Certification's new focus on testing your fire detection equipment? Me, too! 😊

Seriously, please take a minute to review the appropriate March 4<sup>th</sup> cover letter and links to fact sheets - which are available in English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Russian, Khmer (Cambodian) and French:

- [Family Child Care – Fire Safety cover letter](#)
- [Commercial Centers – Fire Safety cover letter](#)

## **From PHMC PDO**

Connect today with an ECE and IHE Coordinator! Our team is available to support you with your Career Pathway needs. Coordinators can meet virtually or by phone to provide services and supports. Visit our [website](#) for more information on the ECE PDO at PHMC.

## Online CDA Funding - Deadline March 31, 2020 - Register NOW!

### Eligibility:

- The program is for regions of [ELRC 15 \(Delaware Co.\)](#) , [16 \(Bucks Co.\)](#), [17 \(Montgomery Co.\)](#), [18 \(Philadelphia Co.\)](#) or [19 \(Chester Co.\)](#). Participant MUST be a PA resident.
- The program holds a current full Certificate of Compliance from the PA Department of Human Services
- Participants must create a profile in the [PA PD Registry](#) website before enrolling <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/aMdrCBB292FVGJJI7odAT> and provide their PA PD Registry ID.
- Class is limited to 15 students online. Courses applicable to the [AAS ECE Degree](#) at NCC

### Online CDA Program

- Late Spring 2020 semester - starts April 7, 2020
- \$120.00 for the program (9 college credits)
- Credits apply to the AAS Degree, and also meet credentialing requirements with [The Council for Professional Recognition](#).
- Infant/Toddler and/or Preschool
- Must be working with age group 10-15 hrs a week
- 8-10 hours of online work per week, programs ends November 17, 2020
- Attend FULLY online!

Click [here](#) for costs and further enrollment information

## Shared Services Opportunities Workgroup

Join Get Healthy Philly's new [Shared Services Opportunities workgroup](#) to explore strategies related to reducing costs and increasing efficiency while building healthy practices in your program.

1. **Description** - Time-limited convening to share successful strategies and assess whether shared services (e.g., group purchasing, local food procurement, administrative oversight, and record keeping strategies) can improve the food environment. Participants could include CACFP and non-CACFP providers. GHP will staff and manage. If applicable, pilot implementation of recommendations will take place in the next year.
2. **Frequency** – Providers will be asked to attend three workgroup meetings (around 3 hours each) to identify, explore, and brainstorm potential shared services. Throughout this process, the workgroup will determine if shared services in this area are/could be useful. If determined useful, we will pilot implementation of shared services.
3. **Timeline of meetings/pilot implementation** – Meetings will begin late winter and run through early – mid spring (tentatively late March – early June)
4. **What will providers receive** – Stipends for time and participation (\$675 for full participation in meetings), participation in pilot of shared services (if determined useful), connections with additional resources for nutrition/CACFP related services.

To reserve your spot, contact Shannon Wise at 215-685-5233 or [Shannon.Dryden@phila.gov](mailto:Shannon.Dryden@phila.gov). Please also complete the [Shared Services Opportunities Workgroup Form](#) to submit your information.

## 2020 Grants Available Through the Philadelphia Foundation

The Philadelphia Foundation is pleased to announce their first round of 2020 grants and their application deadlines. Additional grant opportunities will be posted soon on their [website](#). All programs seeking support should positively impact high poverty populations. There will be opportunity for multi-year support in select grant categories.

### Direct Service Unrestricted Discretionary Grants

- Available on a competitive basis for well-run, direct-service nonprofits that connect those they serve to multiple resources.
- Open to nonprofits with budgets under \$10 million
- Application deadline 5 p.m. Monday, April 6. Funding decisions announced the week of June 1.

- [Download the application.](#)

#### **Fund for Children Strategic Investment in Youth Grants**

- Available to organizations that successfully engage youth to become analytical decision makers and action-oriented leaders who are post-secondary and/or workforce ready. [Learn more.](#)
- Next cycle of applications for May 2020 grants due Wed., April 8. Final cycle for Nov. 2020 grants due Oct. 5.
- [Download the application.](#)

#### **Free Capacity Building Support**

- Available to all Greater Philadelphia nonprofits at no cost.
- Organizations can expand their capacity in such areas as marketing, web development, operations, strategy and more through a partnership with pro bono talent.
- [Learn more.](#) [Register.](#)

#### **Additional Grants**

- Processes will remain the same in 2020 for Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial and special initiative grants supported through our donors.
- Information on these opportunities is shared through eblasts, social media and on our web site under [special initiative grants.](#)

Questions? [Contact them.](#)

### **Integrated Pest Management in Childcare Facilities – Did you know???**

- If you're not familiar with Integrated Pest Management, please take a minute to review this important [fact sheet!](#) Learn how to make your facility free from exposure to unnecessary pesticides, and oh yeah...comply with Pennsylvania law! When you're ready to learn more, check out the [IPM for Pennsylvania Schools and Childcares: A How-to Manual.](#) And for even MORE, check out these resources from the NE IPM Center:
  - [School IPM Best Practices](#)
  - [School IPM Working Group Resources](#)
  - [Brochure about the website](#)

### **Do you ECERS-3?**

#### **New information available! ECERS-3 Additional Notes for Clarification**

Additional Notes for Clarification have been released for the ECERS-3 and will impact the PA Key PQA Team's use of the ECERS-3. If you aren't already familiar with ERS Notes for Clarification, they provide additional detail to help the assessor determine if the expectations of an indicator were fully met during the observation. Notes for Clarification can be found in the actual scale books, but **Additional** Notes for Clarification are added based on questions from the field and new learning about child development and classroom practices that support high-quality experiences for children. Additional Notes for Clarification, also developed by the authors of the scales, are found on the [www.ersi.info](http://www.ersi.info) website – click on the ECERS-3 Quick Link on the left side of the Home page.

### **Smithsonian Offering Free New Resource**

Smithsonian's Open Access Platform is bucking the tide of paid and advertised content in a huge way and includes resources for lesson plan development. From a standpoint of respecting children, valuing beauty, and promoting STEAM thinking, this is an important new resource for educators. Here's how Smithsonian describes their offering: **"Welcome to Smithsonian Open Access,** where you can download, share, and reuse millions of the Smithsonian's images—right now, without asking. With new platforms and tools, you have easier access to nearly 3 million 2D and 3D digital items from our collections—with many more to come. This includes images and data from across the Smithsonian's 19 museums, nine research centers, libraries, archives, and the National Zoo." And here's the link: <https://www.si.edu/openaccess>

### **NAEYC Releases the Unifying Framework for the Early Childhood Education Profession-Recording Now Available**

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit NAEYC's website to view the recording of the National Power to the Profession's Task Force release of the *Unifying Framework* via webinar that took place on March 9th. The *Unifying Framework* incorporates the

recommendations from all eight decision cycles, including changes in educator roles and responsibilities, aligned preparation and pathways, professional compensation, and a supportive infrastructure with shared accountability. It also calls for significant increases in federal and state investments to help ensure the 40 million U.S. children, birth to age 8, are well-served by an effective, diverse, and fairly compensated workforce of professionals.

### **Week of the Young Child – April 11-17, 2020**

I know it seems impossible to think about now, but Week of the Young Child is right around the corner (April 11<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>). Why not take a break from the madness and think about some fun ways to celebrate this special time and all that you do for young children and their families! Here's NAEYC's resource page for WOYC -

<https://www.naeyc.org/events/woyc/plan-your-event>. Music Monday ... Tasty Tuesday ... Work Together Wednesday ... Artsy Thursday ... Family Friday... LET'S DO THIS!!!

Lastly, I really want to take a moment to thank you for so many really lovely comments and expressions of appreciation over the last couple of weeks. I feel very fortunate (most days ☺) to be able to work with the truly remarkable Philadelphia ECE Community – providers, advocates, funders and other stakeholders. At the beginning of this e-mail, when I wrote that we would get through this **together**, I truly meant it! Please continue to support one another and reach out for support and help locating resources and information to help Philadelphia's children and families, and...TAKE GOOD CARE!

Warmly (but not because of a fever or anything ☺),  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2020 12:32 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 updates

Hi everyone,

I want to share two important updates that we received this morning that substantially change information that I previously shared.

- Even for emergency personnel who receive subsidy, we cannot approve a transfer or pay a second provider for care that they may need during this time. We will continue to assist emergency service personnel with locating child care programs that remain open during the COVID-19 crisis, but they will need to pay for this care out-of-pocket. To date, we have not approved any such enrollments, so no providers should have been expecting ELRC 18 to reimburse them for new enrollments.
- If you are open during the crisis, you should collect co-payments from families attending your program. If a family does not attend or you are closed, you should not collect co-payments.

I am sending this update as a result of an announcement that was sent on Certification's listserv earlier this morning:

### **Announcement: ELRC-20#05 REVISED, Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released [Announcement: ELRC-20#05 REVISED, Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

The Announcement states:

During this emergency period, child care providers are encountering complex challenges that exceed the scope of normal operations. DHS recognizes that providers may be faced with mandated closure for significant periods of time, or voluntarily close due to COVID-19 impacts. In order to support child care providers through facility closures resulting from COVID-19 impacts, the Department is updating its previously issued guidance involving CCW payments.

Effective March 13, 2020, through April 30, 2020, all Child Care Works (CCW) payments to child care providers will be made regardless of program operation or reason for closure. In addition, during this time period, child absences will not count toward the annual 40-day limit. CCW payment will not be made based on children's attendance in the program but will be made based on current enrollment.

If child care closes, the Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) should not suspend children due to the closing of the facility but allow all children who are enrolled in CCW at the time of the closing to remain enrolled. ELRCs may not enroll a child with a new provider under any circumstances. The enrollment must stay with the closed provider.

OCDEL recognizes that families will also be impacted by changes to their own work schedule and income, during child care closures related to COVID-19. Child care providers will not collect the family copays for CCW for the period of the closure. If a provider continues to operate under a waiver or as a group or family child care home in a residential setting, the provider may collect copayments from families whose children are actually in care. A

provider who remains open may not collect the copayment from families whose children are not currently receiving care.

In consultation with Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) and the Governor's Office, these payment practices may be extended to support child care providers' return to full operating capacity.

This updated policy statement replaces in its entirety the recently issued ELRC-20 #03.

For additional details, please see [Announcement: ELRC-20#05 REVISED, Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

We continue to await answers to your other questions (i.e. full-time reimbursement for school-age children, how to mark your attendance invoices for March, etc.). When I receive answers from OCDEL, I will be sure to send another e-bulletin.

I also wanted to share some other important resources that have come in:

### **New Locations and Schedule for free student meals**

The City of Philadelphia, School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Housing Authority, and several charter schools have created a [new list](#) of schools and community sites providing free meals for children and youth. Student meal sites and schedules will change beginning Monday, March 23. In addition, Parks & Recreation sites are no longer distributing student meals.

Please share this information widely:

[Blog: Find free meals for students while schools are closed](#)

[Map: Where to find free meals for students](#)

### **District schools - Open Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m. – noon**

Families will receive six meals per student—3 breakfasts and 3 lunches

### **ECMH Services for Providers Open During COVID-19**

(From the PA Key website)

ARE YOU A CHILD CARE PROGRAM THAT HAS RECEIVED A WAIVER TO REMAIN OPEN TO SERVE ESSENTIAL AND FIRST RESPONDER FAMILIES? THE INFANT/EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH (IECMH) CONSULTATION TEAM IS OFFERING SUPPORT DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME VIA DISTANCE TECHNOLOGY. IECMH CONSULTANTS ARE PREPARED TO "HOLD SPACE" FOR YOUR CONCERNS, GENERATE IDEAS ON THE BEST WAYS TO SUPPORT STAFF, FAMILIES AND CHILDREN, AS WELL AS SHARE RESOURCES THAT MAY BE HELPFUL TO CREATE A HEALTHY CLIMATE IN YOUR PROGRAMS. PLEASE CONNECT VIA EMAIL, [PAIECMH@PAKEYS.ORG](mailto:PAIECMH@PAKEYS.ORG), SO WE CAN CONNECT YOU WITH A IECMH CONSULTANT IN YOUR AREA.

### **Some updates about unemployment**

(Shared by a Children's Village board member who is a lawyer)

I wanted to share some guidance on the unemployment tax side - businesses that are temporarily closed because if COVID-19 will be granted relief from these charges and will not be subject to a tax rate increase.

PA is recommending that employees exhaust all paid leave provided by their employer before filing for unemployment.

In addition, PA is waiving the first week waiting period for receiving benefits.

<https://www.uc.pa.gov/COVID-19/Pages/Employer-COVID19-FAQs.aspx>

### **Come to the Next SEPECC General Meeting**

The next SEPECC general meeting is on **Tuesday, March 24** from **9:00 - 11:00 am**. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. Participants can join the meeting by following this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/275013232>. We want to focus on your needs during this unexpected time of crisis. In addition to partner updates, the meeting format will

provide opportunity for members to connect with colleagues, share information, exchange ideas and be supported with updates from OCDEL. Diane Getzinger from ELRC-18 will present the most recent information for the field. If you have specific questions or concerns you'd like her to address, please email [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org). If you do not have a Zoom account, please join the meeting about 10 minutes early to download Zoom and create an account. And, if you are not familiar with using Zoom, watching this 4-minute video may be beneficial <https://youtu.be/h-WNTIPljHo>

That's all for now. I again want to apologize for any misinformation I may have shared regarding subsidy for essential personnel and collecting co-payments and again assure you that when we receive answers from OCDEL to your many questions, I will be sure to send them out.

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 24, 2020 8:48 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID 19 update

Happy Monday evening, everyone,

I have LOTS to share with you tonight – the much-anticipated answers to many of your questions from OCDEL, updated closure directions from Certification, and even a few exciting opportunities and some fun stuff at the end...

### **COVID-19 Subsidy Q&A**

**Please be sure to read this carefully** and let me know if you have any questions about what any of it means – for you or your families! Also, there are still a few outstanding questions that the state is still working on.

#### **Provider Payments**

- Should the ELRC make all subsidy payments based on current enrollments only (not attendance) as of March 13 until April 30<sup>th</sup> for all providers regardless if the provider is open or closed, or their type of provider?  
*Subsidy payments to regulated providers (Centers, Group Homes and Family Child Care Homes) should be made based on enrollments effective March 13 whether a provider is closed or remains open.*
- If a provider is closed and has been directed not to collect the co-payment, is the Department making up the copay portion in payment to the provider?  
*The Department will not make up the copay portion of the payment. The Department will only pay the portion the Department usually pays.*
- If a parent chooses not to send their child to a provider who is open and able to provide care, should the ELRC suspend care based on the parent/caretaker's choice to not use care or should the enrollment continue so the provider can be paid?  
*The ELRC should not suspend enrollments at this time so that payments can be calculated as accurately as possible from March 13 through the end of April.*
- Should the ELRC pay full attendance for the entire month of March or should absences be tracked through March 13?  
*Absences should be tracked through March 13, and subsidy payments will be based on attendance up to that point. (This means that when you complete your attendance invoice – paper or online, you should record attendance ONLY through March 13. Please do NOT enter absences or closures after March 13 – regardless of whether your program was open or closed!)*

#### **Co-payments**

- Can a provider who is open collect the copayment from families whose children are not attending?  
*Providers who are closed have been directed to not collect the copayment. If a provider is open and providing care, the provider may collect the copayment from families whose children are attending. If a child is enrolled with a provider that is open, but the child is not attending, the provider may not collect the copayment during this time.*

- What if a provider was open on Monday, March 16, prior to being ordered to close and already collected the copayment for the week?  
*If the provider provided service on Monday, the provider can keep the copayment. If the child was not scheduled to attend on Monday and the copayment was not due until later in the week, the provider should not collect the copayment. If the copayment was due on Monday and the family did not pay the copayment, the provider can report the delinquent copayment to the ELRC, but at this time, the ELRC should not send an Adverse Action Notice.*
- Can a provider collect the difference between the Department's payment and the provider's private pay rate, minus the co-payment, if the provider is closed?  
*No.*
- Should parents report loss of income/employment to the ELRC during this crisis in order to reduce their copayments?  
*In between redeterminations, copayments should not be decreased for families whose children are not in care. The family is currently not paying the copayment, so there is not a need to decrease the copayment. In between redeterminations, copayments can be decreased for families whose children are currently in care, if the parent/caretaker requests the decrease and provides verification that there is a decrease in income. This is important because these families are actually paying the copayment. At redetermination, copays should be increased or decreased appropriately for all families regardless if children are in care. If the parent/caretaker is not working at redetermination due to COVID-19 issues, the ELRC should allow presumptive eligibility for 92 days (as stated in the FAQ document) and reduce the copayment based on usual policy. If the p/c is working at the end of the 92 days, the copayment can be adjusted to reflect the actual income at that time. We anticipate ELRCs may ask what happens if the parent/caretaker is not working at the end of the 92 day presumptive eligibility period. The answer is 'we will make decisions about that if we get to that point.'*

### **Eligibility**

- As COVID-19 closures/restrictions become longer, parents/caretakers may not have current pay/income verification to submit at redetermination. Will the ELRC be allowed to accept older paystubs/income verification?  
*To the extent possible, redeterminations should be processed timely. If the parent/caregiver is not working at the time of redetermination, the ELRC should allow presumptive eligibility for 92 days, regardless if the parent/caregiver has a job to return to. If the family completed the redetermination and is determined not eligible because they are over income, the ELRC should send the adverse action and end eligibility. If the redetermination cannot be processed timely because the family cannot provide verification, the ELRC should work with the family to get the information and the redetermination can be extended without penalty to the ELRC.*

### **Enrollments**

- Should the ELRC extend suspensions for children who were already in suspension or should those children be taken out of suspension and enrolled?  
*If care is not needed, the child should remain in suspended status. If the parent/caretaker is working and in need of care, ,and the provider is open, the child can be taken out of suspension in order to pay the provider.*
- How are current pre-enrollments and enrollments to be managed regarding face-to-face meetings and the requirement to enroll within 30 days?  
*Video conferencing or telephone calls can be substituted for the face-to-face meeting. If a family knows what provider they want to enroll the child with and the provider is open, the child can be enrolled. If*

*the family does not have a provider, the child can stay in authorized status with no penalty to the family or the ELRC.*

- Can a child who is pre-enrolled or suspended for summer care only in PELICAN enroll now at a provider who is open and willing to take children since schools are closed? If yes, should the ELRC enroll at a full-time (FT), part-time (PT) or blended rate?  
*Yes, the child can be enrolled now at either a FT or PT rate depending on the amount of care needed.*
- Should the ELRC stop all new enrollments and transfers of any children to other childcare providers?  
*If a family knows what provider they want to enroll the child with and the provider is open, the child can be enrolled. If the family does not have a provider, the child can stay in authorized status with no penalty to the family or the ELRC.*
- If the ELRC cannot transfer an enrollment because the enrollment must stay with the closed provider, can dual enrollments be entered for a child if the parent/caretaker needs care in order to work?  
*The ELRC should not pay two different providers for the same timeframe. Enrollments cannot be transferred. The enrollment should stay with the original provider through the duration of the emergency.*
- Should the ELRC increase days and hours of care if the parent/caretaker requests an increase? Is the ELRC permitted to change a child's schedule?  
*If a provider is closed, there should be no increase or decrease to the days/hours of care. The enrollment should be effective March 13, 2020. If the provider is open and the parent's/caretaker's work hours increase, the days/hours can be increased to reflect the parent's/caretaker's work schedule.*
- Should the ELRC continue to pull from the wait list and enroll new CCW children, if funds are available?  
*The ELRC can continue to enroll with open providers if funds are available.*

### **Miscellaneous**

- Can childcare workers apply for unemployment compensation if childcare providers continue to receive subsidized childcare payments?  
*Any childcare workers whose hours are curtailed due to the COVID-19 situation is able to file for unemployment. Eligibility for unemployment is determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.*

### **Important Update re: Closures/Waivers**

Earlier today OCDEL issued a clarification regarding program closures/waivers. While I reprinted the directions for reporting a closure here, please note that the only change is paragraph in red type at the bottom!

Early learning programs that choose to or are directed to close due to COVID-19 must do the following:

1. Email OCDEL at [RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov) to report that the program is closing due to COVID-19.
2. Use one of the following subject line, as appropriate for the program:

Child Care Closure - < Insert Name of County >

PKC Closure - < Insert Name of County >

HSSAP - < Insert Name of County >

EI Closure - < Insert Name of County >

HV Closure - < Insert Name of County >

3. Include the following information in the email to OCDEL:
  - a. Program name
  - b. Program address
  - c. Program telephone number
  - d. Number of children enrolled at the program
  - e. Date of closing
  - f. Anticipated date of reopening, if known
  - g. Reason for closure (child/family illness, staff illness, general mitigation efforts)

**NOTE:** If programs have multiple locations or funding streams that are affected by a closure, please list all programs within the body of one email.

**NOTE:** Programs that were operating with an approved waiver but have decided to close should report the closure using the process above. If you report a closure and later you decide to extend the closure beyond your originally anticipated date of reopening, **you do not need to send a second notification regarding your closure.** To ensure timely processing of this information, please submit only one email with the above information. Do not use this email to submit questions or comments. If you have questions, please contact your certification representative.

### **DHS Licensing Message – from Friday, March 20, 2020**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) is committed to serving vulnerable populations every day, and that commitment will not waiver in the face of an emergency. In order to assure protection of those who are in a DHS licensed setting, staff in DHS licensed settings and our DHS licensing staff, DHS will be taking steps to address the current situation. This communication applies to all facilities licensed by the DHS and includes the following program offices:

- a. Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)
  - b. Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF)
  - c. **Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)**
  - d. Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)
  - e. Office of Long-Term Living/Bureau of Human Service Licensing (BHSL)
1. From March 16<sup>th</sup> to March 30<sup>th</sup>, DHS will not be conducting any annual licensing inspections. Any inspections scheduled for this timeframe will be completed as soon as possible once normal operations resume.
  2. Licensing staff will continue to conduct on-site investigations for any serious incident or complaint during this time period.
  3. If a facility currently has a provisional license or its revoked license is under appeal, an on-site visit may occur as necessary during this time.
  4. Currently, DHS is not able to send out annual license renewals. As such, if during this time you would have received a renewed license packet then your existing license is still valid.
  5. As previously announced, childcare centers and group childcare homes located outside of a residence must close unless they have applied for a waiver to continue to operate. Group childcare homes located in a residence and family childcare homes may choose to operate without a waiver or may voluntarily close.
  6. In the coming days, DHS will be issuing guidance on specific regulations that will be suspended under the authority of the Governor’s Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued on March 6, 2020, to help

providers in dealing with the current emergency and maintain a healthy environment for those they serve and their employees.

7. DHS is currently and will continue to evaluate future needs and plans for how we will conduct licensing and will support those we license. As we develop this future guidance, we will keep you informed.
8. As you have questions on any issues, please contact your regional office licensing representative. DHS staff continue to work during this time period, and you should contact the regional office using their phone number or email.
9. In addition to following the protocol at the Department of Health's website (<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>), if a facility has a person diagnosed with COVID-19, it needs to be reported to your licensing regional offices.

## **Philadelphia COVID-19 Small Business Fund**

Below is the information about the new [Philadelphia COVID-19 Small Business Fund](#). It is designed to provide immediate relief – in the form of grants and zero-interest loans - to Philadelphia businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19.

The goals of the fund include:

- Helping small businesses survive the COVID-19 crisis
- Retaining employment and helping small businesses continue to pay employees
- Helping businesses avoid predatory lenders
- Maintaining the provision of goods and services for Philadelphia's residents

[Click here for application.](#)

## **Essential services hiring talent in Philadelphia region**

Employers in the region are hiring essential workers. Please visit <http://phlcouncil.com/businesses-hiring-philly-covid19/> for a list of employers and more information.

## **Brief Summary Of New Federal Coronavirus Relief Laws**

*(From Rue Insurance)*

On March 18th, President Trump signed significant legislation to assist employees affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. There is much confusion regarding this legislation, so we have put together a brief summary of the key provisions. This summary is not exhaustive nor should it be construed as legal advice. Please consult an employment attorney for answers to specific situations.

### **Two Key Legislative Acts**

1. Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act
2. Emergency Sick Pay Act

### **Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act**

- Applies to all employers with fewer than 500 employees, regardless of whether or not current FMLA provisions apply
- Allows employees who have worked for their current employer for at least the previous 30 calendar days to take paid FMLA leave
- Covered employees may take up to 12 weeks of FMLA leave if they are unable to work (or telework) because they must care for a son or daughter under 18 years of age. The reason for care must be due

to the closing of the child's elementary or high school or place of care due to a declared COVID-19 public health emergency

- Employers are not required to pay employees for the first 10 days, but employees may use accrued vacation leave, personal leave or medical or sick leave for this unpaid leave
- After the first 10 days, the employer must compensate the employee at a rate of at least two-thirds of the employee's regular rate of pay up to a maximum of \$200 per day, and a total compensation maximum of \$10,000
- Standard FMLA provisions regarding job protection and restoration still apply for those with more than 50 employees
- Employers with fewer than 25 employees are not subject to the job restoration requirements in certain circumstances (see Bulletin for further details)
- Employers are entitled to a payroll tax credit up to an amount equal to 100% of qualified leave wages paid

### **Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act**

- Applies to all employers with fewer than 500 employees, regardless of whether or not current FMLA provisions apply
- Allows all employees regardless of the length of their employment with their current employer to take paid sick leave
- All full-time employees are entitled to 80 hours of paid sick time, available for immediate use
- The amount is pro-rated for part-time employees based on an average two-week period
- Reasons for paid sick leave:
  1. Employee is subject to a federal, state or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19
  2. Employee has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to concerns related to COVID-19
  3. Employee is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and is seeking a medical diagnosis
  4. Employee is caring for an individual who is subject to a federal, state or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19, or who has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine
  5. Employee is caring for his or her child if the child's school or place of care has closed, or the child's care provider is unavailable, because of COVID-19 precautions
  6. Employee is experiencing another substantially similar condition
- Employers may not require an employee to use other paid leave before using the paid leave available under this new law
- Employers must pay employees their regular rate of pay up to a daily maximum of \$511 and a total pay cap of \$5,110; if the employee is taking leave for a reason related to their own symptoms of, or exposure to, COVID-19
- Employees who are taking leave to care for family members are only entitled to be paid at two-thirds of their regular pay, subject to a daily cap of \$200 and a total pay cap of \$2,000
- Employers are entitled to a payroll tax credit up to an amount equal to 100% of qualified leave wages paid

### **Little Scientists — Exploring MATH with Infants and Toddlers**

Tuesday, April 7, 2020 - 3–4 p.m.

[Register Online Now!](#)

STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. In this episode, discover the math component of STEAM, including how infants and toddlers explore everyday math concepts during daily routines and interactions. Infant and toddler teachers and family child care providers will learn strategies and

teaching practices that help young children explore math. Discover strategies for using art to encourage math concepts and skills.

Topics for the webinar series include:

- Describing the math component of STEAM, including the importance of early learning environments and interactions that support infants' and toddlers' math exploration
- Identifying strategies and teaching practices that help infants and toddlers explore math concepts and skills
- Describing modifications to learning environments or teaching practices that meet individual children's needs

Target Audience

- Teachers and family child care providers who interact daily with infants and toddlers
- Education managers, coaches, and child development specialists
- Support staff

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2079349/F69AE90570425F5D6A07C1623F7DA34E>

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic. Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdctl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdctl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

## **Lakeshore Learning Offering Free Educational Resources**

Lakeshore Learning's team of educators has created more than 1,000 **free** educational crafts and activities to support learning at home, including customizable templates and more! For those who are facing school closures and are in need of quick and easy activities to supplement children's learning, visit <https://bit.ly/2UjQlrH>.

Lastly, I just want to take a minute to get a little sentimental. On the way home tonight, I heard "Long May You Run" by Neil Young. Okay, I know I just dated myself, but anyway... The lyrics really struck a chord with me (pun intended) and I want to share the first verse and chorus with you:

### **"Long May You Run"**

We've been through  
some things together  
With trunks of memories  
still to come  
We found things to do  
in stormy weather  
Long may you run.

Long may you run.  
Long may you run.  
Although these changes  
have come  
With your chrome heart shining  
in the sun  
Long may you run

Please continue to let me know how we can help you weather this particular storm and long may you run!

Warmest wishes,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 215-382-4762 ext. 2491  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 8:10 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 update (and more)!

Hi everyone,

I'm trying not to send these out too often, but I do have some timely updates for you... (I will say, though, that if you get bored, please be sure to scroll to the very end for the last opportunity!)

### **ELRC 18 Update**

All three ELRC 18 locations remain closed to the public. **Effective immediately, our Chestnut Street and Lehigh Avenue offices are now fully closed and no longer available for drop off.** Parents/caretakers and providers may still drop off documents at 2363 Welsh Road, Monday through Friday 8a-5p. We apologize for any inconvenience and encourage you to fax documents to (215) 382-1199 or email them to the appropriate department:

- **Eligibility:** [Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org)
- **Provider/STARS:** [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org)
- **Fiscal/Finance:** [ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org)

ELRC 18 staff remain available to assist you and your families by e-mail or by calling (215) 382-4762.

### **COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions**

Earlier today, OCDEL issued an updated COVID-19 FAQ to ELRCs. While I shared much of this in Tuesday evening's e-bulletin, I am reprinting it here and including updates/clarifications in **bold red type**. This way, all of the information will be in one place for you. We were also informed today that STARS and Infant/Toddler FAQs would be released soon.

#### **Provider Payments (PP)**

PP-1: Should the ELRC make all subsidy payments based on current enrollments only (not attendance) as of March 13 until April 30th for all providers regardless if the provider is open or closed, or their type of provider (Center, Group, Family)?

*Subsidy payments to regulated providers (Centers, Group Homes and Family Child Care Homes) should be made based on enrollments effective March 13 whether a provider is closed or remains open.*

PP-2: If a provider is closed and has been directed not to collect the co-payment, is the Department making up the copay portion in payment to the provider?

*The Department will not make up the copay portion of the payment. The Department will only pay the portion the Department usually pays.*

PP-3: If a parent chooses not to send their child to a provider who is open and able to provide care, should the ELRC suspend care based on the parent/caretaker's choice to not use care or should the enrollment continue so the provider can be paid?

*The ELRC should not suspend enrollments at this time so that payments can be calculated as accurately as possible from March 13 through the end of April. **ELRC 18 has received questions from providers who have received Adverse Actions and Stop Letters that are effective after March 13, 2020 for some families. Please continue to send these to us for research and correction.***

PP-4: Should the ELRC pay full attendance for the entire month of March or should absences be tracked through March 13?

*Absences should be tracked through March 13, and subsidy payments will be based on attendance up to that point. **OCDEL released a separate announcement today informing ELRCs that it is at our discretion whether or not to require providers to report attendance for March 1-13. ELRC has decided that NO ATTENDANCE FOR MARCH (March 1-31) needs to be recorded. Please note that this is a change from previous direction. It is our hope that this will streamline invoicing both for providers and ELRC staff.***

**PP-5: For out of state providers who are still open, will they also be paid based on enrollment v. attendance? The ELRC will continue to pay out of state providers serving PA CCW children per issued guidance in [ELRC Announcement 20-#05, Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#), as they are with regulated providers.**

**PP-6: If a provider is not charging private-pay families for the time they are closed, will they still receive payment from ELRC for their subsidy children?**

*Providers must be paid based on [ELRC Announcement 20 #05 Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) revised, issued on March 23](#), regardless if the provider is charging private pay families. The Department will pay the amount the Department usually pays based on CCW enrollments as of March 13, 2020.*

**PP-7: Clarification requested on question PP-4: What is the policy if a child reaches 5 days of absences on or before March 13th**

*If the child was in suspension prior to March 13, the child should remain in suspension. If March 13 would have been the sixth day of absence and the child was not yet suspended, the child should not be suspended. The child should remain enrolled in order to pay the provider.*

## **Co-payments (CP)**

CP-1: Can a provider who is open collect the copayment from families whose children are not attending?

*Providers who are closed have been directed to not collect the copayment. If a provider is open and providing care, the provider may collect the copayment from families whose children are attending. If a child is enrolled with a provider that is open, but the child is not attending, the provider may not collect the copayment during this time.*

CP-2: What if a provider was open on Monday, March 16, prior to being ordered to close and already collected the copayment for the week?

*If the provider provided service on Monday, the provider can keep the copayment. If the child was not scheduled to attend on Monday and the copayment was not due until later in the week, the provider should not collect the copayment. If the copayment was due on Monday and the family did not pay the copayment, the provider can report the delinquent copayment to the ELRC, but at this time, the ELRC should not send an Adverse Action Notice.*

CP-3: Can a provider collect the difference between the Department's payment and the provider's private pay rate, minus the co-payment, if the provider is closed?

*No*

CP-4: Can copays decrease during the COVID-19 period, if a client submits verification of reduced income, requesting a lower copay in between redeterminations? Should we hold off on copay increases during the COVID-19 period, or are copay increases at a redetermination processed as normal?

*In between redeterminations, copayments should not be decreased for families whose children are not in care. The family is currently not paying the copayment, so there is not a need to decrease the copayment.*

*In between redeterminations, copayments can be decreased for families whose children are currently in care, if the p/c requests the decrease and provides verification that there is a decrease in income. This is important because these families are paying the copayment.*

*At redetermination, copays should be increased or decreased appropriately for all families regardless if children are in care. If the parent/caretaker is not working at redetermination due to COVID-19 issues, the ELRC should allow presumptive eligibility for 92 days (as stated in the FAQ document) and reduce the copayment based on usual policy. If the parent/caretaker is working at the end of the 92 days, the copayment can be adjusted to reflect the actual income at that time.*

## **Eligibility (E)**

**E-1: How should the ELRC proceed with processing applications? Will extended timeframes or deadlines be granted to the ELRC or parent/caretakers?**

***The ELRC should be operating under their emergency continuity of operations plan and make every effort to continue normal operations. If the ELRC is not able to process work timely for a particular case, a case comment or provider comment must be entered to explain the reason. The ELRC should communicate any over-arching issues with completing work to their assigned OCDEL program representative.***

E-2: As COVID-19 closures/restrictions become longer, parents/caretakers may not have current pay/income verification to submit at redetermination. Will the ELRC be allowed to accept older paystubs/income verification?

*To the extent possible, redeterminations should be processed timely. If the parent/caregiver is not working at the time of redetermination, the ELRC should allow presumptive eligibility for 92 days, regardless if the parent/caregiver has a job to return to. If the family completed the redetermination and is determined not eligible because they are over income, the ELRC should send the adverse action and end eligibility. If the redetermination cannot be processed timely because the family cannot provide verification, the ELRC should work with the family to get the information and the redetermination can be extended, without penalty to the ELRC. The ELRC should note any issues in case comments.*

**E-3: For applications, has any thought been given to clients who are applying in the upcoming weeks whose work hours don't meet the work hour requirement due to their employment being impacted by COVID-19? EXAMPLE: The client has verification of employment and is just not working at the time of application due to the COVID-19 situation.**

***The ELRC may extend the timeframe for processing applications by 30 days, if needed. If the parent/caretaker is not working, the ELRC may hold the application, as no childcare is needed immediately. If a parent/caretaker is working, applications should be processed as normal.***

E-4: If a TANF client's cash is closing and they have a job, but currently are not working because of COVID-19 can the ELRC flip them to Former TANF and complete the self-certification form, i.e. keep the family eligible for care?

***Yes, if a parent/caretaker has a job and would normally be eligible for Former TANF, but is not currently working at that job due to COVID-19, then the ELRC should open the Former TANF case.***

E-5: We have a small number of families that either don't have email access or don't have a printer to print out documents, so they don't have access to any type of electronic filing to the ELRC. Is it possible for an eligibility extension be given to CCW families in this kind of situation?

***As much as possible, the ELRC should be creative in helping families submit documentation, including using cellular phones to take photos of the documentation or use of screen shots. In cases where there really is no other solution, extensions can be given to families. The need for the extension, the timeframe of the extension and the plan to get the documentation must be clearly documented in case comments.***

## **Enrollments (EN)**

EN-1: Should the ELRC extend suspensions for children who were already in suspension or should those children be taken out of suspension and enrolled?

*If care is not needed, the child should remain in suspended status. If the parent/caretaker is working and in need of care, and the provider is open, the child can be taken out of suspension in order to pay the provider.*

EN-2: How are current pre-enrollments and enrollments to be managed regarding face-to-face meetings and the requirement to enroll within 30 days?

*Video conferencing or telephone calls can be substituted for the face-to-face meeting. If a family knows what provider they want to enroll the child with and the provider is open, the child can be enrolled. If the family does not have a provider, the child can stay in authorized status with no penalty to the family or the ELRC.*

EN-3: Can a child who is pre-enrolled or suspended for summer care only in PELICAN enroll now at a provider who is open and willing to take children since schools are closed? If yes, should the ELRC enroll at a full-time (FT), part-time (PT) or blended rate?

*Yes, the child can be enrolled now at either a FT or PT rate depending on the amount of care needed.*

EN-4: Should the ELRC stop all new enrollments (including Low Income, TANF, Former TANF, SNAP, prioritized children) and transfers of any children to other childcare providers?

*If a family knows what provider they want to enroll the child with and the provider is open, the child can be enrolled. If the family does not have a provider, the child can stay in authorized status with no penalty to the family or the ELRC.*

EN-5: If the ELRC cannot transfer an enrollment because the enrollment must stay with the closed provider, can dual enrollments be entered for a child if the parent/caretaker needs care in order to work?

*The ELRC should not pay two different providers for the same timeframe. Enrollments cannot be transferred. The enrollment should stay with the original provider through the duration of the emergency.*

EN-6: Should the ELRC increase days and hours of care if the parent/caretaker requests an increase? Is the ELRC permitted to change a child's schedule?

*If a provider is closed, there should be no increase or decrease to the days/hours of care. The enrollment should be effective March 13, 2020. If the provider is open and the parent's/caretaker's work hours increase, the days/hours can be increased to reflect the parent's/caretaker's work schedule.*

EN-7: Should the ELRC continue to pull from the wait list and enroll new CCW children, if funds are available?

*The ELRC can continue to enroll with open providers if funds are available.*

**EN-8: Clarification requested on two questions, EN-3 & EN-6: Question EN-6 is this stating that a current school-age Blended rate child that has a parent that was working a 7a-3p shift will remain at a Blended rate? But, if the parent is now working a 7a-7p shift, the ELRC would increase the care to Full Time? Or do we take all school-age children to schedules they would receive during summer care if the provider is open? If the provider is open, the blended rate can be removed, and a FT rate can be paid to the provider for school-age children.**

## **Miscellaneous (M)**

M-1: Can childcare workers apply for unemployment compensation if childcare providers continue to receive subsidized childcare payments?

*Any childcare worker whose hours are curtailed due to the COVID-19 situation can file for unemployment. Eligibility for unemployment is determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. Relative providers are not eligible for unemployment compensation from the ELRC or OCDEL as these providers are neither employees of the parent or independent contractors.*

**M-2: Will Central Printing from Harrisburg continue to occur throughout the duration of the COVID-19 period? If not, how will we be notified if it does stop functioning?**  
*Central printing will continue. If this changes, the ELRC will be notified via the program representatives.*

### **Waiver Clarification (WC)**

**WC-1: How will the ELRC be notified which childcare providers have waivers?**  
*The Bureau of Certification will periodically send an updated list to the Bureau of ELRC Operations who will send to the ELRCs via e-mail. Through daily operations, if ELRC become aware of closures of waiver approved programs they should communicate to the Regional Certification Office staff about those closures.*

**WC-2: Can providers remain open while awaiting waiver approval?**  
*Providers can remain open while awaiting their waiver approval. Additionally, the closure order did not apply to Group Child Care and Family Child Care operating in a residence.*

**WC-3: In the closure report email that providers must send to certification if they are no longer operating during the COVID-19 crisis they must indicate Number of Children Enrolled in the program on the report. Is this number to include both private-pay and subsidy children?**  
*This includes all children, both subsidy and private pay.*

### **From Certification: Clarification of Closure Notices and Child Care**

OCDEL has received numerous requests for clarification around the daily update provided by Governor Wolf and Secretary Levine related to COVID-19. Press announcements are posted on the [Governor's website](#). Daily briefings are generally held at 2 p.m. and [can be streamed here](#).

On March 19, 2020 the Governor announced the Closure of All Businesses That Are Not Life-Sustaining. Child care is not considered life-sustaining in general and should therefore remain closed until such time as the Governor lifts the closure mandate. The list of life-sustaining businesses/non-life-sustaining businesses can be found [here](#).

Until such time as Governor Wolf lifts the order, child care programs in Pennsylvania must remain closed unless they meet one of the following criteria:

1. A Family Child Care Home;
2. A Group Child Care Home operating in a residence;
3. A Child Care Center or Group Child Care Home operating outside a residence that has received [Waiver](#) to provide care for children of employees of life-sustaining businesses from OCDEL; or,
4. A Part-day school age program that has received a waiver to remain open from the Department of Community and Economic Development, available [here](#).

Upon notice that the Governor's March 19, 2020 order is to be lifted, all child care programs who closed during COVID-19 may be able to resume operations depending on the circumstances and whether any additional orders are issued or in place at that time.

Child Care Programs will otherwise return to operations at their discretion based the program's ability to insure regulatory compliance on criteria that includes but is not limited to the availability of space, staff, and the needs of families enrolled at the time of the program's closure.

### **List of Facilities Operating with a Waiver**

OCDEL will be posting a link to the list of providers operating with an Exemption to Operate During Temporary Closure (waiver) on the DHS COVID-19 Resources section, [here](#).

Providers who have received a waiver may be contacted by the ELRC or families seeking to find short-term placements during the emergency declaration period.

Providers who have received a waiver and make the decision to close, must report their closure to [RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov)

### **Recommended Health Guidance for Child Care Remaining Open during COVID-19**

Programs operating with a waiver are serving employees of life-sustaining businesses. Your role in caring for their children is important – you are also essential to the health of these children and families. Thank you for your contribution to help fight this pandemic. In order to provide guidance to child care continuing operations, OCDEL has worked with health professionals to provide the guidelines to screen children’s health as they participate in programming. This guidance was sent in an earlier Certification Announcement, [Guidance for Child Care Providers Caring for Children of Essential Personnel During COVID-19](#) and also posted on the DHS Coronavirus-Related Provider Resources [page](#)

## **From Certification: Guidance for Child Care Providers Caring for Children of Essential Personnel During COVID-19**

Your role in caring for children of essential personnel is critically important. You are also essential to the health of children and families. Thank you for your contribution to help fight this pandemic. Here are some measures to take to protect children and yourselves. Be sure to watch for updates as new guidance develops.

### **Daily Health Checks for Children and Staff**

- If possible, assess staff, children, and families’ health prior to accessing the child care space.
- It is strongly recommended that you take the temperature of all children and staff at check-in. No-touch methods are preferred to reduce contact. A fever for the purposes of this screening is  $\geq 100.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ .
- Talk with the family member and ask them to keep children home who display any signs of illness.
- Exclude children and staff with fever and respiratory symptoms (cough, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath, fast breathing).

### **Protection of children in your care**

#### ***Entry:***

- Upon arrival, all staff and children must immediately wash their hands.
- Limit items coming into the child care space from home.
- If possible and laundry capabilities are available on site, consider washing nap items at the center.

#### ***Location, ratios and program activities:***

- Maintain care for children in your normal licensed locations.
- Maintain required staff/child ratios.
- Lower staff/child ratios will decrease the number of exposed children if someone in the group is sickened by COVID-19.
- Use social distancing (6 feet apart) within groups, if possible. Maintain similar groups from day to day.
- Eliminate family style meals – staff should serve the children.
- Plan activities that do not require close physical contact between multiple children. Limit item sharing.

#### ***Infant care:***

- Although most young children have mild disease, children younger than 1 year old are at high risk of getting COVID-19 and having more severe illness.
- To the best extent possible, limit contact for infants by achieving 1:1 care.
- Consider moving infants to family child care homes that may be able to give 1:1 care.

#### ***Infection control:***

- Use strict hand hygiene at all times. The best practice is to lather for 20 seconds with soap and water or use 60-95% alcohol-based hand-sanitizer after any contact with children and/or after contact with high-

touch areas, i.e. doorknobs, countertops, and especially anything at the level that children touch. View this [CDC handwashing video](#).

- Use strict respiratory etiquette. Cough or sneeze into a tissue and deposit into a waste receptacle, cough or sneeze into an elbow or shoulder, and avoid any touching of your eyes, nose, mouth, or face.
- Clean, sanitize, and disinfect surfaces more often than usual (see *Caring for Our Children: [Appendix K: Routine Schedule for Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting](#)*).
- Establish procedures to make sure children who become sick at child care (develop cough, runny nose, fever, shortness of breath, fast breathing) are sent home as soon as possible. Keep anyone sick separate from well students and staff until the sick child can be sent home.
- If available, please place a facemask on the child who is sick. If a staff member is going to be in close contact with a child who is coughing and sneezing, that staff member should wear a facemask as well if one is available. Continue to practice strict hand hygiene and other infection control practices as well.
- If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a child or adult who has been present in the child care center, inform the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) by contacting the appropriate Regional Office of Certification, and contact the Department of Health (DOH) at 1-877-724-3258 for further guidance.

#### **Staff illness:**

- Stay home if you are ill with fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath **OR** if you have been in close contact with a person or child testing positive for COVID-19.
- You should be implementing return to work policies in your child care program similar to the DOH guidance for health care personnel, provided [here](#). Most importantly, staff or children with COVID-19 must be isolated for a minimum of 7 days after symptom onset and 72 hours after their fever resolves without fever-reducing medicines. For example, if the fever and symptoms resolve on day 7, the staff can return on day 10. Staff with household contacts with adults or children with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 14 days after their last household exposure. For most, this will be 14 days after the household contact with COVID-19 is released from isolation.

#### **Outdoor play:**

- Outdoor play is still permitted and should be encouraged. May increase social distancing and is healthy!

#### **Protection of yourselves and your families**

1. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
2. Please see easy-to-read CDC guidance on [protecting yourselves](#) and [protecting your families](#).
3. If you have symptoms, the CDC's Coronavirus Self-Checker, available [here](#), can help you make decisions about whether you need to go to a hospital, call your medical provider, or if you should stay home and take care of yourself.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. To stay up-to-date, please refer to:

- CDC's [guidance for administrators of K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs](#) for additional information.
- CDC's [Frequently Asked Questions on Childcare programs](#) for additional information.
- Pennsylvania's Department of Health (DOH) [website](#).
- Guidance from Department of Human Services related to COVID-19 is available [here](#).

### **Critical DHS Services Are Still Available Online Despite Closures**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) closed county assistance offices (CAOs) in coordination with Governor Wolf's mitigation guidance regarding social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. In-person visits will not be available, and staffing for phone lines may be diminished. As we focus on keeping Pennsylvanians safe and healthy, now is a great time to utilize DHS online resources.

## COMPASS

COMPASS is an online tool for Pennsylvanians to apply for many health and human service programs and manage benefit information. With COMPASS, you can:

- Look up your benefits wherever you are, at any time
- Review any information you receive
- Check the status of applications you submit
- Upload documents
- Report changes directly from your phone or desktop computer

Visit [COMPASS](#) or download the [MyCOMPASS phone app](#) to apply for benefits for programs, such as:

- [Medical Assistance \(Medicaid\)](#)
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#)
- [Temporary Assistance for Needy Families \(TANF\)](#)
- [Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#)
- [Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\)](#)
- [Child Care Works Program](#)
- [Long-Term Care Services](#)

## Report Abuse or Neglect

People who are mandated reporters under the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) should report abuse online at [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis), but ChildLine is also available to anyone wishing to report, 24/7 at 1-800-932-0313.

Adult Protective Services protects adults who are between the ages of 18 and 59 with a physical or intellectual disability that limits one or more major life activities. Reports can be made 24/7 to 1-800-490-8505.

## Clearances & Licensing

DHS encourages individuals to submit clearance applications online whenever possible. Mandated reporters are encouraged to use the [self-service portal](#) on the Keep Kids Safe website, to avoid long hotline wait times.

You can find forms and information on the [DHS Clearances & Licensing webpage](#).

## DHS Updated Information

The DHS team is continuing to compile and share information from various program offices. [The DHS coronavirus landing page](#) will continue to be updated with information and documents. We recommend you check this page as frequently as you are able.

## [Program Office helplines and email addresses](#)

★ The latest information on COVID-19 is available from [the Pennsylvania Department of Health](#).

## **From the PA Key**

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING (OCDEL), THE PENNSYLVANIA KEY HAS COMPILED A LIST OF RESOURCES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE) PROGRAMS AND PROFESSIONALS IMPACTED BY COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) IN PENNSYLVANIA. THIS INCLUDES:

- GENERAL INFORMATION INCLUDING STATE AND FEDERAL GUIDANCE ON COVID-19;
- DIRECTIONS TO REQUEST A WAIVER FOR CHILD CARES TO REMAIN OPEN FOR ESSENTIAL POPULATIONS;
- SUPPORTS, SUCH AS INFANT/EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION (IECMH) SERVICES FOR THOSE WITH WAIVERS TO REMAIN OPEN; AND
- ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR ECE PROGRAMS AND PROFESSIONALS AFFECTED BY COVID-19 CLOSURES.

TO ACCESS THESE RESOURCES, [VISIT THE RESOURCES ON COVID-19 \(CORONAVIRUS\) IN PENNSYLVANIA FOR ECE PROGRAMS AND PROFESSIONALS PAGE](#).

FOR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS, CALL OCDEL DIRECTLY AT 1-877-4-PA-KIDS

### **ECE PDO Services and Supports are Available**

PHMC and the ECE PDO continue to monitor information on COVID-19/coronavirus. We are focused on quality care for all participants and ensuring organizational preparedness, including our employee's health and wellness. We are continuing to provide services to our clients and are ensuring extra preventive and precautionary measures are in place based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. If you have a specific question about ECE PDO at PHMC's services, please contact 267-773-4400 or email [ecepdo@phmc.org](mailto:ecepdo@phmc.org).

**Connect today with an ECE and IHE Coordinator!** Our team is available to support you with your Career Pathway needs. Coordinators can meet virtually or by phone to provide services and supports. Visit our [website](#) for more information on the ECE PDO at PHMC.

### **Caring for Each Other: How to Use Sesame Street in Communities Resources for Health Emergencies with Families Now**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2020 @ 3 PM ET**

We're all in this together, and that's why we're all coming together. Sesame Workshop and the Brazelton Touchpoints Center are partnering on a webinar series, beginning April 1st, to share online resources that can help us handle the sudden changes in our lives when we face health emergencies like the one that confronts us today. As a result of COVID-19, families around the world are needing to adjust, adapt, and keep each other safe. To help, Sesame Workshop is launching the [Caring for Each Other](#) initiative—a long-term commitment to supporting families for the duration of this crisis. While we strive to give our children as much structure and stability as we can, we need to do what is in our power to take care of ourselves too, so that we can simply just be there for our children. In this webinar, your friends from Sesame Street, together with health and early childhood experts and partners from the Brazelton Touchpoints Center, will discuss how you can use and share online Sesame Street videos, games, and other resources with families. Together, let's explore the ways we can offer comfort, connect with, and care for each other, safely! [Register here!](#)

That's all for now. Please continue to be safe and reach out whenever you have questions or concerns!

Be well,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2020 11:56 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 update plus some GREAT opportunities!

Hi everyone,

IT'S FRIDAY! 😊 I have some really important updates for you, as well as some TERRIFIC opportunities. (For my FCCH friends – look for the yellow highlighting!!)

### **FROM ELRC 18**

#### **INVOICES**

First, I just wanted to talk a minute about your March invoices, because are still questions:

- Please do not mark attendance – at all – for the month of March. Just check NC at the start of the line, and be sure to sign and date your invoice.
- The only exception to this is if you had a child who left your care (**dis-enrolled, not just absent**) before March 13<sup>th</sup>, please mark the attendance for that child only and place a T to indicate the last day of care.
- Do not turn your invoice in before April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Any additional questions, please call our finance department at (215) 382-4762 or send an e-mail to [ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org).

#### **ENROLLMENTS**

- If you received any Notices of Adverse Action or Child Care Stop Letters with an effective date of March 13, 2020 or later, please send an e-mail to [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org) with the following details:
  - Child's name
  - Case record number
  - Effective date of notice

OCDEL has instructed that no children are to be suspended or discontinued after March 13<sup>th</sup>, but as you can imagine, with a service area as large as Philadelphia, catching them all is pretty challenging. Please let us know so we can fix them before you submit your invoice. (Let's avoid those adjustment invoices if at all possible!!)

### **IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**

Late this evening, I received the following letter from Sean Perkins in the Mayor's Office of Children and Families with a request to share it with you. Most of the letter applies to ALL licensed child care programs in the City of Philadelphia (center, GCCH, FCCH). However, items 9-11 specifically address PHLpreK-participating programs. I have changed the type color to **GREEN** for these sections. (If you are NOT a PHLpreK provider, the **GREEN** sections do not apply to you.)

March 27, 2020

Dear PHLpreK Childcare Providers,

This is an update to the letters from March 15 and 20, 2020 regarding the PHLpreK program in coordination with the evolving Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We continue to hear from families, Providers, and other early childhood partners during this time and we continue to adapt through the ongoing needs of the early

childhood system. We continue to urge everyone to follow the city's Department of Public Health updates to the COVID-19 situation at the [website HERE](#).

1. The city of Philadelphia issued its most recent stay at home order on March 22, 2020, which can be found here: [STAY AT HOME ORDER](#).
2. As noted previously, **all** childcare facilities are considered non-essential and should be closed until further notice.
3. The only Providers open at this time are those granted a waiver to remain open. Those sites are only permitted to serve:
  - a. Children of medical, police, fire, DHS and other essential city employees
  - b. Children of all other essential services, as listed in the stay at home order, above
4. Operators seeking a waiver from the commonwealth and city's temporary closure order should complete the [Exemption from Directive to Temporarily Close](#) and email it to OCDEL at [RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov). Email subject line should read, "Waiver Request – Philadelphia County". Child Care Certification staff will respond to requests as quickly as possible. The state will then send the waiver to the City's Office of Children and Families, which will send an electronic form for you to complete. You must submit this form electronically in order to be considered for a waiver approval.
5. Family Child Care and Group Residential Providers are **not required to submit waivers to OCDEL** at this time to remain open. However, the Mayor's Office of Children and Families wants to keep record of those sites still open during the stay at home order. FCCs and GRPs in Philadelphia are encouraged to complete the local electronic form here: [Philly Waiver Form](#).
6. On March 24, the Philadelphia Department of Health shared its facility guidance for childcare sites that remain open during this time. Please see the information here: [Philadelphia Childcare Recs](#)
7. If families of essential/emergency services are in need of childcare, they can contact the Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) at: (215) 382-4762 and ask to speak with the emergency services coordinator for additional information. They will share what sites are currently open and the daily rates being charged at this time.
8. The commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services has maintained a website of all COVID-19 related guidance for providers that may be helpful to all of you during this time. Please visit this site here: [PA DHS COVID-19 Guidance for Providers](#)
9. **During this time, we will continue to pay Providers their monthly allocations, regardless of attendance and/or closure until April 30, 2020**
  - a. **For March and April monthly payments, providers will be paid for their highest approved enrollment total during January, February, or March 2020 (whichever is highest).**
  - b. **We will be waiving the 180-day service requirement at this time, but we encourage sites to consider ways in which they can make-up days lost in the future.**
10. **As we will continue to pay PHLpreK providers during this time, the expectation is that Providers continue to pay its staff. We understand that Providers receive funding across a variety of revenue streams, so business decisions can be difficult to make. For that reason, we are collecting information from our providers regarding their business decisions. Please complete the PHLpreK Workforce Impact Survey here: [PHLpreK Workforce Survey](#).**
11. **For sites requesting PHLpreK seats for the 2020-21 school year, we will be modifying the application process for awarding seats to currently contracted PHLpreK locations. Please note, this is only for current PHLpreK providers. The details of this change will be communicated shortly. In the meantime, providers should suspend the completion of their application in Reviewr if you are a currently funded (FY2020) PHLpreK funded location. Additional information regarding the application process for new locations is forthcoming.**

**As we continue to reiterate, this is a rapidly developing situation, and we will provide updates as needed. Any/all Provider exception requests should be directed to their Hub. If the Hub cannot resolve, the Intermediary (PHMC) and the Mayor's Office of Children and Families will make final determinations.**

Again, we sincerely appreciate all you do to support the city's children and their families during this time. If anything changes, I will be sure to keep you updated.

Kind Regards,  
Sean Perkins  
Chief of Early Childhood Education  
Mayor's Office of Children and Families

### **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 9:00-11:00am**

To help meet the needs of the early learning community during this period of crisis, SEPECC virtual meetings will be held weekly until further notice. Diane Getzinger, from the Philadelphia ELRC, plans to join weekly meetings and Karen Grimm Thomas, from OCDEL, will join as her schedule permits. Send your questions and concerns to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org).

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://zoom.us/j/275013232>  
**Dial by phone:** 312-626-6799 or 929-436-2866

#### **Notes from our March 24<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting:**

Thank you to the 100+ people who participated in this first SEPECC virtual meeting! [Click here for 3/24 meeting slides, recording, and resources shared.](#)

### **From PACCA: Dealing with the Financial Side of the Coronavirus - Tuesday, March 31, 2020, 1p-3p**

**Registration fee: \$0.00**

Join us for a free and informative presentation by national trainer, author and advocate Tom Copeland! This webinar, which will **focus on family and group child care homes and small centers**, will help answer your questions on how to cope with the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the issues discussed will include:

- Eligibility for unemployment compensation
- Emerging news about the federal stimulus package
- Excluding sick children
- Staying open vs Closing temporarily

Tom Copeland is a licensed attorney who has presented hundreds of business workshops for child care providers across the county for almost 40 years. A recognized leader in the field, he was director of Redleaf National Institute for 15 years, and has written nine books on the business of family child care.

To register, please click [here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

### **Professional Development Webinars from First Up – 3/31 through 4/3/2020**

First Up will be providing online Professional Development in support of our partners' needs. First Up is offering webinars through Zoom alongside your colleagues for continued virtual learning facilitated by our expert PD Instructors. We will explore an array of topics!

Continue to achieve your PD goals during this time so you will return to the classroom equipped to end the year strong! [Please see the flyer for upcoming sessions March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>.](#)

### **Deadline Tuesday, 3/31/20 for online CDA - Register NOW!**

#### **Eligibility:**

- The program is for regions of ELRC [15 \(Delaware Co.\)](#), [16 \(Bucks Co.\)](#), [17 \(Montgomery Co.\)](#), [18 \(Philadelphia Co.\)](#) or [19 \(Chester Co.\)](#). Participant MUST be a PA resident.
- The program holds a current full Certificate of Compliance from the PA Department of Human Services

- Participants must create a profile in the [PA PD Registry](#) website before enrolling [www.papdregistry.org](http://www.papdregistry.org) and provide their PA PD Registry ID.
- Courses applicable to the [AAS ECE Degree](#) at NCC

#### **Online CDA Program**

- Late Spring 2020 semester - starts April 7, 2020
- \$120.00 for the program (9 college credits)
- Credits apply to the AAS Degree, and also meet credentialing requirements with [The Council for Professional Recognition](#).
- Infant/Toddler and/or Preschool
- Must be working with age group 10-15 hrs a week
- 8-10 hours of online work per week, programs ends November 17, 2020
- Attend FULLY online!

Click link below for costs and further enrollment information

**DEADLINE - TUESDAY, March 31, 2020**

[CDA Online Program Flyer for ECE PDO at PHMC Mid Spring 2020](#)

### **Youth Engagement in the Time of Social Distancing: An Introductory Conversation – 4/2/2020**

Thursday, April 2, 2020 | Virtual 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Join the Pennsylvania Humanities Council Teen Reading Lounge network for an informative 90-minute conversation exploring how afterschool humanities programming for youth ages 12-18 is being impacted by the COVID-19/novel coronavirus outbreak. PSADYN director Laura Saccente will serve as a guest speaker. **To join on April 2nd, [click here](#).**

#### **Careerlink - new website for jobseekers**

PA CareerLink has set a [website](#) for workers seeking jobs.

### **From Certification: Guidance for Child Care Providers Caring for Children of Essential Personnel During COVID-19**

Your role in caring for children of essential personnel is critically important. You are also essential to the health of children and families. Thank you for your contribution to help fight this pandemic. Here are some measures to take to protect children and yourselves. Be sure to watch for updates as new guidance develops.

#### **Daily Health Checks for Children and Staff**

- If possible, assess staff, children, and families' health prior to accessing the child care space.
- It is strongly recommended that you take the temperature of all children and staff at check-in. No-touch methods are preferred to reduce contact. A fever for the purposes of this screening is  $\geq 100.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ .
- Talk with the family member and ask them to keep children home who display any signs of illness.
- Exclude children and staff with fever and respiratory symptoms (cough, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath, fast breathing).

#### **Protection of children in your care**

##### **Entry:**

- Upon arrival, all staff and children must immediately wash their hands.
- Limit items coming into the child care space from home.
- If possible and laundry capabilities are available on site, consider washing nap items at the center.

##### **Location, ratios and program activities:**

- Maintain care for children in your normal licensed locations.

- Maintain required staff/child ratios.
- Lower staff/child ratios will decrease the number of exposed children if someone in the group is sickened by COVID-19.
- Use social distancing (6 feet apart) within groups, if possible. Maintain similar groups from day to day.
- Eliminate family style meals – staff should serve the children.
- Plan activities that do not require close physical contact between multiple children. Limit item sharing.

**Infant care:**

- Although most young children have mild disease, children younger than 1 year old are at high risk of getting COVID-19 and having more severe illness.
- To the best extent possible, limit contact for infants by achieving 1:1 care.
- Consider moving infants to family child care homes that may be able to give 1:1 care.

**Infection control:**

- Use strict hand hygiene at all times. The best practice is to lather for 20 seconds with soap and water or use 60-95% alcohol-based hand-sanitizer after any contact with children and/or after contact with high-touch areas, i.e. doorknobs, countertops, and especially anything at the level that children touch. View this [CDC handwashing video](#).
- Use strict respiratory etiquette. Cough or sneeze into a tissue and deposit into a waste receptacle, cough or sneeze into an elbow or shoulder, and avoid any touching of your eyes, nose, mouth, or face.
- Clean, sanitize, and disinfect surfaces more often than usual (see *Caring for Our Children: [Appendix K: Routine Schedule for Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting](#)*).
- Establish procedures to make sure children who become sick at child care (develop cough, runny nose, fever, shortness of breath, fast breathing) are sent home as soon as possible. Keep anyone sick separate from well students and staff until the sick child can be sent home.
- If available, please place a facemask on the child who is sick. If a staff member is going to be in close contact with a child who is coughing and sneezing, that staff member should wear a facemask as well if one is available. Continue to practice strict hand hygiene and other infection control practices as well.
- If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a child or adult who has been present in the child care center, inform the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) by contacting the appropriate Regional Office of Certification, and contact the Department of Health (DOH) at 1-877-724-3258 for further guidance.

**Staff illness:**

- Stay home if you are ill with fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath **OR** if you have been in close contact with a person or child testing positive for COVID-19.
- You should be implementing return to work policies in your child care program similar to the DOH guidance for health care personnel, provided [here](#). Most importantly, staff or children with COVID-19 must be isolated for a minimum of 7 days after symptom onset and 72 hours after their fever resolves without fever-reducing medicines. For example, if the fever and symptoms resolve on day 7, the staff can return on day 10. Staff with household contacts with adults or children with COVID-19 must be quarantined for 14 days after their last household exposure. For most, this will be 14 days after the household contact with COVID-19 is released from isolation.

**Outdoor play:**

- Outdoor play is still permitted and should be encouraged. May increase social distancing and is healthy!

**Protection of yourselves and your families**

1. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
2. Please see easy-to-read CDC guidance on [protecting yourselves](#) and [protecting your families](#).

3. If you have symptoms, the CDC's Coronavirus Self-Checker, available [here](#), can help you make decisions about whether you need to go to a hospital, call your medical provider, or if you should stay home and take care of yourself.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. To stay up-to-date, please refer to:

- CDC's [guidance for administrators of K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs](#) for additional information.
- CDC's [Frequently Asked Questions on Childcare programs](#) for additional information.
- Pennsylvania's Department of Health (DOH) [website](#).
- Guidance from Department of Human Services related to COVID-19 is available [here](#).

## **NAEYC's Statement on Child Care in the Stimulus**

We have heard your stories of grief, bravery, and fear. We know you are closing child care programs to keep children, families, and educators safe, and that you are staying open so that heroes on the front lines can have competent and prepared educators to provide care for their children. **You are essential**—and yet we know you worry, as one educator wrote, that “three weeks ago we weren’t essential, and in three months we won’t be again.”

You need support. And with [your stories](#), you have helped us make the case in Congress for what's needed so that you can weather the emergency that is upon us, and be there for the recovery that will come.

Today, NAEYC is grateful to Congress for taking an important, bipartisan step to provide that support with the passage of the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act. There are critical provisions that will help multiple parts of the complex early childhood education sector, addressing some of the needs expressed by parents, educators, programs, and small businesses across states and settings, including:

- \$3.5 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to ensure continued payment and assistance to child care providers and to support child care for essential workers;
- \$750 million in grants for Head Start, including up to \$500 million for support of summer programs;
- Access to small business loans of up to \$10 million that can be forgiven, if programs use the loans for specific purposes such as wages, paid sick or family leave, health insurance benefits, retirement benefits, mortgages or rent, or utilities;
- Direct payments to qualifying taxpayers of up to \$1,200 (\$2,400 for couples), plus an additional \$500 per child;
- Access to a pandemic unemployment insurance benefit for four months, on top of the regular unemployment insurance benefit offered by states to qualifying individuals;
- Suspension of payments on federally-held student loans to support the many early childhood educators earning their degrees and credentials.

Read NAEYC's full statement [here](#) and a collective response from organizations within the child care community [here](#).

This is an important step, but not the last. Effective, efficient, and immediate implementation will be critical, and you can expect support, guidance, and [resources](#) to come. At the same time, Congress is already looking ahead to the next package, and **more assistance and relief will be needed** as the gaps become clear, and the harm caused by this horrific pandemic continues to unfold.

Today, however, we add “hopeful” to the grief, bravery, and fear we are all feeling, as we address immediate needs and begin to rebuild a system that works for everyone, creating the conditions in which early childhood education and educators remain essential in all the months and years to come.

That’s all for now. Let’s hope for a quiet weekend, and I’ll see you bright and early Monday morning!!

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 6:15 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 update - school-age, invoicing details and AWESOME resources!

Hi everyone,

I'm sorry that I wasn't able to get this out to you last night...technical difficulties! (Those of you who know me know that I am NOT a morning person, so getting in here at the crack of dawn to get this out to you was the "real" technical difficulty!)

I have a few ELRC updates/clarifications and some **REALLY great news** about resources for you!

### ELRC 18 Updates

All three ELRC locations remain closed to the public. Parents and providers may drop off documents at our 2363 Welsh Road (19114) location only, Monday through Friday from 8a-5p. We are sorry for this inconvenience, but staff remain available to assist you by phone (215-382-4762) and by e-mail:

- [Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org) – parents who have questions about their eligibility or essential staff who need to locate child care programs that are still open
- [ELRC18Providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18Providers@caringpeoplealliance.org) – providers who have questions about anything except their payment or direct deposit; this includes Keystone STARS
- [ELRC18Invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18Invs@caringpeoplealliance.org) – providers who have questions about their invoice, payment or direct deposit

**School-age update:** If you were open and provided full-time care for school-age children, ELRC 18 will pay your full-day rate effective March 13<sup>th</sup>.

- If you were closed, you will be paid your regular school-year rate (part-time or blended) until April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- If you were open, but children did not attend or attended only a part-day, you will continued to be paid your regular school-year rate (part-time or blended rate) for these enrollments until April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Full-time care provided prior to the Governor's mandate to close will be paid at your regular school-year rate (part-time or blended rate).
- If you were open and provided full-time care to school-age children after March 13<sup>th</sup>, but subsequently closed, you will continue to be paid the full-time rate until April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**March invoicing:** Although we are not counting absences for the month of March, you must submit your March invoice to receive payment. Please simply mark NC for all children who were enrolled with you through March 13<sup>th</sup>, regardless of whether your program was open or closed, and regardless of whether children attended. There are only two exceptions to this:

1. If a child in your care terminated prior to March 13<sup>th</sup>, please mark their actual attendance, including the date that care terminated ("T"); and

2. If you provided full-time care to a school-age child, please change the days that the child was in your care from PT to FT. Do not mark absences for the child.

If you reached out to inform us about Child Care Stop Letters or Notices of Adverse Action that were effective after March 13<sup>th</sup> and you use PELICAN Provider Self Service for Online Attendance Invoicing, please give us a chance to add the children back to your enrollment before submitting your invoice. (Children added to your invoice after you submit it will require a separate paper adjustment invoice to be completed and processed for payment.) Changes made by ELRC 18 staff will appear on you online attendance invoice the following day. Remember, you have until Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> (5<sup>th</sup> working day) to submit your invoice for payment on April 20<sup>th</sup>. We are trying to correct these as quickly as possible and sincerely appreciate your patience!

### **Keystone STARS Grants and Awards**

- Approximately 160 STAR 1 and 2 programs were approved for **Rising STARS Support Grants** in Philadelphia - \$2000 for family child care homes and \$5000 for centers and group programs. All have been notified and are working with their quality coaches to ensure timely payment and closing of the grant. Providers who are currently closed due to COVID-19 remain eligible for this important funding to support movement to higher STAR levels.
- All Merit and Education and Retention Awards (ERA) must be expended by providers by June 30, 2020. The 60-day timeframe for ELRCs to process these grants is suspended from March 13 through June 1. ELRC 18 has been approved for approximately \$80,000 in additional funds due to the volume of requests. We are working very hard to get these processed and paid as quickly as possible. If you have any questions, please reach out to your quality coach ([list attached](#)).
- Q: If an employee is off due to COVID-19, do they still qualify for an ERA if the grant is being issued during this time? The employee left on their own accord; the center remains open.  
A: In this case, the protocol is no different than someone being on any medical leave. As long as the individual is still an employee of the facility, has been employed at the center for at least 12 months and has not quit, they would meet the work eligibility requirement for the ERA grant.

### **Keystone STARS Designation Process (STARS)**

- Sites that expire in April, May and June will be granted a STAR designation extension of up to 6 months.
- Designation visits for STAR 2 programs looking to move up to STAR 3 or 4 will not be able to be conducted during the COVID crisis. Although quality coaches and designators continue to work remotely with programs, when a site visit is necessary, it cannot be substituted with a virtual designation visit. As a result, these programs will remain at their current STAR level until normal operations resume and on-site designation visits and any necessary PQA visits can occur.

### **Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education**

New emergency fund launched for Philadelphia childcare providers impacted by COVID-19. The [Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education](#) (PEFSEE) aims to ensure that Philadelphia's early learning sector does not lose capacity or expertise as a result of the COVID-19 crisis so that children and families will continue to have access to high quality early learning opportunities. The funds will help sustain early learning providers, including childcare, pre-k, and home visiting programs serving children from birth to age five. PEFSEE is funded through grants from the William Penn Foundation and Vanguard's Strong Start for Kids Program™, and is administered by Reinvestment Fund.

The Fund will support organizations that provide early learning for children from birth to age five. Licensed childcare, family childcare, pre-k, and home visiting programs in Philadelphia are eligible, including Head Start and Early Head Start providers. Providers of these programs can request assistance to sustain basic expenses, support new methods of helping families during the closure period, and support future needs required to reopen. The Fund will be administered by Reinvestment Fund, which will review applications and grant awards on a weekly basis. The funding round will begin on April 6th. [Sign-up](#) to receive an alert when applications become available.

PEFSEE is also accepting donations from institutions and individuals looking to support Philadelphia's early learning community at this time. Donations can be made at: [justgiving.com/campaign/PEFSEE](https://justgiving.com/campaign/PEFSEE). For questions about the program or donating, please contact [pefsee@reinvestment.com](mailto:pefsee@reinvestment.com).

### **Webinar: Philadelphia COVID-19 Small Business Relief Fund - A How to Guide**

Sponsored by the Early Childhood Education Fiscal Hub (Fiscal Hub), please join us for a **free webinar** to help early childhood education operators prepare to apply for the **Philadelphia COVID-19 Small Business Relief Fund**, which offers grants or zero-interest loans to Philadelphia small businesses (including nonprofit child care organizations) impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. *Please note that applications submitted after March 30<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM will only be accepted and reviewed from businesses applying for micro-enterprise grants of \$5,000.*

Presenters will review and clarify financial terminology, explain documents needed for the Philadelphia COVID-19 Small Business Relief Fund process, as well as review federal SBA Disaster Loan Funding resources available. This session will help every early childhood business operator answer three essential questions:

**How much do I have in the bank in the form of cash?**

**How much do I need to get back to normal operations?**

**How much assistance can I receive from the government to make up the difference?**

This session will be offered twice. Please choose from one of the following sessions:

**Thursday, April 2 at 10:00 AM**

[Click here](#) to register

**Monday, April 6 at 2:00 PM**

[Click here](#) to register.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please contact Kerri Lee at [FiscalHub@phmc.org](mailto:FiscalHub@phmc.org) with any questions. For more information about the Fiscal Hub, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

### **FREE ECE Business Classes – 15 PQAS Hours**

**Offered online starting April 13<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Providers,

Some of your child care centers and family child care programs may be closed for the month of April, and we encourage you to take this time to sign up for free ECE Business Classes sponsored by the ELRC. These online classes are designed to assist providers with business practices, and we hope they will support you to during this time and going forward. All sessions will be offered via Zoom and there will be opportunity for participation and peer support. Please see [the flyers](#) for dates and registration details!

## **Phase II of First Up's PQAS Virtual Training Now Available**

In response to the many needs and rapidly changing times, First Up has made it a priority to be a constant resource for the ECE community during this time. We are providing the next set of webinars - some free and others with a nominal fee - in response to the requests to provide professional development webinars. [See the attached flyer](#) and share it with your ECE community networks. Look through our offerings as soon as you can and sign up today!

## **From PA Department of Human Services (DHS)**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) is committed to serving vulnerable populations every day, and that commitment will not stop in the face of an emergency. On March 20th, we issued guidance for entities licensed by the following DHS program offices:

- a. Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)
- b. Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF)
- c. Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)
- d. Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)
- e. Office of Long-Term Living/Bureau of Human Service Licensing (BHSL)

In the March 20th guidance, we indicated that from March 16th to March 30th, DHS will not be conducting any annual licensing inspections. This guidance is updated such that that DHS will not be conducting any annual licensing inspections until Governor Wolf lifts the current Proclamation of Disaster Emergency for COVID-19 or until such other time set by DHS. Licensing staff will continue to investigate incidents and complaints during this time period. As you have questions, please contact your regional licensing representative. DHS staff continue to work during this time period, and you should contact the regional office using their phone number or email. Notification will be provided when DHS resumes conducting annual inspections.

## **Spotlight on Sharing**

I'm beyond happy to help you share with your peers what you're doing to stay connected with families and staff during the COVID-19 crisis. Please just reply to this e-mail (but please be sure I can cut and paste it! 😊)

- Jack Safer, chief operating officer of Brightside Academy, shared the following resource site for children, staff and families: [bsaace.com/resource](https://bsaace.com/resource). There is a wealth of information on there for every person that associated with ECE. Please feel free to use and share with others!

That's all for now. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out (e-mail is always best!). Please be healthy and safe!

Thanks, very much,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179 (check it out...DIRECT DIAL!!)

## **Diane Getzinger**

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 2:54 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Just touching base and to share important resources

Hi everyone,

It seems like a month since our last e-bulletin, but it's really been only a little over a week! I don't have too many ELRC updates to share with you today, but there are a TON of resources coming out to support you and your staff (and families) during this challenging time. So, let's jump right in...

### **ELRC 18**

- **ELRC 18 will close at 3p on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.**
- We are currently processing all of the invoices that were submitted by close of business Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please note that due to PELICAN having been down for almost two full days, we are processing the invoices as is in order to ensure timely payment on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Eligibility staff are working very hard to make the changes noted on your invoices (i.e., children unintentionally removed after March 13<sup>th</sup>, school-age schedule changes from part-time to full-time, etc.) and our goal is to complete these in time for your payment on the 20<sup>th</sup>. However, in cases where that is not possible, we will issue an adjustment payment.
- If you are aware of essential staff who need help finding or paying for child care so they can continue to work during the COVID-19 crisis, please have them contact ELRC 18 – either by calling (215) 382-4762 or sending an e-mail to [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org). Although our offices are not currently open to the public, staff are available to help! Also, please share our new [Parent Corner](#) on our ELRC 18 website.
- ELRC 18 is please to sponsor the popular Children's Village ECE Business Classes – starting next week, free of charge!

*Dear Providers,*

*Some of your child care centers and family child care programs may be closed for the month of April, and we encourage you to take this time to sign up for free ECE Business Classes sponsored by the ELRC. These online classes are designed to assist providers with business practices and we hope they will support you to during this time and going forward. All sessions will be offered via Zoom and there will be opportunity for participation and peer support.*

*Please see the [attached flyers](#) for registration and additional information!*

### **Updates from the Mayor's Office of Children and Families**

Please see the [attached letter](#) for the most recent update for child care providers from the City of Philadelphia. It includes:

- The PHLpreK seat application process has been suspended for now, but more information is coming very soon
- A website/blog post of resources for families and providers during C-19
- Reminder to complete the workforce survey by COB Thursday
- Announcement of the PEFSEE grant that opened today
- PCCY offering TA for business operations and legal assistance during this time
- Reminders of previously shared information

### **The funding round for the Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education (PEFSEE) is now open**

PEFSEE will provide grant funds to minimize the loss of capacity and expertise in the sector so that children and families continue to have access to high quality early learning opportunities once COVID-19 crisis has passed.

The application is now available online at: <https://reinvestmentfund.smartsimple.com>

We have resources to provide guidance on the program and the application on our website at: [reinvestment.com/pefsee](https://reinvestment.com/pefsee). Resources are available in English and Spanish.

Have questions or need support in completing your application?

- **Email us** at [PEFSEE@reinvestment.com](mailto:PEFSEE@reinvestment.com)
- **Request a Phone Call:** Leave a voicemail at **215-574-5975** and we will do our best to call you back within 24 hours. Please leave a brief message including your name, phone number, and question, and best time to reach you.

## **PHMC COVID-19 Business Support**

*Do you need help navigating through all the changes so you can make it through to the other side with your business intact?*

PHMC has general business support resources and expert consultation for you, whether you need an answer to one question, or you need longer, on-going support. These supports are available **AT NO COST** to **ALL**

### **PROVIDERS:**

- Family, group, and center based
- Single site, multi-site, and multi-service
- Nonprofit and for-profit
- Any STAR level

**Fund for Sustaining Quality (FSQ) Website** <http://sustainingquality.org/ask-a-question>

Anyone can visit any time to review the COVID-19 Business Support repository of resources from PHMC and partners to support early education operators, including upcoming new webinars, recorded webinars, links partner and other community resources including **grant and loan applications**, and new tools as they are created.

### **“Ask a Question”**

Do you need a discreet answer to a specific question? This feature is set up on the FSQ website to get answers to questions about business operations, stability, or sustainability. Questions and answers will be made anonymous and used to develop a **Frequently Asked Questions** which will be posted on the site for access at any time. [CLICK HERE](#) to ask a question! You can also access this on the FSQ website.

### **Interactive Business Support Webinars**

Register for upcoming webinars or watch previously recorded sessions posted to the FSQ website. Content includes how-to-guides on applying for grants and loans, reviews and clarification of financial terminology, explanation of documents needed for available local, state, and federal grant and loan resources. New webinars will be develop based on your incoming questions and TA requests.

### **Individual Business Support TA for Providers Operating in Philadelphia**

Expert consultation is available for one-on-one sessions to help you navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic to stabilize ECE businesses, so you are poised to re-open when that time comes. [CLICK HERE](#) to apply. A link is also available on the FSQ website.

Do you need help making a timely decision on how to:

- Apply for available loans/grants
- Save money while closed
- Track losses
- Plan for staffing: retain or layoff, personnel legal matters

OR

Do you need on-going help to plan through reopening and recovery:

- Personnel retention strategies and family retention strategies,
- Budget projections and program financing
- Health and safety protocols

For more information, email [ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org](mailto:ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org).

## **PCCY Offers Free Technical Assistance to Child Care Providers - First Come Basis - Sign Up Today**

### **Federal Loan Applications**

Starting Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> PCCY is offering early learning and child care program operators free technical assistance in completing federal loan applications (SBA) earmarked to sustain for-profit and non-profit entities during the COVID-19 national emergency.

Over the next four weeks, PCCY can offer you a 45-minute appointment with our technical experts and if needed, a second or third consultation will be provided based on available appointments. Click [here](#) or [here](#) to schedule an appointment. *Please note that we have two (2) TA consultants at this time – each with their own schedule. If a desired time slot isn't available for one consultant, please check the other link for more options*

**Please choose only ONE appointment.** If you need additional time, we will make every effort to assign you another slot.

To help you prepare for these appointments, we suggest you read these documents so you can decide if any or all of these loan opportunities make sense for your child care program.

- **Paycheck Protection Loans** The application form is quite simple, but the rules are a bit complicated. So please read this [link](#) before your Technical Assistance Appointment. The application form can be found [here](#).
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans up to \$10,000** This application is also quite simple but the rules are more complicated. Please read this [link](#) before your appointment. The application form can be found [here](#).

### **Covid-Related Employment Laws**

PCCY is also offering early learning and child care program operators free technical assistance to help providers better understand federal and state law regarding COVID-19 related paid time off, family and medical leave and layoffs. To sign up for a free 45-minute session, please register [here](#).

To prepare for your session we recommend you read up on basic information available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

## **PECO webinar: Surviving and Thriving in a Virtual Working Environment**

As we are all navigating through these uncertain times of change, PECO would like to offer its support. Over the next two weeks, PECO will be offering a webinar on ***Surviving and Thriving in a Virtual Working Environment***. Please see below for registration details, and feel free to pass along to your constituents or anyone you feel may be interested.

### **PECO Presents: Surviving and Thriving in a Virtual Working Environment**

This webinar is designed for individuals to understand the framework of the “new normal” that comes with moving from an office setting to working from home. Topics include helpful information on establishing daily routines, how to communicate and collaborate, workspace Dos and Don'ts, and how to manage distractions.

**Available sessions:**

Thursday, April 9th – 11:00am-12:00pm

Monday, April 13th – 1:00pm-2:00pm

**[Register Here!](#)****Instructions on How to Register for Webinars:**

- Each registration link will show all webinar dates. Select the session that meets your date and time preference.
- GoToWebinar will send a calendar hold following your registration that will include all the information to join the webinar
  - *In case of technical issues saving the calendar hold to your calendar, GoToWebinar will send a reminder email 1 hour prior to the webinar with the dial-in number, PIN and link to join webinar*

Please contact [PECOTalentManagement@exeloncorp.com](mailto:PECOTalentManagement@exeloncorp.com) with any questions.

**From PHMC PDO:**

- **Connect today with an ECE and IHE Coordinator!** Our team is available to support you with your Career Pathway needs. Coordinators can meet virtually or by phone to provide services and supports. Visit our [website](#) for more information on the ECE PDO at PHMC.
- **CDA Renewal Amnesty Program Deadline Extended to June 30<sup>th</sup>** - Due to recent events, the Council for Professional Recognition is extending the deadline for the CDA Renewal Amnesty Program to June 30, 2020. This program allows anyone with a CDA® credential expiration date as far back as Jan. 1, 2010, an opportunity to complete the renewal process and make their credential active again. Find out more on the [CDA Council website](#).

**Virtual Trainings During COVID-19 for ECE Staff**

This is a perfect time for staff to focus on teaching especially if you are still paying them. Our children will need rapid catch-up upon their return to school and The Education Institute for Early Intervention (EIEI) is committed to ensuring teachers are well prepared and armed with knowing how to teach! The Education Institute for Early Intervention (EIEI-O) is proud to offer the following WEB BASED training during COVID-19:

1. Strive or Survive: Overcome Stress and Burnout in the Workplace
2. New Educator Survival Checklist and Workshop
3. Differentiation in a Cultural Responsive Classroom
4. Inquiry-Based Teaching Practices That Lead to Deeper Learning
5. Let's Work It Out: The Power Of Conflict Resolution
6. Transforming Classroom Through Differentiation
7. Growth Mindset: Empowering Students To Achieve
8. The Cultural Responsive Teacher: Beginning With Your Cultural Autobiography
9. Poverty and Education: The Heartbreak and the Hope
10. Engaging Students With Diverse Books to Foster Empathy
11. Autism, Down Syndrome, and Intellectual Disabilities, Oh My!
12. What's in Your Strategy Toolbox? Helping Struggling Students
13. Affective Assessments as a Tool for Fostering Positive Classroom
14. Building Communities Through PBIS
15. Collaborating Through Co-Teaching
16. Is a Loud Classroom a Bad Classroom?
17. Navigating Parent-Teacher Conference: Strategies for Success
18. Knowledge Nuggets: Strategies for Improving Teaching and Learning
19. Creative Learning Centers: Activities Relevant to all Children
20. Collaborating is the Future of Education.

**Presented by:** Dr. Essence Allen-Presley

**Who should attend?** Directors, Supervisors, Teachers, Assistant Teachers and Aids

**Location:** Via EIEI Webinar Platform (all sessions can be recorded for follow-up)

**Cost:** \$25/hr up to 5 people

## **Raising Music / Raising Art / Puddle Jumpers**

Since this Pandemic RAISING MUSIC/RAISING ART/ PUDDLE JUMPERS has been committed to bringing children across the city and hopefully across the world an hour of highly interactive music and art via Facebook live.

Pre Pandemic RAISING MUSIC/ RAISING ARTS has continued to bring Music and Art Programs across the city serving small store fronts as well as large center.

RAISING MUSIC/ RAISING ART joyfully brings music and art from one end of the city to another, serving 40 schools.

[www.raisingmusic.org](http://www.raisingmusic.org)

[www.raisingart.org](http://www.raisingart.org)

Here is our Music and Art schedule!

WEDNESDAY: 11:00- 12:00

Facebook Live

PUDDLE JUMPERS LIVE(for toddlers)

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10218973353102712&id=1170507328](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10218973353102712&id=1170507328)

THURSDAY:

ART AROUND THE BIG TABLE/W

MS.PAULINE

Very simplistic age appropriate art project based programs from.toddlers to preschoolers!

FRIDAY:

Mr. Songs Virtual RAISING MUSIC PROGRAM!

We sincerely look forward to beautiful connections!!

PLEASE stay safe and LIFTED!

Pauline Houston McCall

Co/Founder/ Director

"RAISING MUSIC"

[www.raisingmusic.org](http://www.raisingmusic.org)

Founder/Director

RAISING ART

[www.raisingart.org](http://www.raisingart.org)

267-428-8583

## **From NAEYC: The 2020 Week of the Young Child™ is now more important than ever.**

While the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our lives in many ways, it hasn't changed the need to celebrate and support young children and the adults who love, care for, and educate them.

This April 11-17, the ways we'll celebrate childhood may be different than they have been in the past. Some educators will still be in the classroom, ensuring that first responders can be available during this crisis, and adjusting to the stresses that arise from these quickly changing circumstances and maintaining joyful learning in new ways. Some have shifted to maintaining relationships with children and families; arranging playdates

virtually and facilitating at home learning experiences. And still, others will be lifting up their voices from their homes and communities to shine a spotlight on the importance of early childhood education. All are adapting quickly to new circumstances, a trait early educators are known for.

### **Wherever you are celebrating and supporting young children, we are here to support you!**

NAEYC will continue to shine a spotlight on your messages and activities via our social channels\*. We look forward to seeing your photos and videos as we recognize the importance of community and give hope to our children during what are uneasy times. Be sure to post them using #WOYC20 on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

#### **Don't forget to:**

- Visit [our site](#) for resources, support and inspiration, including our new [COVID-19 resource page](#).
- Join your peers on [HELLO](#) for ideas on ways to connect virtually with children, families and communities.
- Use the [America for Early Ed + Week of the Young Child toolkit](#) to lift up your advocacy voice on behalf of the children, families, and educators across the country, and in your community!
- [Sign up for WOYC e-mail updates!](#)

### **Celebrate Week of the Young Child with Walden University with a Live Webinar and Book Giveaway**

During NAEYC's Week of the Young Child™, we want to show our gratitude for the dedication you show in educating and inspiring young minds. Whether in classrooms or virtually, teachers are there for our children. In appreciation, we want to provide you with resources for self-care during these stressful times, as well as a toolkit for cultivating mindfulness in your classrooms, virtually, and in your own home.

[ENTER TO WIN A BOOK OF MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES](#) - *Paint a Double Rainbow provides 40 activities for you and your child to do together. This charming book helps you develop a mindfulness toolbox and incorporate mindfulness into your daily lives.*

*No purchase necessary. Terms and conditions apply. Please visit <https://www.waldenu.edu/Week-of-the-young-child-contest-2020> to review the complete rules.*

[JOIN US FOR A LIVE WEBINAR: "Mindfulness for Educators"](#) - *Explore how mindfulness can change brains to improve focus; decrease stress; alleviate anxiety; and increase curiosity, wonder, and compassion. Learn how mindfulness can prevent or reverse burnout for teachers. Walk away armed with core concepts to use with your students and begin a personal mindfulness practice.*

**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m. Eastern time

**About the Presenter:** Sally Arnold is an international mindfulness educator, speaker, author, and parenting coach. Founder of Mindful Compass, she has taught mindfulness to thousands of children and implemented whole-school mindfulness programs.

To learn about Walden's education degree and certificate programs, visit [WaldenU.edu/naeyc](https://www.waldenu.edu/naeyc) or call 1-855-628-3427.

### **Upcoming in-person workshops through Children's Village in Philadelphia**

[CLICK HERE](#) for May 2nd Infant Toddler Mini-Conference

[CLICK HERE](#) for May 2nd STEM Conference

[CLICK HERE](#) for May 16th Workshops

[CLICK HERE](#) for June 6th Workshops

[CLICK HERE](#) for June 13th Diversity Mini-Conference

[CLICK HERE](#) for June 13th STEM Mini-Conference

## **From PSAYDN: Integrating Authentic Citizen Science Learning STEM Experiences into Your Virtual Classroom or Afterschool Program**

Tuesday, April 28, 2020 | Webinar 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ET

Citizen science is the involvement of members of the public in scientific research. Children can be online citizen scientists and help in conservation and protect natural resources in three ways: Increase scientific knowledge like a scientist, encourage related 21st century skills and explore science-related careers.

Citizen scientists can contribute in many ways, including helping to track patterns in space or time, in the discovery of species and fostering environmental stewardship issues. Citizen Science projects and activities flow across a variety of fields including ecology, astronomy, medicine, computer science, statistics, psychology, genetics and engineering. In this session, participants will learn how to adapt citizen scientist projects into their virtual 21st CCLC programming.

**Presenter:** Winnie Black, Ed.D., PSAYDN Project Accelerate Coordinator, National Lead STEM, Center for Schools and Communities

[Register for Integrating STEM Experiences](#)

## **From Temple U's Institute for Disabilities: Fast Five for Families!**

Welcome to our first Fast Five for Families!

We will be sharing these weekly and plan to give families access to a full database soon, as well. This is geared to our infant, toddler and preschool Early intervention families in Philadelphia, but you'll find a variety of resources that span ages and locations. Our Fast Fives will include 5 family resources and 1 educator resource that have been vetted. Please share!

To be removed or to add a person to our list, please email me at [cathyrm@temple.edu](mailto:cathyrm@temple.edu)

Cathy Roccia-Meier, MPP  
Project Director of Leadership Development  
Institute on Disabilities at Temple University  
College of Education  
1755 N 13th Street  
Student Center, Room 411S  
Philadelphia, PA 19122  
215-204-1772  
215-204-6336 (fax)

<http://disabilities.temple.edu>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/IODTempleU>

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Philadelphia-PA/Institute-on-Disabilities-at-Temple-University/370093060891>

For our first Fast Five for Families, here are some of the most useful resources that I have found.

1. From the National Center for Pyramid Model, this has great resources on helping children and families cope during emergencies and national disasters. There are videos, social stories and more.

<https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/emergency/index.html>

2. PATTAN's Behavior initiative has created a YouTube video for families on the Corona virus- it breaks it down how a child understand by their age, what to expect and tips on what to do.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci6K9SKfOZw&feature=youtu.be>

3. Camille Catlett's from the University of North Carolina's monthly resources for family ([attached](#))– This April edition is all on learning at home for infants, toddlers and preschoolers (up to 3rd grade.) The file is attached and below is a glimpse of one of the resources:

### **30 Days of Good Things for Young Children**

The talented women at [Good Things for Young Children](#) have created a set of developmentally appropriate ideas to engage with children and made those resources available in English and Spanish. The activities support learning and development across all domains.

[https://ec66a173-09bc-407a-ba3b-](https://ec66a173-09bc-407a-ba3b-3357166208f4.filesusr.com/ugd/da44eb_8d45510f0bd64fa8bf7e8579b2dc332e.pdf)

[3357166208f4.filesusr.com/ugd/da44eb\\_8d45510f0bd64fa8bf7e8579b2dc332e.pdf](https://ec66a173-09bc-407a-ba3b-3357166208f4.filesusr.com/ugd/da44eb_8d45510f0bd64fa8bf7e8579b2dc332e.pdf) (English)

[https://ec66a173-09bc-407a-ba3b-](https://ec66a173-09bc-407a-ba3b-3357166208f4.filesusr.com/ugd/da44eb_78917cfdfac547fca37aadab9d18e875.pdf)

[3357166208f4.filesusr.com/ugd/da44eb\\_78917cfdfac547fca37aadab9d18e875.pdf](https://ec66a173-09bc-407a-ba3b-3357166208f4.filesusr.com/ugd/da44eb_78917cfdfac547fca37aadab9d18e875.pdf) (Spanish)"

4. PEAL center's Covid-19 resources. Extremely helpful and comprehensive. It includes their recent webinar on what families need to know, including data collection tools for the home, links to updates across the state and resources to help families working with their children at home.

<https://pealcenter.org/peals-covid-19-resource-page/>

5. Children's list. Various resources with activities, virtual experiences, 30 days of activities for families and more. ([also attached](#))

[https://docs.google.com/document/u/1/d/10utemMjle4JspQzvMakhoN6Yn1Cf3\\_CgfYa4s57e0co/mobil\\_ebasic](https://docs.google.com/document/u/1/d/10utemMjle4JspQzvMakhoN6Yn1Cf3_CgfYa4s57e0co/mobil_ebasic)

**Educator Resource** - encouraged to share with families too!

Supporting individuals with Autism at Uncertain times from the UNC Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute Autism Team

[https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/sites/afirm.fpg.unc.edu/files/covid-](https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/sites/afirm.fpg.unc.edu/files/covid-resources/Supporting%20Individuals%20with%20Autism%20through%20Uncertain%20Times%20Full%20Packet.pdf)

[resources/Supporting%20Individuals%20with%20Autism%20through%20Uncertain%20Times%20Full%20Packet.pdf](https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/sites/afirm.fpg.unc.edu/files/covid-resources/Supporting%20Individuals%20with%20Autism%20through%20Uncertain%20Times%20Full%20Packet.pdf)

## **From Child Trends: How to promote children's resilience to the COVID-19 pandemic**

A [new resource](#) outlines ways to promote children's resilience to the COVID-19 pandemic and protect them from the potential negative effects that traumatic events can have on children's development and well-being.

During this pandemic, children are being forced to cope with major changes to everyday life, such as physical distancing and home confinement. Additionally, their families may struggle to meet their basic physical and emotional needs. Rates of poverty, unemployment, parental mental health problems and substance abuse, child abuse and neglect, and intimate partner violence tend to rise during disasters. At the same time, children may not receive critical supports they need when community services are limited and fewer adults have direct contact with children.

The good news is that over four decades of research on resilience shows that protective factors can protect children from harm and increase the chances they adapt positively to adversities such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Families and communities can work together to promote these protective factors:

1. **Sensitive, responsive caregiving.** The primary factor in a child's recovery from an adverse or traumatic event is the presence of a sensitive and caring adult.
2. **Meeting basic needs.** Meeting the basic needs of children and families—such as food, shelter, clothing, and medical and mental health care—is essential to protecting children's well-being in stressful times.

3. **Emotional support for children.** Emotional and behavioral changes in children are to be expected during a pandemic, but most children will return to their typical level of functioning from before the pandemic if given strong emotional support from adults and communities.
4. **Support for caregiver well-being.** When parents' and other caregivers' needs are met, children are more likely to receive sensitive and responsive care.
5. **Social connectedness.** Although in-person contact may be limited during the pandemic, physical distancing should not turn into social isolation, which is a risk factor for child abuse and neglect, adult and youth substance use, and family violence.

Read the full fact sheet on [childtrends.org](http://childtrends.org).

### **From PA Department of Health:**

- **Support & Referral Helpline**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has launched the statewide Support & Referral Helpline staffed by skilled and compassionate caseworkers who will be available 24/7 to counsel Pennsylvanians struggling with anxiety and other challenging emotions due to the COVID-19 emergency and refer them to community-based resources that can further help to meet individual needs. "Pennsylvanians will overcome this crisis together by following the guidance of public health professionals who advise social distancing to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, but physical isolation does not mean social isolation," said DHS Secretary Teresa Miller. "We must support people where they are during this time of crisis."

**The toll-free, round-the-clock support line is available at 1-855-284-2494. For TTY, dial 724-631-5600.**

To create and staff the support line, DHS has partnered with the Center for Community Resources (CCR), an experienced regional crisis and call center provider based in Butler County, licensed to provide crisis services. CCR staff are trained to be accessible, culturally competent and skilled at assisting individuals with mental illness, intellectual disabilities, co-occurring disorders and other special needs. Staff use the principles of trauma-informed care to listen, assess needs, triage calls, and provide appropriate referral to community resources to children, teens, adults and special populations. CCR will collaborate with individuals, families, police, emergency medical teams, hospitals, schools, and human service providers on the local level to provide quality care to their community members. "We recognize the significant strain this crisis is putting on families across Pennsylvania, and we want you to know that you do not have to struggle alone. If you need help, reach out," said Secretary Miller. "The compassionate caseworkers staffing the Support & Referral Helpline will be there to answer your call and be a line of support during this difficult time."

**Many other resources also remain available to Pennsylvanians in need of support, including:**

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
  - Nacional de Prevención del Suicidio: 1-888-628-9454
  - Crisis Text Line: Text "PA" to 741-741
  - Veteran Crisis Line: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
  - Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990
  - Get Help Now Hotline (for substance use disorders): 1-800-662-4357
  - United Way of Pennsylvania: Text your zip code to 898-211 for resources and information in your community.
- **For the latest information on COVID-19 in Pennsylvania, visit [the Pennsylvania Department of Health website](http://the Pennsylvania Department of Health website).**

### **Sharing Spotlight**

- Special thanks to Sherilynn Kimble for sharing [the attached article](#) from the McCormick Center: "There is Not a Lion: Managing Social Isolation While Caring for Children."
- *We are staying connected with our children through virtual classes on Zoom! It has been very exciting and the children love it! We wanted to be able to show the children some familiar faces and let them know we haven't*

*ghosted them lol because they don't understand what's going on right now. We also are using a software that I send weekly lessons for them to complete and i can monitor and keep track of their process! Thank God for the internet!!*

*Have a blessed day and remain safe indoors!*

Ineeze A. Gainey, Director of Children's Playhouse FCCH,CCC

Founder of IAG Childcare Consulting

- Interesting article in the Philadelphia Inquirer: [Philly's day-care system is on the verge of a coronavirus collapse. Emergency cash is coming. Will it be enough?](#)

That's all for now...that's enough, right?!

Whether you are open or closed, thank you for all that you are continuing to do for children and families during this challenging time. Please be sure to take care of yourself, and reach out if there is something that ELRC 18 can help you with, or if you would like to contribute something to the next Sharing Spotlight.

*Let's just try to be more understanding and little kinder to each other in this difficult time.*

*We will get through this ... TOGETHER!*

Take good care,

Diane

Diane Getzinger

Assistant Director of Provider/STARS

ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County

2361-2373 Welsh Road

Philadelphia, PA 19114

Phone: 267-504-4179

Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2020 3:16 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Latest update from OCDEL, plus LOTS more!!

Hi everyone!

I know that you've all be waiting very patiently (it's a relative term!), and I'm so happy to tell you that we finally have information about what is going to happen with regard to your subsidy payment beyond April 30<sup>th</sup>. While this will surely be welcome news, there are some subtle changes from the past month. I also have updates from PHLpreK, plus a ton of exciting new and important resources to share with you. Please take a deep breath (now take one more...or maybe two), then read through the following information carefully, and be sure to let me know if you have any questions!

First, and most important (drumroll please...), late Tuesday afternoon, OCDEL sent out the following:

### **Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts Related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement: ELRC-20 #07: Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

The Announcement provides additional information to child care programs participating in Child Care Works (CCW) and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This is an updated policy, providing additional information and replaces ELRC Announcement 20 #05.

During this emergency period, child care providers are encountering complex challenges that exceed the scope of normal operations. The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) recognizes that providers are impacted by mandated closure for significant periods of time due to COVID-19 impacts. In order to continue supporting child care providers through facility closures resulting from COVID-19, DHS is updating its previously issued guidance which addressed CCW payments through April 30, 2020.

Effective May 1, 2020, CCW payment will continue to providers, with the exception of providers who have been closed by Certification due to a negative sanction or who have reported permanent closure. Providers will continue to be paid based on enrollment for those children who remain eligible for CCW through normal invoicing and payment methods.

In most cases the ELRC is not terminating CCW eligibility for families during the COVID-19 pandemic, however, there are some instances where eligibility must end. During the COVID-19 closures, adverse actions will continue to occur for the following circumstance:

- Over income
- Voluntary withdrawal
- Loss of appeal
- Child turns 13
- Family moves out of Pennsylvania
- Family assets over \$1 million
- Intentional fraud
- TANF cases determined ineligible by the County Assistance Office

Providers will no longer be paid for children for whom an adverse action was issued.

This policy will be in effect through May 31, 2020.

The status of this policy will be reviewed and updated before the end of May 2020 to provide guidance to ELRC and inform the child care community of the policy for the period of June 1-30, 2020.

For additional details, please see [Announcement: ELRC-20 #07: Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

## **From ELRC 18**

- **Cases/enrollments ending after April 30<sup>th</sup>** – According to the communication above, there are certain circumstances where cases will close and enrollments will end after April 30<sup>th</sup> and before May 31<sup>st</sup>. If you receive a Child Care Stop Letter or Notice of Adverse Action with an effective date during this period and are not sure if it is due to one of the above reasons, please forward the information (including case record number) to [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org). Our staff will research the issue and will inform you if the case can be reopened/re-enrolled or if the action will stand and the enrollment will end. Please note a couple of things:
  - **There may be cases that you have already forwarded to ELRC 18 because they closed between 3/13/2020 and 4/30/2020 and we reopened/re-enrolled care.** Please note that some of these cases may become ineligible again due to one of the reasons listed above. If you receive another Child Care Stop Letter or Notice of Adverse action for a case that we already reopened/re-enrolled, it may not be a mistake. (Just a friendly heads up!)
  - **Parents cannot request that their care be suspended during this time, but they can request to voluntarily withdraw from the subsidy program altogether.** If this happens for a child enrolled in your program, you will receive a Notice of Adverse Action. Please note that the parent would have to reapply for subsidy if care is needed in the future.
  - **Parents experiencing loss of employment remain eligible at this time, even if they are currently due for redetermination.** Please encourage parents to submit their redetermination timely, even if they are not currently working. Parents will be granted presumptive eligibility during this time and will remain eligible at this time.
  - **Over income at redetermination** - If parents are determined over income due to temporary overtime or pay differential (i.e. hazard pay), please have the parent reach out to eligibility to discuss this (and appeal, if necessary). ELRCs have been instructed to disregard this additional income, but it is easy to overlook (especially the pay differential).
- **Changes to your online attendance invoice** – Many of you reached out after receiving an alert that your online invoice was updated and either found no changes highlighted or ALL of the children on your invoice highlighted. Please note that we are currently working on removing all closures from March 13 through April 30, 2020 (which results in a change to your invoice!). Once we have direction from OCDEL about whether or not to remove May closures, this process may be repeated. Of course, if you have concerns, please reach out to me directly by replying to this e-mail.
- **April invoices** – Providers will be required to submit invoicing for April in order to receive payment in May. Detailed directions about how to complete your April invoice will be mailed with invoices. Please be sure to refer to this [before completing your invoice](#), as we continue to receive updates from OCDEL and want to be sure that you have the most up-to-date information. If you have any questions, please e-mail [ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18invs@caringpeoplealliance.org).
- **Merit and ERA Grants** – We continue to process Merit and ERA grants as quickly as possible, knowing that you must expense these grants by June 30<sup>th</sup> (which is right around the corner). We are also at a point where we have more applications than funding. However, it is important for providers who are eligible continue to apply, as grants that cannot be funded in the current fiscal year will receive priority for next year's funding. If you have any questions about the status of your grant, please follow-up directly with your ELRC 18 Quality Coach.
- **All three ELRC 18 offices remain closed to the public at this time.** However, staff are available to assist via phone, e-mail and fax. For the most recent updates, please visit our [COVID-19 page on our website](#). We also

have a special [Parents' Corner](#) on our website, which also includes important updates, as well as resources and activities for families and children.

- **Co-payment Changes / Updated Income Guidelines** – With everything else going on, this important change almost slipped by! The updated Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (FPIG) have been released and **become effective May 4, 2020**. An updated co-payment chart is [attached](#) and the revised income guidelines can be found below. Currently enrolled families whose co-payment will decrease as a result of the revised guidelines will see their co-payment decrease effective May 4, 2020 (you will receive a copy of the updated Enrollment Summary). If a co-payment is due to increase as a result of the revised guidelines, the co-payment will not increase until the parent's next redetermination. Please remember that while we are sharing these with you, the ELRC is responsible for determining eligibility and co-payments based upon information submitted by the parent to our office. If you ever have concerns about a parent's eligibility, please encourage **the parent** to follow-up with ELRC 18.

Family Size	Maximum Yearly Family Income (May 2020)
2 (single parent with one child)	\$34,480
3	\$43,440
4	\$52,400
5	\$61,360
6	\$70,320
7	\$79,280
8	\$88,240

### **PHLpreK Releases Details for Continuation/Expansion Slots**

I've received almost as many questions about the status of PHLpreK provider applications as I have about subsidy over the last few weeks. I'm very happy to share with the you the following that was sent out to the field on Tuesday by PHLpreK:

#### **FY21 PHLpreK Application and Funding Timeline - COVID-19 Update from April 21, 2020**

Due to the extraordinary circumstances regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and the impact the business interruption may have on programs when business resumes, the Office of Children and Families (OCF) is modifying the process for awarding seats for FY 21.

#### **FY20 Contracted PHLpreK Locations seeking to continue as PHLpreK providers in FY21**

OCF intends to renew contracts for FY21 for **currently contracted** PHLpreK locations that are in good standing with DHS, Keystone STARS, and PHLpreK. Information from the Letter of Interest and FY20 compliance monitoring performance data will be utilized to determine the proposed FY21 slot allocation. These locations will not have to submit a full application. If you have already applied, we sincerely appreciate your efforts. Details regarding specific slot awards will be sent at the end of May at which time providers will have an opportunity to indicate their **intent** to continue as a PHLpreK provider in FY21 and their **capacity** to accept the proposed slot allocation, either in full or in part.

## New Provider Locations seeking to become PHLpreK providers

New provider locations who completed the Letter of Interest and were determined eligible or conditionally eligible to move forward to the full application phase will need to submit an application by **May 29, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** in Reviewr at: [https://app.reviewr.com/s1/site//PHLpreK\\_LOI](https://app.reviewr.com/s1/site//PHLpreK_LOI). The application data sheet, narrative questions, and criterion will remain the same. Some required uploads have been made optional in the application to accommodate applicants with limited access to documents as a result of the COVID-19 business interruption. This information will be gathered at a later date for successful applicants. Programs that applied by the original deadline of April 7, 2020 do not need to resubmit another application. The submitted application will be reviewed. All other applicants may begin entering information into Reviewer upon receipt of this announcement.

All applications submitted by **May 29, 2020** will be reviewed to determine a “pre-qualified” pool of potential PHLpreK providers only. Providers determined to be “pre-qualified” will be on a wait list to be considered for slot awards for the FY21 program year and will be awarded a contract **only if** further reallocation of current FY20 slot allocations is needed or if funds are available for expansion in FY21.

Please refer to the revised timeline below for important changes to dates:

### FY2021 PHLpreK Application for Funding Timeline

May 27, 2020	Notice of Intent to Award to currently contracted PHLpreK Provider locations
May 29, 2020	Application deadline for new provider locations
June 26, 2020	Pre-Qualified notifications sent

All awards are contingent on the availability of City funds. The impact of COVID-19 to the application process will continue to be monitored and any updates will be posted to the PHLpreK website: <http://www.phlprek.org/provider-application/>.

**Application Materials** can be found here: <http://www.phlprek.org/provider-application/>.

**Questions and Answers** about the application can be found here: <http://www.phlprek.org/provider-application/>.

Additional questions about the FY21 PHLpreK application process can be directed to [phlprek@phmc.org](mailto:phlprek@phmc.org).

Thank you,

PHLpreK Team

## **FREE Family Child Care Business Series April 24 through May 4**

Join your peers for a deep dive into exploring business practices that will help you weather storms like, oh, I don't know, a global pandemic! Seriously, this is a great opportunity to take a look at the things that will make the difference between being able to survive and thrive! **Register by April 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Sponsored by ELRC 18 and presented by Mary Graham and Children's Village. [Please see this flyer for details](#) (and share with a colleague or two)!

## **FREE from First Up**

- **Mental Wellness During COVID-19 Isolation – Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2p-3p**  
Presenter: Aaron Brinen, PsyD.  
Details and registration (pre-registration is required) can be found [here](#).  
PQAS credit not available
- **No Small Matter Screening and Discussion – Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1p-3p**

Details and registration (pre-registration is required) can be found [here](#).

PQAS credit is available.

This will be offered again on 4/29/2020 at 1p.

- **FREE Community of Practice: Community Connected through Crisis**

**Part 1 - Tuesday, April 28th, 11:00am-12:00pm**

**Part 2 - Tuesday, April 29th, 11:00am-12:00pm**

First Up invites you to join a virtual Community of Practice, sponsored by the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, as a place to connect and share experiences around the COVID-19 crisis. They will be introducing the concepts of trauma and resilience as they relate to the impacts of closures and uncertainty due to the pandemic. Across three parts, they will offer definitions of trauma, strategies for maintaining mental well-being, and practical tips for communicating with your team, with families, and with children. Most of all, this is a place for you to take care of yourselves! They encourage you to participate in Part 1 before Part 2, as there is foundational information given in Part 1. Please plan to join using video, if you are able.

## **From the Office of Head Start: Caring for Children in Group Settings During COVID-19**

**Friday, April 24, 2020, 2–3:30 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Early care and education (ECE) programs have many questions about how to keep children and staff healthy during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Guidance for open programs is now available from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#). This webinar will also highlight the guidance and best practices in preventing the spread of disease from [Caring for Our Children](#). The session will include time for questions and answers.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Understanding what we currently know about COVID-19
- Reviewing CDC and AAP guidance for ECE programs that are currently open
- Integrating the guidance with best practices in managing infectious disease
- Providing child care during the COVID-19 pandemic, including what's different
- Applying the CDC guidelines to your program to [prevent and respond to COVID-19](#)

Presenters

- Dr. Deborah Bergeron, director, Office of Head Start (OHS) and Office of Early Childhood Development (ECD)
- Marco Beltran, senior program specialist, OHS
- Margaret (Meg) Fisher, MD, FAAP
- Abbey Alkon, RN, PNP, MPH, PhD

Target Audience

- Head Start program directors and health services staff
- Head Start State Collaboration directors
- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) lead agencies
- Child Care Resource and Referral agencies
- State public health departments
- Child care health consultants
- Child care directors
- Nurses working with any ECE program

How to Register

Select the link to register: [https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1307432&tp\\_key=457529d53e](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1307432&tp_key=457529d53e)

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Get your copy by subscribing: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

Contact the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) at [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 888-227-5125.

## **Spring Garden Academy Offers FREE Virtual Literacy Fair for Families – Starting April 27<sup>th</sup>** **Educators, Authors, Artists, and Mental Health Professionals Encourage Early Literacy, Social Emotional Wellness and Family Engagement with Virtual Summit during COVID-19 Crisis**

*Spring Garden Academy's second annual literacy fair is going viral illustrating how the power of words can bring families together during the most unprecedented times.*

Spring Garden Academy, a pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade school located in the Nicetown/Tioga and Spring Garden neighborhoods of Philadelphia, has participated in the *Parents Lead Children Read* program for two years. The program has brought together teachers across different disciplines and family members eager to learn how to understand children, manage stress, and foster literacy inside and outside the classroom.

In partnership with community leaders and early learning advocates, Spring Garden Academy will launch a virtual summit, ***Healing Our World with Words***. The event is a celebration of storytelling with interactive activities, read-aloud, games, and resources for the entire family. The kick-off for the event is April 27, 2020 at 10:00AM and activities will conclude on May 1, 2020.

Semona Williams, mother of two and educator at Spring Garden Academy states, "A lot of times there is tension between parents and teachers. This program is designed to encourage parents and teachers to collaborate as partners, empower and equip parents to play and build conversations with a targeted focus on literacy, emotional and relational health." She goes on to state "everyone around the world is hurting in some way, feeling stuck in their homes, and possibly stressed; what better time than now to focus on the power of words to bring healing and encouragement?"

Join us virtually from anywhere in your home!

Register Online at [register.sgaphilly.org](http://register.sgaphilly.org)

***Parents Lead, Children Read***, sponsored by United Way, PNC Bank, and Lakeside Global Institute, is a program for children, parents, and educators using a trauma-informed approach to build parent-teacher relationships, strengthen family engagement and emergent literacy for young children.

### **CONTACT**

[healingwords@sgaphilly.org](mailto:healingwords@sgaphilly.org)

[Please share this colorful flyer with your families and staff!](#)

## **From the National Center on Early Childhood Development Teaching and Learning – Teacher Time**

**Little Scientists – Exploring MATH with Preschoolers**

**Tuesday, May 5, 2020, 3-4p ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. In this episode, explore the math component of STEAM, including how preschoolers explore everyday math concepts through daily routines and interactions.

Preschool teachers and family child care providers will learn strategies and teaching practices that help all children explore math. Discover ways to use art to encourage math concepts and skills.

Topics for the webinar series include:

- Describing the math component of STEAM, including the importance of early learning environments and interactions that support math exploration by preschoolers
- Identifying strategies and teaching practices that help preschoolers explore math concepts and skills
- Describing modifications to learning environments or teaching practices to ensure preschoolers with varied developmental skills and abilities can fully participate in math learning experiences

Target Audience

- Teachers and family child care providers who interact daily with preschool-aged children
- Education managers, coaches, and child development specialists
- Support staff

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2079352/A94CE8C623BEBD0462E45483E0D41394>

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdtl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdtl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

## **Certification Listserv**

If you have not already, please be sure to sign up for the Pennsylvania Certification listserv. They send out REALLY important and timely updates! [Here is the link to sign up.](#)

## **From the PA Key: Free Online Learning resources for infant, toddler, preschool/pre-k teachers**

Below are a few **FREE** online learning resources to share with ECE programs, teachers and especially those currently working to care for children of essential workers.

- The CHILD team has created a website that includes a lot of advice and strategies to support the social-emotional health of children in these challenging times: <https://socialemotionalchild.org/>
- FREE online learning opportunity described below. The modules focus on health and safety. The modules are from the LearnERS Coaching platform that the PA Key is offering in partnership with the ELRC Quality Coaches.
  - As you know, the ECERS and ITERS Personal Care Routines subscales each contain three items that address best practices to help stem the transmission of infections like COVID-19:
    - Health Practices
    - Meals/Snacks
    - Diapering/Toileting

- These modules can be viewed on any computer, tablet, or smart phone. They provide a practical resource for teachers, directors, and coaches to focus on these critical issues. **Please feel free to share this link with your colleagues as well as any child care providers you work with:** <https://branaghgroup.com/modules/>

## **PENN SACCA Survey**

PENN SACCA is seeking information from school-age programs across the state to understand how PENN SACCA can support OST providers during this time and in upcoming months. PENN SACCA would appreciate if you could please share out to SAC programs. Here is the link to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QVCYSGJ>

## **From Keystone First PA: Resource Guide (updated 4/19/2020)**

Good morning, all:

Please find the most up-to-date version of the [COVID-19 Resource Guide](#). This document includes research on the Philadelphia Five-County Area focused on Meal/Food Distribution and Availability, General COVID-19 Resources, Local Providers and COVID-19 Testing Sites. This is primarily based on information that was readily available online at time of research (specific dates for each of the tabs are at the top in red). As we know, the COVID-19 situation and details are changing rapidly, please use this as a guide, but double-check hours and locations as needed.

Stay well!

Here's a brief summary of what's new:

- **News/Updates**
  - As of 8pm last night, all employees and customers of essential businesses in Pennsylvania must wear a mask. Businesses are ordered to deny entry to any customer not wearing a mask unless the business is providing medication, medical supplies, or food. In that case, the business must provide alternative methods of pick-up or delivery: <https://6abc.com/health/pennsylvanians-required-to-wear-masks-to-enter-essential-businesses/6115227/>
- **Online Resources Tab**
  - US Department of Agriculture (USDA): Meals for Kids Site Finder – Interactive map to find where to find meals for kids during COVID-19. So far, 35 States have submitted information. Pennsylvania has not yet been populated – will monitor and update once the data is available
  - US Department of Agriculture (USDA): National Hunger Hotline – Operated by Hunger Free America, can call for English or Spanish and Hotline staff connects callers with emergency food providers in their community, government assistance programs, and various social services.
  - **Reminder:** The Statewide Support & Referral Helpline is available and staffed by skilled and compassionate caseworkers who will be available 24/7 to counsel Pennsylvanians struggling with anxiety and other challenging emotions due to the COVID-19 emergency and refer them to community-based resources that can further help to meet individual needs. **1-855-284-2494**
- **Providers\_Testing Sites Tab**
  - Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church on 2800 W. Cheltenham Avenue will host COVID-19 testing through the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium – **TODAY 4/20/20 from 10am-4pm**
  - Rite Aid testing location on Ogontz was converted to a self-swab drive-thru testing with the hopes of increasing the number of tests they can complete
- **Philadelphia Locations Tab**
  - Starting today, 4/20/20: two locations have been established for School District of Philadelphia students to pick up loaner Chromebooks if they haven't received one already. Also these locations are for technical support, families can bring the Chromebook to them for repair or service. Added both locations to the Guide

- **Philadelphia Resources Tab**
  - [ForPhilly.com](#) – a site created by Epic Church in partnership with Easter Outreach, Philabundance, PCA, Share and others is centered around making sure that those who are the most vulnerable in our city have access to food during the COVID-19 Crisis. You can sign up for volunteer shifts, donate, purchase a T-Shirt (every shirt purchased provides 2 30-40 pound boxes of food to families and seniors in need), it also includes a form that can be filled out if you or someone you know is in need of food. The service involves Meal delivery in order to continue to support and expand social distancing regulations.
  - Added Philadelphia School District website for technical support with Chromebooks and Remote Learning
  - Added information on the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium, a group of health care professionals who built a mobile unit to provide free testing to Philadelphia’s most vulnerable neighborhoods. TODAY they will be conducting testing at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church on 2800 W. Cheltenham Avenue. Will monitor and update locations as more become available.
  
- **Montgomery County Locations Tab**
  - Jenkintown School District: Added distributions dates 4/22 and 4/23, also can provide food to those not on the Free and Reduced lunch program can fill out a Google Doc application form to apply for food
  - Jenkintown United Methodist Church: Food pantry days and hours change to Thursdays 12pm-2pm
  - Hatboro-Horsham School District: Reduced to 2 times a week distribution
  
- **Delaware County Locations**
  - Tomorrow, 4/21 – Emergency Meal Distribution at First African Baptist Church sponsored by State Rep Maria Donatucci and Darby Township Commissioner Tammy Taliaferro

**Fast Five for Families, Volume 2 - Plus Virtual trainings for Philly EI families start 4/21/20!**

Welcome to volume 2, of our Fast Five for Families. You can now access our complete resource database [HERE!](#) Additionally, please see our upcoming virtual family training and events for **Families First starting 4/21/20** and the PICC.

Now, on with the links!

1. Resources for families and early learning providers during COVID-19 from Philadelphia’s Office of Children and Families. Comprehensive links including everything from online learning, resources, the Pre-k Philadelphia School District’s education learning packets, to concrete support from food, housing with links and phone numbers, mental health and stress support including such items as the easily downloadable [Self-regulation song for children](#)

[Philly Resources for Families and EI Providers during COVID-19](#)

2. Ami Patel, educator, has created her own site for resources for Philadelphia families -her early childhood section includes easy activities at home for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Be sure to click the home page when visiting for many other resources.

[Mrs. Covid-19, Early Childhood](#)

3. The PA Family Network is hosting weekly Family Forum virtual meetings for families on Wednesday nights at 7PM

[Family Forum](#)

4. The National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC)’s Corona Covid-19 Resource library is another one-stop site with great resources. The information will be helpful to families beyond those that have Down syndrome. It

includes resources for speech, physical and occupational therapy, online learning links and resources, including those for “different learners”, a social story kit to explain the Pandemic to children, medical facts and research and fun family activities like [12 Famous museum virtual tours](#).

[National Down Syndrome Congress Corona Covid-19 Resource library](#)

5. Early Intervention Training and Technical Assistance (EITA) has created webinars to help families know what to expect and share The Office of Child Development and Early Learning’s (OCDEL) plans as they continue to service Early Intervention families in PA.

[Navigating EI Services during COVID 19 for Families of Infants and Toddlers](#)

[Navigating EI Services during COVID 19 for Families of Preschool age children](#)

### **Educator Resource - Encouraged to share with families too!**

PEAL is on our list again, this time for educators (remember PEAL continues to add great webinars weekly that are great for families and educators). Our highlighted resource from PEAL is an easy yet comprehensive tip sheet on No and Low cost options for virtual participation and contact

[No and Low cost options for virtual participation and contact](#)

**Families First** begins virtual sessions this week - join as many as you like!

All are on Zoom via computer, device, smart phone or call-in number. Hope to see you all there!

**Transition to Kindergarten - What to expect in Kindergarten for my child with Autism or behavioral challenges.** Register at:

[What to expect in Kindergarten for my child with Autism or behavioral challenges](#)

Tuesday, 4/21 6PM-7:30PM.

**What's the Philly 411?** Topic - Updates for families on Infant, toddler and Preschool Early Intervention during Corona. Register at:

[What's the Philly 411?](#)

Friday, 4/24 6PM-7:30PM.

**Rules, Rights and Regulations; Early Intervention in Philadelphia - Corona Edition.** Understanding the system basics from eligibility and evaluations to regulations and acronym soup. Plus, what to expect during Corona measures. Register at:

[Rules, Rights and Regulations; Early Intervention in Philadelphia - Corona Edition](#)

Saturday, 5/2 12PM-

1:30PM.

**Sensory in the Home! Guest Presenter with Beth Konde**, Occupational Therapist with certification in the Sensory Integration Praxis Test and Board Certified Behavior Analyst. Philadelphia infant, toddler and preschool Early Intervention families will learn all about sensory in the home. Register at:

[Sensory in the home for families!](#)

Tuesday, 5/5 6PM-7:30PM.

**“Transitions” Virtual Brunch.** Learn about changes and what to expect when your child turns 3 or transitions into kindergarten in Philadelphia. Representatives from the School District of Philadelphia, Elwyn Early Learning Services, Philadelphia Infant-toddler services, and families will share the process and tips to transition smoothly and what to expect during the Corona Pandemic.

**PLUS**

The PICC (Philadelphia Interagency Coordination Council) presents **Fun Activities for your child at Home!**

Thursday, 4/23 6PM.

Email [Philadelphiaicc@yahoo.org](mailto:Philadelphiaicc@yahoo.org) or text 215-338-7775

Zoom link will be sent after registration

Cathy Roccia-Meier, MPP

Project Director of Leadership Development

Institute on Disabilities at Temple University

College of Education

1755 N 13th Street

Student Center, Room 411S

Philadelphia, PA 19122

215-204-1772

215-204-6336 (fax)

<http://disabilities.temple.edu>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/IODTempleU>

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Philadelphia-PA/Institute-on-Disabilities-at-Temple-University/370093060891>

**PCCY is ready to sign up children and their parents for Medicaid or CHIP – for FREE**

To our valued friends and community partners,

*Do you know a child who is uninsured or whose parent lost their job and their insurance?*

*Do you know families having trouble getting care because of language barriers?*

**PCCY's Helpline can help children and parents apply for Medicaid and CHIP for FREE, over the phone and in the parent's language.**

**Download Helpline flyers in 10 languages: Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Bengali, French, Khmer and Indonesian**

Please use the attached image in your social media posts and follow us on social media at:

- Twitter: [@pccyteam](#)
- Facebook: [@pccypage](#)
- Instagram: [@pccyphotos](#)
- LinkedIn: [company/pccy](#)

**Please forward this email to your families and colleagues at other organizations to get everyone covered!**

**Job Openings**

- **Peoples Emergency Center** is looking for individuals interested in working with families who experience homelessness and their children ages 0-3 to address parent-child interactions and development-centered parenting and child well-being. They are looking to hire Parent Educators for its 'Parents As Teacher (PAT) home visiting program. Learn how to apply at [https://www.pec-cares.org/uploads/2/9/3/9/29391481/parent\\_educator\\_pat\\_-2020.pdf](https://www.pec-cares.org/uploads/2/9/3/9/29391481/parent_educator_pat_-2020.pdf)

**Digital CPR and Fire Safety Classes**

Tri-State Training and Consulting, LLC is now taking requests to schedule digital CPR classes as well as DIGITAL fire safety classes. These classes will be held by ZOOM. Users are required to have a computer or cell phone with connection to wifi. To schedule classes they should contact me directly and the number listed below.

*Kevin Kerns EMT*

Tri-State Training and Consulting LLC  
National Director of Training & Fire Safety  
228 Ridley Ave Folsom, PA 19033  
Office: 866-503-3430 x403  
<http://www.tristatetraining.com>

## **Sharing Corner**

- *Shared by Tracey Wescott-Cooper at Alpha and Omega Christian Academy* – Please share the [attached flyer](#) with parents that may be in need of free diapers at this time.
- *Free Live Art and Music Broadcast* – [See the attached pictures for more details \(and cute faces\)!](#)  
We are BROADCASTING LIVE FROM FB! <https://www.facebook.com/raisingmusic/>
- *From Sherilynn Kimble at the Kimble Group* – The article, "[Adapting customer experience in the time of Coronavirus](#)" not only validates the work directors are doing now, but offers key insights: "Four actions can address immediate customer needs and prepare for the future", things I talked about in the meeting:
  - Focus on fundamentals: Care and connection
  - Meet your customers where they are today
  - Reimagine customer experience for a post-COVID-19 world
  - Build capabilities for a fast-changing environment

- *From Donna Hines at Early Life Academy:*  
Hi,

My name is Donna and I am a business owner in Philadelphia. Like most of you, my business has been drastically affected by COVID-19.

I'm writing you this letter because just like the people we serve in our various communities, businesses too are the back bones of the communities we serve.

I am sure most you have done much already, however; I am asking that you rise to another level to support the community you serve by informing them about staying at home, washing their hands, and maintaining social distancing. Despite if you are currently open or closed, the communities need an extra level of support. And if you are doing so already please encourage other business owners you know to do the same.

Please note that I am aware that many businesses are taking these measures already, and I applaud you. With Philadelphia's infected number of residents increasing, we all need to take these measures into serious actions.

The people and businesses are in charge of our communities, and we can dictate how long this virus stay in Philadelphia. By staying home, washing our hands, and practicing social distancing; we can get through this together.

Please join me while I stand for the communities I service, by informing them to practice these measures.

With your help we can slow down the spread of this virus because we are stronger together!

Sincerely a Concerned Business Owner in Philadelphia,

Donna Hines, M.Ed.

Last, but not least, while I don't like to repeat information, please be sure to continue to check out the following ongoing, AWESOME resources to help you navigate the COVID-19 crisis:

- [First Up's COVID-19 webpage](#) (you think my e-mails have a lot of information!)
- **PHMC COVID-19 Business Support** - PHMC's Business Operations programs have general resources available at no cost to all early learning providers. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about the COVID-19 Business Support repository of resources from PHMC and partners to support early education operators, including upcoming webinars, recorded webinars, links to partner and other community resources including grant and loan applications, and new tools as they are created. You'll also find an "ask a question" feature to get answers on your business operations, stability, or sustainability.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a one-page flyer outlining general resources available for providers across Philadelphia and the Southeast Region, and details on additional TA opportunities available for providers operating in Philadelphia. For more information, email [ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org](mailto:ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org)

Our ECE PDO Team can assist you in navigating the resources and refer you to the Business Operations team. Call us at 267-773-4400 or email [ECEPDO@phmc.org](mailto:ECEPDO@phmc.org) to connect with our team.

- **PennAEYC COVID-19 Webpage** - PennAEYC continues to update the [COVID-19 page on our website](#) with links to our previous e-messages and to OCDEL announcements and guidance. There are also links to NAEYC and other online resources.

That's all for now! As always, please reach out with your questions/concerns – e-mail is best. Thanks for ALL that you're doing - whether you are open and caring for children so essential staff can work or whether you're working virtually with your staff and families to make sure they stay safe and engaged while quarantined.

**We WILL get through this...TOGETHER!!**

Warmest wishes,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2020 12:41 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: TIMELY resources (Webinar at 2p TODAY) and updates

Good afternoon, everyone!

I know that you're not used to hearing from me during daylight hours, but this one was too important to wait!!

### **Reinvestment Fund Announces Paycheck Protection Program Processing**

Congress is expected to release a second round of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds soon. In anticipation of the new funding round, Reinvestment Fund is sharing information on how you can prepare to submit an application. **With this round of funding, Reinvestment Fund will be processing PPP applications.** Reinvestment Fund's PPP program will focus on supporting small businesses and nonprofits that are aligned with their mission-driven financing and overlooked by mainstream markets. They will provide up to \$25 million in total loans, with a maximum of \$200,000 per loan. [CLICK HERE](#) for more on the focus of their program.

The online application is expected to open as early as Monday, April 27, 2020 and will be announced via email and on Reinvestment Fund's [website](#). **An informational webinar is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2020 at 2 pm EST. [CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#).**

**Eligible applications will be processed once they are complete, on a first come, first served basis. Due to this, we STONGLY encourage everyone to be prepared to submit applications on the day the application window opens.** For more information [CLICK HERE](#) to visit Reinvestment Funds website. **If you need help or have questions, please email [PPPHelp@reinvestment.com](mailto:PPPHelp@reinvestment.com).**

Also, please keep in mind the following resources:

### **PHMC COVID-19 Business Support Technical Assistance**

PHMC is offering free business support technical assistance for providers operating in Philadelphia, **including help in applying for loans and grants.** Expert consultation is available for up to 25 hours of one-on-one sessions to help you navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic to stabilize ECE businesses, so you are poised to re-open when that time comes.

PHMC consultants can assist you with how to:

- Apply for available loans/grants
- Save money while closed
- Track losses
- Understand staffing issues
- Develop a plan for reopening and recovery.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply. Please visit PHMC's [COVID-19 Business Support](#) web page for information on available resources.

### **PCCY Consulting Services Help with Completing SBA Loans and Understanding Employment Law**

PCCY is offering early learning and child care program operators free technical assistance in completing federal loan applications (Small Business Administration) earmarked to sustain for-profit and non-profit entities. PCCY

can offer you a 30-minute appointment with their technical experts. To help you prepare for these appointments, they suggest you read these documents so you can decide if any or all of these loan opportunities make sense for your child care program.

**Paycheck Protection Loans.** The application form is quite simple, but the rules are a bit complicated. The application form can be [found HERE](#).

**Economic Injury Disaster Loans** up to \$10,000. This application is also quite simple but the rules are more complicated. The application form can be [found HERE](#).

To schedule an appointment to get assistance applying for the federal loan funds [CLICK HERE](#) or [CLICK HERE](#). If there are no slots available with the first link, please try the other.

PCCY is also offering early learning and child care program operators free technical assistance in understanding the ins and outs of the new employment laws during the COVID-19 national emergency. PCCY can offer you a 30-minute appointment with their technical experts.

[CLICK HERE to schedule an appointment](#). To prepare for your session please read this helpful [resource guide](#) created by [Jeffrey Campolongo](#), one of five lawyers working with PCCY to support child care providers during the pandemic.

## **From Certification - Register Now for the [April 29, 2020, Webinar: Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open](#)**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open](#) is the most current guidance as of April 21, 2020. The Bureau of Certification is recommending child care providers follow the CDC guidance to the best of their ability. Certification will not cite or sanction providers not complying with the CDC guidance. The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), Bureau of Certification, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Key, will be offering weekly webinars on the CDC guidance for operating child care providers. The webinars will be facilitated by Amy Requa, MSN, CRNP (Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner) and Senior Health Manager at the Pennsylvania Key and will:

- Clarify the practices described in the CDC Guidance
- Emphasize how the guidance offers practices for keeping people healthy and safe
- Answer questions that are submitted by providers

The target audience for these webinars is currently operating providers. Since registration is limited, those not currently providing services to children should wait and watch the recorded webinars to be posted on the [Pennsylvania Key website](#). The weekly webinars will be offered each Wednesday. Interested participants are required to register prior to each webinar. A registration link will be sent out each Monday.

Click the time below to register for the April 29, 2020 webinar.

- [1:00 – 1:30 pm – Child Care Center and Group Child Care Home operators](#)
- [7:00 – 7:30 pm – Family Child Care Home operators](#)

OCDEL values the input of providers currently serving children and encourages child care providers currently providing services to children to submit questions prior to the webinars. OCDEL is committed to reviewing and addressing all questions to the best of their ability. Questions may be submitted prior to the webinar to [hssco@pakeys.org](mailto:hssco@pakeys.org). Questions can also be entered into the chat box during the webinars and will be addressed in future webinars.

## **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: [Tuesday, April 28th 9:00 - 11:00 am](#)**

Weekly virtual meetings continue to be held throughout the COVID-19 crisis. An OCDEL representative will share updates and answer questions, and ELRC's, community partners and experts from other fields will share information and resources. Send questions for OCDEL to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org).

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/275013232>

Meeting ID: 275 013 232 Dial by phone: 312-626-6799 or 929-436-2866

[Click here for 4/21 meeting slides, recording, and resources shared.](#)

## **From First Up: No Small Matter PQAS Event: [Wednesday, April 29th 1:00-3:00pm](#)**

No Small Matter, a feature documentary explores the most overlooked, underestimated, and powerful force for good in America today: early childhood education. The film will be followed by a panel discussion and an opportunity to raise your voice as an advocate. PQAS hours will be available for ECE professionals.

**For ECE Professionals:** Two PQAS hours will be available for “Early Childhood Development and Policy.” Pre-registration on [www.papdregistry.org](http://www.papdregistry.org) is required. All links to join on Zoom are on the Registry. Registration is FREE!

**For Other Participants:** [click here to join](#) with password: 357669

## **Free NAEYC Webinar: Families and Educators Supporting Learning at Home**

**Thursday, April 30, 2020 3–4 p.m. EDT**

Home–school relationships have always been a cornerstone of children’s success and well-being. But cultivating positive, supportive partnerships between educators and families is an ongoing process, one that requires reciprocal respect and communication to grow. You can support children's social emotional growth and their learning of concepts and skills by partnering with their families. This support is even more important in difficult times. [Join](#) authors Kelly Ramsey and Karen Nemeth for a discussion of strategies and resources that will help you reach out to diverse families of young children and build great relationships that support young children. Attendees will receive a certificate of attendance for viewing this live webinar. [Register Now.](#) *This webinar will be recorded and available to view within 1 week of the live presentation.*

## **Virtual PD Opportunities from PennAEYC**

- **4/30/20 10:00-11:00 am - PA Health Law Project, [Health Insurance Options During COVID-19](#).** This webinar will help answer important questions that are relevant right now about health insurance. For those that have lost health insurance coverage through their employer, options for individuals and families will be explained. The basics of COBRA, Medicaid, CHIP and marketplace coverage will all be addressed. This includes how to apply and eligibility rules. The experts will also cover whether unemployment benefits and stimulus checks impact eligibility for health coverage. Finally, information will be shared about access to health services and supports, including testing and treatment related to COVID-19 for the insured and uninsured. [REGISTER](#)
- **5/6/20 3:00-4:00 pm - Holly Elissa Bruno, [Happiness is Running Through the Streets to Find You -Take 2](#)** [Translating Trauma Harsh Legacy into Healing](#) [REGISTER](#)
- **5/13/20 1:00-2:00 PM - Brandy Fox, PA Key, The Mental Health Continuum of Support and Services in PA** **REGISTRATION COMING SOON**
- **5/15/2020 1:00-2:00 pm - Judy Jablon, [Optimistic Leaders for Children, Family and Friends in Challenging Times](#)** [REGISTER](#)

## **Summer Learning Planning for Afterschool Providers during the Pandemic**

**Wednesday, April 29, 2020 | Virtual 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. ET**

PSAYDN invites Pennsylvania afterschool and summer learning professionals to participate in a virtual forum to discuss challenges, planning, and adaptation needed for summer programming in light of emerging issues from COVID-19. This forum includes conversation, questions, best practices with an emphasis on necessary catch-up learning, determining whether programs need to be virtual and how to structure virtual programs, regulatory/guidance updates, and how to ensure quality and quantity of staff in light of current layoffs. PSAYDN Director Laura Saccente and Betsy Saatman, TA Specialist for School-Age Initiatives at The Pennsylvania Key, will facilitate the forum.

## **2020 Virtual Summer Academy: Afterschool Makerspace and Engineering Project**

**Deadline: Friday, May 8, 2020**

**Training dates:** Between June 8 and July 24, 2020

STEM Next has funded a six-week virtual Pennsylvania afterschool makerspace and engineering project for 15 out-of-school time programs this summer. Participants of the Summer Academy will learn about and implement makerspace

and engineering design curriculum for underserved middle school girls. PSAYDN will provide ongoing training and technical assistance as needed. Successful applicants will be responsible to deliver the curriculum, host a culminating activity/event, and collect project data. In addition, resources, a stipend, and miscellaneous STEM supplies will be provided. The application takes approximately 15 minutes and should be completed in one sitting. Applicants will receive a response by May 22, 2020, on their application status. Additional details on training date options will be provided at that time if accepted.

### **The Sharing Corner:**

- *From Pee Wee Prep:* [Attached](#) is a copy of the Pee Wee Prep Virtual class schedule that staff have been following during the closure. Our coach Ms. Entela Beqiraj has also been part of the program classes providing resources and supporting the teachers. Feel free to use the codes to stop into the classrooms to view.

I really do have more to share, but needed to get this to you in time for this afternoon's webinar! Have a great week, and I'll be back soon!!

Best,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 2, 2020 8:58 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Updates, opportunities and resources...oh my!

Hi everyone,

I hope that you were able to spend some time outside enjoying the glorious weather and recharging your emotional battery! As usual, I have LOTS to share with you, so without further ado...

### ELRC Updates

- **April invoicing:** The ELRC 18 deadline to submit invoicing for payment on May 20<sup>th</sup> is this Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. [Attached](#) is a flyer with instructions about how to complete and submit your invoice for payment; this flyer was also mailed with April invoices.
- **Important information for families:** Please encourage parents to submit their redetermination paperwork timely, even if they are not currently working. During this crisis, parents who are not working at redetermination will be granted “presumptive eligibility” for 92 days from their redetermination due date. If they are still not working at the end of that 92-day period, another 92 days will be granted. Parents who are working and whose paystubs may reflect overtime or a pay differential (i.e. hazard pay) should know that this amount will be disregarded when calculating their income for eligibility and co-payments. Parents can get additional information, including forms that they can print and submit, on our ELRC 18 website on the [Parents’ Corner](#) tab.
- **A few words about PELICAN Provider Self Service (PSS):**
  - Because OCDEL is paying all licensed providers (open or closed) from March 13<sup>th</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>, ELRC 18 staff have been working very hard to delete all closures for that time period from your profile in PELICAN. When this happens: 1) Please do not re-enter the closures; and 2) You may see unexplained highlighting on your Online Attendance Invoice – all children highlighted, only the closure date that was removed highlighted, etc.
  - Default days for the FY 2020-2021 year have been entered by OCDEL. This means that you can enter your closures for the upcoming fiscal year whenever you’re ready. We do not yet have information about deadlines, but I did want to give you a heads up!
  - In November, PSS functionality was increased to allow providers to handle several STARS tasks online. Tempting as it is, please do not use this functionality yet! ELRC staff have not been trained on how to process these online requests and are having to follow-up with you to manually request the paperwork. I promise that as soon as we know how to process your online requests, I will shout it from the rooftops! 😊
- **STARS Updates:**
  - **50% Staff Turnover Trigger** - In light of the pandemic, significant turnover of staff will trigger neither a new STARS designation visit or a new Pennsylvania Quality Assurance (PQA) assessment. Please remember, though, that if ELRC suspects the quality of a childcare program has diminished, we can follow up to insure the program has maintained the STAR level standards.
  - **STAR 2 Virtual Designations** – ELRC quality coaches and designators are excited to be able to work with STAR 1 programs seeking to Move Up to STAR 2. We will be able to complete

designations as long as: 1) All of the paperwork and documentation required for a STAR 2 designation can be submitted electronically (scanning/emailing, postal mailings, the Keystone STARS Document Uploader, etc.) and 2) a virtual meeting can be held during which time the director and possibly some program staff are available, as well as show examples of the children's screenings and assessments. Please reach out to your [quality coach](#) to discuss if this option is right for your program.

- **Merit and ERA Grants** – It's official, we have more requests for quality grants than we are able to fund this year. What does that mean?
  - If you received a grant agreement for signature, it will be funded, but it is critical that you return it as soon as possible so payment can be processed.
  - If you submitted a grant and we are unable to fund it at this time, we will notify you within the next week.
  - If you have already received your grant, or if you receive your funds in the coming weeks, it is CRITICAL that you expend the funds and submit your Final Expense Report **by June 30, 2020**. If you have any questions about this, please contact your [quality coach](#).
  - If you have not yet applied, but are eligible, it is important to submit an application. Unfunded grants receive priority for next year's funding and will further demonstrate the true need for quality funds in Philadelphia. If you aren't sure if you are eligible or need help applying, please contact your [quality coach](#).

### **From Certification: Phased-In Approach to Reopen Business: What it means for child care programs**

On Friday, May 1, 2020, Governor Wolf announced 24 counties that will begin a phased reopening on May 8, 2020. This reopening will follow guidance issued for a [Phased-In Approach to Reopen Business](#). Under this guidance, child care can begin to reopen without a waiver when a region is moved into the yellow phase. Counties included in the May 1, 2020, announcement can be found [here](#).

We understand child care operators are eager to understand what reopening may look like in the counties moving into the yellow phase. This understanding will assist in making the decision to reopen and preparing for that date.

Several questions have been posed related to the impact of Dr. Levine's order for [businesses maintaining in-person operations](#). Based on careful consideration, it has been determined that this order will not apply to reopening child care providers. The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) will issue guidelines for reopening child care providers. These guidelines will be largely based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance specific to child care providers found [here](#). Child care operators considering reopening must familiarize themselves with this guidance.

OCDEL will announce details of an on-demand webinar for providers. The webinar will address answers to commonly asked questions about the CDC guidance for child care and any supplemental guidance issued by the departments of Human Services and Health. The webinar availability will be announced via direct communication on the Certification listserv, the PA Early Education News listserv, and will be posted on the PA Key COVID 19 resources page [here](#).

OCDEL will continue to communicate regularly with providers regarding guidance for reopening child care and technical assistance available to providers. In some cases, communications will be state wide

and in others it will target programs in regions or counties that have moved into the yellow phase. If your facility is located in a region that is still currently in the red phase, you may not receive the same communication because it may not be applicable to you at the time. OCDEL will specifically target communication to the providers in regions or counties as they progress through the phases.

Under the Governor's Disaster Proclamation, OCDEL's Bureau of Certification made recommendations for the suspensions of specific Child Care Facility regulations. These recommendations are currently still in place. When this process changes, providers will be advised.

### **PEFSEE Grant – Be Sure to Apply by **May 8<sup>th</sup>****

If you haven't yet completed your application for funding through the Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education (PEFSEE), please be sure to take care of this right away! Eighty-two providers received \$1.2 million in Round 1 of funding! Grants are available up to \$5,000 for FCCH, \$7,500 for GCCH and \$20,000 for center-based programs. Visit <https://www.reinvestment.com/pefsee/> for information and application. Please don't miss out on this important source of funding for early education programs!!

### **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: **Tuesday, May 5th 9:00 - 11:00 am****

This will be the 8th weekly virtual meeting! We are pleased that information and resources from OCDEL and community partners continue to be helpful to the ECE community. Send questions and concerns to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org) prior to the meeting. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/275013232>  
Meeting ID: 275 013 232 Dial by phone: 312-626-6799 or 929-436-2866  
[Click here for 4/28 meeting slides, recording, and resources shared.](#)

### **FREE Beginning Business Administration Series for Center Directors**

**Register by **May 6, 2020**, Series Starts **May 7, 2020****

ELRC 18 is pleased to fund a second session of the popular Children's Village Beginning Business Administration Series. The first series offered virtually just completed, and was very well received. This is a great time for directors and program owners who realized gaps in their business practices due to the COVID-19 crisis to learn the tools and resources to strengthen program administration. This opportunity is being offered free of charge, but space is limited. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for information and an application.

### **Quality Care and Early Learning During and After the Pandemic**

This free online training series is presented by Dr. Anice Dickerson and Associates in partnership with ELRC 18 for practitioners caring for children birth to school-age. You can sign up for any number of sessions. All sessions are scheduled for "naptime," 1:00 – 3:00. If you attend at least 3 sessions, there is a prize waiting for you! **To register**, email your full name, your PD registry # and titles of workshop(s) you will attend to [conceptsintaining@gmail.com](mailto:conceptsintaining@gmail.com)

#### **1. Managing the Stress of Returning to Work During or After a Pandemic** **Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

No doubt about it – we are living in usual times! This session provides techniques to manage stress and build positive interactions into your day. How can we support ourselves and one another?

#### **2. Children Returning to Early Care: The Power of Positive Interactions**

### **Thursday, May 21, 2020**

Positive interactions among adults and child guide behavior by establishing predictable routines, setting clear rules with children, and modeling kindness and respect. Together, these actions help children feel noticed, confident, and secure. Let children know you're on their team!

### **3. Essentials of Classroom Management During and After a Pandemic**

#### **Tuesday, May 26, 2020**

This training session will examine essentials of classroom management during and after a pandemic. Using knowledge of social/emotional development, learn about managing classroom behaviors children may exhibit as a result of the pandemic, using various tools and techniques.

### **4. Opening Your Doors Again**

#### **Thursday, May 28, 2020**

What does re-opening a child care program during or following a pandemic look like? How do we re-establish high quality early learning environments and welcome families back? Includes a discussion of shared support and services as a tool to move forward.

## **New Technical Assistance Support from First Up**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Child care programs are either closed or only open to serve the families of "essential" workers. In either case, the impact on children, families, staff, and child care programs is profound. First Up aims to learn more about your programs specific concerns and plans for reopening so that we can advocate for their needs and identify resources to address them. Please complete this 5-minute, anonymous [survey](#) with as much candor and detail as possible.

We also know that childcare providers are struggling with significant questions during this time – questions like, how to restructure the business in order to reopen, how to mitigate against various risks, what are the best options for financial support and for retaining staff and more. In an effort to support child care providers in resolving these questions, First Up has partnered with Woman's Way and the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey to establish a limited Child care Technical Assistance Fund to connect the Counties (Bucks, Montco, Chester, Delaware) and Philadelphia providers with experts who will provide free consultation related to their business stabilization and re-opening concerns during this Covid-19 era.

Some areas of focus for technical assistance include:

- Risk Management or Health/ Safety Practices.
- Employee Rights, Benefits, and compensation
- Budgeting & cash flow projections

If you're interested, please see the [attached flyer](#) for more details and complete the online [application](#) for technical assistance. Additional questions can be directed to: [Tafund@firstup.org](mailto:Tafund@firstup.org). Please note that in order to avoid duplication of services and to ensure that collectively we can serve as many providers as possible, First Up is coordinating these services with our partner organizations that are also providing TA.

## **Phase VII of First Up's PQAS Virtual Training Now Available – May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

First Up is thrilled to provide more webinars in response to your requests for professional development. [See the attached flyer](#) for courses and share with your ECE community networks. Look through our offerings as soon as you can and sign up today!

## **Webinar: Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open – May 6<sup>th</sup>**

OCDEL, the Bureau of Certification, and the Pennsylvania Key, will be offering weekly webinars on the CDC guidance, which they recommend that child care providers follow. Those not currently providing services to children should wait and watch the recorded webinars to be posted on the [Pennsylvania Key website](#).

Submit questions in advance to [hssco@pakeys.org](mailto:hssco@pakeys.org)

- [1:00 – 1:30 pm – Child Care Center and Group Child Care Home operators](#)
- [7:00 – 7:30 pm – Family Child Care Home operators](#)

## **Caring for Children in Group Settings During COVID-19: A Follow-up Conversation**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 1–1:30 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Early childhood education (ECE) programs have many questions about how to keep children and staff healthy during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Guidance for open programs is now available from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#). This question-and-answer chat is a follow-up to the [Caring for Children in Group Settings During COVID-19](#) webinar, which took place April 24, 2020. Michele Cheung, MD, FAAP, a pediatric infectious disease expert, will offer additional guidance.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Understanding what we currently know about COVID-19
- Reviewing guidance for ECE programs currently open
- Integrating the guidance with best practices in managing infectious disease

Presenters

- Michele Cheung, MD, FAAP
- Marco Beltran, PhD, senior program specialist, Office of Head Start

Target Audience

- Head Start program directors and health services staff
- Head Start State Collaboration directors
- Child Care Resource and Referral agencies
- State public health departments
- Child care health consultants
- Child care directors
- Nurses working with any ECE program

How to Register

Select the link to register:

[https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1312141&tp\\_key=80ad8382b9](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1312141&tp_key=80ad8382b9)

Participants will receive an email with a link to download the certificate of attendance at the end of the live event or on-demand viewing.

The registration link can be used for both the live event and on-demand viewing. The recording will be available to watch on-demand from Wednesday, May 6 at 2 p.m. ET until May 31, 2020. Because access to the live event is limited and the session may be full, we recommended watching the webinar on-demand. A version with English closed captions will also be posted on the Early Childhood Learning

and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) 10–15 days after the event. Participants who watch the video on the ECLKC will not receive an attendance certificate.

#### Before the Webinar

Before joining the webinar, be sure to watch the [Caring for Children in Group Settings During COVID-19](#) webinar. It reviews guidance for open programs from the [CDC](#) and [AAP](#), as well as best practices in preventing the spread of disease from [Caring for Our Children](#).

#### Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Get your copy by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

#### Questions?

Contact the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) at [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 888-227-5125. For more information about registering for the event, access, alternate phone lines, and certificates, contact [webcasts@hsicc.org](mailto:webcasts@hsicc.org).

### **Free online conference from May 6-12 on Challenging Behavior**

Are you an early childhood teacher or leader concerned about the high incidence of challenging behavior and thinking about how we can best create positive change in our field? [Register for this event here](#).

### **From PennAEYC: Promotion, Prevention and Intervention Services for Young Children in PA**

PennAEYC is proud to bring you this special free webinar event featuring Brandy Fox, LCSW, IECMH-E<sup>®</sup>, Pennsylvania Key

#### **Are you thinking about ways to support mental health issues for young children following COVID-19?**

Join Brandy Fox for a conversation about early childhood services grounded in a promotion, prevention and intervention framework. Learn about the general landscape of early childhood services and “where” they fall on this continuum. Identify simple steps that may help families navigate these services to best meet the needs of their children.

[Join us on Wednesday May 13, 2020 at 1 pm \(EST.\)](#)

### **From PSAYDN (Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network)**

- [Project-Based Learning: How to Integrate it Virtually in your Afterschool Program](#)

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020 | Webinar 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ET | PSAYDN Event**

Making project-based learning part of the virtual out-of-school time experience gives youth new opportunities to become leaders, thinkers, and problem-solvers. Through projects that they help design, students get more engaged in their communities and add their voice to discussions about local issues. Participants will learn about what project-based learning is and how to implement it in daily, virtual, and physical afterschool activities.

- [Improving Virtual Access to Your Afterschool Program](#)

**Thursday, May 28, 2020 | Webinar 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ET | PSAYDN Event**

Access is a key issue for youth and their families as only 50% of Pennsylvanians have access to an

afterschool program. In this webinar, participants will learn the difference between equality and equity and the importance of cultural and racial responsiveness. They will also learn ways to use data to demonstrate access needs and ways to improve virtual access in their communities.

### **ECELS Immunization Webinar Q and A Document and Recorded Webinar Option for Professional Development Credit**

If you were unable to participate in the webinar and would like to view the webinar, you can submit the evaluation form and obtain 1.5 hours of professional development credit for FREE. Please share this option with staff members as appropriate. Access the recording and evaluation form on the [ECELS Website](#). The final version of the Q and A document from the webinar can be accessed on the [ECELS Website](#). We hope this document will help with questions that come up related to immunization promotion and documentation. Please contact ECELS with any questions at [ecels@paaap.org](mailto:ecels@paaap.org) or 800/243-2357.

### **Virtual CPR- First Aid- AED Training**

Although most programs are closed, some certifications can be renewed virtually in preparation for reopening. Contact Sheena Ford for virtual Pediatric, Adult, or Infant CPR training at 267-227-0217 or by email at [uboratraining@gmail.com](mailto:uboratraining@gmail.com).

### **New Resource for Families – CORA’s Family Resource Line**

Please share the [attached flyer](#) with your staff and families. CORA is providing free, live telephone support for families in the areas of: academic support, parent consultation, community resources, and early childhood. CORA employees are available to speak with parents Monday-Friday from 9a-1p and also on Wednesdays from 3p-7p.

### **Families First Webinar: Transitions Brunch**

**MAY 12, Tuesday 10:00 AM - NOON**

- Learn about changes in services, policies, procedures and what to expect when your child turns 3 or transitions into kindergarten in Philadelphia.
- Representatives from the School District of Philadelphia, Elwyn Early Learning Services, Philadelphia Infant-Toddler services, and families will share the process, tips to transition smoothly and what to expect during the Corona Pandemic.

**REGISTER:** [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_jDTQiSZeTkCX9woC6picdQ](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jDTQiSZeTkCX9woC6picdQ)

(please register for Spanish by May 8)

### **School District Offers Online Registration for PreKindergarten and Kindergarten**

While we all adjust to digital learning, we know parents and guardians are anxious to prepare for next year. The Office of Early Childhood has made that possible during the COVID-19 Quarantine by giving parents the ability to complete the PreK and Kindergarten applications online.

To be eligible for PreKindergarten, children must be at least 3 years old on or before September 1, 2020, and must not be age-eligible for kindergarten; children and families must live in Philadelphia; and families must meet current Head Start or Pre-K Counts income guidelines. Students enrolled in Pre-K will have access to a wide-ranging educational curriculum; state-certified teachers; extensive health services; and free daily breakfast, lunch, and snack. For more information about Pre-K and a link to the online application please visit [philasd.org/prek](http://philasd.org/prek). The District’s Office of Early Childhood has

Customer Support Liaisons available to answer questions and assist parents in the process. Parents can call at 215-400-4270 or fill out the [contact form online](#), and a Customer Service Liaison will follow up within 48 hrs.

To be eligible for Kindergarten, children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2020, and must not be eligible for Pre-K, nor be 6 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020; children and families must live in Philadelphia. For more information about Kindergarten and a link to the application please visit [philasd.org/thriveatfive](http://philasd.org/thriveatfive).

### **Mazaam- free educational resources for families**

In the current context where parents are looking for digital educational resources they can use at home, I wish to inform you that we are offering our app Mazaam for free until June 30th, 2020 to support families who are now confined at home. The user doesn't need to create an account and there are no subscription fees. Through classical music, Mazaam hopes to help alleviate the challenge families with young children are currently facing across the US. FYI, Mazaam is an edutainment app for children (ages 4 to 6) which uses classical music as an educational tool that promotes the development of emotional, cognitive and psychomotor skills. The app is available in English and French.

The Florida Department of Education has added Mazaam to its list of free educational resources for families <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/7JpoC2koDofVnqKtnTD6U>  
Mazaam has also been included to Washington State Library's learning and entertainment resources for K-20 educators. <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/t9vYC31pVpiXL17Cgm0qY>

You may download and try our app here: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/b1NIC4xqGqhzLNYtBKAqx>

If you have any questions, you may contact me any time.  
Thank you,

Marie  
Director of Business Development  
<https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/aF5gC5yrKriMqmg2i1yD>

Last but not least, thanks to Sherilynn Kimble for sharing the following reminder about Self Compassion: <https://youtu.be/JhMyVVoZX9M>.

So, here's to recharging and gearing up for a great week – for your families, your staff and YOU! Of course, if you have questions or need to locate resources, please let me know (e-mail is ALWAYS the best way to reach me)!

**We WILL get through this...TOGETHER!!**

Until next time,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2020 11:58 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELCR 18 E-bulletin: Updates non-updates and a TON of opportunities!

Happy Thursday, everyone!

I'm sorry that it's been a couple of weeks since the last e-bulletin. I kept thinking that we'd have an update about <take your pick of the many things we're waiting on!> any day now. So, I'm 100% sure that as soon as I finish getting this e-mail out to you, the updates will come flooding in! (Maybe I SHOULD have sent this sooner! ☺)

### ELRC 18 Updates

**Waiting List** – What waiting list? That's right... There is currently **NO** waiting list for families who are eligible for subsidized child care funding – priority or regular! Families who have been notified that funds are available do need to reply within 30 days. However, if they do not currently need care (but expect that they will in the near future) they will not lose their subsidy at this time. For families who may be working and in need of care, we will work with them to locate an open program, if necessary, and will use the regular enrollment request processes in place. Which brings me to my next update...

**They're baaaack!** – I know that many of you missed speaking with your favorite provider specialists. Most of them have returned to work! Please feel free to call or send them an e-mail; I'm sure that they would love to hear from you!! Just don't ask about...

**CARES Grants** – Governor Tom Wolf announced on Wednesday an initial distribution of \$51 million of funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to support child care providers around Pennsylvania. Distributed in partnership with the General Assembly, this initial funding will reach nearly 7,000 child care centers. (Read the full text of the press announcement [here](#).) While this is certainly welcome news, ELRCs will not be getting full information/direction until next week. Here's what I can tell you now, though:

- According to the press release, Philadelphia County providers are slated to receive a total of \$11,146,700!
- We prefer that you e-mail your completed Attestation to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). Instructions for other methods of submitting your form can be found on the PA Keys website link in the press announcement.
- **At this time, I am only acknowledging receipt of your form.** Once we have further direction, we may need additional information/documentation and will communicate that to you directly if needed. Timely response from you will be critical to ensure that your payment is disbursed on June 20<sup>th</sup>.
- All providers (statewide) are due to receive their CARES payment on June 20<sup>th</sup>. I realize that this is the same day you will receive your subsidy payment for May and that this may cause confusion. Once we have our directions from OCDEL, our team will think outside of the box about possible ways to mitigate that for you.

**Continued Subsidy Payments** – At this time, OCDEL has confirmed that subsidy payments will continue (based on your enrollment as of March 13, 2020) until May 31, 2020. Look to the Certification listserv and the PA Early Education News for an announcement (hopefully next week). Of course, I will be sure to send it out in an e-bulletin, as well.

**Reminder for subsidized parents who are not working at redetermination:** ELRC continues to mail out and process annual redeterminations for families. It is important that parents respond to this redetermination, even if they are not currently employed. Remember that if a parent is not currently working due to COVID-19, they will be granted 92 days of presumptive eligibility (with an opportunity to extend another 92 days if needed). Additionally, with regard to unemployment income: Normal unemployment still needs to be counted, **the \$600 COVID unemployment should not be counted.** This will be consistent with what Office of Income Maintenance is doing for TANF eligibility.

We continue to work with the many other stakeholders in Philadelphia to support you through this difficult time. The resources available to you through these partnerships are listed next, followed by a TON of other important opportunities and information!

## **PHMC COVID-19 Health and Safety Supports**

*ELRC 18, a program of Caring People Alliance, is pleased to support the following new services from PHMC*

**A critical component of reopening your business is making the right decisions about the health and safety of your children and families, your staff, and your program. So many policies to update and implement! How are you going to implement social distancing...and masks!?**

PHMC COVID-19 Health and Safety team continues to monitor information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning, and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. We can help you navigate the recommendations and guidelines to turn them into everyday practices in your program and classrooms. These supports are available **AT NO COST** to **ALL PROVIDERS:**

- Family, group, and center based
- Single site, multi-site, and multi-service
- Nonprofit and for-profit
- Any STAR level

**Fund for Sustaining Quality (FSQ) Website** <http://sustainingquality.org/ask-a-question>

Anyone can visit any time to review the COVID-19 Health & Safety Support resources from PHMC and partners to support early education operators, including upcoming new webinars, recorded webinars, links to partner and other community resources, including new tools as they are created.

### **“Ask a Question”**

Do you need a discreet answer to a specific question? This feature is set up on the FSQ website to get answers to questions about health and safety practices. Questions and answers will be made anonymous and used to develop a **Frequently Asked Questions** which will be posted on the site for access at any time. [CLICK HERE](#) to ask a question! You can also access this on the FSQ website.

### **Interactive Health & Safety Office Hours and Webinars**

Register for upcoming virtual open office hours every Friday at 10am to ask Health and Safety Consultants questions about how to keep children and staff healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic with [Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open](#) from the CDC. [CLICK HERE](#) to register in advance.

Webinars will be available soon and developed based on your incoming questions and TA requests.

### **Individual Health & Safety TA for Providers Operating in Philadelphia**

Expert consultation is available for one-on-one sessions to help you navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic to implement best practices in Health & Safety, so you are ready to re-open when that time comes. [CLICK HERE](#) to apply. A link is also available on the FSQ website.

Do you need on-going help to plan through reopening? Support is available to assist in developing:

- Health and safety protocols

- Proper cleaning and disinfecting plans and monitoring tools
- Staff training plans for use of wearing face masks
- Updated policies and procedures

For more information, email [ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org](mailto:ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org).

### **FREE Business Stabilization Technical Assistance**

PHMC is funded generously by ELRC 18, a program of Caring People Alliance, to provide free business stabilization TA through June 30, 2020. Expert consultation is available for one-on-one sessions to help you navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic to stabilize your business, so you are poised to re-open when that time comes. PHMC consultants can assist you with how to:

- Apply for available loans/grants
- Save money
- Track losses
- Understand employment/staffing issues
- Develop a plan for reopening and recovery
- Put new health and safety practices in place

[CLICK HERE](#) to ask a question about your BUSINESS OPERATIONS, stability, or sustainability and we will find an answer. Or, as you start to plan your reopening, you may have questions about HEALTH & SAFETY issues.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply. Services will be scheduled chronologically based on the date a TA request is received. Please visit PHMC's [COVID-19 Business Support](#) web page for information on available resources.

### **One more time...FREE Beginning Business Administration Series for Directors of Child Care Centers – Starts 6/3/2020**

ELRC 18 is very pleased to fund one more cohort of the popular and invaluable pd series from Mary Graham at Children's Village. Sessions begin on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be held via Zoom with plenty of opportunity for participation. Be sure to register quickly, as space fills, and there is a pre-session survey that must also be completed. (That means don't wait until the last minute!!) Please see [the attached flyer](#) for additional details and registration information. Don't miss out on this opportunity to find out what you're missing out on to strengthen your business - important now more than ever!

### **First Up Offers Free Webinars and Free Communities of Practice sponsored by ELRC 18 - NOW**

First Up is providing FREE online Professional Development in support of their partners' needs, including the a variety of free webinars through Zoom alongside your colleagues for continued virtual learning facilitated by their expert PD Instructors Alix Cozen, Nancy Nicewonger, Kim Farmer, Lissette Rivera, and Wendy Wagner. Explore topics and ideas to enhance your classroom learning centers and learn more about literacy. Continue your PD goals during this time so you will come back to the classroom with exciting, new ideas and activities for your children. There is a new lineup every week. For registration and this week's sessions, [click here](#). And don't forget the weekly SEPECC meeting – Tuesdays from 9a-11a!!

### **Quick COVID-19 Reminders from OCDEL:**

- **Permanent and Temporary Closures:** Please continue to remind your providers of the importance of them reporting closures both in the *red* and *yellow* counties to the Human Services DRA account at: [RA-PWOCDELFACILCLOSE@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFACILCLOSE@pa.gov). These details are vital as OCDEL attempts to keep these lists updated for parents who are searching for child care.
- **Requirement to Update Waivers:** Child care centers and group child care homes in a commercial buildings in *red* counties who received a waiver earlier in the crisis (March/April), but decided not to open or opened shortly and

closed again, **must** submit another waiver request to Certification at: [RA-dpwoednet@pa.gov](mailto:RA-dpwoednet@pa.gov). Providers should follow the same process used when submitting the original waiver request to obtain an updated waiver prior to opening if in a *red* county.

- **Decision Tree Link:** The following link is a resource for a decision tree during Covid-19 and the Key will also have on their site: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/Childcare-Decision-Tree.pdf>

### **From Certification:**

- Certification is making [the attached letter](#) available to help parents understand what is being expected of child care programs that are reopening. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact the Southeast Regional Certification office at 1-800-346-2929.
- Certification Inspection Instrument and Worksheets for all Child Care Facility Types Renewal Inspections

For the past two months, COVID-19 has brought a unique set of challenges to the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) and the child care community. In addition to supporting providers through these circumstances, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and OCDEL have remained committed to the creation and finalization of the Certification Inspection Instrument (CII). The CII prioritizes the transparency of the child care regulations, and standardizes how they are applied, measured, and enforced consistently across Pennsylvania while supporting consistent documentation of inspection results and compliance. Please review these materials and if you have any questions, feel free to contact your local regional child care office.

OCDEL is releasing the new CII for Group Child Care Homes, Family Child Care Homes and School Age Child Care facilities and updates to the Center CII. In addition, the Child Care Provider Survey Facility Information Sheet and Disclosure Statement forms have been updated to be used by all facility types. The CIIs accessed via the links below are for use in conducting a renewal inspection at a Child Care Center, Group Child Care Home, and Family Child Care Homes. Please see the CII and related worksheets for your provider type. You can download and save the CII and worksheets. Certification Representatives will use these tools during renewal inspections. They are available on the [DHS website](#).

### **Universal Forms**

**Provider Survey/Facility Information Sheet:** This document helps Certification Representatives prepare for your visit. It is available by clicking the link below and is sent or emailed in advance of a Renewal Visit. Program administrators may email the sheet to their Certification Representative in advance of their visit or have it completed and available when the Certification Representative arrives.

- [Provider Survey Facility Information Sheet](#) (PDF)

**Disclosure Statement:** This document replaces the former set of individual disclosure statements related to swimming, firearms, and consumer product safety.

- [Child Care Provider Facility Affirmation Statements](#) (PDF)

### **Certification Inspection Instrument (CII) and Worksheets 1, 2, and 3**

The CII supports the consistent monitoring of Certification Regulations. Use this to support your own review of requirements related to: posted notices, required paperwork, transportation, ratio and supervision and physical site.

The worksheets help you monitor your own compliance related to staff and child records. Certification Representatives use these worksheets to document your compliance related to child and staff records.

### **Center:**

- [Certification Inspection Instrument Center Renewal](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 1: Child Care Staff Data Sheet

- [Child Care Staff Data Center Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 2: Child Records

- [Child Records Center Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 3: Child Health Records:

- [Child Health Report Center Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Group Child Care Homes:

- [Certification Inspection Instrument Group Child Care Home Renewal](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 1: Child Care Staff Data Sheet

- [Child Care Staff Data Group Child Care Home Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 2: Child Records

- [Child Records Group Child Care Home Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 3: Child Health Records

- [Child Health Report Group Child Care Home Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Family Child Care Homes:

- [Certification Inspection Instrument Family Child Care Home Renewal](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 1: Child Care Staff Data Sheet

- [Child Care Staff Data Family Child Care Home Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 2: Child Records

- [Child Records Family Child Care Home Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### Worksheet 3: Child Health Records

- [Child Health Report Family Child Care Home Renewal Worksheet](#) (PDF)

#### School Age Child Care:

- [Certification Inspection Instrument School Age Child Care Renewal](#) (PDF)

*Please Note: Use worksheets appropriate for your type of School Age Child Care Facility.*

**Webinar: Launch of New Certification Tool: Certification Inspection Instrument (CII):** Learn more about the Certification Inspection Instrument and Worksheets by watching the webinar. It is recommended to download and print the Certification Inspection Instrument (CII) tool before watching the video.

- [View the recorded webinar.](#) (YouTube)

This information can be found on the [DHS website](#).

## **Re-Opening Resources**

Let me first remind you that, as of tonight, we are still in the Red Zone. That means the stay-at-home order remains in place, centers and group child care programs in commercial properties must have a waiver in order to open and serve the children of essential personnel. (Family child care providers and group child care programs in residential settings do not need a waiver.) That said, we can certainly begin to make plans and look to programs in the counties that have recently moved to the Yellow Zone to learn from their experience.

- **ELRC18 will begin facilitating small group meetings** (virtual, of course!) of providers with similar characteristics (i.e., same neighborhoods, programs types, concerns, etc.). Our goal is to be as responsive as possible to your individual needs and concerns, while bringing together opportunities for peer support and targeted resources. If you would be interested in participating in this new initiative, please send me an e-mail with your name, your program name, ZIP code and a little about the type of discussions in which you would like to participate. We will begin to organize these as soon as possible once we have your feedback!
- **Cleaning Supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** - The Department of Community and Economic Development has created a website to connect Pennsylvania business with those businesses able to meet supply requests. If you do not have an identified source of cleaning supplies or PPE, visit [here](#) or copy and paste this

link: <https://dced.pa.gov/pennsylvania-covid-19-ppe-supplies-business-2-business-b2b-interchange-directory/> into your internet browser.

- **BUILD** - <https://www.buildinitiative.org/blog/supporting-family-child-care-in-the-time-of-covid-19>
- **Webinars on Reopen Guidance for Child Care Providers During COVID-19 from OCDEL and PA Key** - <https://www.pakeys.org/reopen-guidance-for-child-care-providers-during-covid-19/>
- **When in doubt, call the Southeast Pennsylvania Regional Certification Office at 1-800-346-2929!**

## **Online Discussion/Support Groups for Teachers, Directors, and Families in Pennsylvania**

**“Holding Space” Online Discussion Groups** - “Holding Space” will be a series of discussion groups for the ECE community as we prepare to re-open programs in the transition back after COVID-19. The groups are not information/content-oriented, but rather are supportive discussion groups around the early childhood mental health/wellness topics of Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, and Resilience. The purpose is to allow ECE professionals and families to connect and gain new insights about how to support ourselves and our children during this transition. We will also provide written resources that will be available on the PA Key IECMHC website.

There will be separate groups for directors, teachers, and families. The groups started on May 19<sup>th</sup> and run through mid-June. Pre-registration is required (see below or [flyer](#) for details).

Please share [this flyer](#) with your staff, families, and other providers! This is a great opportunity to connect with other professionals and for families to connect with each other.

Here is some of the information from the flyer:

*Register to participate in an online discussion group for Early Childhood Education (ECE) professionals and families as we prepare for the transition back to child care after COVID-19.*

*The Pennsylvania Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Program is offering Holding Space: Let’s talk about: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience, a series of online discussion groups to allow ECE professionals and families to connect and gain new insights about how to support ourselves and our children during this transition. As we contemplate this new transition, we may find ourselves wondering about our children: How has this experience affected them? What emotions, behaviors, and reactions might we expect to see? How can we support children’s social-emotional growth so that we can all become more resilient?*

*Join the following online facilitated sessions, Holding Space: Let’s talk about: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience.*

*Click or copy the link to the individual group to register.*

Holding Space: Let’s talk about Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience

· ECE Directors group: Tuesdays (May 19, 26 and June 2 and 9), 11:30am

Register at <https://bit.ly/HSDirectors>

· ECE Families group: Wednesdays (May 20, 27 and June 3 and 10), 7:00pm

Register at <https://bit.ly/HSFamilies>

· ECE Teachers group: Thursdays (May 21, 28 and June 4 and 11), 1:00 pm

Register at <https://bit.ly/HSTeachersStaff>

## **We Are Back in School Social Story Resource**

These past months have been an unprecedented time that has everyone feeling big emotions. The Pennsylvania Key Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants have worked collaboratively to create the social story and tips and resources to support re-entering into Early Education Centers after COVID-19.

The social story, [We are back in school!](#), can be used by early childhood education staff as a resource for support social and emotional as children and staff start the process of re-entering the child care setting. Each page in this social story contains Teacher Tips, Prompts, Resources and Activities which can help with discussions with children in child care. There are even spots where staff can jot down their own notes!  
Also available is the [Tip and Resource Guide](#) to provide additional information.

### **Early Intervention Services During COVID-19**

Tele-Intervention services are now available. Services can be provided by phone and/or video technology. Your Early Intervention program can help you with ways to get services. Please see [the attached flyer](#) for more details.

### **Additional T.E.A.C.H. Financial Supports Available for Summer 2020**

Through the generous support of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), PACCA will offer additional financial supports for the upcoming Summer semesters. Our hope is that this additional financial assistance will help T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Recipients to enroll in coursework and ensure that employers can still sponsor their staff through the mandated closures of child care programs related to COVID-19. The following supports will be available during the Summer 2020 semesters:

- T.E.A.C.H. students who enroll in summer courses will receive **an additional \$250 access stipend** to help with technology expenses associated with on-line coursework; this stipend will be **in addition to** the standard travel stipend and book reimbursement,
- Recipients and employers **will NOT** pay tuition assessments for the summer semesters – 100% of tuition will be covered by T.E.A.C.H. and the tuition assessments will be waived for all recipients who enroll and their employers.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more information about T.E.A.C.H. resources

### **Upcoming FREE NAEYC Webinar! – 5/21/2020**

Questions about COVID-19 in ECE Programs

**Thursday, May 21, 2020, 3:00–4:00 p.m. EDT**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Our hearts go out to all who have been infected by COVID-19 and those whose lives have been disrupted by this pandemic. We are particularly concerned about the significant impacts this public health crisis is having on our nation's child care and early learning programs, including educators, families, and children. In collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics, join NAEYC for an informational webinar with Dr. Michele Cheung who will speak about COVID-19 in ECE programs and answer some of the most commonly asked questions by early childhood educators.

*Attendees will receive a certificate of attendance for viewing this live webinar. This webinar will be recorded and available to view within 1 week of the live presentation.*

### **Ask the Expert: Caring for Children with Special Healthcare Needs During COVID-19 – 5/27/2020**

**Wednesday, May 27, 2020, Noon – 1 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Children with special healthcare needs are experiencing unique barriers to care during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Join Jessica Foster, MD, FAAP, in this Ask the Expert series webinar to learn about challenges and strategies to providing supports and care to children with feeding, developmental, and disability concerns.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Understanding what we currently know about COVID-19
- Reviewing guidance for early childhood education programs currently open
- Integrating the guidance with best practices in managing infectious disease

#### Presenters

- Jessica Foster, MD, FAAP
- Marco Beltran, DrPH, senior program specialist, Office of Head Start

#### Target Audience

- Head Start program directors and health services staff
- Head Start State Collaboration directors
- Child Care resource and referral agencies
- State public health departments
- Child care directors and health consultants
- Nurses working with any early care and education program

#### How to Register

Select the link to register: [https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1317257&tp\\_key=d2e59e8f15](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1317257&tp_key=d2e59e8f15)

The registration link can be used for both the live event and on-demand viewing. The recording will be available to watch on-demand starting 30 minutes after the event ends until June 15, 2020. Because access to the live event is limited and the session may be full, we recommend watching the webinar on-demand. A version with English closed captions will also be posted on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) in the coming weeks.

#### Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Get your copy by subscribing: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

#### Questions?

Contact the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) at [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 888-227-5125.

## **Teacher Time: Supporting Children and Families When Programs Are Closed – 5/28/2020**

**Thursday, May 28, 2020, 3–4:30 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

You asked, “How can we, as teachers and family child care providers, support infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and their families when programs are closed?” Teacher Time listened! Join us for this special episode and learn strategies for staying engaged with children, families, and colleagues. Discover ways to support children's continued growth and development and take care of yourself during times of stress.

#### Topics for the webinar include:

- Exploring self-care and mindfulness
- Maintaining relationships with children, families, and colleagues
- Supporting children who are dual language learners and their families
- Using everyday routines and activities to support learning and positive relationships for children, including those with suspected delays or identified disabilities

#### Target Audience

- Teachers and family child care providers
- Education managers, coaches, and child development specialists
- Support staff

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2297474/5F6B37236346ABDCB421A9CC9D59C208>

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdctl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdctl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

### **From NAEYC: The Virtual Institute – Starting 6/1/2020**

**Starting June 1, NAEYC will offer over 100 presentations of content shared by NAEYC experts and a diverse group of presenters from all sectors of the industry. Our presenters include policy experts, higher education faculty, school leaders, researchers, and educators.**

While typically this type of content is only offered at NAEYC Professional Learning Institute, we are providing access to these presentations during the [NAEYC Virtual Institute](#) at **no charge** as our gift to you for all that you give to young children and their families.

The [NAEYC Virtual Institute](#) is **open to everyone**; early childhood professionals, advocates, families, and supporters who are interested in early childhood education. You do not need to be a NAEYC member to participate.

### **Ask the Expert: Social Distancing in Early Care and Education: Feasible or Impossible? - 6/2/2020**

**Tuesday, June 2, 2020, Noon – 1 p.m. ET**

**[Register Online Now!](#)**

Join the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness for a one-hour discussion to explore issues around social distancing in early care and education programs. Hear from Danette Glassy, MD, FAAP, pediatrician, about guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Discover practical strategies for implementation in a variety of early care programs.

Topics for the webinar include:

- CDC guidance for early care and education programs
- Barriers to implementation within early care settings
- Strategies for early care and education programs to keep children and staff as safe as possible

Presenters

- Danette Glassy, MD, FAAP
- Marco Beltran, DrPH, senior program specialist, Office of Head Start

Target Audience

- Head Start program directors and health services staff
- Head Start State Collaboration directors
- Child care resource and referral agencies
- State public health departments
- Child care directors and health consultants
- Nurses working with any early care and education program

How to Register

Select the link to register: [https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1322240&tp\\_key=120a2ca7cd](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1322240&tp_key=120a2ca7cd)

The registration link can be used for both the live event and on-demand viewing. The recording will be available to watch on-demand starting 30 minutes after the event ends until June 15, 2020. A version with English closed captions will also be posted on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) in the coming weeks.

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Get your copy by subscribing: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

Contact the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) at [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 888-227-5125.

## **Workshops through Children's Village in Philadelphia – 6/6/2020 and 6/13/2020**

[CLICK HERE](#) for **June 6th** Workshops

[CLICK HERE](#) for **June 13th** Diversity Mini-Conference

[CLICK HERE](#) for **June 13th** STEM Mini-Conference

## **The School District of Philadelphia: Online Kindergarten and PreK Registration**

Good day,

We wish you and your family well. While school buildings are temporarily closed, our Kindergarten and PreK Registration for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year continues online. To help get the word out about Online Kindergarten and PreK Registration, please forward [the attached electronic postcards](#) and this message to your friends, families, school community, and partners.

Families can register their children for *Kindergarten* using our online registration portal at [philasd.org/thriveatfive](http://philasd.org/thriveatfive). Families who need help with Kindergarten Registration can contact the Office of Student Enrollment and Placement at [OSEP@philasd.org](mailto:OSEP@philasd.org). Those who need translation assistance can call the School District of Philadelphia's hotline at 215-400-5300.

Families can also enroll their children in *PreK* for the upcoming school year online at [philasd.org/prek](http://philasd.org/prek). Families who need assistance with PreK Registration can call 215-400-4270 or to fill out the contact form online ([click here](#)), and a Customer Service Liaison will follow up within 48 hours.

Thank you for your continued support of our city's families!

Take care and thanks for all you do,  
The Kindergarten and PreK Transition Teams

The School District of Philadelphia | Office of Early Childhood Education  
440 North Broad Street | Suite 271 | Philadelphia, PA 19130  
215-400-4270  
[ktransition@philasd.org](mailto:ktransition@philasd.org)

## **In case you missed it: PCCY Virtual Town Hall – “Child Care on the Brink”**

On Wednesday, May 13th, as the fallout from COVID-19 continues, nearly 500 providers joined with industry experts and advocates in a Virtual Town Hall, "*Child Care On The Brink*", to discuss the unique challenges to reopening the collapsing child care sector in Pennsylvania. As other sectors slowly begin to reopen, child care is

an absolute necessity as families begin returning to work. PCCY, in partnership with First Up and the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey hosted this Virtual Town Hall to bring light to the ongoing COVID-19 fallout of the child care system, including the collapse of Pennsylvania's child care system, the risk to our economic recovery, and the stunting of health and child development of our youngest Pennsylvanians.

*"This is the kind of work that makes other people's work possible,"* said Philadelphia City Councilmember Helen Gym. *"We need our neighborhood child care providers so Pennsylvania can recover."*

In case you missed the call, we included a link to the recordings and the slide decks below:

- Listen to a recording of ["Child Care On The Brink"](#)
- View the slide deck: ["Quality in PA Early Care and Education"](#) presented by Harriet Dichter
- View the slide deck: ["No Child Care, No Recovery"](#) presented by Carol Austin
- Read the letter from [Philadelphia City Council to Governor Wolf](#)
- Read the [Policy Recommendations](#) from Start Strong PA

For more information, contact me at PCCY: [nelidas@pccy.org](mailto:nelidas@pccy.org) or call 215-563-5848 x18.

Thanks,  
Neli Sepulveda, Early Childhood Policy Director  
Public Citizens for Children and Youth

## **Sharing Corner!**

- From Traci Childress at St. Mary's Nursery School: ["Strengthening Child Care and Early Education: Learning from COVID-19"](#) – a collection of stories, profiles, podcasts, videos, and essays.
- Sharon Hershman at Kids on 12<sup>th</sup> shared [the attached reopening policies](#) that they have begun using.
- From ELRC18's very own Shira Badanes: [Free diapers in Philly: 10 places mothers can get formula and supplies](#)
- From OCDEL Program Coordinator Lillie Guytonwallace: [The Children's Advocacy Project COVID-19 Resources](#) and [Resources for Philadelphia Families During COVID-19](#)
- And THREE from A Running Start - Health
  - [Pacify](#). The Health Department is offering a new program for all new parents/caregivers in Philadelphia to access free 24/7 on-demand breastfeeding support with lactation experts. The "Pacify" app is available in the Apple Store and Google Play, available in English and Spanish. Users can enter enrollment code PHILLY to sign up for free.
  - [Free pregnancy, baby, and toddler support during COVID-19](#)
  - [Balancing your new responsibilities while staying at home](#)

Whew! I actually had to change Happy Wednesday to Happy Thursday!

That's all I've got...for now, except to thank you all for the incredible patience you are showing during these trying times! (And for helping me to laugh...it helps more than you can imagine.)

Of course, please reach out any time. The ELRC 18 team will do our very best to help you connect to the resources and information that you need to get through this...TOGETHER!

Be well,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 23, 2020 12:37 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: CARES, Yellow and some other good stuff, too...

Hi everyone,

This isn't an especially long one, but it's got lots of very important information/updates, so let's get right to it...

### **CARES Grant**

As reported earlier this week, [Governor Tom Wolf announced](#) Wednesday, May 20, 2020, the state will distribute \$51 million in Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to support child care providers. CARES Act funds will be distributed to eligible, certified child care providers through Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRCs) and will be available in June 2020. Providers may be deemed ineligible for a variety of reasons including unpaid tax liens, inspection by the Office of Inspector General, and/or health and safety concerns cited by OCDEL. Providers deemed ineligible will receive direct communication from OCDEL. To receive CARES Act funds, each provider must complete the [Provider Attestation Form](#) and send it to their local ELRC. **OCDEL determined eligibility and amount of award** based on provider type, Child Care Works (CCW) subsidy enrollment and regional capacity using the [CARES Act Calculation Tool](#). The entire Provider Attestation process is available on the [Pennsylvania Key website](#).

### **ELRC 18 Implementation**

The ELRC 18 team met on Friday and finalized procedures to disburse funds to eligible programs located in Philadelphia.

- We received nearly 800 e-mails and faxes since Wednesday evening. If you e-mailed your attestation, I sent a reply confirming "got it" when we received it. Many providers submitted multiple copies of the form via e-mail (to several email addresses), fax and hand-delivered to our drop box. These must now be sorted and reviewed to eliminate duplication and make sure that only the most recent version of the form is used. **If you already submitted your form, DO NOT RESEND IT.**
- As each form is processed, we will reach out to you if we need additional information or you will receive an e-mail confirming that your attestation has been processed. That e-mail will include the amount of your award.
- **All attestations must be received by June 22, 2020 and will be paid on June 30, 2020.**
- Providers with current subsidy enrollments will be paid using the same method as your regular subsidy reimbursement (i.e. direct deposit or paper check) regardless of what you indicate on the attestation.
- Providers who do not have an agreement with ELRC 18 will be asked to submit a W9 and a copy of either their EIN assignment letter or Social Security Card in order to process their attestation. The CARES payment for these providers will be made via a live check mailed to the payment address indicated on the attestation. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate one-time direct deposit payments.
- Providers with multiple locations must submit a separate form for each location.
- Forms should only be sent to the ELRC where your program is located. If you have subsidy children enrolled from other regions, they will be reflected in the amount of your grant, but your grant will be paid by only one ELRC, the one where your program is located.

**If you have not yet submitted your attestation**, first, thank you for your patience!

- You will find the blank form [here](#).
  - For *Provider Name*, please indicate the name of your program as it appears on your Certificate of Compliance.

- Your *MPI number* can also be found on your Certificate of Compliance. If you know your PELICAN *provider ID* number, please include that in this space, too. If you do not know your PELICAN ID number, record only your MPI number.
- *Provider Mailing Address* should be where you want correspondence sent. It does not need to be the physical location of your program.
- *Provider Payment Address* should be where you want your check mailed. This only needs to be completed if you are a provider who has not previously received a subsidy payment from ELRC 18. (It is NOT meant to be your bank's address for providers using direct deposit.)
- Although it is not on the form, PLEASE be sure to indicate the best way to contact you. While e-mail is preferred, we will certainly use whatever way that works best for you. If you cannot put it on the form, please be sure to include a cover sheet if faxing, mailing or hand-delivering your attestation.
- How to return your form to ELRC 18:
  - **Email is preferred, if possible.** You can send it to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). (Please do not copy additional staff at ELRC 18. This will only result in requiring additional time to process your attestation.)
  - If you cannot e-mail your completed attestation, you can use any of the following methods to submit your form:
    - Fax to (215) 940-0226
    - Take it to either our Chestnut Street (5548 Chestnut Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) or Welsh Road (2361-2373 Welsh Road) locations. A drop box is available Monday-Friday from 8a-5p only.
    - Mail it to ELRC 18, 2361-2373 Welsh Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114

**If you have already submitted your attestation, DO NOT RESUBMIT IT, even if you believe you have filled it out incorrectly.** We will sort this out with you when processing your attestation. Continuing to send additional forms and e-mails will only complicate and delay processing of your attestation. When you receive confirmation that your form has been processed, if you have any concerns, we will be happy to double-check information with you at that time, because we will then be able to easily locate your form. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

The ELRC 18 team will work as quickly as possible to accurately process your CARES grant. If you have questions that have not been answered above please e-mail Diane Getzinger at [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org). Thank you, again, for your patience and cooperation as we process this important grant to support your program.

## **Gov. Wolf Adds Eight Counties to Yellow and 17 to Green on May 29, Remainder to Yellow on June 5**

Furthering his plan for reopening Pennsylvania, Governor Tom Wolf today announced eight additional counties will move to yellow and 17 to green, effective at 12:01 a.m., May 29. All remaining counties in red are expected to move to yellow by June 5 at 12:01 a.m.

The counties moving to yellow on May 29 include Dauphin, Franklin, Huntingdon, Lebanon, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, and Schuylkill. The 17 counties moving to green, also on May 29, include Bradford, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Montour, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Venango and Warren.

Counties that remain in red on May 29 and are expected to move to yellow by June 5 include Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lehigh, Northampton, Montgomery, and **Philadelphia**.

“We know not only that we succeeded in slowing case growth, but that our actions, our collective decisions to stay at home and avoid social contact – we know that saved lives,” Gov. Wolf said. “My stay-at-home order did exactly what it was intended to do: It saved lives and it bought us valuable time.” Gov. Wolf referred to a study

by Drexel University that indicates that in Philadelphia alone, 60 days of staying at home resulted in more than 7,000 lives saved and prevented more than 68,000 people from needing hospitalization.

### **Yellow Metrics**

In deciding which counties to move to yellow, the state used risk-based [metrics](#) from Carnegie Mellon University combined with contact tracing and testing capability and a sustained reduction in COVID-19 hospitalizations. While the 50 new cases per 100,000 population was considered, it did not weigh any more heavily than other factors.

Over the past two weeks:

- The state has seen sustained reductions in hospitalizations. From May 8 when the first counties moved to yellow to yesterday, the number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized dropped by nearly one thousand – from 2,618 to 1,667.
- The number of COVID patients on ventilators shrank by about a third, from 505 to 347.
- New cases continue to decline: From May 8 to May 15, the state added 6,384 cases and from May 15 to 21, added 4,770.
- The current COVID-19 incidence rate in the state is 83.4 cases per 100,000 people. Two weeks ago, it was 113.6 per 100,000. Most other states are seeing their new case rate continue to increase or remain flat. Pennsylvania is one of just 19 states with new case-rate declines.

### **Green Metrics**

Counties that have been in the yellow phase for the requisite 14 days have been closely monitored for the risk associated with transitioning to the green phase. In the green phase, we will continue to take precautions, including reducing building capacity, encouraging teleworking, limiting visitation in certain high-risk environments, and preventing large entertainment gatherings. The guidelines for moving to green are available [here](#), and include specifics for employers, large events, and social gatherings.

### **Moving Forward**

“We continue to increase testing every day and are continuing to build our contact tracing capacity, as well,” Gov. Wolf said. “We are able to do these things, to be successful, to reopen in this manner because of the Pennsylvanians who have made tremendous sacrifices since the virus emerged in our state,” Gov Wolf said. “Thank you. “I want to remember and honor all of those who we lost and give solace to their family and loved ones. The last two months have been trying and they have tested each of us, and I want to thank and acknowledge all the people of our commonwealth who have been called upon to upend their lives to keep their neighbors, friends and family safe.”

**Please note that ELRC 18 has no additional information. To date, OCDEL has confirmed payment for all providers (open or closed) through May 31, 2020 based on enrollments as of March 13, 2020. Once a decision is made whether or not to extend this, it will be reported through the Certification listserv, the PA Early Ed News, and of course, this e-bulletin. ELRC 18 will continue to work with the other ECE stakeholders in Philadelphia to make resources available to help you plan for the reopening of your program when it is safe and you are prepared to do so. To that end, please be sure to check out the following....**

### **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, May 26th 9:00 - 11:00 am**

This meeting will include updates from OCDEL, ELRC’s and Community Partners and will continue to focus on planning for the reopening process. Please email your questions or concerns to be addressed to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org). Due to the 300 maximum on Zoom, there are two options for joining the meeting.

**1. Live Streaming on YouTube:** Please consider using this option if you are not a child care provider or do not typically interact via the chat box or breakout groups during meetings. You will be able to get all the information while freeing up space for others to participate.

[Click for live-streaming on YouTube.](#)

2. **Zoom Meeting:** If you are a child care administrator/ staff person who will participate via chat box and breakout groups, use this option.

<https://zoom.us/j/275013232>

Meeting ID: 275 013 232

Dial by phone: 312-626-6799 or 929-436-2866

[Click for the recording and meeting slides from the 5/19 meeting.](#)

## **Companion Tool to CDC COVID 19 Reopening Guidance**

Greetings Friends and ECE champions,

Attached is the current version of a *working document*, [Companion Tool to CDC COVID 19 Reopening Guidance](#), that I have been helping to create as part of a working group of the [Southeastern Pennsylvania Early Childhood Coalition \(SEPECC\)](#)\*. It will be posted on [First Up's](#) website early next week and updated versions will continue to be posted there. Each update will have the date it was updated in the title. This is a working document so is still being expanded.

This tool was created for the sole purpose of assisting centers, group and family providers with the decision-making process for re-opening, once the Governor moves child care into the Yellow Phase. Currently it identifies CDC recommendations and highlights the myriad of considerations and decisions providers in planning for re-open. **This tool is not all inclusive and does not represent all considerations that individual organizations need to address. Each organization should consult with legal counsel and other relevant advisors prior to re-opening, as necessary.** NOTE: The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has been very clear that each program will make its own business decisions regarding when it will open (once in Yellow) and which CDC recommendations it will choose to follow. DHS certification does not have jurisdiction over programs regarding enforcement of CDC recommendations. The Department of Health may issue mandates in the future. This document will continue to be updated as recommendations. The role of DHS in reopening is subject to change. We will strive to make timely updates to this tool, but since recommendations, guidelines, and regulations are constantly changing, **the guidance contained in the tool may not be current at all times. It does not yet include the appendix/addendum issued this week by the CDC.** We hope to integrate those in the next update. Reminder: Each County and local Department of Health may have requirements specific to its County that supersede the information in this tool. All decisions should align to city, state, and federal mandates, laws and regulations.

On behalf of the working group\*\*, we hope that this can help you begin to map out the many steps of reopening.

Warmly, Traci

### **\*\*Members of the initiating work group who compiled and edited this & their affiliations**

Traci Childress, Saint Mary's Nursery School; Diane Getzinger, ELRC Region 18, a program of Caring People Alliance; Norm Cheeseboro, Heavenly Made Creations; Maddy Malis Federation Early Learning Services; Jarrod Green, The Children's Co KenCrest Services

### **\*Southeastern Pennsylvania Early Childhood Coalition (SEPECC)**

This file was created by a working group of Southeastern Pennsylvania Early Childhood Coalition (SEPECC). SEPECC serves groups, training agencies, early care support agencies, and funders who share the goal of coordinating and increasing pu

This file received support from First Up! in securing the templates to logs and policies.

Traci Childress, MA, M.Ed  
Executive Director  
Pronouns:she/her/hers

**St. Mary's Nursery School**  
3916 Locust Walk  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
[www.stmarysnursery.org](http://www.stmarysnursery.org)  
[215-386-0321](tel:215-386-0321)

### **Your help needed: Yale's Study on COVID-19 & Child Care Safety**

This study is being conducted by the Yale School of Medicine and titled "[COVID-19 Infection Rates and Mitigation in U.S. Child Care Programs: A Natural Experiment of Critical Implications for Reopening Child Care and Public Schools \(PDF Download\)](#)" (Yale IRB # 2000028232). The survey will be conducted as a confidential survey (12-20 minutes) of child care providers across the nation using a secured online survey platform asking a series of questions about COVID-19 exposure potential and symptoms, as well as different methods of reducing the spread of COVID-19 that providers may or may not have used. Data will be combined geocoded data estimating the amount of viral spread in different communities. The project will allow us to estimate the amount of COVID-19 spread that may happen when child care programs are reopened. We will do this by comparing the amount of exposure and symptoms that child care providers in open programs report, compared to providers in programs that closed near the beginning of the pandemic. We will also explore which strategies employed by child care programs (frequent disinfecting, frequent handwashing, mask wearing, symptom screening, etc.) were most related to reducing viral spread. **This is one of the largest workforce epidemiological studies ever attempted.** I know that you're all VERY busy right now, but please consider participating in this important survey. See the [attached letter](#) from the Yale School of Medicine for additional information.

I am intentionally keeping this e-bulletin short for hopefully obvious reasons. Please refer to the ELRC 18 e-bulletin sent on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> around midnight for other ongoing important resources. I also hope to send you another update very soon when we have more information from OCDEL.

In the meantime, I'd like to share a familiar song than always brings out the optimist in me...enjoy! <https://youtu.be/V1bFr2SWP1I>

Be well,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, May 29, 2020 1:40 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: What we do/do not know, plus a boatload of opportunities - you and your families!

Hi everyone,

As many of you know, on Thursday afternoon OCDEL announced the extension of subsidy payment guidelines from May 31 through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The announcement is below, followed by what this means, as well as what we still don't know at this time, followed by some FANTASTIC opportunities for you, your staff AND YOUR FAMILIES!

### **Announcement: ELRC-20 #08 Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released [Announcement: ELRC-20 #08 Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). This Announcement replaces in its entirety, *Announcement ELRC-20-#07*.

The Announcement provides additional information to child care programs participating in Child Care Works (CCW) and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

During this emergency period, child care providers are encountering complex challenges that exceed the scope of normal operations. DHS recognizes that providers are impacted by mandated closure for significant periods of time due to COVID-19 impacts. In order to continue supporting child care providers through facility closures resulting from COVID-19, the Department is updating its previously issued guidance which addressed CCW payments through May 31, 2020.

Effective June 1, 2020, CCW payment will continue to child care providers, with the exception of providers who have been closed by Certification due to a negative sanction or who have reported permanent closure. Providers will continue to be paid based on enrollment, as of March 13, 2020, for those children who remain eligible for CCW through normal invoicing and payment methods.

In most cases the ELRC is not terminating CCW eligibility for families during the COVID-19 pandemic, however, there are some instances where eligibility must end. During the COVID-19 closures, adverse actions will continue to occur for the following circumstance:

- Over income
- Loss of appeal
- Child turns 13
- Family moves out of PA
- Family assets over \$1 million
- Intentional fraud
- TANF cases determined ineligible by the County Assistance Office

In addition, the ELRC can terminate eligibility if the family voluntarily withdrawals from the CCW program.

Providers will no longer be paid for children for whom an adverse action was issued. This policy will be in effect through June 30, 2020.

The status of this policy will be reviewed and updated before the end of June 2020 to provide guidance to ELRC and inform the child care community of the policy beginning July 1, 2020.

For additional details, please see the [Announcement: ELRC-20 #08 Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

**Obviously, this is REALLY welcome news for subsidy-participating programs. We've been hearing a lot of confusion from the provider community, so I want to be clear about what we know at this time:**

- Governor Wolf announced on Friday that he expects that Philadelphia will be one of the counties moving from Red to Yellow on June 5<sup>th</sup>. This has not yet been confirmed. Please continue to watch for an e-mail from OCDEL'S Certification listserv when a "move to Yellow" date is confirmed.
- When Philadelphia does move to Yellow, this means that center-based programs and group child care in commercial facilities will be permitted to reopen without a waiver. (Family child care and residence-based group child care programs have been permitted to operate without a waiver during the entire pandemic). A move to Yellow does not REQUIRE you to open. You should continue to work with your staff and families at putting health and safety procedures in place and reopen only once you can safely do so after we enter Yellow.
  - Child care centers and group child care homes in a commercial buildings in *red* counties who wish to reopen when we are still in Red, must apply for a waiver. If you received a waiver earlier in the crisis (March/April), but decided not to open or opened shortly and closed again, you **must** submit another waiver request. To apply for a waiver: Complete the [Exemption from Directive to Temporarily Close](#) and email it to OCDEL at [RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWDRACERT@pa.gov). Email subject line should read, "Waiver Request – Philadelphia County". Child Care Certification staff will respond to requests as quickly as possible.
- Regardless of whether you are open or temporarily closed (mandatory or voluntary), you will be paid for your subsidy enrollments through the service period ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be based on your enrollments as of March 13<sup>th</sup>, minus those that have been removed due to the reasons in the announcement above. This is the payment you will receive on July 20<sup>th</sup> (pending timely submission of your June invoice).
- **School-Age Enrollments:**
  - If you are physically providing full-time care (5 or more hours per day), please be sure that the schedule for these children on your invoice reflects full-time care (FT or NFT). If it still reflects part-time care (PT or NPT) and you are physically providing full-time care, be sure to change this on your invoice.
  - If you physically provided full-time care to any school-age children once the crisis began (March 13, 2020) and subsequently closed temporarily, we can pay you for full-time care through June 30<sup>th</sup>, but only for those children who physically received full-time care (other school-age children will continue to be paid at the part-time rate). In order for us to pay you full-time for children who received (or are receiving) full-time care, you must ensure that your invoice correctly reflects this.
  - **IMPORTANT:** YOU MUST NOTIFY ELRC 18 OF ANY SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN WHOSE SCHEDULES NEED TO BE CHANGE TO FULL-TIME NO LATER THAN SUBMISSION OF YOUR JUNE INVOICE. We are approaching the end of the fiscal year, and changes requested after the fiscal year will not be entertained. **MAKE SURE YOUR JUNE INVOICE IS CORRECT!!!!** (Not for anything, but you should make sure that your invoice is correct EVERY month. The difference this time is that if you do not do this for June, we will not be able to fix it for you.) *If you struggle with doing this (and you know who you are!), I urge you to consider participating in the upcoming FREE beginning business practices series offered by Children's Village. (See below.)*
- **Subsidy Transfers:** We continue to be prohibited from transferring enrollments during this time. However, subsidy parents who need care because their program is closed should contact ELRC 18 (215-382-4762 or [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org)) to discuss their need for care with an eligibility specialist. We are seeking clarification from OCDEL about situations where a family may have enrolled children at an alternate open location and now find that their desired location has reopened. As you can imagine, as more programs reopen, the more likely this may occur. We will let you know when we have an answer. In the meantime, please continue to encourage families to contact an eligibility specialist to discuss their options.

A few words about what we do NOT know:

- We don't yet have information about Philadelphia guidelines for reopening, but are expecting that soon and will be sure to share it when we have it.
- We do not know when the announcement will be made about Philadelphia's transition from Red to Yellow.
- Now that OCDEL has announced payment through June, we do not yet know what will happen after June!

Okay...we're good for a little while, right? Good, because there is a TON of really exciting opportunity to share with you.....

**Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, June 2nd 9:00 - 11:00 am**

This meeting will include updates from OCDEL, ELRC's and Community Partners and will continue to focus on planning for the reopening process. Please email your questions or concerns to be addressed to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org).

Due to the 300 maximum on Zoom, there are two options for joining the meeting:

**1. Live Streaming on YouTube:** Please consider using this option if you are not a child care provider or do not typically interact via the chat box or breakout groups during meetings. You will be able to get all the information while freeing up space for others to participate.

[Click for live-streaming on YouTube.](#)

**2. Zoom Meeting:** if you are a child care administrator/ staff person who will participate via chat box and breakout groups, please use this option.

<https://zoom.us/j/275013232>

Meeting ID: 275 013 232

Dial by phone: 312-626-6799 or 929-436-2866

**First Up's series of virtual PD opportunities continues**

ELRC 18 is pleased to sponsor the on-going FREE curriculum webinars being offered by First Up. Next week's line-up features:

**Monday, June 1st:**

*Creative Art and Music for Infants and Toddlers*

*Positive Interactions for Strong Relationships*

**Tuesday, June 2nd:**

*Differentiated Instruction in Early Childhood Education*

*Creative Art: It's All About the Experience*

**Wednesday, June 3rd:**

*STEM for Infants and Toddlers*

*Effective Communication for Infant/Toddler Educators*

**Thursday, June 4th:**

*Self-Directed Play*

*Implementing & Supporting Social & Emotional Learning in a Preschool Classroom*

**Friday, June 5th:**

*Ideas listas para el Centro de Ciencias*

*Relationship-driven Learning*

Check out the [attached flyer](#) for additional details and registration information!

## **From PSAYDN: Opening School-Age Childcare and Out-of-School Time Programs during COVID-19**

Monday, **June 1, 2020** | Webinar 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. ET

With summer right around the corner, and with Pennsylvania phasing in re-opening, how do we plan for summer? Topics include: CDC guidelines for safe opening, swimming and field trips, classroom set-up, project-based learning, social emotional components, and outdoor activities.

[Register for Opening School-Age Childcare and OST Programs](#)

## **CHOP Policy Lab offers “Health & Safety Considerations for Reopening K-12 Schools” on **June 2<sup>nd</sup>****

With schools in the U.S. developing strategies to reopen following their closures for the COVID-19 pandemic, there are many important health and safety concerns that we must consider to protect students, teachers and staff.

What will physical distancing look like within classrooms and in transportation to school? How will school health services change? What are the best methods for surveillance and testing? Will everyone need to wear masks?

Join us on **June 2 at 2 p.m. EST** for, “**Health & Safety Considerations for Reopening K-12 Schools,**” a virtual conversation with educators, administrators and public health experts who will share their perspectives on these issues and more. The discussion will be informed by PolicyLab’s new [comprehensive policy review of interventions](#) to guide local jurisdictions and school administrators in their planning to safely reopen schools.

### **Panelists will include:**

- David Rubin, MD, MSCE, director of PolicyLab at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), *moderator*
- Susan Coffin, MD, MPH, attending physician and clinical director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at CHOP
- William Hite, Jr., EdD, superintendent, School District of Philadelphia
- *...and more to come!*

To join via web browser for this event on **June 2 at 2 p.m. EST**, click here: <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/yukkfgjt>

[Visit our website](#) for more information on joining via mobile device or phone.

Can’t join us live? Visit the [PolicyLab website](#) on Wednesday, June 3 for a link to the archived video.

## **One more time...FREE Beginning Business Administration Series for Directors of Child Care Centers – Starts 6/3/2020**

ELRC 18 is very pleased to fund one more cohort of the popular and invaluable pd series from Mary Graham at Children’s Village. Sessions begin on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be held via Zoom with plenty of opportunity for participation. Be sure to register quickly, as space fills, and there is a pre-session survey that must also be completed. (That means don’t wait until the last minute!!) Please see [the attached flyer](#) for additional details and registration information. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to find out what you’re missing out on to strengthen your business - important now more than ever!

## **PCCY Offers PPP Loan Webinar**

All child care providers in receipt of a PPP loan are invited to join us for a workshop to discuss loan forgiveness requirements, COVID-related employment laws and other important information to help you make sense of the myriad of rules and regulations and prepare you for rapidly approaching loan deadlines.

[Click here to register](#) for this **PPP loan webinar** and join us on **Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 10AM**. You'll hear what our partners at the Reinvestment Fund and the Law Office of Jeff Campolongo have to say about the necessary next steps to turn your PPP loan into a grant.

## **Home-Based Child Care: Rising to the Challenge and the Lasting Infrastructure Needed to Support Providers**

This BUILD-hosted webinar series consists of three webinars focusing on the important role of home-based child care and the need to intentionally build new infrastructure. The series will explore the concepts of system infrastructure for HBCC providers with examples of work in progress in states and communities. The webinar series is geared toward state child care administrators and other systems leaders in licensing, quality, and family strengthening agencies.

Each webinar will explore core concepts on understanding home-based child care and how it meets a critical need for families; building a lasting infrastructure through systemic supports for home-based child care; and networks as the strategy to develop this lasting infrastructure. The work of developing this infrastructure will be explored both conceptually and through concrete state and community examples, in the areas of:

- Networks supporting access, supply, and business operations.
- Networks delivering access to and coordination of comprehensive services.
- Networks advancing capacity and quality, with a particular focus on how networks function as part of an overall quality system.

**Session I: June 2, 2020**, 3:00- 4:30 PM EDT

[Home-Based Child Care Networks: Developing the Lasting Infrastructure](#)

**Session II: June 9, 2020**, 4:00 - 5:30 PM EDT

[Home-Based Child Care Networks: Delivering Access and Coordination of Comprehensive Services](#)

**Session III: June 16, 2020**, 2:00 - 3:30 PM EDT

**Home-Based Child Care Networks: Advancing Capacity and Quality** (registration link coming soon)

We are looking forward to hearing from both a variety of voices and a diverse group of participants. We are eager to reach all who may be interested in supporting home-based child care; please feel free to forward this invitation to your partners and communities. We are hosting this series in meeting format to encourage dialogue and interaction, and space will therefore be limited. These sessions will be recorded and available after the scheduled webinars.

## **Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework in Out-of-School Time**

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020 | Webinar 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. ET**

Join other out-of-school time professionals and learn about the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework. Also, learn how healthy homes create an environment where students thrive and support the well-being of young people, as well as ways to engage parents as partners to promote school success and student well-being, and how to make families feel part of the school community.

[Register for Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework](#)

## **Parenting in a Pandemic: Help in a Time of Need**

Parents of young children are wondering how their children will be impacted by the trauma of the COVID19 pandemic. How are the children managing disruptions to their own young lives? Will they develop the skills needed in this new normal? What can I do to support them?

First Up invites you to join us for **Parenting in a Pandemic: Help in a Time of Need**, a three-part series of one-hour informative webinars, where we will begin to answer these questions.

Each session, presented by professionals with early childhood expertise and certificates in trauma-informed practices, will:

- introduce the concepts of how brains develop and the impact that current events might have on children from birth through age 8;
- introduce new ways to think about self-care, and;
- offer strategies for supporting children's mental well-being.

Sponsored by ELRC 18 and the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, the series begins on **June 10<sup>th</sup>**. Please share the [attached flyer](#) with your families (electronically, if possible, because the registration is accessed through links on the flyer). Contact Jillian Best Adler at [jillian.adler@firstup.org](mailto:jillian.adler@firstup.org) with any questions.

## **Home Visiting Series: Planning Virtual Home Visits and Socialization Activities with Families**

**Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 3–4 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Planning home visits and socialization with families strengthens the impact of learning opportunities. Jointly planned activities engage and challenge children in meaningful and relevant ways when designed with families' unique interests and experiences in mind. In this webinar, discover how to plan and individualize virtual home visit and socialization activities with families. Learn about effective virtual engagement practices and available resources to assist your continued work with families.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Planning a developmentally appropriate virtual home visit as well as socialization activities with families
- Exploring tools to increase family engagement in home visits and socialization from a distance
- Reviewing resources to support home visitors and their work with families

Target Audience

- Program directors
- Education managers
- Home visitors and their supervisors
- Teachers who are engaging virtually with children and families
- Regional T/TA staff who support home visiting programs and home-based program staff

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2071829/3383F4D0CFFAC9BB14CE4798593CD3F9>

Save the Date

The next Home Visiting Series webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020 at 3 p.m. ET.

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdctl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdctl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

## **PAS Online – Widening the Lens: Looking at Program Quality from a Program Administration Perspective**

The PA Key is offering an online presentation of the Program Administration Scale (PAS) PD course, Widening the Lens on **June 29<sup>th</sup>**. Participants will need to have a copy of the PAS book or sign-up in time to follow the steps to order a copy. Space is limited to 25 participants for this free event. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for additional details and registration information.

## **From PHMC PDO...Thinking about college this summer or fall? Get connected, stay connected!**

These are challenging times for early educators working in child care worried about how to keep children, families and co-workers safe and about their own employment and professional futures. Thinking about your own education right now can be overwhelming. Yet our work to support each other, to build more accessible and equitable career pathways, and to minimize disruptions to teachers' professional development continues. For some, usual daily distractions are gone and this is a perfect time to focus on advancing your professional knowledge. For all of us it is very clear that our national recovery will require attention to child care and early education. There has never been a more important time to commit to your profession as an early educator and to enroll in or continue progress toward a professional degree.

Did you know?

- Fall courses at area colleges and universities are open for enrollment now and will begin in late August either on campus or online, depending upon the state schedule for reopening higher education campuses.
- Students already enrolled in T.E.A.C.H. can get continued scholarships for the fall. Additional financial supports are available for the upcoming summer semesters including a \$250 access stipend to help with technology expenses associated with on-line coursework in addition to the standard travel stipend and book reimbursement. Recipients and employers will NOT pay tuition assessments for the summer semesters – 100% of tuition will be covered by T.E.A.C.H. and the tuition assessments will be waived for all recipients who enroll and their employers.

Not sure what to do next?

- Directors and employers can share [this handout](#) and contact the ECE program coordinators below to talk about how to help your teachers interested in degree attainment. These coordinators would be happy to join virtual meetings or to use other remote communication methods to speak with your staff.
- Continuing and prospective students should contact program coordinators at the college where you are enrolled or interested in enrolling. Campuses may be closed but faculty are working, ready to help you identify the next steps on your personal career pathway and navigate college enrollment and course registration. Some are doing online student orientation sessions or offering online test preparation workshops.
- Many of our area colleges and universities are working together to strengthen transfer agreements and ensure that a variety of programs are available in our region. Talk with a few to make an informed decision about the best match to your career interests and needs.

Ready to get started?

- To discuss Career Pathway opportunities and IHE program options, contact an ECE/IHE Coordinator at [ecepdo@phmc.org](mailto:ecepdo@phmc.org).

For a list of Higher Ed partners and ECE program details, visit [ECEHigherEd.com](http://ECEHigherEd.com).

## **From ECELS: Summer 2020 Child Care Health Advocate Course for CDA Renewal**

The Child Care Health Advocate course (EARL 160) is offered by Northampton Community College (NCC). It is an online, 3 credit hour college course. The Summer 2020 course is offered for CDA Renewal. See [attached flyer](#)

for more details, fees and registration information. The course runs **June 1 - August 12, 2020**. Health advocates are early childhood practitioners who make sure that their program includes best practices in health, safety and nutrition, although they may not perform those practices directly themselves. The course is intended to enable students to meet [Standard 1.3.2.7 Qualifications and Responsibilities for Health Advocates](#) from *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards for Early Care and Education Programs*. The students learn to assess, identify, prioritize and implement current health and safety standards in the programs where they work

### **Resource for Non-Profit Providers:**

Donna Fujimoto-Cole of Cole Chemical is selling at cost gallon bottles of approved hand sanitizer. Organizations must show their nonprofit status.

I believe the cost is \$30/bottle with a 4-case minimum (4 bottles/case).

She has other sizes available along with other protective supplies (masks, gloves, dispensers, stands)

Any organizations interested may reach out to:

Office: 713.465.2653.

[DonnaC@colechem.com](mailto:DonnaC@colechem.com)

### **Job Openings**

- A daycare in North Philadelphia with an licensed capacity of 130 is seeking an experienced Director and Assistant Director. Please forward any interests to [info@americanacademyee.com](mailto:info@americanacademyee.com) or call Lidiya at 267-304-9091. If needed we can schedule Zoom interviews.

That's all, except to remind you about the incredibly important, on-going resources to help you navigate these challenging times!

- [Companion Tool to CDC COVID-19 Reopening Guidance](#)
- **PHMC COVID-19 Health and Safety Supports** - *ELRC 18, a program of Caring People Alliance, is pleased to support the following new services from PHMC*

A critical component of reopening your business is making the right decisions about the health and safety of your children and families, your staff, and your program. So many policies to update and implement! How are you going to implement social distancing...and masks!?

PHMC COVID-19 Health and Safety team continues to monitor information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning, and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. We can help you navigate the recommendations and guidelines to turn them into everyday practices in your program and classrooms. These supports are available **AT NO COST** to **ALL PROVIDERS**:

- Family, group, and center based
- Single site, multi-site, and multi-service
- Nonprofit and for-profit
- Any STAR level

**Fund for Sustaining Quality (FSQ) Website** <http://sustainingquality.org/ask-a-question>

Anyone can visit any time to review the COVID-19 Health & Safety Support resources from PHMC and partners to support early education operators, including upcoming new webinars, recorded webinars, links to partner and other community resources, including new tools as they are created.

#### **“Ask a Question”**

Do you need a discreet answer to a specific question? This feature is set up on the FSQ website to get answers to questions about health and safety practices. Questions and answers will be made anonymous and used to develop a **Frequently Asked Questions** which will be posted on the site for access at any time. [CLICK HERE](#) to ask a question! You can also access this on the FSQ website.

### **Interactive Health & Safety Office Hours and Webinars**

Register for upcoming virtual open office hours every Friday at 10am to ask Health and Safety Consultants questions about how to keep children and staff healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic with [Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open](#) from the CDC. [CLICK HERE](#) to register in advance.

Webinars will be available soon and developed based on your incoming questions and TA requests.

### **Individual Health & Safety TA for Providers Operating in Philadelphia**

Expert consultation is available for one-on-one sessions to help you navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic to implement best practices in Health & Safety, so you are ready to re-open when that time comes. [CLICK HERE](#) to apply. A link is also available on the FSQ website.

Do you need on-going help to plan through reopening? Support is available to assist in developing:

- Health and safety protocols
- Proper cleaning and disinfecting plans and monitoring tools
- Staff training plans for use of wearing face masks
- Updated policies and procedures

For more information, email [ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org](mailto:ECEProviderSupport@phmc.org).

- **FREE Business Stabilization Technical Assistance**

PHMC is funded generously by ELRC 18, a program of Caring People Alliance, to provide free business stabilization TA through June 30, 2020. Expert consultation is available for one-on-one sessions to help you navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic to stabilize your business, so you are poised to re-open when that time comes. PHMC consultants can assist you with how to:

- Apply for available loans/grants
- Save money
- Track losses
- Understand employment/staffing issues
- Develop a plan for reopening and recovery
- Put new health and safety practices in place

[CLICK HERE](#) to ask a question about your BUSINESS OPERATIONS, stability, or sustainability and we will find an answer. Or, as you start to plan your reopening, you may have questions about HEALTH & SAFETY issues.

[CLICK HERE](#) to apply. Services will be scheduled chronologically based on the date a TA request is received.

Please visit PHMC's [COVID-19 Business Support](#) web page for information on available resources.

So, my ECE friends, I will leave you with this to start your weekend - "I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." – *Mother Teresa*

Let's do this...together! 😊

All the best,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 12:22 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: We've moved to yellow and other important updates

Hi everyone,

*As we get ready to start another work week, I want to first acknowledge all of the many profound messages that have been shared with the ECE community concerning the state of our nation and communities. As you know, I try not to be repetitive with this e-bulletin, because I know your inbox is filled with important e-mails. Therefore, let me simply say that I echo the supportive words of so many others – my heart is with you, and I hope that my actions always demonstrate that. If you have not seen the many local and national messages of solidarity, please let me know. I would be happy to forward them to you, as each one has challenged me to grow – personally and professionally.*

### **We have moved to YELLOW!**

As you are probably already aware, Philadelphia moved to the yellow phase of the State's reopening plan on Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The e-mail from the Certification listserv is reprinted below. **Please read it carefully** and contact Certification at 1-800-346-2929 with any questions. I would like to address some specific points of confusion that seem to be circulating with regard to subsidized child care:

- OCDEL will continue to pay licensed providers based on enrollments as of March 13<sup>th</sup> through the service period ending June 30, 2020. **This is true whether you are open or closed.** (We do not yet have any information from OCDEL about care beyond June 30<sup>th</sup>, but will be sure to share it when we do.)
- The only co-payments that you should be collecting are from parents who are physically in your care. Even if you have reopened, if a family has not yet returned to care, you should not charge the copayment.
- ELRC is not able to process transfers until at least June 30<sup>th</sup>. That said, if a family needs care because their provider has not yet reopened, please have them contact ELRC18 (either 215-382-4762 or [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org)). We can help them both find and pay for child care so they can go to work. The original provider will also be paid for the enrollment through at least June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- We are processing new enrollments for families whose providers are open and operating. The enrollment process remains the same: Parents inform an eligibility specialist where they would like their children enrolled after completing the center's enrollment process (i.e. initial visit, enrollment application, deposit, whatever your process is). Then, a provider specialist will contact you (phone or e-mail) to confirm a start date, schedule, co-payment and record number. Please do not assume that ELRC18 can pay for care without this confirmation (which is followed by receiving an Enrollment Summary).
- The annual flip for school-age care from part-time to full-time is June 15<sup>th</sup>. However, if you are physically providing full-time care prior to that date, please be sure to indicate this for any children in your care for five or more hours per day on your invoice.

### **An Important Message from The Bureau of Certification: COVID-19 Phased Reopening: Philadelphia Child Care Providers**

You are receiving this email because your child care facility is located in Philadelphia County. [Governor Wolf has proposed moving Philadelphia county to the yellow phase of his re-opening plan, effective June 5, 2020](#). Child care programs in counties in the Yellow Phase are free to operate without a waiver.

If you have remained closed during the [Governor's proclamation](#), you have much to consider when deciding whether to open your facility or not. This email contains important information from both the state and the City of Philadelphia to help you with your planning.

Please follow the steps below by **June 12, 2020**, to ensure your program's status is correctly reflected in public searches for child care.

First, please refer to the email from [Tuesday, May 12, 2020](#), for information to help evaluate your program's ability to safely open.

**Programs operating on a waiver:** You do not need to notify Certification and you may continue to operate as you have been. You will appear in COMPASS searches and the Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) will refer families to your program as appropriate.

**Programs closed and now opening:** You do not need to notify Certification and you may open as of June 5, 2020. You will appear in COMPASS searches and the ELRC will refer families to your program as appropriate.

**Programs delaying opening:** Please email [RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFacilclose@pa.gov) your decision to delay opening and temporarily remain closed. You will still appear in COMPASS searches, but the ELRC will not refer families.

**Programs permanently closing:** Please notify the [regional OCDEL Certification office](#) and return your certificate of compliance. You will no longer appear in COMPASS searches and the ELRC will not refer families.

### **Additional Resources Provided by the City of Philadelphia, Office of Children and Families**

Licensed child care facilities in Philadelphia are being provided additional guidance from the city's Department of Public Health and Office of Children and Families to develop policies and procedures to share with families and staff. Please see two valuable resources below for you to effectively reopen. If you are unsure of your ability to meet these guidelines, you can request a site visit by the Department of Public Health to analyze your site's status and walk through additional considerations by calling 215-685-7495.

- [Philadelphia Department of Public Health Safe Mode Guidelines for Child Care and Early Education Centers During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

These are the initial health department guidelines as we enter the yellow zone. This document will be modified as the pandemic and science evolves.

- [Additional Resources](#) which include a sample symptom screener, a sample letter to send home if a child becomes ill, and a sample parent/guardian agreement to sign upon re-opening.

## **Also from Certification: Announcement: C-20-04 Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

*This was originally sent through the Certification listserv on 5/29/2020 (just in case you missed it!)*

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [\*\*Announcement: C-20-04 Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic\*\*](#). This document announces that the Department of Human Services (Department) has suspended certain regulations in 55 Pa. Code Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290 effective March 6, 2020. The suspension remains in place while the Disaster Proclamation is in effect or such other time as the Department directs.

On March 6, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency to enable agencies to respond promptly to the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of the impact of COVID-19 mitigation efforts on certified child care facilities and with the Governor's authorization as conferred in the Disaster Proclamation, the Department has temporarily suspended the regulatory provisions in 55 Pa. Code Chapters 3270, 3280, 3290.

The child care regulations in Chapters 3270, 3280, and 3290 include requirements that the child care provider must document in order to ensure the health and safety of children. The disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent mitigation measures have greatly impacted certified child care facility operations and ability to comply with some regulatory requirements. Many of the requirements in Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290 are dependent on the availability of other entities such as medical professionals and training institutions, as well as a steady rate of attendance of children and communication with parents. The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) realizes that certified child care facilities cannot demonstrate compliance with certain regulations.

Please see [\*\*Announcement: C-20-04 Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic\*\*](#) for details.

## **First Up's Weekly Line-up of Virtual PD**

Please find [attached](#) the flier for this week's webinars. They included some new topics and a few evening sessions to accommodate the practitioners going back to work.

## **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, June 9th, 9:00 - 11:00 am**

This meeting will include updates from OCDEL, ELRCs and Community Partners and focus on the reopening process. Email questions or concerns to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org). Due to our Zoom capacity, there are two options for joining:

1. **Live Streaming on YouTube:** Please use this option if you are not planning to interact via chat or in the breakout groups. [Click for live-streaming on YouTube](#).
2. **Zoom Meeting:** If you are a child care administrator/ staff person who will participate via then chat box and breakout groups, use this option.

<https://zoom.us/j/275013232>

Meeting ID: 275 013 232

Dial by phone: 312-626-6799 or 929-436-2866

[Click for the recording and meeting slides from the 6/2 meeting](#).

# **Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Early Childhood Education Staff During COVID-19**

Tuesday, **June 9, 2020**, 1–2 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Early childhood education staff are facing unique challenges during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. They continue to support the education, development, and well-being of children and families remotely, to the extent possible. It is important that staff take time to address their own mental health needs, as well. Join Dr. Robin H. Gurwitsch, PhD, in this "Ask the Expert" series webinar to explore strategies for helping staff manage their mental health needs during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Common stressors for children and staff
- Strategies for helping staff manage overall stress in young children and themselves

Presenters

- Robin H. Gurwitsch, PhD
- Sangeeta Parikshak, PhD, behavioral health lead, Office of Head Start

Target Audience

- Child care directors
- Head Start program directors and health services staff
- Head Start State Collaboration directors
- Child Care Resource and Referral agencies
- State public health departments
- Child care health consultants
- Nurses working with any early care and education program

How to Register

Select the link to register: [https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1326199&tp\\_key=cd3053fd12](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1326199&tp_key=cd3053fd12)

The registration link can be used for both the live event and on-demand viewing. The recording will be available to watch on-demand starting 30 minutes after the event ends until July 15, 2020. A version with English closed captions will also be posted on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) in the coming weeks.

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Get your copy by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

Contact the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) at [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 888-227-5125.

## **State of Babies Yearbook: 2020**

**June 11, 2020**, 2:00 P.M. EDT

## RSVP

Telling the story of America's babies is more important than ever. Last year, the inaugural [State of Babies Yearbook: 2019 offsite link](#) revealed that the state where a baby is born makes a big difference in their chance for a strong start in life. New data this year shows that even among states with high averages, significant disparities exist in the opportunities available to babies of color to thrive, as well as those in families with low-income, and in urban or rural areas. Now as our country faces an unprecedented crisis, policymakers and advocates can use the data to identify and advance policies that produce the near-term support and long-term stability that babies and families need. **Join the virtual release event—featuring ZERO TO THREE's Chief Policy Officer, Myra Jones-Taylor, and CEO of Robin Hood, Wes Moore—and be the first to receive the 2020 Yearbook in your inbox on June 11!**

## **Goldman Sachs 10KSB Can Help Your Business Owners Create Business Growth and Sustainability!**

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses is a practical educational program that drives business growth, increases job creation and drives the business owner to **work strategically "on"** their business and not work **tactically "in"** their business.

- The program is designed to facilitate the growth of your business and yourself as a leader. The primary tool for stimulating this development is the creation of your Growth Plan. **Growth Plan: a strategic and tactical implementation to guide your business growth.**
- Participants develop a **tailored growth plan that can be used to immediately** benefit their businesses
- Babson College of Boston created the curriculum – Ranked No. 1 in Entrepreneurial Education by US News
- One on One Business Advisors, Subject Matter Experts, Peer Learning Business Support Resources and Alumni Services (currently 568 alumni) provided to the participants
- **No-cost to you:** Scholarship given to you from Goldman Sachs Foundation

Requirements for enrollment are:

- Owner or Co-Owner (succession plan designated employee can replace owner with owner's written permission)
- Minimum of two years in business
- \$150,000 (minimum in revenue)
- Four (4) employees (includes owner, FTE's, temps and consultants)

Apply Now: [www.10ksbapply.com](http://www.10ksbapply.com)

Applications due **June 19<sup>th</sup>**. Cohort 22 classes start September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Cohort 23 classes will start in January 2021

For questions, call 267-299-5900

## **Join PennAEYC for a *No Small Matter* Watch Party!**

**Wednesday June 24, 2020 6-8 pm**

**Tuesday June 30, 2020 6-8 pm**

**Join the PennAEYC team as they welcome Rachel Giannini for a virtual screening of the film *No Small Matter*.**

Join them following the viewing as they share in an advocacy discussion with Rachel Giannini and the PennAEYC advocacy team. Your VOICE matters and they want you to be a part of the discussion about how you can make a difference in the support for early childhood education. You matter because this is truly no small matter! This film is built from stories of real children, families, and teachers, illustrating the impact of high-quality early childhood experiences. We meet parents who are struggling to do their best for their kids, incredible teachers who model what early childhood classrooms should and could be like, and children learning and developing in real time. These positive, hopeful stories serve as motivational tools in both the film and the *No Small Matter* campaign: Change is necessary, critical, and attainable if we put our minds to it.

Visit the PA Keys PD Registry to select and register for the Watch Party! Select "Search Training" and use keywords NO SMALL MATTER, then select the desired event date and join us! [PA Keys PD Registry](#)

Rachel Giannini, a preschool teacher featured in the film, will discuss the ways educators can take on the role of advocates after the film is shown. For Ms. Giannini the wild ride began in 2015, while teaching Pre-K, when she was approached by a documentary film crew working on a piece about early childhood education. For 8 weeks her "Yellow Room" was filmed everyday for the feature length documentary *No Small Matter*. With the film complete and a Masters in Museum Education under her belt, she now focuses her attention on how she can use social media to connect with parents, caregivers, and educators across the globe. You can follow her educational adventures through her [Youtube](#) channel, [NoSmallMatter.com](#) and [Chicagochildrensmuseum.org](#).

## **2020 National Autism Conference**

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education is pleased to announce the following virtual conference opportunity: 2020 National Autism Conference

Dates: Beginning Monday, **August 3rd through August 6, 2020**

Location: Virtual Conference

The Autism conference provides comprehensive, evidence-based information to assist educators, other professionals, and families in developing effective educational programming for all students with autism spectrum disorders.

Who Should Attend?

Family members, physicians, speech-language pathologists, administrators, higher-education faculty, general and special education professionals, early-intervention staff, related service personnel, behavioral health analysts/professionals, and anyone interested in autism spectrum disorders.

Cost: Free for Pennsylvania Parents and Pennsylvania Public educators.

Conference presenters include: Vince Carbone, Tim Vollmer, Doug Greer, Dave Palmer, Francesca degli Espinosa, Ami Klin, Phil Kanfush, and more.

Credits available: Act 48; ASHA; BACB; Psych; & Social Work approved for virtual conference. Infant/Toddler, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy to be determined.

For complete session descriptions and general information and registration visit:  
<https://autism.outreach.psu.edu/>

## **Job Openings**

- **Olde City Day School** is looking for a Director for one of their downtown locations. If interested, please send your resume to Anita Preacher, at [Anita@OldeCityDaySchool.com](mailto:Anita@OldeCityDaySchool.com). First interviews will be via zoom.

## **Grants from Philadelphia School Partnership**

In response to disruptions in school-based learning caused by COVID-19, PSP will be offering micro-grants to support community based organizations, including child care, that will provide guidance and assistance to students, parents, and/or caregivers. Apply [here](#).

## **SharedSourcePA: Resources on COVID-19 for Your Consideration**

PennAEYC wants to remind you that [SharedSourcePA.org](http://SharedSourcePA.org), which is a one-stop site that includes a variety of supports for the work of early childhood professionals, currently has a number of resources for you to consider as you recover from the pandemic and consider reopening your business. Log in today and check them out. If you have problems logging in, please contact [Rose Snyder](#).

## **Free Medical Supplies**

Tri-State Training is donating free medical supplies to companies in need. In return, they are asking for a commitment to be your yearly fire extinguisher inspections. This helps them to have cash flow and keep their staff working and also helps businesses to acquire the needed supplies. How it will work: If your extinguisher work is estimated to be \$300 then in return, they will donate \$150 worth of medical supplies. In this scenario everyone wins and Tri-State can focus on long-term relationships. If you or any of your colleagues are interested please contact:

*Kevin Kerns EMT*

Tri-State Training & Safety Consulting LLC  
National Director of Training & Fire Safety  
228 Ridley Ave Folsom, PA 19033  
Office: 866-503-3430 x403  
<http://www.tristatetraining.com>

That's all for now. As always, if you have questions or need help locating a resource, please send an e-mail!

Be well,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, June 26, 2020 1:56 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC Region 18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 updates and much, MUCH more!

Well, here we are again, my ECE friends!

Many of you saw the announcement from OCDEL that came out on Thursday. (I know this because you flooded my inbox with questions! ☺) For those who didn't see the announcement, I am going to print it below and will then address what we do and still do not know afterward. This is a LOT of information to absorb, so please take your time, read carefully, and then if you still have questions, be sure to send me an e-mail. Please don't stop reading there, though, because there are a TON of resources and opportunities that follow!!

### **Announcement: ELRC-20 #09: Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

*(Note: I highlighted a few key changes in yellow.)*

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement: ELRC-20 #09, Child Care Works Payment Modifications Due to Impacts related to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

This Announcement provides additional information to child care programs participating in Child Care Works and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This is an updated policy, providing additional information and replaces ELRC Announcement 20 #08.

This Announcement also focuses on the clarification of payments for Pennsylvania's child care subsidy program, Child Care Works (CCW), for the period of **July 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020**.

Effective July 1, 2020, CCW payments will continue to child care providers, with the exception of the following:

- Providers who have been closed by Certification due to a negative sanction.
- Providers who have reported permanent closure.
- **Providers who serve school-age only children and are closed for the summer.**

In most cases the ELRC is not terminating CCW eligibility for families during the COVID-19 pandemic, however, there are some instances where eligibility must end. During the COVID-19 pandemic, adverse actions will continue to occur for the following circumstance:

- Over income
- Loss of appeal
- Child turns 13
- Family moves out of Pennsylvania
- Family assets over \$1 million
- Intentional fraud
- TANF cases determined ineligible by the County Assistance Office
- **Not meeting the work requirements at redetermination, if a parent/caretaker has a job to return to but chooses not to return to work.**
- **Delinquent Copayment for families whose children are attending child care, but are delinquent in paying the copayment.**

Providers who are open should continue to report to the ELRC delinquent copayments for families whose children are attending care but are not paying the required copayment. Beginning July 1, 2020, the ELRC will send families Adverse Action notices for delinquent copayment.

## **So, what does all of this mean?**

- Excluding the exceptions noted above, you will continue to be paid for July and August based on your enrollments as of March 13, 2020. This is true regardless of whether you are open or closed. Following are some of the questions that have come in already:
  - ***If I reopen, but only a few parents return, can I close again and reopen at a later date and still be paid.*** – YES
  - ***Does this mean that I don't have to reopen until September 1?*** – NOT EXACTLY. Please remember that the purpose of this financial commitment to child care programs is to help you be able to successfully reopen. I believe that the vast majority of you are working very hard to figure out how to do this safely for yourself, your staff, families and children – and how to do that as soon as possible. As many of you are finding out, things often don't go as planned. When you reopen, you will almost surely not resume at the same enrollment levels as you have pre-COVID-19. The hope, though, is that over time, as you demonstrate that you can safely provide quality care for their children, more families will return to care. If you shutter your program until September 1<sup>st</sup>, and OCDEL returns to paying only for care that is being provided at that time, you will have lost TWO MONTH of valuable time. Remember, too, that families who need to return to work will make other arrangements if you are closed, and the longer you remain closed, the more likely it is that they could become comfortable with those arrangements. No one is telling you to recklessly fling open the doors, but neither are they saying to take a two month vacation. ('Nuf said?)
  - ***Can parents transfer now? If so, what happens to current enrollment?*** – OCDEL is committing to paying whichever provider the child was enrolled with as of March 13<sup>th</sup>. However, subsidy is a parent choice program. When you combine those two statements, you wind up with the following: Parents can request a transfer. If they are transferring from an enrollment that became effective after March 13<sup>th</sup>, then ELRC 18 staff will call to confirm last day of care and co-pay, and payment for that enrollment will end. If the transfer is from an enrollment that was current as of March 13<sup>th</sup>, then the original provider will continue to be paid, and we will process a second enrollment to also pay the provider who is physically providing care. This is true even if the original provider has reopened. Regarding enrollment confirmations, please remember:
    - If you are re-enrolling a child who ELRC 18 is current paying you for, but who has not been attending, there is no need for the parent to contact ELRC to request care. The enrollment was previously approved.
    - If you are enrolling a new child, the enrollment process remains the same. THE PARENT contacts our eligibility department to request care (215-382-4762 or [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org)). Our eligibility staff submit an enrollment request to the provider staff. Provider staff will call or e-mail you to confirm the details of the enrollment (start date, schedule, co-payment, etc.). PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME THAT ELRC 18 WILL BE PAYING FOR CARE WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING CONFIRMATION. Enrollment requests take 24-48 hours to process. Please encourage parents to request care in advance of the start date (not the day before care is to begin)!
  - ***If I reopen and a family doesn't return, what happens to their eligibility?*** – NOTHING. If you were the provider of record on March 13<sup>th</sup>, we are continuing to pay for that enrollment. Parents cannot request suspension of their subsidy at this time (because of the commitment to pay providers through August 31<sup>st</sup>). There is no reason to request suspension, though, since absences will not count during this period. They can withdraw from the subsidized child care program, but would have to reapply and potentially go back on the waiting list if/when care is needed again.
  - ***If a parent was on the waiting list and has been offered funding, but isn't ready to return, will they lose their eligibility?*** – NO, but they must communicate with our eligibility staff what their intention is with regard to returning to care. Simply failing to respond to a Funds Available Letter could result in a child being removed from the waiting list.

- **Should I record attendance on my July invoice?** – You do remember that we have to get through June invoicing first, right? ☺ For your JUNE attendance invoice, please see the [attached flyer](#) that is being mailed with all invoices. You will not mark attendance, but must return an invoice for payment. If you provided full-time care to school-age children, but they are still listed as part-time, this is your last chance to have this corrected. Once the fiscal year is over, we will be unable to make these adjustments. The same thing applies to children who are not on your invoice for whom you are expecting payment. It is CRITICAL that you review your attendance invoice (and payment summary) carefully EACH MONTH and report potential errors timely. So what about your July invoice? Stay tuned for more details.
- Regarding the mailing requesting your closures for Fiscal Year 2021 – If you received the mailing, but did not receive a paper Appendix B, this is because you are registered to use PELICAN Provider Self Service and are required to manage your closures online. Because we are now paying for enrollments (open or closed) through August 31, 2020, please DO NOT enter any closures (paid or unpaid) in PELICAN PSS for July or August. ELRC18 staff will be working on deleting all of these closures, so they will not count toward your 15-day maximum.
- Because we are now out of the Red Phase, OCDEL is assuming that you are open. If you are delaying your reopening, please send an e-mail to [RA-PWOCDELFACILCLOSE@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWOCDELFACILCLOSE@pa.gov). Be sure to include your program name, address and MPI number so they know who you are.

## **CARES Update**

All attestations for Philadelphia providers that were received by June 22<sup>nd</sup> have been processed, and you should have received a confirmation e-mail from me. IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION INCLUDING YOUR JUNE CARES GRANT AMOUNT, THEN WE MAY NOT HAVE RECEIVED YOUR ATTESTATION. (Or my response could have gone to your spam/junk mail folder.) After checking to make sure that you didn't receive the confirmation from me, if you believe you submitted the attestation on time, please send me an e-mail with your program name and either your PELICAN or MPI number. (Your MPI number can be found on your Certificate of Compliance.) I will check on the status and let you know.

There are going to be two more waves of CARES funding for providers – late July and August. While more details will certainly be forthcoming from OCDEL, the reason that I mention it now is, if you did not submit an attestation yet, please send it in ASAP. We are waiting clarification to find out if we can issue late payments for June, but even if we cannot, we will have your form in plenty of time for the upcoming second and third payments. [Here is a link to the attestation form](#) if you need it.

Couple of answers to questions that we've received about the CARES funding:

- Unlike the Merit and Rising STARS Support grants, there are not restrictions on what you can use this funding for. Also, ELRC will not be monitoring these grants, and you do not need to submit receipts or process any closing paperwork. For additional information about the intent of the CARES funding, please see [the governor's original announcement](#).
- Licensed child care facilities (center, group and family child care homes) are eligible for the funding even if you do not provide care to subsidized families or participate in the Keystone STARS program. In addition to submitting an attestation form, you will also need to submit a W9 form and a copy of your EIN assignment letter (or Social Security card depending upon how you are licensed with DHS). Of course, if you'd like more information about participating, we would be HAPPY to discuss that with you!!!

I also want to give a personal and heartfelt shout-out to those programs who submitted your forms first (and only once) and waited until the very end to receive your confirmation. I appreciate your extreme patience more than you can imagine! Over 1,200 Philadelphia programs will be receiving CARES grants on June 30<sup>th</sup>, but I had to process over 1,600 forms.

## **From Certification: Announcement: C-20-06 - Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement: C-20-06 Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities operating during the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic](#). This guidance

covers policies and procedures providers should implement during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides certified child care facilities with guidance on how to handle a positive COVID-19 case or exposure to a positive COVID-19 case in child care facilities.

Child care facilities that continue to remain open or that are preparing to reopen should follow the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). The guidance details the steps providers are recommended to follow in order to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on child care facilities. OCDEL developed this guidance based on recommendations from the CDC and DOH and it is subject to change. Health and safety guidance for child care facilities during COVID-19 is outlined in this document.

The Announcement provides information related to:

- Reopening
- Transmission and symptoms of COVID-19
- Practices, policies, and procedures for consideration
- Social distancing in the child care setting
- Face masks
- Dealing with confirmed positive COVID-19 cases and exposure to COVID-19
- Reporting
- Additional resources

For more information, please see the [\*\*Announcement: C-20-06 Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities operating during the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic\*\*](#)

### **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday June 29th 9:00 - 11:00 am**

Our weekly meeting will include updates from OCDEL, ELRCs and Community Partners and will continue to focus on planning for the reopening process. Please email questions or concerns to be addressed in advance of the meeting to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org). Those wishing to only hear information and not interact via the chat box can view the meeting live on YouTube.

1. **Live Streaming on YouTube:** [Click for live-streaming on YouTube.](#)

2. **Zoom Meeting:** Recommended for child care providers:  
[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_b87uGloRTX6y6avVBrLuaw](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_b87uGloRTX6y6avVBrLuaw)

[Click here for the meeting recording and slide presentation from the previous meetings.](#)

### **NAEYC Virtual Institute – June 29**

**It's not too late to start! Week 5 starts Monday.**

With 84 presentations to choose from, and 20 more being added Monday, you're sure to find a topic that meets your needs. Join the 22,000 participants already taking advantage of this amazing learning opportunity.

Confirm your email and password or create your free account to [get started.](#)

*Presentations are ON Demand for FREE, view them until July 17 and receive your certificate of participation. Visit our online [FAQs](#) to learn more.*

[LEARN MORE](#)

New Presentations Available Starting **June 29<sup>th</sup>:**

1. **Embrace the Why?: Making the Most of 2-Year-Olds' Natural Curiosity With Studies**  
*Breelyn Mack & Clarissa Martinez*
2. **Five Habits of Highly Effective Early Childhood Education Leaders**  
*Robert Gundling*

3. **Fostering a Mentally Healthy Community: Understanding the Simple Brain Science**  
*Donna Volpitta*
4. **Implementing Coaching Models at the State Level**  
*Donna Ruhland & Anita Allison*
5. **In Their Own Words: Reflections from Child Care Providers and Early Childhood Educators in the Time of COVID-19 (NAEYC Presentation)**  
*Michelle Kang, Caitlin Curtis, Heather Marden, Kamren Rollins & Tennille Smalls*  
This session is generously sponsored by [Kaplan Early Learning Company](#)
6. **Innovations to Promote Equitable Access to Credentials for Early Childhood Educators: Bilingual AA Courses**  
*Cara Sklar, Amaya Garcia, Marilyn Hamilton & Elizabeth Winn Bowman*
7. **Linking Collaborative Assessment to Collaborative Instruction Using Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) Online Reports: How All Children Benefit**  
*Tamarra Osborne*
8. **Moving Beyond Multicultural Education: Implementing Culturally Responsive Anti-Bias Practices in Early Childhood Settings**  
*Jen Neitzel & Ebonyse Mead*  
This session is generously sponsored by [HighScope](#)
9. **Navigating Quality Post COVID (NAEYC Presentation)**  
*Meghann Hickey & Rashi Sharma*
10. **No Bystanders: Anti-Bias Education Today (NAEYC Presentation)**  
*Louise Derman-Sparks, Catherine Goins & Julie Olsen Edwards*
11. **Read Aloud Wow! New Children's Books that Matter, Especially Those that Support Inclusion and Have Strong Social Emotional Content**  
*Isabel Baker & Amy Vandament*
12. **(Re)Imagining Developmentally Appropriate Practice in a Time of Learning and Crisis: A Focus on Equity and Teacher Context, Why it Matters, and How this Impacts ECE Preparation and Teaching (NAEYC Presentation)**  
*Susan Friedman, Brian Wright, Iliana Ilanis & Alissa Mwenelupembe*
13. **Shape, Sustain, and Solidify: Examining Social Justice Topics with Young Children and Creating Collaborative Learning Communities Around Diversity Works**  
*Tiffany Tafe, Amanda Burns & Rachel Hill*  
This session is generously sponsored by [HighScope](#)
14. **Small Group Instruction in pre-K Classrooms: Its Potential, Challenges and Supportive Strategies for Effective Implementation**  
*Laura Bailet*
15. **The Other Side of Stress: Unpacking the Relationship Between Stress Physiology and Young Children's Classroom Behaviors**  
*Elena Bodrova & Deborah Leong*
16. **The Power and Possibilities of Early Childhood Leadership: An Interactive Discussion on Instructional Leaders and Professional Learning**  
*Lacey Peters, Kate Tarrant, Sharon Ryan, Zijia Li & Sheila Smith*
17. **We Can't Go Back: Child Care After COVID-19 (NAEYC Presentation)**  
*Rhian Evans Allvin & Sarah Taylor Vanover*
18. **Welcoming Families with LGBTQ\* Members: What a Difference an Early Childhood Program Can Make!**  
*Robin Fox*
19. **What's Happening in Washington: A Federal Policy Update (NAEYC Presentation)**  
*Lauren Hogan*
20. **When We Play, We Learn: Musings on Play, Learning, and Equity**  
*Laura Bailet*  
This session is generously sponsored by [Kaplan Early Learning Company](#)

**Complete NAEYC Survey on Child Care and the Pandemic by [June 30](#)**

Complete and share NAEYC's survey in [English](#) or in [Spanish](#) **BY JUNE 30** to help policymakers and the public understand and respond to what's happening on the ground in child care programs across states and settings. Your responses are so important in driving change - thank you for sharing your time and expertise!

### **Apply for the Paycheck Protection Program by June 30**

[The Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act](#) (PPFPA) was signed into law on June 5, 2020. It updates the terms of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) by lowering the total amount of funds that are required to be spent on payroll and giving borrowers more time to spend the funds. NAEYC has updated its original PPP guidance document to reflect the changes made by the PPFPA. [Check it out here](#) to find a detailed explanation of what the program is and how to apply! There are still funds available, but you must act by June 30. Please note that if you have already applied for and received the PPP funds, you must reach out to your lender to update your terms. Stay tuned for more to come on ensuring you are able to successfully apply for and receive PPP forgiveness!

### **Paycheck Protection Program – Info for Home-based Providers from Homegrown – June 30**

**The deadline to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is quickly approaching—by June 30, 2020.** In partnership with Civitas Strategies, Homegrown has created a bank of resources (in English & Spanish) to help home-based child care providers and advocates break down the application process and learn the ways to quickly receive funds. Providers click [HERE](#). Admin/Coaches click [HERE](#).

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has announced new changes since our webinars in the last two weeks, so we encourage you to watch [our video](#) and review the following updates regarding the PPP as you finalize your application:

- **Apply to multiple financial institutions as soon as possible.** You can check out our recommended institutions that have worked well with other home-based child care providers in [the quick start guide](#).
- Sole proprietors and self-employed (and likely corporations) have **24 weeks to spend the loan for forgiveness.**
- Since the loan is based on 10 weeks of payroll, **almost everyone should be able to get their full loan forgiven.**
- The SBA has released a **PPP EZ forgiveness form which will take far less time to fill out.**

To share the latest information on the PPP and more with home-based child care providers in your network, please [share this form](#).

### **Zoom to STAR 2 – June 30 - July 28**

Funded by Aspire to Inspire, join Coach Kimrenee every Tuesday from 5p-8p for this FREE series. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for incentives, details and registration information.

### **Free Online CDA class starting in July with Dr. Anice Dickerson**

Online CDA Class with Dr. Anice Dickerson and Associates begins in July. No Cost. For more information or to register, please see [the attached flyer](#) and contact: ANICE DICKERSON, 215-796-1184, [conceptsintraining@gmail.com](mailto:conceptsintraining@gmail.com)

### **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia PolicyLab COVID-19 Resources – July 1**

- **FAQ on Child Care Program Reopening**  
With child care settings beginning phased reopening in Pennsylvania, CHOP PolicyLab prepared this frequently asked questions document to support center operators and other related professionals in their planning. The information presented in this document reflects emerging evidence that can guide safety protocols and is generated by experts in pediatric primary care, infectious disease, early childhood and child care operations at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. To inform this document, PolicyLab at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia has been tracking scientific, medical and policy developments of the COVID-19 pandemic.  
<https://policylab.chop.edu/reports-and-tools/faq-reopening-doors-child-care-safely>
- **Ensuring Support Services for Youth With Disabilities & Special Health Care Needs Amid COVID-19**

Questions around how to ensure the health and safety of children with disabilities and special health care needs as the COVID-19 pandemic progresses include: What do parents and those who care for children need to know about the impact of COVID-19? What will health and safety protocols for a return to school look like? Can therapies and services that are critical for youth well-being be delivered safely, and what concerns exist around disparities in access?

[Join Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Policy Lab](#) on **July 1** at 10 a.m. EST for, "Ensuring Support Services for Youth With Disabilities & Special Health Care Needs Amid COVID-19," a virtual conversation with state education leadership, health care providers, and policy experts with lived-experience who will discuss these issues and more.

## **From Teachstone: Interactions at the Heart of Healing: CLASS-based Strategies for Supporting Teachers and Children – July 2**

Thursday, July 2, 2020 • 1:00 pm EST

Recent pandemics, both the coronavirus and the historic pandemic of racial injustice, have further brought to light existing inequities amongst children. Many children are living in households where income has evaporated, health has been compromised, and even their most basic needs, such as food and shelter are a daily struggle. From the youngest children in child care to our graduating seniors, young people are facing unparalleled levels of anxiety and stress. As educators prepare for children to return to the classroom there are many unknowns - but one thing we know for certain is that **warm and supportive interactions between teachers and children will be more important than ever before.**

Join us July 2 at 1pm for [Interactions at the Heart of Healing: CLASS-based Strategies for Supporting Teachers and Children](#), the first in a series of interactive webinars discussing trauma-informed care.

Bridget Hamre, Teachstone CEO and Co-Founder, and Lawonda Roman, CLASS Specialist, will examine the impact of recent events on educators and children and share CLASS-based strategies to support teachers and students as they transition back to classrooms.

## **First Up Virtual PD – July 6-10**

First Up continues to offer their popular virtual professional development opportunities. Please see the attached flyer for additional details and registration information about the following:

- Monday, **July 6th**: Creating Successful, Sustainable Classroom Routines, Rituals and Traditions  
Time: 1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Nancy Nicewonger
- Tuesday, **July 7th**: Developing Self-Directed Play Tool Kits: for Infants & Toddlers  
Time: 1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Nancy Nicewonger
- Wednesday, **July 8th**: Developing Self-Directed Play Tool Kits: for Preschool to K  
Time: 1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Nancy Nicewonger
- Thursday, **July 9th**: Mindfulness: Healing into the Present: Part I  
Time: 1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Alix Cozen
- Friday, **July 10th**: Mindfulness: Healing into the Present: Part II\*  
Time: 1:00-3:00pm  
Instructor: Alix Cozen

## **The Family First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) Sessions – July 7 and 8**

The First Up TA Fund for Supporting Businesses is presenting a series of three training sessions, tailored to center and home-based centers focusing on:

- Guidance and information on understanding the FFCRA;

- Support for re-opening your program in the Yellow Phase;
- Legal expertise and guidance;
- Examples of updated policies and procedures;
- Group support and collaboration, and plenty of resources and templates for you to adapt to your program!

The workshops are presented and hosted by: Dawn Martini of Ronald V McGuckin and Associates.

[-Click here for sessions for Home-based ECE Providers. \(July 8\)](#)

[-Click here for Philadelphia Center-based ECE Providers. \(July 7\)](#)

### **From Certification: Keystone STARS 2020 Program Survey – July 10**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) invites all certified child care facilities to complete the [Keystone STARS 2020 Program Survey](#). The survey was created to better understand how program leadership in Keystone STARS programs have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and how OCDEL can support the field moving forward. These last months have been unprecedented and OCDEL hopes to learn where you are and what you need in strategizing next steps.

Your answers will be confidential and very appreciated. Please complete the survey by **July 10, 2020**.

OCDEL looks forward to continued collaboration with you and your colleagues.

### **From Certification: Clarification about Water Safety for Parents and Caregivers**

FYI-Although this is a training offered by the Red Cross, it is **not an acceptable training** for the required regulatory water safety instruction training. It is not live and it is a power point and also not conducted by a certified lifeguard.

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/classes/water-safety-for-parents-and-caregivers/a6R3o000012oT8.html>

### **NEW from PSAYDN: Summer Activity Guide for Afterschool Providers**

Planning afterschool summer activities that are fun and engaging is now an easy task! The new Summer Activity Guide offers 150 activities and challenges for youth ages 5-18. The activities and challenges are organized by age group (5-9, 10-12, 13-15, 16-18), adaptable for in-person, virtual instruction or a hybrid of both, as well as take-home packets, and based in skill building and social emotional learning. Over the next 10 weeks, activity batches will be provided every two weeks along with supplemental materials throughout to support providers and families in preparation and implementation. [Go to Guide](#)

### **ECELS EMAIL ALERT: Webinars to Help Pennsylvania ECE Programs Implement CDC Guidance**

The COVID-19 pandemic presents unique challenges for early care and education (ECE) programs. Thank you for your continued efforts to support children and families. The PA Department of Human Services, Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Key, offers several recorded webinars to help ECE professionals implement the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. The webinars provide key information to help navigate the reopening process while continuing to prioritize children’s learning, growth, and development. View the recorded webinars and related resources on the [PA Key website](#)

### **Apply now to T.E.A.C.H. for the Fall Semester!**

PACCA is currently accepting scholarship applications for the Fall 2020 semester! Even if your program is temporarily closed due to COVID-19, you and/or your staff can still submit an application to T.E.A.C.H. PACCA will issue Fall scholarship awards after July 1<sup>st</sup> when the new fiscal year begins. As always scholarship awards are dependent upon funding availability and eligibility criteria is subject to change without notice.

If you or your staff are planning to apply for a T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship, they should also complete the college admissions process and contact an ECE advisor now. Visit PACCA’s website at [https://www.pacca.org/colleges\\_universities.php](https://www.pacca.org/colleges_universities.php) for a list of partnering institutions. Then click on the college/university name to view a profile with ECE Advisor contact information. Or contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor at [teachinfo@pacca.org](mailto:teachinfo@pacca.org) to request the ECE Advisor contact information

for your institution. This will help to ensure that you are admitted to your college/university and ready to register for courses if/when you receive a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship.

### **NEW T.E.A.C.H. PARTNER INSTITUTION – HARCUM COLLEGE!**

PACCA is pleased to announce that T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships will be available at Harcum College for the Fall 2020 semester! For more information on Harcum's program visit, <https://www.harcum.edu/s/1044/edu/majors.aspx?sid=1044&gid=1&pgid=1302>. Contact information for their ECE Advisor can also be found there.

For more information on T.E.A.C.H. and to download an application, visit our website at [https://www.pacca.org/how\\_to\\_apply.php](https://www.pacca.org/how_to_apply.php). If you have questions about T.E.A.C.H. or next steps to enrolling in college, please contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor at (717) 657-9000 or [teachinfo@pacca.org](mailto:teachinfo@pacca.org).

*T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® PENNSYLVANIA is administered by the Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA). T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® PENNSYLVANIA is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association.*

### **WIDA Early Years Webinar Series now available for interested ECE programs**

OCDEL is offering a free 3-part recorded webinar series titled *WIDA Early Years Webinar Series* that covers resources and supports available to programs to help programs that serve dual language learners (DLLs). This event is geared towards the Quality Coaches at the ELRC and is being offered as a substitute for the WIDA Promising Practices Implementation Kit event that was supposed to take place on March 18<sup>th</sup>. **Each participant will receive a Promising Practices Implementation Kit that comes with self-assessments and other materials they may use when working with providers who have populations that include dual language learners.**

This series helps participants reflect on how they are currently supporting dual language learners and their families while generating ideas for action on which resources they will apply to their practice. It also touches on equity for all children. Throughout the webinar you will hear about individuals who were part of the Professional Learning Cohort who are now available to provide WIDA trainings in your region. Attached is a spreadsheet with contact information for these individuals. We did not want to include this spreadsheet in the webinar since it is available to the public.

Now that this is a recorded webinar, ELRC's may have more than 3 quality coaches attend. **ELRC's may also share this webinar with programs who may be interested. ACT 48 and PQAS hours will be awarded upon completion.**

You can register for this prerecorded webinar by searching for *WIDA Early Years Webinar Series* in the training calendar on the PD Registry or by logging into your PD Registry account and then accessing this link: <https://www.papdregistry.org/register.aspx?evid=315201>.

If you have any questions please contact Barry Wiestling at [bwiestling@pa.gov](mailto:bwiestling@pa.gov).

### **Kaplan Offers PPE for ECE**

At [Kaplan Early Learning Company](#), we consider the health and wellness of our partners and customers a top priority. That is why we are committed to helping you during these uncertain times. As your trusted resource for all early childhood classroom necessities, we have expanded our offerings to include Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). As the CDC and states are developing their new "normal" guidelines in response to COVID-19, we are constantly updating our website with new products to meet these needs. All items specified as protective gear support [COVID-19 CDC health and safety guidelines](#).

Free UPS Shipping On Orders That Qualify  
\$300 Minimum  
Enter PR Code PPE20 at Checkout  
[Standard Exclusions Apply](#). Expires 6/30/2020.

Orders can be placed by contacting your local Kaplan Representative (see contact info below) or [click here](#) to order online now.\*

\*If you are pre-ordering online, please include the first and last name of the individual who will be receiving the order in the special instructions box during check out. Delivery will begin late June.

## **From the National CACFP Sponsors Association: Your help needed a second time - please just 1 minute to Share & Submit**

Friends,

We need your help a **second** time!

Back in March or April, you helped us get the attention of Congress with our letters.

It worked! The House of Representatives heard you and passed a bill to provide emergency aid.

Now we have a **\*new\*** campaign asking Senators & President Trump to vote YES on that bill and sign it into law.

**If passed, child and adult care providers, centers, and sponsors would receive emergency funding equal to 55% of [reimbursements from the same month of the previous year minus any current reimbursements].**

There are over 115,000 child care homes, over 60,000 child care centers, and thousands more adult day care, afterschool programs, and sponsoring organizations that rely on funding from the USDA.

Will you please take just one-minute to send this **new, second letter** to your Senators and President Trump asking for their support of financial emergency aid for the child and adult care community?

**It's easy. It's powerful. It's just two-steps and only takes one minute.**

1. Click below & enter your zip code.
2. Add your contact information and press submit!

[Add Your Voice Click 2 Send](#)

## **From Surviving to Thriving**

The COVID-19 pandemic has called all early childhood educators to muster our courage and strength like never before. Each video in this free series from Exchange Press has inspiration, support, and practical advice from experts to help you navigate the rough waters of this crisis. [Click here for more.](#)

## **Job Openings:**

- **Alphabet Alley Child Care Center** is looking for full time teachers due to an expansion. Experience is a requirement. Please contact Zhanna at 215-969-6850 or via email [vaisberg.z@abcdalley.com](mailto:vaisberg.z@abcdalley.com)
- Incredible Kids Learning Center - looking to hire immediately due to massive expansion! [Please review the attached information.](#) Candidates can contact Dr. Coe directly either via telephone **(267) 579-8299** and/or email [incrediblekidslearn@gmail.com](mailto:incrediblekidslearn@gmail.com)

### **Available Positions**

10 positions available (Both full time and Part-time)  
Infant/ Toddler Teacher and Supervisor (4 teachers needed)  
Preschool Teacher and Supervisor (4-teachers needed)  
School Age Teacher (2-teachers needed)

I hope that some of you joined me on Facebook Live last night for the NAEYC screening of **No Small Matter** followed by a town hall panel discussion. I know that MANY of you have seen this important documentary before, as well. **2020 has made it clearer than ever that child care is ESSENTIAL. America literally doesn't work without it. Now is the time to call attention 📢 to this critical issue. Watch @NoSmallMatter and be part of the solution. nosmallmatter.com/buy**

Lastly, in observance of the Fourth of July holiday, ELRC Region 18 offices will be closed on Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Our offices will be closing at 3:00 pm on Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 and re-opening on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 8:00 am.

Please stay safe and healthy,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:34 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC Region 18 E-bulletin: IMPORTANT CARES update and a few extras, of course

Hi everyone,

**I am very sorry for the late notice, but wanted to let you know that the all of the CARES grants that were confirmed for payment will be made via PAPER CHECK and will be mailed tomorrow (Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>). Checks will be mailed to the address where you receive your monthly Payment Summary. I am truly sorry for any confusion, as I know that many of you were expecting these funds to be direct deposited tomorrow. If you have any questions about where your payment will be mailed, please contact our finance team at (215) 382-4762 ext. 2206.**

### **OCDEL Provider Survey**

The 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has had significant impacts on the child care provider community beginning in March 2020. The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is interested in understanding the success and challenges child care providers are experiencing as they operate during the pandemic. One strategy to collect information is a brief monthly survey on staffing and enrollment. The survey is voluntary. OCDEL encourages every child care operator's participation in this brief survey.

[Click here to complete the survey.](#)

Please complete the survey by Wednesday, **July 8, 2020**.

OCDEL will issue the same survey at the end of July, August and September to compare and analyze changes. Thank you for taking time to provide OCDEL with such critical information.

### **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, **June 30th 9:00 - 11:00 am****

Join the Southeast PA Early Childhood Coalition meeting to hear updates from OCDEL and local ELRC agencies, advocate for the needs of the field, learn about resources for early learning providers, and receive support for reopening programs with CDC guidelines, staffing, and enrollment challenges. Send your questions and concerns to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org).

- [Click here to register for the June 30th webinar meeting.](#)
- [Click here for the recording, slides, and handouts from the June 23rd meeting.](#)

### **From PACCA: Join the Social Media Storm: Tell Your Child Care Story**

#### **Tell Your Story**

On **Tuesday, June 30**, child care providers from across Pennsylvania will be sharing their stories on social media.

#### **Why?**

The Governor and General Assembly authorized the spending of stimulus funds to support early learning programs. Even once all those funds are distributed, we know they are not enough.

With diminished enrollment, scarcity of staff, unpaid bills and no clear picture of what tomorrow will bring, many child care providers still do not know if their business will survive. We need the federal government to allocate more funding to support child care programs so they can weather this crisis.

### **What can we do?**

Participate in a day-long, state-wide story sharing event on Tuesday, June 30, from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm so federal elected officials hear from you.

### **Where?**

Your favorite social media platform. Stories can be shared on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

### **How?**

- Prepare your story ahead of time so that you can easily post or tweet during the event.
- Pictures are encouraged to help others see the real people affected by this crisis.

#### **Sharing on Twitter:**

- Break your story down into a thread of 280 characters.
- Click the blue “Tweet” button in the upper right hand corner of your screen.
- Type out the first tweet of your thread. ...
- Press the + button in the lower right hand corner of your Tweet composition window, and a new space will appear for you to add a second tweet.
- In the final tweet of the thread, include #FundChildCare #SaveEarlyLearning and @SenToomey and @SenCasey

#### **Sharing on Facebook:**

- From the top of your News Feed, click What's on your mind, [Name]?
- Add a text update or click the type of **post** you would like to share (example: Photo/Video, Feeling/Activity).
- Posts can be up to 63,206 characters so you have plenty of room, however, longer posts get cut off in a user's feed, forcing them to expand the text if they want to read the full story.
- At the end of your post include #FundChildCare #SaveEarlyLearning and tag @SenatorBobCasey and @SenatorToomey

#### **Sharing on Instagram:**

- Tap + at the bottom of the screen.
- Take a photo or video or choose one from your phone's library.
- Tap **Next**. You can also add effects or filters.
- Tap **Next** again, and then tap **Write a caption**.
- Enter your caption and tap **OK > Share** (iPhone) or **Share** (Android).
- In your caption include #FundChildCare #SaveEarlyLearning and tag @senbobcasey and @senpattomey

**We want to be sure that as many people as possible, and especially our elected officials understand that the child care crisis is not over and without child care there is no recovery! Alert your network of friends, families, and staff to look out for your story and like, share, and/or retweet it on June 30.**

Questions? Please contact [info@startstrongpa.org](mailto:info@startstrongpa.org)

### **The Pennsylvania Statewide Small Business Assistance program**

This program has been established to provide grants to for-profit small businesses economically impacted by COVID-19. The Reinvestment Fund is part of the Pennsylvania CDFI Network, a coalition of 17 Community Development Financial

Institutions (CDFIs) that will support small businesses throughout the Commonwealth to access grant funds. The grant funding ranges from \$5,000 to \$50,000. [Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

## **Webinar Series: Home-Based Child Care on **June 30** and **July 7****

The BUILD Initiative has been hosting a webinar series devoted to Home-Based Child Care. Here is the link to the previous webinars' recordings and PowerPoint presentation: <https://www.buildinitiative.org/The-Issues/Early-Learning/Home-Based-Child-Care/Webinar-Discussion-Series>

Below are the links to upcoming webinars. You can register once you click on the links. Lots of great information is being shared.

### **Home-Based Child Care Networks: Supporting HBCC Through Addressing Comprehensive Services**

**June 30, 2020** 2:00 - 3:30 PM EDT

During this discussion we will further expand on the benefits of relationship-based supports for networks, across all elements of the work and how comprehensive services support the unique nature of HBCC.

Through discussion with Natalie Renew, *Home Grown*, and Sherita Williams, *PolicyLab (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia)*, we will explore concrete examples of comprehensive service supports, how these are delivered through a network approach, and their benefits to providers. As we begin defining some of these comprehensive services, we will also explore:

- How to thread together comprehensive service supports in a way that makes them more accessible to HBCC providers.
- The role of family engagement supports, intake and enrollment, and community outreach partners.
- The role of integrated public health system, child care nurse consultant, ECMH consultation.

### **States Looking Ahead: Role of State Infrastructure for HBCC**

**July 7, 2020** 3:00 – 4:30 PM EDT

States and communities have been working on a better approach to supporting HBCC for some time. Recent events have reinforced the need for new and unique approaches to supporting HBCC. A review of the Preschool Development Grant applications shows how states have been unpacking the best practice approaches in recent years.

Please join Rachel Schumacher, MPP, Early Childhood Policy Consultant in a discussion of the findings shared in the new brief, *Strengthening Home-Based Child Care: Ideas from States Awarded Preschool Development Birth-through-Five Grants*.

## **6/30, What's the Philly 411? July sessions and more!**

- **What's the Philly 411?** Topic - Updates for families on Infant, toddler and Preschool Early Intervention during Corona.

**Tuesday, 6/30** 2PM - 3:30PM.

[Click to register](#) or go to [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_M6eCo9oASvipUnzf8hPVTw](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_M6eCo9oASvipUnzf8hPVTw)

- **Summer Fun?** Topic: Engaging in Play to promote connections with your child

**Tuesday, 7/14** 2PM - 3:PM.

[Click to register](#) or go to [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_D95fTt9QmWGGdALu39yTg](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D95fTt9QmWGGdALu39yTg)

- **Coming in August: Virtual sessions**

Potty Training for your differently abled child

What's the Philly 411?

Date and time to be announced

*Submitted by:*

Cathy Roccia-Meier, MPP

Project Director of Leadership Development  
Institute on Disabilities at Temple University  
College of Education  
1755 N 13th Street  
Student Center, Room 411S  
Philadelphia, PA 19122  
215-204-1772  
215-204-6336 (fax)  
<http://disabilities.temple.edu>

## **Terri Lynne Lokoff National Child Care Teacher Awards - June 30<sup>th</sup>**

There are a total of 50 National Child Care Teacher Award recipients for 2020. Each recipient of the Terri Lynne Lokoff National Child Care Teacher Awards designed an enhancement project that illustrates the educational, social and emotional benefits for the children in their care. A committee of national early childhood educators and experts reviewed and scored the applications. **Each recipient receives a \$1,000 award:** \$500 to implement their proposed project and \$500 to acknowledge their dedication.

**When:** Tuesday, **June 30<sup>th</sup>** from 7pm to 8pm

**What you will need:** A computer with wifi and your smiling face!

**Please click the button below or this link to First Up's YouTube Page:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNXYhaQF1A1rgb0Tweho1Vg/featured> on tomorrow at 7pm. See you there!

## **BabyTalks Series: Supporting Infants and Toddlers with Suspected Disabilities and Delays**

**Thursday, July 9, 2020, 3–4 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Young children vary in their skills, interests, backgrounds, and abilities. Effective teaching requires individualized instruction and chances for all children to access, participate, and thrive in early learning settings. In this webinar, explore responsive environments and interactions that support infants and toddlers with disabilities or suspected delays as they grow and learn across the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework domains. Find tips and strategies to support learning in classrooms, at centers, and in the home as a key learning environment. Hear from Marley Jarvis, Ph.D., from the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences, University of Washington, and the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) in the next webinar in the BabyTalks series.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Modifying and adapting classroom, center, and home environments to provide individualized support for infants and toddlers with disabilities or suspected delays to participate to the full extent of their ability
- Applying concepts for supporting individualized interactions with infants and toddlers with disabilities or suspected delays
- Establishing a program culture that is accepting of differences among people

Target Audience

- Head Start, Early Head Start, Migrant and Seasonal Head Start, and American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start program staff, directors, managers, and administrators
- Child care program staff, directors, managers, and administrators
- T/TA managers and specialists
- Federal and Regional Office staff
- State Collaboration Offices

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2067311/44762ED19623AF0EFD3D5EE342DE8CCF>

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact NCECDL at [ecdtl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdtl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

## **PACCA Zoom Series: Racial Equity in Early Learning**

**Friday, July 10 - Friday, July 24**

As we see events unfold on the national news recently, early childhood educators are aware of their essential role in fostering racial equity in our country.

This 3-part professional development series is designed to help early learning and school-age programs embed racial equity from recruiting, hiring, and on-going training offerings for staff to interactions with children of color. After defining key racial justice terminology such as implicit bias, cultural competency, race, racism, antiracist ally, etc., participants are encouraged to identify concrete ways to embrace racial equity personally and professionally. These Zoom meetings will be informative and interactive, and will provide participants with real resources and supports for classroom situations.

Individuals who participate in **all three** meetings will receive 4.5 hours of PA Key Registry (PQAS) credits and/or 4.5 Act 48 hours. No fee for PQAS OR Act 48 hours.

Zoom link will be sent in confirmation email when registration is received. If you do not receive confirmation, please check your Junk inbox or contact us at [maureen.murphy@pacca.org](mailto:maureen.murphy@pacca.org)

**Dates/Times:** Three Fridays: July 10, 17 and 24. 1:00 - 2:30 pm each Friday.

**Cost:** PACCA Members - \$20 (Includes all 3 meetings); Non-Members - \$45 (Includes all 3 meetings)

### **Presenters:**

*Dr. Monea Abdul-Majeed, Racial Justice Coordinator, YWCA of York* - Dr. Abdul-Majeed has over 15 years of experience in organizational leadership, statistical analysis, training, project management, and professorship. She received her bachelor's degree in sociology and politics from Washington and Lee University and her doctoral degree in Sociology and Political Science from Howard University, where her concentration was Social Inequality (Race, Gender, and Ethnicity) and Urban Sociology. Dr. Abdul-Majeed was a federal government employee at the U.S. Census Bureau from 2001-2016. During her tenure there, she worked in many different areas including Ancestry and Ethnicity, Workforce Development, Job Rotation, Organizational Climate, Poverty and Health Insurance Estimates, and Risk Management. She earned her Master's Certificate in Project Management from George Washington University in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau. While at the Census Bureau, Abdul-Majeed earned the Bronze Award, which is the highest award given, for her work on the Small Area Health Insurance Estimates and Small Area Poverty Estimates data collections. She also served as the Project Manager for the organization's first organizational climate survey. She has been a professor at Montgomery Community College, Trinity Washington University, and HACC. She has taught Introduction to Sociology, The Family, Urban Sociology, Research Methodology, and Work and Society, and Research Writing.

*Ruby Martin, M.Ed., Chief Child & Youth Program Officer, YWCA of York.* With over 30 years of experience in

early learning, Ruby has been overseeing the children and youth programs of YWCA York for over 13 years working with diverse populations. She has been training in PA since 1998 and currently holds her PQAS Certification for the 20<sup>th</sup> year. Ruby has attended multiple experiences to enhance her own learning about culture and inclusion, including Governors Institutes on Culturally Responsive Programming and Engagement, What's Culture Go to do with it? The Importance of Understanding Diverse Populations, Supporting Cultural Competence Community of Practice through PA Key, and Bridges to Cultural Competency through YWCA Lancaster. During her first 10 years working with YWCA York, Ms. Martin led the Racial Justice work of the organization including the management of the Racial Justice Committee, film series and other community events around the topics of race and inclusion. Ruby also teaches several courses at HACC including Culture and Families and led a PA Statewide Training for PQAS instructors on how to incorporate inclusion and anti-bias work into every training they present. Ruby has led "Terry Casey Foundations Race Matters; Supporting Conversation about Race and Culture with Young Children" for more than 10 years and is versed in the implementation of Anti-Bias Education and Equity as a pedagogy since 1993. Currently the Chair of PACCA's Board of Directors, Ruby is passionate about developing diverse communities in every level of leadership.

[Click Here to Register](#)

## **Job Openings**

Many of AFEL's Alliance programs are hiring for a variety of positions (Lead Teacher, Assistant Teacher, Bus Driver, etc). All Alliance programs are located in or near 19104.

Programs who are hiring are listed below. For details and contact information for each program, please see [the attached flyer](#).

- Destiny's Children Early Learning Academy
- Children's Playhouse 2, LLC
- YSI Baring House Crisis Nursery
- Taylor's Learning Academy
- Xavier's Family Child Care, LLC
- A Secure Future Academy Daycare
- Young Achievers Academy
- TIES Tots
- Care to Learn

## **Sharing Spotlight**

- From Anne Mae Guille, FCCH –

Hello Diane,

I had my child care professionally disinfected this week. It was very affordable, and they gave me a certificate to hang up. I thought you might want to include it in your next e blast

He was very professional and I would highly recommend Greg Thomas.

Executive Sweeps

1-800-928-0214

Again, my sincere apologies for any confusion around delivery of the CARES funding. Hopefully, you will be so preoccupied with the MANY activities going on on Tuesday that you won't notice!

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114

## **Diane Getzinger**

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, July 17, 2020 12:42 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** Calling all after school/out-of-school-time providers in Philadelphia

Caring People Alliance would like to convene a meeting or meetings among after school/out-of-school-time providers in Philadelphia to discuss the announced School District Schedule for Fall 2020 and its impact on after school providers and services. As the school year opening is fast approaching, we need to meet in the next week or two. This is not a gripe session. We need to accept the reality of the coming school year and examine two questions:

1. What can the provider community do to support working families and children through this School year?
2. What resources will we need to fill the potential gaps in care created by the school schedule?

If you are interested in attending this meeting, please respond to [RSVP@CaringPeopleAlliance.org](mailto:RSVP@CaringPeopleAlliance.org). We will send out information when we get a sense of the size of the response.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE FOCUSED ON DISCUSSIONS OF OUT OF SCHOOL TIME PROGRAMMING. WE WILL NOT ENGAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD/PRESCHOOL ISSUES.

Jerry Macdonald, Ph.D.  
President and CEO  
Caring People Alliance

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 11:47 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC Region 18 E-bulletin: CARES update and lots more!  
**Attachments:** Philadelphia families with young children: Your voice is needed!

Happy Monday, everyone,

I had hoped to send this out on Friday evening, but here we are! I hope your week got off to a good start. Of course, I have SO MUCH information to share with you, so let's get right to it!

### **CARES Funding**

Last Monday, Governor Tom Wolf announced \$53 million in additional financial support for child care providers that have suffered during COVID-19. "This funding will help child care providers bridge the gap until their clientele returns," Gov. Wolf said. "It will also help them with any increased costs that have been incurred due to the pandemic – things like cleaning and sanitization, which will help keep the 386,000 children who attend our licensed child care facilities safe, as well as the workers who do so much to care for them." In June, the Wolf Administration distributed \$51 million in CARES Act Child Care Development Funds to eligible child care providers. The \$53 million announced today is also from CARES Act funding and will be distributed this month. Another \$116 million from Act 24 will be distributed in the coming months, bringing the total sum of financial support to \$220 million.

Award amounts for the July CARES funding have changed from June and are based exclusively on providers' licensed capacity as follows:

<b>Provider Type</b>	<b>\$ per provider</b>
School-age only	\$2,700
Family Child Care Homes	\$1,700
Group Child Care Homes	\$2,000
Category 1 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 8 -26)	\$2,600
Category 2 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 27-38)	\$4,200
Category 3 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 39-49)	\$5,600
Category 4 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 50-62)	\$7,200
Category 5 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 63-77)	\$9,000
Category 6 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 78-93)	\$10,900
Category 7 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 94-113)	\$13,300
Category 8 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 114-138)	\$16,100
Category 9 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 139-180)	\$20,100
Category 10 Child Care Centers (licensed capacity of 181-598)	\$30,700
<b>Total</b>	

For providers located in Philadelphia:

- **If you received a June CARES payment**, you do NOT need to turn in any additional paperwork. Your July CARES funding will be distributed on 7/31/2020 by whatever method (direct deposit / paper check) you received your last regular monthly payment for subsidized child care. If you do not participate in the subsidy program or do not have current enrollments, your July CARES payment will be mailed to the address you indicated on your Attestation form.
- **If you submitted your Attestation for June, but it was too late to be paid in June**, you should have already received confirmation from me of the amount of your June grant. Your June CARES funding will be distributed on 7/24/2020 by whatever method (direct deposit / paper check) you received your last regular monthly payment for subsidized child care. If you do not participate in the subsidy program or do not have current enrollments, your June CARES payment will be mailed to the address you indicated on your Attestation form. You will then receive your July CARES payment on 7/31/2020.
- **If you have not yet submitted an Attestation form** and have already reopened or plan on reopening – regardless of whether or not you participate in the subsidized child care program – you may be eligible to receive this CARES funding. Please complete [the attached Attestation form](#). You can fax it to (215) 940-0226 or scan/e-mail it to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org).

Answers to some other frequently asked questions:

- You will receive the CARES funding in addition to your regular subsidized child care payment.
- You will NOT need to submit receipts for items purchased with CARES funding, nor are there restrictions on how you can spend your CARES funding. Please remember that the purpose of the funds is to help you reopen and remain operational.
- You DO **NOT** NEED TO SEND IN ANOTHER ATTESTION FORM! Ever...please stop... 😊

### **TIMELY ELRC Region 18 Updates**

- You MUST notify ELRC 18 if there are ANY children you have not been paid for in the fiscal year that ended 6/30/2020 no later than close of business **THIS Friday, July 17, 2020** in order for us to be able to pay for care. Please send an e-mail to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). **If you discover an unpaid enrollment after Friday, we may not be able to pay for care that you provided.**
- ELRC Region 18 quality coaches are working with programs that received Merit, Education and Retention, or Rising STARS Support grants to ensure timely closure. As a reminder, all funds had to be expended by 6/30/2020 (or returned to ELRC 18), and you must submit your grant closure documents no later than **7/31/2020** to [ELRC18grants@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18grants@caringpeoplealliance.org). **Failure to close your grant timely could result in ineligibility for future grants and/or a referral to the Office of the State Inspector General.** If you have ANY questions, please contact your quality coach right away. Please see the [attached list](#) if you are not sure who your quality coach is or how to contact him/her.

### **Recent Updates from Certification:**

***(In case you missed them...they're VERY IMPORTANT):***

#### **COVID-19 Operations for Licensed Child Care – issued 7/10/2020**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement C-20-08 COVID-19 Operations for Licensed Child Care](#). This Announcement provides clarification regarding health and safety compliance during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic to licensed child care providers and child care certification representatives employed by the Department of Human Services (DHS) who conduct monitoring visits and complaint investigations.

As child care programs have continued to operate or are planning to reopen, OCDEL has received requests for clarification regarding the expectations for compliance with the CDC guidelines. This Announcement serves to further clarify OCDEL's expectations for compliance with the CDC guidelines,

compliance with applicable regulations and Executive Orders issued by the Governor or Secretary of Department of Health.

**Effective July 17, 2020, child care certification representatives will cite child care programs operating out of compliance with the previously described Critical Elements derived from CDC guidance.** The citations for items 1-4 within the Announcement will be issued under 3270.21, 3280.20, and 3290.18, all pertaining to “general health and safety.” Child care programs failing to comply with acceptable plans of correction, may be subject to further action that impacts the child care programs’ Certificate of Compliance, ability to continue to operate, and eligibility for distributions of supplemental financial supports.

For additional information and details, please see the [Announcement C-20-08 COVID-19 Operations for Licensed Child Care](#).

### **Announcement: C-20-06 REVISED: Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic – issued 7/8/2020**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement: C-20-06 REVISED, Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities operating during the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic](#). This Announcement provides certified child care facilities with interim guidance for operating a facility during the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This guidance covers policies and procedures providers should implement during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides certified child care facilities with guidance on how to handle a positive COVID-19 case or exposure to a positive COVID-19 case in child care facilities. This revised version of C-20-06 includes updated information related to face coverings and corrections to text in the original announcement. These updates and corrections are provided in red text within the document.

Following the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued on March 6, 2020 by Governor Tom Wolf, statewide mitigation efforts were put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19. As Pennsylvania has transitioned into a phased reopening of the state, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) acknowledges the need for guidance on operating a facility during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Child care facilities that continue to remain open or that are preparing to reopen should follow the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). The guidance details the steps providers are recommended to follow in order to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on child care facilities. OCDEL developed this guidance based on recommendations from the CDC and DOH and it is subject to change. Health and safety guidance for child care facilities during COVID-19 is outlined in this document.

Topics addressed in this guidance include:

1. Reopening
2. Transmission and Symptoms of COVID-19
3. Practices, Policies, and Procedures for Consideration
4. Social Distancing in the Child Care Setting
5. Face Masks
6. Dealing with confirmed positive COVID-19 cases and exposure to COVID-19
7. Reporting
8. Additional Resources

For details, including updated information related to face coverings, please see the [Announcement: C-20-06 REVISED, Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities operating during the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic](#).

## **REVISED: Fire Safety Training for Child Care Centers May Be Obtained Online During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the revised [Announcement C-20-07, Fire Safety Training for Child Care Centers may be obtained online during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). This document is being updated to reflect the removal of Better Kid Care. The content is only available on the PD Registry.

In the event providers and staff cannot schedule in person fire safety training due to the COVID-19 pandemic, OCDEL is temporarily allowing an online fire safety training that meets the fire safety regulations 55 Pa. Code §3270.31(e)(4)(ii) and §3270.4. OCDEL has approved the online fire safety course, which is called *DHS Fire Safety Training*. This training course will be deemed acceptable up until 30 days after the Disaster Proclamation is lifted or such other time as the Department directs.

Providers and staff may access the fire safety training through the [PD Registry](#) and searching for *DHS Fire Safety Training*.

For additional information, please see the revised [Announcement C-20-07, Fire Safety Training for Child Care Centers may be obtained online during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

## **COVID-19 Relief PA Statewide Small Business Assistance Program Grant: Application Deadline is 11:59pm on July 14<sup>th</sup>**

Grant awards will be between \$5,000 and \$50,000, and program priorities include:

- Historically disadvantaged businesses
- Low-and-moderate income business owners
- Rural businesses
- Retail, food and hospitality, health and wellness, personal care, child care and adult day care centers industry sectors
- Businesses impacted the most based on gross revenue losses
- Women-owned businesses
- Designated revitalization programs, i.e. Main Street, Trail Town Program™, Pittsburgh Neighborhood Districts. PA Wilds™

[Click Here](#) to submit an application.

## **Paycheck Protection Program has reopened**

The Paycheck Protection Program resumed accepting applications July 6, 2020, at 9:00 AM EDT in response to the President signing the program's extension legislation. The new deadline to apply for a Paycheck Protection Program loan is August 8, 2020. The Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. SBA will forgive loans if all employee retention criteria are met, and the funds are used for eligible expenses. [Click here](#) to read more about PPP loan forgiveness. [Click here](#) for full details on the PPP Loans.

Home Grown has partnered with Civitas Strategies, to create a [bank of resources \(in English & Spanish\)](#) to help home-based child care providers and advocates break down the application process and learn the ways to quickly receive funds.

## **Non-contact Infrared Thermometers Available**

The Pennsylvania Key, on behalf of OCDEL, has acquired non-contact infrared thermometers to distribute to child care providers operating during the Stay at Home Order issued by Governor Wolf, beginning in March 2020 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The non-contact infrared thermometers require two, AAA batteries to operate. Batteries are not included. Child care programs can request a thermometer at no cost by sending an email to [c19support@ksrc.biz](mailto:c19support@ksrc.biz).

Please include the child care facility name; the director/owner's name; facility mailing address, including city, state and ZIP Code; and daytime phone number. To ensure as many programs as possible receive them, please do not request a thermometer if a program already has a non-contact thermometer and does not need one. Supplies are limited and will be filled in order of request.

### **Phase XV of First Up's PQAS Virtual Training Now Available**

Here are the latest First Up webinars for professional development. [See the attached flyer](#) for courses beginning on **July 13th**. Sign up and share them with your ECE networks!

### **ECE Support for Reopening and PPE from PHMC**

- Health & Safety supports are available at **no cost to all providers in Philadelphia**. PHMC consultants can assist with establishing new health and safety protocols, implementing proper cleaning and disinfecting practices, educating staff on wearing masks and updating policies and procedures. [Apply for Health & Safety TA here](#).
- Limited supplies of free Personal Protective Equipment will also be available from PHMC soon. Providers actively participating in PHMC Health & Safety TA will be prioritized as will programs that participated in Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education (PEFSEE), PHMC ECE Business Stabilization TA, or Business Best Practices Series presented by Children's Village. If you did not participate in any of these programs, and would like to be considered to receive PPE, submit your request for Health & Safety TA NOW!
- For more information and resources, go to [PHMC's Sustaining Quality website](#) or see the [attached flyer](#).

### **The PDO is gearing up for FY21!**

As the ECE PDO at PHMC embarks on a brand new fiscal year with our IHE and community based partners, we are ready to connect with you to hear about your Career Pathway needs. The ECE PDO team is here to help the ECE workforce enroll in CDA, AA and BA programs and provide the supports and resources to help advance your educational goals. [CLICK HERE](#) to contact the ECE/IHE Coordinators and set up some time to discuss these opportunities! Call (267)773-4400 or visit our website at [ecepdo.phmc.org](http://ecepdo.phmc.org) for more information.

#### **Supports to get you started: The CDA Amnesty program has been extended to December 31, 2020.**

Did you know there are opportunities to receive credit for your CDA? [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the CDA Council website for details. The renewal program is eligible for Rising Stars Tuition Assistance (RSTA). To apply for Financial assistance, ECE professionals need to complete their profile in the PD Registry to see the Financial Assistance tab. For more information about RSTA, visit the Rising STARS page on the PA Key website.

#### **Enrolling in a degree program for the Fall Semester? Apply now to T.E.A.C.H.**

PACCA is currently accepting scholarship applications for the Fall 2020 semester! Even if your program is temporarily closed due to COVID-19, you and/or your staff can still submit an application to T.E.A.C.H. PACCA will issue Fall scholarship awards after July 1<sup>st</sup> when the new fiscal year begins. As always scholarship awards are dependent upon funding availability and eligibility criteria is subject to change without notice. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete information on the T.E.A.C.H. program and the fall application process.

### **National Association for Family Child Care Conference is Virtual July 17th and 18<sup>th</sup>**

Lots of great sessions and main speakers.

Below is the link to all of the information about the conference:

<https://www.nafcc.org/conference>

### **NAEYC Virtual Institute Ends Soon**

Over the past six weeks over 28,000 users have participated, with more than 195,000 certificates issued. There is still time to join, unlimited access ends **July 17**. And **don't miss our [Featured Sessions](#)**! Confirm your email and password or create your free account to [get started](#) or *visit our online [FAQs](#)*.

NAEYC members will have extended access to all 116 presentations until July 30! Not a member? Entry Level membership starts at just \$30 per year and includes two more weeks of Virtual Institute (access ends July 30) plus all our other amazing digital benefits for the full year. Entry Level membership provides digital access to NAEYC and its diverse collection of professional resources including the latest content, resources, peer networking, discounts and more... all at **an unbeatable price!** [JOIN TODAY!](#)

## **PACCA Zoom Series: Racial Equity in Early Learning**

**Friday, July 10 - Friday, July 24**

As we see events unfold on the national news recently, early childhood educators are aware of their essential role in fostering racial equity in our country.

This 3-part professional development series is designed to help early learning and school-age programs embed racial equity from recruiting, hiring, and on-going training offerings for staff to interactions with children of color. After defining key racial justice terminology such as implicit bias, cultural competency, race, racism, antiracist ally, etc., participants are encouraged to identify concrete ways to embrace racial equity personally and professionally. These Zoom meetings will be informative and interactive, and will provide participants with real resources and supports for classroom situations.

Individuals who participate in **all three** meetings will receive 4.5 hours of PA Key Registry (PQAS) credits and/or 4.5 Act 48 hours. No fee for PQAS OR Act 48 hours.

Zoom link will be sent in confirmation email when registration is received. If you do not receive confirmation, please check your Junk inbox or contact us at [maureen.murphy@pacca.org](mailto:maureen.murphy@pacca.org)

**Dates/Times:** Three Fridays: July 10, 17 and 24. 1:00 - 2:30 pm each Friday.

**Cost:** PACCA Members - \$20 (Includes all 3 meetings); Non-Members - \$45 (Includes all 3 meetings)

### **Presenters:**

*Dr. Monea Abdul-Majeed, Racial Justice Coordinator, YWCA of York* - Dr. Abdul-Majeed has over 15 years of experience in organizational leadership, statistical analysis, training, project management, and professorship. She received her bachelor's degree in sociology and politics from Washington and Lee University and her doctoral degree in Sociology and Political Science from Howard University, where her concentration was Social Inequality (Race, Gender, and Ethnicity) and Urban Sociology. Dr. Abdul-Majeed was a federal government employee at the U.S. Census Bureau from 2001-2016. During her tenure there, she worked in many different areas including Ancestry and Ethnicity, Workforce Development, Job Rotation, Organizational Climate, Poverty and Health Insurance Estimates, and Risk Management. She earned her Master's Certificate in Project Management from George Washington University in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau. While at the Census Bureau, Abdul-Majeed earned the Bronze Award, which is the highest award given, for her work on the Small Area Health Insurance Estimates and Small Area Poverty Estimates data collections. She also served as the Project Manager for the organization's first organizational climate survey. She has been a professor at Montgomery Community College, Trinity Washington University, and HACC. She has taught Introduction to Sociology, The Family, Urban Sociology, Research Methodology, and Work and Society, and Research Writing.

*Ruby Martin, M.Ed., Chief Child & Youth Program Officer, YWCA of York.* With over 30 years of experience in early learning, Ruby has been overseeing the children and youth programs of YWCA York for over 13 years working with diverse populations. She has been training in PA since 1998 and currently holds her PQAS Certification for the 20<sup>th</sup> year. Ruby has attended multiple experiences to enhance her own learning about culture and inclusion, including Governors Institutes on Culturally Responsive Programming and Engagement, What's Culture Go to do with it? The Importance of Understanding Diverse Populations, Supporting Cultural Competence Community of Practice through PA Key, and Bridges to Cultural Competency through YWCA

Lancaster. During her first 10 years working with YWCA York, Ms. Martin led the Racial Justice work of the organization including the management of the Racial Justice Committee, film series and other community events around the topics of race and inclusion. Ruby also teaches several courses at HACC including Culture and Families and led a PA Statewide Training for PQAS instructors on how to incorporate inclusion and anti-bias work into every training they present. Ruby has led “Terry Casey Foundations Race Matters; Supporting Conversation about Race and Culture with Young Children” for more than 10 years and is versed in the implementation of Anti-Bias Education and Equity as a pedagogy since 1993. Currently the Chair of PACCA’s Board of Directors, Ruby is passionate about developing diverse communities in every level of leadership.

[Click Here to Register](#)

## **From Teachstone - a Series of FREE Trauma-Informed Care Webinars**

Our interactions with children matter, now more than ever. Children need supportive interactions, especially during these stressful times. In order to help prepare educators to respond appropriately, we’ve partnered with experts across the field for a webinar series to discuss a variety of topics related to trauma. We hope you'll join us for [these free interactive webinars](#), happening throughout the month of July:

- [Know, then Grow: Becoming an Anti-Racist, Anti-Biased, Trauma-Informed Educator](#)  
*Iheoma U. Iruka, P.h.D., HighScope Educational Research Foundation*  
**July 15, 1PM ET**
- [Cultivating Connections After Trauma: Relationship Equity in Your Classroom](#)  
*Amanda Wiliford, P.h.D., the University of Virginia*  
**July 23, 2PM ET**
- [Promoting Resilience and Hope in Times of Trauma](#)  
*Rachel Wagner, MSW, Devereux Center for Resilient Children*  
**July 29, 2PM ET**

**See the full series and register today!**

Can't make a live webinar? No problem. Recordings will be sent to everyone who registers.

## **The Play First Online Summit**

ECE leaders from around the world, all in one place, sharing insights and ideas on the best way forward for children and the people who love them

**5-Day Online CONFERENCE | July 20-24, 2020**

Presented by Fairy Dust Teaching and Teacher Tom’s World

Click [HERE](#) to register.

## **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, July 21st 9:00 - 11:00 am**

Join the Southeast PA Early Childhood Coalition meeting to hear updates from OCDEL and local ELRC agencies, advocate for the needs of the field, learn about resources for early learning providers, and receive support for reopening programs. Please email [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org) your questions and concerns for OCDEL & ELRC and about supporting children with special needs and if you are interested in sharing how your program helps children to learn about social justice or if you wish to lead a self-care moment. We all can appreciate learning from one another!

[Click here to register for the July 21st webinar meeting.](#)

[Click here for the recording, slides, and handouts from the July 7th meeting.](#)

## **Join Cohort 11 of the First Up ECE Fellowship!**

The First Up Early Childhood Fellowship, launched in 2009 to train a new generation of early childhood leaders, is designed to educate, connect, and support emerging leaders working to effect positive change in the field of early

childhood. Over the course of the program, participants will be expected to participate in 90 hours of group work or its equivalent, engage in our statewide advocacy campaign, and follow through with advocacy activities in their local communities. The Fellowship can be used for professional development in a variety of ways—Act 48 credits, Directors Credential renewal, continuing education credits, and PA Keys professional development hours—with undergraduate and graduate credit a future possibility. In addition, fellows will meet and work with ECE leadership in the state, be invited to various local and statewide ECE tables, and will be offered other leadership opportunities as appropriate. [Click here for the application form.](#)

## **PA Key Webinar: Considerations for Open or Re-Opening Child Care Programs (Implementing the CDC Guidance)**

- Summertime Safety During COVID-19 is addressed in this webinar with Amy Requa Recording, June 24, 2020 [Click here to watch the video](#) and here for the [Slide Deck](#).
- For additional PA Key webinars and information related to Coronavirus [read here](#).

## **Please complete PennAEYC Survey**

Dear early care and education supporters -

PennAEYC is only as strong as its membership. It is critical to the board and staff that we are meeting the needs of our current members and also that we continue to build our organization. This will allow us to be a stronger advocacy voice in Harrisburg and Washington, DC and also ensure that a diverse group of professionals inform our work.

When I became the executive director of PennAEYC in December, I noted one of my goals was to spend the spring traveling to visit our chapters and other areas of the state. I wanted to meet our members and other supporters in person and our team wanted to get your feedback and share an assessment of where we are and where we are going as an organization. Unfortunately, like so many other things in our lives, COVID-19 has adjusted those plans. As the PennAEYC staff and board embark on a new strategic plan this fall, it is so important to get your input. As a start, we'd like you to please fill out these surveys to help us assess areas in which we can improve your membership experience and our key areas of work. Please note there is a survey for current members and a survey for non-members/past-members. We are also considering other virtual options for feedback in the months to come.

Please fill out the appropriate survey by **August 7**. The survey takes less than five minutes to complete.

Thank you for helping us build a stronger PennAEYC!

Jen and the PennAEYC Team

[PennAEYC Member Survey](#)

[PennAEYC Non-Member Survey](#)

## **NAEYC Accreditation Operational Updates**

*From NAEYC:* Given the impacts of COVID to child care programs, communities and travel, we have made the decision to extend deadlines and provide grace periods. We hope this will allow you to focus on rebuilding your programs in ways that best serve your communities. Please visit the [Accreditation Operational Updates page](#) on our website for the most up to date information, including an outline of the changes to timing expectations and how NAEYC will support you on your journey.

## **Job Openings:**

- **AFEL Virtual Childcare & ECE Hiring Info Session 7/15/2020** - AFEL is partnering with our Drexel colleagues at the Beachell Family Learning Center to host our first ever Virtual Hiring Session for Alliance Providers next week,

Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup> at noon. Please find the [attached flyer](#) with the link to register. We are currently recruiting participants interested in learning about a variety of childcare/ECE employment opportunities. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate more providers who are looking to hire at this time.

- Kidsville Learning Center Inc., 7165-69 Stenton Avenue, Philadelphia Pa. 19138 – is hiring teachers for summer and fall sessions. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for details!

### **Morning Circle Media Update**

Many of you are familiar with Cynthia Kreilick and Morning Circle Media. MCM, too, has adapted to our changing world! Check out their website blog posts and new videos on their YouTube channel: <http://morningcirclemedia.com/our-blog> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYsTUUpD7JgvkfNRJBmYcMw>

### **Sharing Corner...**

- Congratulations to Chinatown Learning Center, celebrating 44 years today!



**CHILDREN'S VILLAGE**  
sharing wonder every day

***And speaking of sharing, please be sure to share the following important resources and opportunities **with your parents!!*****

### **7/14/2020 - Summer Fun! Engaging in Play to promote connections with your child**

Summer Fun! Topic: Engaging in Play to promote connections with your child

**Tuesday, 7/14 2PM - 3PM.**

[Click to register](#) or go to [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_D95fFtt9QmWGGdALu39yTg](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D95fFtt9QmWGGdALu39yTg)

### **Apply Now for Emergency Rental Assistance**

A second round of rental assistance is now available for Philadelphia tenants affected by COVID-19! Residents can apply starting July 6th. Renters and landlords may submit their application online, by fax, or by mail.

**Funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.**

- Applicants must be Philadelphia residents.
- Landlords and renters must each provide information.
- Renters must have lost more than 30% of their income due to reduced work hours/wages because of COVID-19, or have become unemployed after March 1st due to COVID-19.
- Renters who applied for PA unemployment assistance must have done so after March 1st.
- Renters' income before March 1st must be no more than 100% of the area median income, or \$87,000 for a family of three. (The income limit for Phase 1 was 50% of AMI).
- Assistance is limited to \$750 per month per household and \$4,500 over six months.
- Payments will be made to landlords.
- Landlords must agree to the terms of the program and may not displace the household or begin eviction proceedings for at least 60 days from the final month of rental assistance

The program will run until September 30th or until there is no more funding. [CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!](#)

**SPREAD THE WORD! - Ensure All Pennsylvania Children Are Counted In The 2020 Census**

Counting all children in the Census is vital to ensuring that communities receive the representation and funding needed to support families. Educators can help, using these resources for young children.

For a video in many languages explaining the census, and for resources in English and Spanish to introduce children to the concept of data, [watch this video](#).

[Also view this video from a local Asian American and Pacific Islander group.](#)

**CHOP Policy Lab Parent FAQ & Checklist for Parents, Guardians and Families**

CHOP Policy Lab has developed resources to supporting families regarding the return to childcare and COVID-19. The Parent/Guardian FAQ and Checklist (to guide families in important conversation topics with their child care providers) has been posted to PolicyLab's website and can be found here:

- FAQ "returning to my child care" <https://policylab.chop.edu/reports-and-tools/faq-returning-my-child-child-care>
- Questions to Ask Your Child Care Provider: A Checklist for Parents, Guardians & Families : <https://policylab.chop.edu/reports-and-tools/questions-ask-your-child-care-provider-checklist-parents-guardians-families>

**Ultimate Summer Learning Adventure: PreK-2 Online Summer Learning Activities**

Summer is looking a lot different than we expected, but every day can still be a learning adventure! Starting Monday, June 29th, families with children in PreK through Grade 2 are invited to join the **Ultimate Summer Learning Adventure** for 6 weeks of free, fun-filled activities your children can do online.

Each week we will feature expert-created (and kid-approved) digital lessons to help your child practice reading, writing, math, and science. Activities are simple enough for young children to do on their own, but so fun you might want to join in, too! Whether they're on a tablet or laptop in the kitchen or a cell phone in the car—these activities can be done anywhere, anytime.

And the adventure doesn't end there! Tune into WHYY Channel 12, Monday - Friday from 1:00-2:00 p.m. for specialized shows matched to the fun-filled activities of the week.

**We know you're up to the challenge! So, let's get started -- go to: [ReadingPromise.org/SummerLearning](https://www.readingpromise.org/summerlearning).**

*For families with limited internet access, PreK-2 summer learning packets will be available on Thursdays only, beginning July 9th at [Grab-and-Go Meal sites](#).*

## **City's survey of families around COVID-19 impacts**

Last, but certainly not least, please share the attached e-mail with parents and encourage their participation in the City's survey of families around COVID-19 impacts. In addition to providing valuable information to inform future reopening decisions, participants will have the opportunity to enter a daily raffle for a \$100 Visa gift card! If you cannot open the attached, please see/share the information below:

### **Attention Philly Families with Young Children – Your Voice is Needed!**

If you have a child or children ages 0-5, please take this [childcare survey](#) today.

Reinvestment Fund, the City of Philadelphia's Office of Children and Families, Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC), and United Way are working together to help local and state policymakers understand childcare needs as the region reopens. This is an uncertain and challenging time, and very little information currently exists on families' needs and health and safety concerns; share yours by taking a short anonymous survey at [www.reinvestment.com/phlchildcarereopensurvey](http://www.reinvestment.com/phlchildcarereopensurvey).

Your feedback will help childcare providers and the City of Philadelphia make sure families can confidently access the childcare they need as people begin to go back to work and school. Help us gather this critical information!

You can also help by sharing the following on social media, or check out the [attached toolkit](#) for other ways to share this important opportunity:



Available now – @reinvestfund survey for #Philly families with children ages 0-5. We want to hear from you about childcare concerns as you head back to work– join the conversation by participating: [bit.ly/PHLChildcareReopenSurvey-Families](http://bit.ly/PHLChildcareReopenSurvey-Families)



Attention families with young children in #Philly! How is #COVID19 impacting your childcare plans as you head back to work? Tell us with a short survey [bit.ly/PHLChildcareReopenSurvey-Families](http://bit.ly/PHLChildcareReopenSurvey-Families)

That's all for now...

I know that there is so much for you to do and so many changes to keep track of, especially if you've already reopened (or never closed!). Please know that there are LOTS of resources to help you navigate these uncertain times. If you have ANY questions, please reach out. I may not be the one to answer your question, but will do my very best to get you to the place to get the RIGHT answers!

Until then – here's a feel good moment for you - <https://playingforchange.com/videos/love-train-song-across-america/>. (I played it on repeat for longer than I will admit! 😊)

Have a great week!!

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 11:56 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC Region 18 E-bulletin: A lot can happen in just a few days!

Hi everyone,

I feel like I just finished typing up one of these, but, so much has happened in just the last couple of days (with more to happen in the next couple, I am sure)! At any rate, since we last met...

### **From the Philadelphia School District: School Year 2020-2021: Advancing Education Safely**

Dear School District of Philadelphia Community,

Together, we are approaching a school year that will look and feel very different than any other we have experienced before. What we know is that COVID-19 conditions will continue to evolve and that the guidance we must follow from city, state, and federal health authorities will also evolve — sometimes very quickly. These unprecedented circumstances have required us to reimagine teaching and learning, and think very differently about how we can support a safe and successful school year for all members of our School District community. This plan will allow us to adjust quickly as the public health landscape continues to evolve both before and after school starts. The School Year 2020-2021: Advancing Education Safely Plan is our roadmap.

[Read More](#)

***As you can imagine, ELRC 18 staff are being flooded with calls and e-mails asking about how this will impact before/after-school care in the fall. Please know that we have forwarded this concern/question to OCDEL. They are aware of the Philadelphia School District's decision and are considering its impact on subsidized child care. When we have more information from OCDEL, we will share it through an e-bulletin.***

### **Hazard Pay Grants Now Available for Front-Line Workers in Life-Sustaining Industries**

Governor Tom Wolf announced the availability of [\\$50 million in grant funding](#) to help employers provide hazard pay to employees in life-sustaining occupations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hazard pay is intended to keep front-line employees working in vital industry sectors across Pennsylvania. Child care is identified as an Eligible Industry within [the Guidelines](#). Created through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, this reimbursement-based grant is available to employers offering hazard pay during the eligible program period and will be administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Businesses may apply for grants up to a maximum of \$3 million. Grant funds may be used for hazard pay for direct, full-time and part-time employees earning less than \$20/hour, excluding fringe benefits and overtime for the 10-week period from August 16, 2020, to October 24, 2020. Applicants may apply for up to \$1,200 per eligible full-time equivalent (FTE) employee. Employers may apply for a grant to provide hazard pay for up to 500 eligible full-time equivalent employees per location. Eligible applicants may apply for grants using the online DCED Electronic Single Application for Assistance located at [www.esa.dced.state.pa.us](http://www.esa.dced.state.pa.us) from July 16, 2020, to July 31, 2020. Program inquiries may be directed to (717) 787-6245 or [ra-dcedcbf@pa.gov](mailto:ra-dcedcbf@pa.gov).

***Included in the eligibility criteria is: The employees must be 'front-line' employees facing the hazards of COVID-19 and have continued working through the Governor's March 19, 2020 Business Closure Order as a life sustaining business or a business that received a business waiver. This would suggest that these funds are only available to centers and commercial group child care programs that remained open on a waiver or family and residential group homes that remained open during the crises.***

*Philadelphia ECE stakeholders are working to identify resources to provide technical assistance for providers who need help navigating this application process. Stay tuned for more about that, but I did want to make you aware of this opportunity. The deadline to apply is July 31<sup>st</sup>, and only complete applications will be considered.*

### **Town Hall: Supporting Conversations Around Race and Racism**

Please join PHLpreK for a Town Hall discussion entitled ***Supporting Conversations Around Race and Racism***. This dialogue will include a diverse panel of PHLpreK providers. These panelists will address some of the persistent issues concerning race and systematic racism within the field of Early Childhood Education. This discussion platform will provide an opportunity for providers to participate through a question and answer segment. This Town Hall forum is the beginning of a system-wide effort to address some of the challenges concerning race and racism that may directly impact the quality of care we provide for children and families. (Note: This event is open to all providers, even those that do not currently participate in PHLpreK.)

There will be two sessions:

- **July 21 from 1pm-2pm**
- **July 23 from 6pm-7pm**

[Click here](#) for more details.

### **Phase XVII of First Up's PQAS Virtual Training Now Available**

Here are the latest First Up webinars for professional development.

See the [attached flyer](#) for courses beginning on **July 20th**. Sign up and share them with your ECE networks!

### **AASA What Works in Leadership: Childcare Strategies Amid COVID – 7/22/2020 at 3pm**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the early childhood education system is facing unprecedented circumstances across its governance, financing, delivery systems and professional preparation programs. The burdens on the system expose its long-term fragility. However, amidst the crisis comes opportunity to think and lead differently. The School Superintendents Association (AASA) invites you to join NAEYC and thought leader practitioners from schools for a discussion about leadership, courage and inclusion during this educational crisis.

Presenters:

Rhian Evans Allvin, Chief Executive Officer, National Association for the Education of Young Children

Dr. Barbara Bottoms, Principal, Prince George's County Public Schools

Elizabeth Groginsky, Cabinet Secretary of Early Childhood, New Mexico Board of Education

Steve Hicks, Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Early Childhood Development, Maryland Department of Education

Click [HERE](#) to register.

### **Connections and Conversations: Advocacy 101**

This session will highlight the budget process and state government in Pennsylvania. Participants will receive an overview of the Early Learning Pennsylvania (ELPA) campaigns, how early childhood education programs are impacted by the budget process, and ways professionals and families can use their experiences and knowledge to advocate. The session will also identify actions attendees can participate in or lead, to advocate for early childhood. Join [Trying Together](#) on **Wed., July 22 at 6-7pm** for a free online session. To register and learn more, [visit the course webpage](#).

### **Partnering with Families to Build Economic Security During Emergencies**

**Wednesday, July 29, 2020, 3–4 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Families' financial, education, and employment needs, interests, and goals may change during emergencies and natural disasters. Head Start and Early Head Start family services staff, home visitors, and other early childhood care and education professionals can help families access important information, benefits, and tools during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic and beyond. Join us to explore the common challenges families face during emergencies and natural disasters. Learn about tools and resources that can help families address these challenges and strengthen their economic security now and in the future. Explore the tip sheet series for staff and families, [Partnering with Families to Build Economic Security During Emergencies](#).

Topics for the webinar include:

- Learning about types of accounts, insurance, and ways to connect families with options
- Exploring the challenges families may face when looking for a financial institution
- Reviewing tools and resources you can share with families choosing a financial institution
- Identifying online options for financial information, education, and games

### **Upcoming Sessions w/ Dawn Martini from Ron McGuckin and Associates**

Sign up for webinar focusing on COVID-19 Updates from OCDEL and the DHS Expectations for all Licenced Child Care Providers. Questions need to be sent in advance to the [First Up TA Fund email](#) by **July 31st**. For additional information and to register for the respective sessions, see below:

-For Home-based Providers - **8/4**: [flyer](#) and [registration link](#)

-For Center-based Providers in Philadelphia - **8/5**: [flyer](#) and [registration link](#)

### **Child Nutrition Virtual Summit August 2020 – Tuesday, August 11th**

20 Workshops. Four half-days. One amazing opportunity for training at your home or office!

- USDA Policy Update
- Procurement in the CACFP
- Food Allergies & Special Diets
- Extending CACFP Beyond the Classroom
- Grant Writing 101

### **PACCA is accepting T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship applications for the Fall 2020 semester!**

ECE Professionals interested in attending college for the Fall semester that begins in August should apply to T.E.A.C.H. now! **T.E.A.C.H. applications must be complete and submitted with all required documentation/information by Friday, August 7, 2020 in order to be considered for the Fall 2020 semester.** PACCA will continue to accept applications on an ongoing basis, however incomplete applications and applications received after this date will not receive priority for consideration. New scholarship awards for the Fall 2020 semester will be dependent upon funding availability at that time.

Interested applicants should also begin the college admissions process now and contact an ECE advisor at their intended college/university. This helps to ensure that scholarship applicants are admitted to their college/university and can register for courses if/when they receive a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship. T.E.A.C.H. can provide contact information for ECE advisors at partnering institutions if needed.

Click [here](#) to download a scholarship application. **Questions?** Click [here](#) to contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor.

### **FDA Warning About the Dangers of Hand Sanitizers with Methanol**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a warning to consumers and healthcare providers about hand sanitizer products that are labeled as containing ethanol, also known as ethyl alcohol, but have tested positive for methanol contamination. Methanol (i.e., methyl alcohol or wood alcohol) is a substance that can be toxic when absorbed through the skin or ingested, and can be life-threatening when ingested. As per the [FDA news update](#), "Methanol is not an acceptable active ingredient for hand sanitizers and must not be used due to its toxic effects. FDA's

investigation of methanol in certain hand sanitizers is ongoing. The agency will provide additional information as it becomes available.”

FDA has identified more than two dozen hand sanitizers that are toxic when absorbed through the skin. It is urgent that this information be shared with program staff and families, and others who can disseminate this information. Consumers who have been exposed to a hand sanitizer containing methanol and are experiencing symptoms should seek immediate treatment for the potential toxic effects of methanol poisoning. Substantial methanol exposure can result in:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Headaches
- Blurred vision
- Permanent blindness
- Seizures

Although people of all ages are at risk for methanol poisoning, “young children who accidentally ingest these products and adolescents and adults who drink these products as an alcohol (i.e., ethanol) substitute are most at risk.”

Please see the full FDA news update on hand sanitizers with methanol for further information:

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-hand-sanitizers-methanol>

### **Quick reminders from the Philadelphia Office of Children and Families**

1. The Office of Children and Families department has its website with guidance for reopening childcare updated here: <https://www.phila.gov/2020-06-24-what-reopening-means-for-childcare-in-philadelphia/>
2. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health webinar is now available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jO-nZqD80Gk&feature=youtu.be>
3. The survey to better understand families’ needs heading into the Fall will be live until July 23. Please send to as many families you can! Link here: <https://www.reinvestment.com/phlchildcarereopensurvey/>

### **From SharedSourcePA: Building Resilience**

Simply put, resilience is the ability to return to being healthy and hopeful after bad things happen. Learn about how adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) affect health and how you can help a child build resilience and overcome stress and trauma even in the most tumultuous times. SharedSourcePA has helpful parent handouts, tools on helping children cope and professional development opportunities that give you the resources to support children’s mental growth and well-being!

Don’t forget to take a minute to learn about the new Mindology Fitness Program focused on teaching children self-regulation of emotions that is a powerful tool for both children and the adults in their lives!

Learn more:

- [Building Resilience](#)
- [Professional Development Opportunities](#)

### **From the Office of Head Start: Helping Children Thrive During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

[Watch Now on the ECLKC!](#)

In this video, Dr. Bergeron is joined by Sangeeta Parikshak, mental health lead at the Office of Head Start. They discuss how to help children feel loved and safe during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Dr. B and Sangeeta suggest ways to talk to children about COVID-19, as well as how to make this experience easier on them. Dr. B also shares a love note to a San Bernardino, CA preschool services department providing tele-mental health services to parents in the community during the COVID-19 crisis.

Access to Video

Select the link to view the video any time on-demand: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/blog/helping-children-thrive-during-covid-19-pandemic>

#### Featured Resources

- [Emergencies and National Disasters: Helping Children and Families Cope](#)  
Explore resources to support families in helping young children cope with the challenges that might occur during stressful emergency or disaster situations.
- [The Germ That Wears a Crown: A Story About the Coronavirus](#)  
Use this coloring and activity storybook to help children cope with COVID-19.
- [Taking Care of Ourselves: Stress and Relaxation](#)  
Stress is natural and may seem inevitable. However, it can take a toll on your health and effectiveness as an early childhood educator or parent. It impacts the quality of care that you can give. When you are too stressed, it is difficult to offer the praise, nurturance, and structure your children need. Explore resources to help reduce your stress.
- [Managing Stress with Mindful Moments](#)  
Find out how breathing and movement strategies can help children calm big emotions. Discover ways to use mindfulness with young children to name big feelings and describe how they are affected by them.
- [Mindfulness: A Resilience Practice](#)  
Discover the impact of stress and how mindfulness practices can help teachers become more resilient. Try a mindfulness practice with children in your program.

#### Stay Informed

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this announcement? Get your own copy by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

#### **From Morning Circle Media: Take a virtual field trip to Bredenbeck's Bakery!**

Move over Martha and Julia... Baker Bear is in the kitchen and his skills with a decorator bag are *astounding*! Where did he learn to decorate like that? At Bredenbeck's Bakery in Northwest Philadelphia!

Let's meet their head cake decorator, Diana, and learn more about bakeries and how she creates their insanely sweet icing roses...

*P.S. This Sunday, July 19, is National Ice Cream Day and [Bredenbeck's](#) is donating 20% of all proceeds from their ice cream parlor sales to [Cradles to Crayons](#).*

#### **Magical Memories Entertainment**

About 12 weeks ago we embarked on the mission to develop virtual programs that are interactive and entertaining. We have produced nearly 60 virtual events in the last 12 weeks which have helped us become a leader in virtual entertainment.

You might be shut down this summer or may have programs that are being postponed but we can still work together to keep our community entertained.

We are offering:

- Virtual Shows (magic, bubble, circus, puppet, hula, science, animals, dj dance parties)
- Zoom Workshops (break dancing, magic, circus puppet, dj, balloon twisting, hula)
- Livestream programs (Trivia, Bingo and Karaoke)
- Distance Learning Programs (science and animals)
- Online Fundraising Events

Safety has always been most important to us which is why we have hired a consultant to help us design our "COVID Guidelines" to ensure your campers, staff and our entertainers all remain healthy. To see our most up to date please go to <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/njLeCIYmEmfOkk5uGUfmx>.

If you are still having in person gatherings this summer please keep us in mind for:

1. Outdoor Dance Parties, Foam Parties and Bubble Parties 2. Social Distance Simon Says 3. Popup Drive In Movie Theaters 4. Distance Break Dance and Hula Workshops 5. Parade Entertainers (Stilt Walkers, Costumed Characters, Jugglers) 6. Touchless Photo Booths 7. Sterilized Tag Rentals, Bounce Houses and Gaga Pits 8. No Contact Shows

- Magic Shows
- Animal Visits
- Pirate Shows
- Fire Shows
- Puppet Shows

I also wanted to let you know about some free weekly livestream shows we are offering on facebook and youtube to keep our community entertained while everyone stays home safe. With everything going on we wanted to give back by providing some of our best programs for free online. Please feel free to share.

- Sundays at 1pm est: Live Virtual Shows
- Tuesdays at 7pm est: Virtual Trivia Tuesday
- Saturday at 1pm est: Virtual Magic Show

Magical Memories has worked hard to develop amazing shows that allow everyone to stay safe and being entertained. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you this summer.

Sincerely,

Steven Burchard

Owner/Founder/Entertainer

Magical Memories Entertainment

<https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/NxDeCmZnNnc166KuOBvA7>

Call/Text: 914 548 2048

Weddings: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/SMJUCn5o6oflxxqUNcUAS>

Camps: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/pEKDCo20X0TI88LU6dCL>

Follow Us For The Most Up To Date Information!

Instagram: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/bCdJCpYqLqfQyyNIJumBj>

Twitter: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/5uCwCqxrLrhLRRPhrpTIH>

FaceBook: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/0qsrCrkvVvfw660sGVul>

YouTube: <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/1b5ZCv2zLzTO44ju8IVA0>

- Balloon Artists • Clowns • Comedians • Fire Performers • Fortunetellers • Freak Shows • Jugglers • Magicians
- Mimes • Multi-Talents • Circus Acts • Photo Booths • Stilt Walkers • Motivational Speakers • Magical Grand Entrances • Costumed Characters • Airbrush T-Shirt Artists • Airbrush Tattoo Artists • Caricaturists • Henna Tattoo Artists • Face Painters • Glitter Tattoos • DJs • MCs • Karaoke DJs • Musicians • Casino Games • Carnival Games • Photographers • Videographers •

That's all for now. Have a wonderful weekend!

Best,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger

Assistant Director of Provider/STARS

ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County

2361-2373 Welsh Road

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:04 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: LOTS of important updates and resources

Hi everyone,

First, I apologize for delay in getting this out to you. I kept waiting for information to be finalized. While there is still much information that we don't know, I figured that I'd better at least share with you what we do! There's a lot to unpack here, and I suspect that this will be the first of a series of e-bulletins in the coming days....

### **FREE COVID-19 Testing for Child Care Staff – THIS SATURDAY**

The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium, thanks to generous funding from the William Penn Foundation, will provide free COVID-19 testing to early education staff at select events throughout the City through October. The next event is scheduled for **Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> (10a to 2p)** at Broad Street and Glenwood Ave. If you or your staff are interested, please e-mail [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org) to register. Be sure to include your name, your program name, phone number and e-mail address. *Please be aware that CDC best practices call for you to stay home and away from others while you are waiting the results of your test – even if you have no symptoms and no known exposure to COVID-19. If this is not practical due to work requirements, you should consistently wear a mask, practice physical distancing, and self-quarantine to the extent possible.*

Dr. Ala Stanford of the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium will do a live (virtual) chat with ECE providers on **Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7p**. Details to follow, but please save the date for this exciting opportunity to learn more about COVID-19 and why testing is so important!

As additional testing dates are announced, they will be included in the ELRC18 e-bulletin. You can also contact the Provider/STARS department at (215) 382-4762 ext. 2980 or at [ELRC18providers@carinpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@carinpeoplealliance.org) for upcoming dates and times.

### **Restoring Child Care Works Payment Practices Based on Attendance and Invoicing for All Children**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement ELRC - 20 #11, Restoring Child Care Works Payment Practices Based on Attendance and Invoicing for All Children](#). The purpose of this announcement is to provide additional information to child care programs participating in Child Care Works (CCW) and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC) in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This Announcement replaces in its entirety, Announcement ELRC-20-#09.

Prior to COVID-19, CCW payments were made based on reimbursement for enrolled children's attendance. **Effective September 1, 2020**, CCW payments will return to payment practices and policies based on attendance and invoicing for all children, regardless of when the child was enrolled with the provider. Additionally, the following policies, which were suspended due to COVID-19 during the March-August period, will again be effective:

- Absences will be tracked and counted towards the 40 days of absences for all children.
- Children's enrollment after five days of absence will be suspended until the child returns to care.
- All Adverse Action notices will be sent to families per policy. ELRCs will begin to send Adverse Action notices that have been held due to revised COVID-19 policy.

- Dual enrollments, the practice implemented under COVID-19 to support both a closed provider and families who needed care will end. Children will be enrolled only with the provider where the child attends.
- Collection of family co-pays will resume.

This communication is intended to provide advance notice to child care providers, allowing them to adequately plan for use of the final CARES Act funding which will be issued in August. The distribution of the final CARES Act funding will be guided by information from *The Impacts of COVID-19 on Pennsylvania Child Care Providers* study, completed by Penn State Harrisburg, Institute of State and Regional Affairs.

For additional information, see the [Announcement ELRC - 20 #11, Restoring Child Care Works Payment Practices Based on Attendance and Invoicing for All Children](#).

**What this means....**

- If you receive an Adverse Action or Child Care Stop letter with an effective date of 9/1/2020 or later, you should assume that it is valid.
- ELRC 18 staff are in the process of reaching out to parents who had dual enrollments to find out where their children will be enrolled as of 9/1/2020. As you can imagine, this is a MASSIVE task. If you were being paid for enrollment of a child who is no longer in your care, you should assume that payment for that child will end effective 8/31/2020.
- There has been some confusion about “payment practices based on attendance and invoicing.” The easy way to think about this is that we’re going back to pre-COVID payment policies. If a child is absent for 5 consecutive days and does not return on day 6, you need to notify ELRC. We will suspend care until the child returns (REMEMBER TO NOTIFY US WHEN THIS HAPPENS, TOO!). You are paid for the 5 days, but nothing further until the child returns. Also, just like in the case of a child’s serious illness/hospitalization, where we suspend the enrollment at the start of the absence, this would be the same for such COVID-related situations as exposure to a family member who has tested positive for COVID-19 or child traveled to a COVID “hot spot.” Again, ELRC should be notified right away about the need for the child to be out of care, and we will suspend at the start of the absence, instead of after 5 consecutive absences.

**Announcement ELRC - 20 #13, Updates to the Child Care Works School-Age Blended Rate Payment Policy for the 2020-21 School Year**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement ELRC - 20 #13, Updates to the Child Care Works School-Age Blended Rate Payment Policy for the 2020-21 School Year](#). This announcement is to inform child care programs participating in Child Care Works (CCW) and the Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRCs) the blended rate payment policy has been modified for the 2020-21 school year. This policy will take effect on Aug. 31, 2020.

For the 2020-21 school year, the calculation of the blended rate will not change. It will still be based on 25 full-time days and 180 part-time days.

If a child attends a school district where students will not return to school for in-person, five-day-a-week instruction, a child care provider who accepts the blended rate will receive a part-time blended rate for the days the child attends school in-person and attends child care part-time. The provider may receive a full-time payment rate on the days the child is not scheduled to attend school in-person and attends child care full-time.

Paying the part-time blended rate, instead of a part-time rate, will compensate for any days the child was supposed to attend part-time but may need to attend full-time because of a school closure, such as staff in-service days or professional developments, holidays and snow days.

If school districts change how school instruction will be administered throughout the school year, related to COVID-19, the child’s schedule will be updated to reflect the school’s current schedule.

For additional details, please see the [Announcement ELRC - 20 #13, Updates to the Child Care Works School-Age Blended Rate Payment Policy for the 2020-21 School Year.](#)

**What this means....**

- If you provide full-time care for school-age children so they can participate in their school's virtual education, ELRC will be able to pay you the FULL-TIME rate. However, we will only pay you the FULL-TIME rate if your provider profile indicates that you accept the blended rate. However, you would only be paid the blended rate for any part-time days in the child's care schedule.
- If you choose to continue to NOT accept the blended rate, we will only be able to pay you for part-time care of school-age children during the school year, regardless of how many hours of care are provided.
- If you do not currently accept the blended rate, but want to change this in order to receive full-time payment rates, you may do so.
- How to check/update the blended rate:
  - **If you participate in PELICAN Provider Self Service**, visit the Manage Rates section of your Provider Profile. Your blended rate selection will be in the middle of the screen, right under DISPLAY RATES. If Accepts Blended Rate displays as YES, you don't need to do anything else. If it displays as NO and you would like to be paid FULL-TIME care for school-age children during this school year, you must update your blended rate selection to YES. Do this by clicking UPDATE in the lower right corner. Change your blended rate selection to YES, enter 9/1/2020 for the Blended Rate Effective Date, make ANY selection from the Payment Frequency drop down and click CONVERT. Then click SAVE and then SUBMIT to send your changes to ELRC.
  - **If you do NOT participate in PELICAN Provider Self Service**, you must complete an [Appendix C1](#) and return it with a signed/dated copy of your published rates (typically a flyer or page from your handbook that informs the public how much you charge for services). Please scan/email these documents to [ELRC18providers@caringepeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringepeoplealliance.org) or fax them to (215) 940-0226.
- The annual school-age flip from summer full-time care to school-age part-time care is still scheduled for August 31, 2020. Parents whose children need full-time school-age care must notify ELRC 18 who their provider will be and what days/hours they need care. **We are in the process of creating a form that parents can use to share this information, and we will share the form with you in an upcoming e-bulletin within the next few days.** You can then give the form to your parents, have them complete/sign the form and return it to you, and you can e-mail all of the forms at one time. This will prevent individual students from falling through the cracks and, hopefully, reduce parent and provider frustration. As you can imagine, this is a MASSIVE undertaking, so we are asking for your patience in advance. **Again, the form will be distributed within the next few days through an e-bulletin.**
- Additional information about other resources for families will be forthcoming from the City of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia School District in the coming days.

**It's VERY important to note the following....**

- ELRC 18 can only pay for your care of subsidy eligible children, and it is important for you to receive confirmation from our Provider/STARS specialists before expecting payment for any enrollment.
- ELRC 18 can only pay for care in space that is licensed as a child care facility by the Department of Human Services. Although OCDEL Certification guidelines permit legally unregulated school-age care that meets certain criteria, **ELRC cannot pay for care provided in unlicensed space.**
- You must continue to operate within your licensed capacity.
- The health and safety guidelines for school-age care are different than those for early education. Please be sure to check out the City's [Guidelines for Elementary Schools](#) if you plan on offering school-age care.

**From the Certification Listserv**

Please note that this only a sampling of what has been sent to child care providers over the last several weeks and is presented as a reminder. If you do not currently subscribe to the Certification Listserv, please be sure to register [HERE](#):

- **OCDEL COVID-19 FAQ** (*issued 7/20/2020*)

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [OCDEL COVID-19 FAQ](#) which provides information for those within the child care setting relating to face coverings, COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan Template, child care employees returning from other states, and more. See the [OCDEL COVID-19 FAQ](#) for additional details.

- **DHS Guidance for Annual Licensing Inspections during COVID-19 Pandemic** (*issued 7/27/2020*)

AUDIENCE: Licensees subject to Chapter 20 of Title 55 of the Pennsylvania Code.

PURPOSE: To announce that the Department of Human Services (DHS) had resumed annual inspections of programs licensed under Article IX or X of the Human Services Code, 62 P.S. §§ 901-922, 1001-1088 and 55 Pa. Code Chapter 20.

BACKGROUND: On March 6, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency (“the Disaster Proclamation”) to enable agencies to respond promptly to address the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. With the Governor’s authorization as conferred in the Disaster Proclamation, on March 30, 2020, DHS announced that it “will not be conducting any annual licensing inspections until Governor Wolf lifts the current Proclamation of Disaster Emergency for COVID-19 or until such other time set by DHS” to support the Commonwealth’s efforts to prevent transmission and spread of COVID-19. In doing so, DHS suspended 62 P.S. §§ 911(a)(2) and 1016, to the extent those statutory provisions may be interpreted to require annual on-site visits, and the regulation at 55 Pa. Code § 20.31 (relating to annual inspection), which explicitly requires that DHS conduct an “on-site inspection of a facility or agency at least once every 12 months.”

DISCUSSION: There are over 17,000 licensed settings across the Commonwealth that provide care and services to infants, toddlers, young children, individuals with mental illness, individuals with an intellectual disability or autism, and older adults.

DHS is responsible for enforcing licensing regulations intended to protect the health and safety of people who are served in licensed settings. Enforcement is primarily achieved by conducting annual on-site inspections of each setting to ensure that the licensee is in full compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements. Regulatory requirements are applied and enforced by the following DHS program offices:

Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)  
Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF)  
Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)  
Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL)  
Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)

DHS remains committed to preventing and containing the spread of COVID-19. As the Commonwealth reopens in accordance with the Governor’s Process to Reopen Pennsylvania, DHS has resumed annual on-site inspections of licensed settings. To balance the need to contain the COVID-19 virus with the responsibility for regulatory oversight and enforcement of licensed settings, DHS may apply alternative techniques for annual inspections that do not require an on-site presence in the licensed setting and when an in-person presence in the facility may contribute to the spread of COVID-19, e.g., a participant, consumer, or staff person has tested positive or is suspected to have COVID-19 in the past 21 days.

Alternative techniques include, but are not limited to, the use of videotelephony and file-sharing applications that will allow for real-time observations of conditions at the licensed setting. Use of these techniques will ensure that regulatory compliance is maintained in a manner that does not contribute to

the spread of COVID-19. Additional information regarding the application of these techniques for annual inspections will be communicated to the field by DHS program office before the inspections takes place.

This suspension will remain in place only while the Disaster Proclamation remains in effect or such other time as DHS directs. DHS will continue to conduct complaint, incident, and protective services investigations on-site.

CONTACT: Please [contact your regional licensing office](#) for any questions.

- **Announcement C-2-09, Emergency Temporary Relocation of Facility due to the Governor Issuing a Declaration of Disaster – Specific to Novel Coronavirus** *(issued 8/10/2020)*

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement C-2-09, Emergency Temporary Relocation of Facility due to the Governor Issuing a Declaration of Disaster – Specific to Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

This Announcement establishes a statewide protocol to manage situations in which a child care facility must relocate operation due to local education agency (LEA) decisions to limit access to their facilities to mitigate the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). This document is specific to child care impacted by displacement through Aug. 30, 2021.

This announcement supplements announcement C-17-05, which addressed the process to relocate due to all other emergency or disaster circumstances.

If a child care operator is informed they will be displaced from a LEA building, OCDEL will work with the provider to complete an emergency relocation if they plan to continue operations. This process is outlined in the [Announcement C-20-09](#).

See [the Announcement](#) for full details, as well as next steps.

- **Announcement C-2-04, Revised Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic** *(issued 8/20/2020)*

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement C-2-04 Revised Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). It announces that the Department of Human Services (Department) has suspended certain regulations in 55 Pa. Code Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290 effective March 6, 2020. This communication has been revised and amends the announcement to include additional regulatory suspensions not included in the original communication. Inclusions to this announcement are in red in within the [Announcement](#).

The child care regulations in Chapters 3270, 3280, and 3290 include requirements that the child care provider must document in order to ensure the health and safety of children. The disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent mitigation measures have greatly impacted certified child care facility operations and ability to comply with some regulatory requirements. Many of the requirements in Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290 are dependent on the availability of other entities such as medical professionals and training institutions, as well as a steady rate of attendance of children and communication with parents. The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) realizes that certified child care facilities cannot demonstrate compliance with certain regulations.

The regulations discussed have been suspended in whole or in full; and, or in par or limited, as described within the Announcement and includes information relating to School Age Child Care.

For additional details, please see the [Announcement C-2-04 Revised Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

## **NEW - COVID-19 Resources from the Philadelphia Health Department**

Here are two wonderful COVID-19 resources that PDPH has put together for childcare agencies.

1. Flowchart of what to do w/r/t COVID in your childcare agency ([LINK HERE](#))
2. FAQ document for providers regarding COVID guidelines ([LINK HERE](#))

## **PA Small Business Grant Program**

Round 2 of the COVID19 Relief Pennsylvania Statewide Small Business Assistance program application window is open until 11:59PM on **August 28**. If you applied during the first application window, you do not need to reapply. Qualified applications will be automatically rolled over into the next funding round for consideration. To learn more, [please visit here](#). Click here for the [FAQs](#).

## **FREE Health and Safety Technical Assistance**

PHMC consultants can help you with understanding and implementing current guidelines as we navigate through the “new normal” and provide support including:

- Establishing new health and safety protocols
- Implementing proper cleaning and disinfecting practices
- Educating staff on wearing face masks
- Updating policies and procedures

To apply: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/healthandsafetyTArequest>

## **FREE Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is Available**

PPE such as masks, gloves and eye protection is available to child care facilities in Philadelphia. In addition, other supplies necessary to meet CDC health and safety guidelines for child care providers will be included such as disinfectant, sanitizer, soap and no touch thermometers.

***How do I know if my program is eligible?*** Providers actively participating in PHMC Health and Safety TA will be prioritized to match the supplies with increased knowledge of best practices. All DHS licensed Philadelphia child care providers are eligible to apply while funding is available. If you would like to be considered to receive PPE, submit your request for Health and Safety TA now! (See the previous item in this e-bulletin.)

## **From PSAYDN: Reopening of School and Planning Remote Learning in Afterschool**

Thursday, **August 27, 2020** | 10:30 AM EDT

As schools reopen, students will experience a variety of learning methods based upon each local school and health district plan. Some schools may be teaching in a remote manner, while youth participate in afterschool programs all day.

Join PSAYDN, PENN SACCA and The Pennsylvania Key and explore planning strategies for instructional supports such as creating a safe and healthy environment, instrumental technology tools for student success and maintaining a school, afterschool and family engagement communications system to support youth.

Presented by **Rachel Strucko**, executive director, SHINE Afterschool Program, Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Center, **Stefanie Camoni**, program quality assessor, The Pennsylvania Key, **James Powell**, business manager, The Pennsylvania Key, and **Sarah Holland**, special assistant for family engagement, Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL)

Act 48 and PQAS credits will be available.

[Register Now](#)

## **The Importance of Social/Emotional Learning with the Reopening of Afterschool Programs**

PSAYDN originally held this session on August 3, 2020. Here is the Link to listen: <https://vimeo.com/444307874>

As we reopen afterschool programs, we need to take into consideration the social emotional needs of youth upon reuniting. We will explore Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning's (CASEL) Re-entry tool "Reunite, Renew, and Thrive: Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Roadmap for Reopening School", as well as the Pre-K -12 Career Ready Standards. In addition, we will share daily curricular strategies to support SEL.

Presenters:

Pam Emery, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Tina Lawson, Pennsylvania Department of Education

Dana Milakovic, Pennsylvania Department of Education

## **New Study on Impact of COVID-19 on PA Child Care Providers**

This week, Department of Human Services (DHS) Secretary Teresa Miller released a Penn State University study of COVID-19's impact on Pennsylvania's child care industry. The study, completed by researchers at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs, includes recommendations for distribution of a third round of CARES Act funding to ensure that this critical sector remains financially solvent and available to provide safe and high-quality child care to Pennsylvania's working families.

"We realized early in this crisis that the child care industry was likely to be hit particularly hard, and that's why we asked Penn State to take a close look at this issue back in April," Secretary Miller said. "I'm extremely grateful to the researchers who took on the task of closely studying the impact of COVID-19 on Pennsylvania's child care providers so that we would have a road map going forward to inform our decisions about funding and policies to keep this critical service available to working families."

Penn State Impact Study

[The impact study](#) analyzes the financial costs of the COVID-19 crisis to child care providers, the possibility of permanent closures as a result of the crisis and the level of investment needed to sustain the industry during a transitional period of low demand and after the crisis has subsided. Penn State researchers drew conclusions from both detailed surveys distributed to hundreds of child care providers throughout Pennsylvania and also a smaller number of personal interviews with child care providers and workers.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how essential child care is to working families and employers, in addition to highlighting the fragility of the child care system," said Dr. Philip Sirinides, director of Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. "Without assistance, the impacts of COVID-19 will continue to be felt for months or possibly years as child care providers try to re-open, rebuild, and traverse their new normal."

Before the COVID-19 crisis, 7,017 licensed child care providers were operating in Pennsylvania. As of late July, more than 200 of those providers have indicated an intention to permanently close their doors.

Penn State's study estimates about 1,000 additional providers are at risk of closure without financial assistance to offset ongoing costs of implementing COVID-19 guidelines and reduced enrollments.

The department's Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), which licenses Pennsylvania child care providers, is using the study's recommendations to guide distribution of about \$116 million in federal CARES Act funding allocated for child care. OCDEL is working on a distribution plan that will maximize the positive impact of the funds, and DHS will announce more information in the coming weeks. Distribution of the funds is tentatively scheduled for late August.

CARES Act Funding

The Wolf Administration has twice previously distributed rounds of CARES Act funding to child care providers to support the industry through the COVID-19 crisis. About \$51 million in CARES Act Child Care Development Funds was distributed to eligible child care providers in June, followed by about \$53 million more in July.

"The loss of any child care providers is a significant loss for Pennsylvania and an added burden for working families who need access to high-quality, affordable child care," Secretary Miller said. "We need to do

everything we can to help this industry recover and continue providing its crucial service. Our economy depends on it.”

## **NSOR Clearance Requirement Now in Effect**

Due to federal requirement under the reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG), all child care employees and volunteers are required and should now have a completed clearance from the National Crime Information Center/National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR), regardless of start or hire date. This clearance is required for employees and volunteers of child day-care centers, group day-care homes or family child-care homes. The NSOR clearance verifies a check of the National Sex Offenders Registry was conducted and if the individual can or cannot work for a regulated child care provider. This clearance is required in addition to a Child Abuse History Clearance, Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check for Employment or Volunteers, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Fingerprinting. The deadline for this clearance was **July 1, 2020**. Visit the [Keep Kids Safe website](#) for more information, including directions how to obtain the NSOR and all other required clearances for child care providers.

## **From the PA Early Ed News - New Process to Prevent Expulsion and/or Suspension from ECE Programs**

Effective **Aug. 1, 2020**, there is a new process for early childhood education (ECE) professionals and families to request supports for a child with unique needs or challenging behaviors to help prevent expulsion and/or suspension from ECE programs. In the past, providers and families would call the CONNECT Helpline. Starting Aug. 1, 2020, to request assistance from the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), ECE professionals and families should complete the online form at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/PAExpulsionHelp](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PAExpulsionHelp). See [this document](#) for more information.

Families and ECE professionals do not need to complete the survey under the following circumstances:

- The family has an established relationship with their local Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC), in which case providers and families may reach out directly to the ELRC to receive program support.
- The child is already receiving Early Intervention (EI) Services, with parent permission, in which case the provider should reach out to the child’s local EI program to request assistance.

Families who have concerns about their child's development can still call the CONNECT Helpline at 1-800-692-7288 for information and to connect to Early Intervention Services and Supports in Pennsylvania. For additional details, please see the document on developing suspension and expulsion policies.

## **Philadelphia Lullaby Project**

If you missed the SEPECC meeting at the beginning of August, you missed a wonderful presentation by World Cafe Live about the launch of the Philadelphia Lullaby Project.

They’re looking to share the joy of music-making and creative play with new parents/caregivers and their young ones. Dates for the six-week sessions are:

- **Tuesday Morning Group at 10 AM: August 11, 18, and 25; September 1, 8, and 15**
- **Wednesday Afternoon Group at 3 PM: August 12, 19, and 26; September 2, 9 and 16**
- **Thursday Morning Group at 10 AM: August 13, 20, and 27; September 3, 10 and 17**

To get more information and sign up, contact Jacinda Arellano at [jacinda@liveconnections.org](mailto:jacinda@liveconnections.org) or call (215) 821-9554 or see registration form [HERE](#).

## **Families First Webinar - What's the Philly 4-1-1**

- Up to-the-minute news for Philly families during Coronavirus.
- Get the dish, learn about resources and connect to other Early Intervention families.

**AUGUST 25**

Tuesday 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

REGISTER: [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_x7O2sPGwR\\_iQpc4Gy\\_htHQ](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_x7O2sPGwR_iQpc4Gy_htHQ)

## **Creating Inclusive Environments That Support All Children**

**Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2020, 3–4 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

It is important to create a supportive environment for all learners, including children with developmental disabilities or suspected delays. To do so requires adapting practices and environments to ensure that all children birth to 5 feel valued and included in your program. In this webinar, explore how to support education staff to implement effective, evidence-based teaching practices and create inclusive environments where every child feels safe and has a sense of belonging. Learn how ongoing professional development supports this effort and explore existing resources.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Exploring key factors that are critical to successful inclusion practices
- Understanding different levels of support and methods to meet the needs of individual learners
- Discussing professional development as a strategy to support implementation of evidence-based practices
- Identifying and connecting resources to support inclusive practices

Target Audience

- Education managers
- Regional early childhood specialists and managers
- Program directors
- Coaches

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2071782/8145B60C835C5A7E632DD20B079AC56A>

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdtl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdtl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752.

## **From First Up: Family Engagement Supports During COVID-19 PHMC Webinar**

In this webinar, we will discuss ways to effectively engage parents and families to strengthen a true partnership bond and continue to build mutual trust and respect while ensuring a meaningful early learning experience for their children. We will identify some of the barriers to this work and highlight strategies to deepen the relationships with parents and families, while keeping them actively involved in their children's learning in the midst of this health crisis.

Date and Time: Wednesday, **August 26** 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

[Register here.](#)

## **Just for Parents! Answering Your Questions About Child Care in 2020**

*Child Care Professionals! Do you have family members, colleagues, community members who have questions about child care, especially in the time of COVID-19? PACCA is sponsoring two webinars specifically focused on answering parents'*

questions. Please share this no-cost opportunity throughout your communities! A flyer that can be printed or shared electronically with parents can be found [HERE](#).

This FREE 2-part series of one-hour webinars for parents/caretakers of children from birth to age five features expert panelists, 2020 parents, and child care providers who can inform and guide you and answer your questions. You can register for either session, but we recommend both.

We'll leave time for Q&A. You may ask questions in advance (anonymously if you prefer) by emailing [shawn.towey@pacca.org](mailto:shawn.towey@pacca.org), or you can enter them in the chat box during the session.

**Sponsor:** Pennsylvania Child Care Association

**Cost:** FREE

For more questions, please contact Shawn Towey at 717-862-4872 or [shawn.towey@pacca.org](mailto:shawn.towey@pacca.org)

- Wednesday **August 26th, 2020** | 7PM - 8PM EDT

#### **Why Care about Child Care?**

Are you a working parent who needs child care? A parent of a child who needs more interaction with other children? A parent who is concerned about your child's kindergarten readiness? Need to know about getting help to pay for child care? And what do "licensed" and "high quality" really mean? This is an introduction for parents or other caretakers (grandparents, guardians, foster families...) to the landscape of child care in Pennsylvania.

**Register at** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/151399861353848591>

- Wednesday **September 2nd, 2020** | 7PM - 8PM EDT

#### **Facts about COVID-19 & Quality Child Care**

Every week we learn something new about COVID-19 and children. Child care is highly regulated in PA and the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has responded with updated regulations and guidelines to keep children and providers safe. However, some of these are suggestions, not requirements; some clash with best practices for child development, and some are difficult to implement with very young children. Learn about pros and cons of different **child** care settings, what to expect from child care providers, and which questions to ask if you're still searching for one that's right for you and your child. If you're still deciding whether to choose out-of-home care, this workshop should help you.

**Register at** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7496005593502784267>

## **Engaging with Families in Conversations About Sensitive Topics**

**Thursday, Aug. 27, 2020, 3–4:45 p.m. ET**

[Register Online Now!](#)

Building positive, goal-oriented relationships begins with ongoing interactions between families and staff. When you make intentional choices about language, you help develop trust and respect with families. Using strengths-based attitudes and relationship-based practices is especially important when working with families who are experiencing challenging situations. These situations may include housing, financial, health, or mental health challenges, or concerns for the safety of a child or family. Explore tips for engaging in sensitive conversations with families. Examine helpful approaches to consider before, during, and after. Discover resources to prepare for sensitive conversations with families

Join the National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (NCPFCE) and the Office of Head Start (OHS) for a discussion and Q&A session on related issues. Engage in peer dialogue, chat with experts, and identify strategies for current and future Head Start programming.

### **How to Register**

Select the link to register: [https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1343749&tp\\_key=02d90d5505](https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1343749&tp_key=02d90d5505)

Participants will receive an email with a link to download the certificate of attendance at the end of the live event or on-demand viewing.

The registration link can be used for both the live event and on-demand viewing. The recording will be available to watch on-demand from Thursday, Aug. 27 at 5:45 p.m. ET until Sept. 15, 2020. Because access to the live event is limited and the session may be full, we recommend watching the webinar on-demand. A version with English closed captions will also be posted on the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC) as part of the [Head Start Heals Campaign](#) 10–15 days after the event. Participants who watch the video on the ECLKC will not receive an attendance certificate.

### **Head Start Heals Campaign**

Find more trauma resources and strategies about [Head Start Heals](#) on the ECLKC. Program managers can use these resources to design quality improvements for their programs. Direct service staff can use promoted strategies to assist the children and families they serve. Join the conversation on social media using #HeadStartHeals.

### **Deepen Your PFCE Practice**

Engage with colleagues around the country in an online community hosted on the MyPeers platform. The PFCE Deepening Practice community currently has more than 600 members who are networking, sharing, and learning from each other. [Login or register](#) as a member of MyPeers. Find the PFCE Deepening Practice community under "All Communities" and select the blue "Join" button.

### **Share This Opportunity**

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic. Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

### **Questions?**

To learn more, please contact NCPFCE at [pfcewebinars@ecetta.info](mailto:pfcewebinars@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 855-208-0909. For more information about registration, access, alternate phone lines, and certificates, contact [webcasts@hsicc.org](mailto:webcasts@hsicc.org). If you need to make accommodations for colleagues with hearing impairments, please send your request at least three business days prior to the event.

## **First Up to Hold TWO Virtual Conferences**

Greetings First Up Conference Participants-

We are so excited to announce that we have officially opened registration for our first two virtual conferences!

For the next two weeks – Family and Group Child Care Providers only are eligible to register for HALF-PRICE event tickets!

First Up has partnered with the Family Child Care Advisory Council and the Family Child Care Coalition to present these two events. Both events are open to ANY early childhood professional looking to enhance their practice or connect with like-minded professionals.

The dates and times of the conferences are:

- **Saturday, September 26, 9:00am-1:30pm** - Family Childcare Conference
- **Saturday, October 3, 9:00am-1:30pm** - Personal Empowerment for the ECE Professional featuring Dr. Veirdre Jackson

To learn more and register for these events, please visit [firstup.org/annual-conference](http://firstup.org/annual-conference) and contact [Rebecca Tyrrell](#) with any questions.

We look forward to connecting with you soon!

-The First Up Conference Team

## **Become an ECE Apprentice!**

District 1199C Training and Upgrading Fund is now recruiting for the next ECE Apprenticeship Cohort. As an ECE Apprentice, you will earn your Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education and receive:

- On the job training at your current employer
- T.E.A.C.H scholarships to help significantly lower the cost of earning your degree
- Coaching at your employer site to successfully grow and support new teaching skills
- Up to four wage increases throughout programming

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the flyer with more information on the program and to register for an upcoming information session.

## **Job Openings (in alphabetical order)**

- **Brightside Academy** - Are you looking to grow!?! Brightside is hiring Academy Leadership! See [attached flier!](#)
- **Grace Kids Academy** has several teacher openings, 2 permanent, and 2 temporary to cover staff maternity leaves but with the potential to become permanent. The positions are:
  - Lead Preschool Teacher - Must have minimum of AA in ECE or related field
  - Early Head Start Toddler Teacher - Must have CDA in Infant/Toddler
  - 2 Temporary Teachers - Must have CDA credential. Term through October with potential to become permanent.\*Experience using online curriculums (Teaching Strategies) and good computer skills a plus  
\*Bilingual preferred but not necessary to apply  
Interested candidates can send resumes, certs, and salary requirements to [info@gracekidsphilly.com](mailto:info@gracekidsphilly.com)  
For more information about Grace Kids Academy: [www.gracekidsphilly.com](http://www.gracekidsphilly.com)
- Open Positions for Preschool and School age Teachers at **Hasan's Interactive Learning Center**: Our goal at Hasan's is to help our children grow and learn by providing them with qualified teachers that meet the needs of each individual child. We have openings for both full time and part time teachers, along with flexible hours. We have two locations in Northeast Philadelphia:
  - 4674 Frankford Ave.
  - 4955 Frankford Ave.For more information please contact Omaima Talouli at (215) 533 – 5437, or email her at [hilc99@yahoo.com](mailto:hilc99@yahoo.com)
- **Malaika's Childcare** is looking for a lead PreK teacher. For details, please see the [attached flyer](#).
- **Oasis Development and Learning Center** is hiring for a director and assistant. See [the attached flyer](#) for details.

## **Please complete PACCA Poll!!**

Please complete the PACCA Poll "How will returning to pay by attendance impact your program's revenue?" <https://poll.app.do/pg/pa-child-care-providers>

## **United Way of Pennsylvania COVID-19 Impact Survey**

Pennsylvania United Ways seek to better understand the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people living in Pennsylvania. United Way of Pennsylvania is conducting a [survey](#) that will be used to inform how to best support [Pennsylvania ALICE](#) (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) families throughout long-term recovery and beyond. Completing this survey should take less than 10 minutes. Your responses are confidential. The individual results of this survey and any other identifying information will not be shared. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact United Way of Pennsylvania by email at [info@uwp.org](mailto:info@uwp.org).

## Second Round of Afterschool and Summer Surveys

The Afterschool Alliance and the National Summer Learning Association are teaming up to ask you to complete a follow-up survey that focuses on what programming local providers have been able to offer this summer and what they have planned for fall. The survey should take no more than 10-15 minutes of your time and your responses will be anonymous. To thank you for your time, 50 respondents to the survey will be randomly selected to win a \$50 cash prize.

### Sharing Corner:

- **Help from Brightside Academy** - Don't give up! Philadelphia's children need all of us! With all that's happening, the stress of operating a center has never been more tough. If you are contemplating closing your center, DON'T just yet, the capacity crisis will only worsen. Brightside is here to help, reach out and let's figure out a way together to keep you open and continue serving the children and families of this great city. For more information please call BSA @ 412-697-1573, all discussions are confidential.
- **Philly Funders Step Up to Digital Demand!**  
Action for Early Learning (AFEL) is grateful to our very generous and supportive Philadelphia funding community -- William Penn Foundation, Lenfest Foundation, Neubauer Foundation and others -- for recognizing the need for increased access to equipment and internet for our children's critical connectivity for digital learning! Thank you for prioritizing our children's success in school and the future! Below is more information from The City of Philadelphia about PHLConnectED, a multi-year program to help ensure all Philadelphia students have internet access for this coming school year and beyond. As our region continues to confront the COVID-19 pandemic, many of you have worked tirelessly to adapt and provide programs and connections online to help children and families continue to learn, grow, and thrive. Yet, some families lost contact with important programs due to a lack of reliable internet access. This past spring, contrary to our long-standing goal, inequities grew in our education system, as some children had limited or no access to virtual schooling and other programs. This fall, almost all of our city's students will continue to need the ability to get online from their homes – a modern-day essential that is out of reach for thousands of Philadelphia households. The William Penn Foundation has long supported more equitable educational opportunities in Philadelphia, and we have been in conversations for several months about how to alleviate the digital divide. This morning, our Board of Directors approved a **\$1 million grant to support PHLConnectED**. The program will provide reliable internet access to approximately 35,000 households, including portable options for the significant number of students who experience housing instability. And, while this program will meet the needs of school students, it will also provide essential connections for the entire household as they access online resources, job opportunities, and social connections. We are pleased to join with the City, Comcast NBCUniversal Foundation, Lenfest Foundation, Neubauer Family Foundation, and Philadelphia School Partnership in committing substantial resources to ensure that lack of internet access is not a barrier to students' education and families' success. Learn more about PHLConnectED: <https://www.phila.gov/2020-08-06-phlconnected-connecting-k-12-students-to-the-internet/>
- If you haven't already, please watch and share the video – **Who Will Watch the Kids?** – it's WONDERFUL! <https://youtu.be/ZiPG6Tb4UgQ>
- From NAEYC: Zoom Circles and Google Hangouts for Parents: Teachers as Essential Conduits to Relationship-Building. [Learn](#) how you can support families during future stay-at-home times by creating online groups for parents and families.

That's all for now. (Well that's not REALLY all, but...) I did not forget and will promise to include updates about **a third round of CARES funding**, as well as the **updated Keystone STARS Standards** within the next day (or two). Please take a minute to digest all of this first!! 😊

Thanks for all that you're doing for Philadelphia's children and families. Please stay safe and healthy (and remember to e-mail us if you're coming to the COVID-19 testing on Saturday)!

Warmly,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:27 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: New STARS standards, CARES update and more resources...

Hi everyone,

I hope you had a great weekend and are ready to dive into the week ahead. Tonight's e-bulletin is really part 2 of last week's. There was so much information and just not enough time to compile it all and get it out to you. So, without any further ado...

### **CCW School-age Follow-up**

First, as promised, [attached is a form](#) that you can share with parents of subsidy-funded school-age children who will be in your care full-time while they participate in virtual education. Please have parents complete and sign the form and return it to you. (Although it is primarily used for parents to request a change of provider, if the only change is their request for full-time care, just complete the provider information for either the old/new provider section and write "CHANGE TO FULL-TIME CARE" at the top of the form.) You can then either scan/email the completed forms to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org) or fax them to (215) 940-0226.

### **Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium Follow-up**

- If you were unable to make this Saturday's testing event, but would like to be notified of upcoming opportunities, please send an e-mail to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org)
- Also, if you are interested in participating in **this Wednesday's** 7pm virtual chat with Dr. Ala Stanford, please RSVP by sending an e-mail to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org). When a link for the meeting is available it will be e-mailed to you.

### **CARES Funding**

I really don't have much of an update here yet, except to alert you to be on the lookout for information (this week?) from OCDEL about a third round of CARES funding. **There will be a new (revised) attestation form and other requirements for this round of funding.** When it comes out, PLEASE pay careful attention to the directions. Submitting partial information will significantly slow down the ability of ELRC 18 staff to quickly and efficiently process your requests. Thanks, in advance, for your cooperation. Now, everyone BREATHE....(that was really for my benefit, but please feel free to join me in taking deep, cleaning breaths)! ☺

### **Announcement: ELRC-20 #12, 2020 Keystone STARS Performance Standards and Program Manual**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has released the [Announcement: ELRC-20 #12, 2020 Keystone STARS Performance Standards and Program Manual](#). This Announcement provides information to child care programs regarding the 2020 Keystone STARS Performance Standards. This is an updated policy, providing additional information and replaces ELS-KS-18 #02 Keystone STARS Performance Standards and Program Manual and accompanying documents. Along with the official policy announcement are:

- [2020 Keystone STARS Performance Standards](#)
- [2020 Keystone STARS Program Manual](#)
- [Additional resources to support programs in using the Keystone STARS Performance Standards](#)

This Announcement also provides information on changes to Program Quality Assessment within Keystone STARS. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, OCDEL is temporarily changing the Keystone STARS requirement for

Program Quality Assessment (PQA), found in the Early Childhood Education Program indicator EC 3.4.5, for all STAR 3 and 4 programs for FY 20/21. Previously Keystone STARS quality indicator EC 3.4.5, required all programs seeking to move to a STAR 3 or 4 or renew their STAR 3 or 4 designation to have an external PQA using either Environment Rating Scales (ERS) or CLASS and meet the minimum threshold scores for each STAR level.

As a result of current and ongoing conditions of COVID-19, the following temporary changes have been made to the role Program Quality Assessment (PQA) has in the Keystone STARS Performance Standards for the 2020-21 program Year\*:

- Integrate a program’s Facility COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan into CQI activities (EC 2.1 and EC 3.4.5)
- Transition from the use of a formal external PQA to an internal Assessment process that will guide programs in their CQI activities (EC 3.4.5)
- Provide programs the opportunity to consult with a Program Quality Assessor at the completion of their internal assessment process (EC 3.4.6)
- Replace “self-assessment” with the term “internal assessment”
- Remove PQA minimum threshold scores for STAR 3 and 4 programs

*\*Changes to temporarily suspend the requirement for an external PQA (ERS or CLASS Assessment) in the 2020-21 Keystone STARS Performance Standards are related to best practices in the mitigation of the spread of COVID-19. In future renewal cycles beginning after June 30, 2021, programs may be required to have an external program assessment and meet threshold scores to continue designation at STAR 3 or STAR 4. OCDEL will issue an announcement and revised STAR Standards when any expectations regarding the designation process changes which will align with new program years.*

A recorded webinar will be available to providers the week of Aug. 10, 2020 which will provide an overview of the 2020 Keystone STARS Performance Standards. More information and instructions for viewing will be provided soon.

***What this means / Additional information:***

- Providers who were in the process of Targeted Reassessment or actively working with their quality coaches on movement, may be able to designate under the 2018 Keystone STARS Standards (if complete by 10/15/2020). Please contact your quality coach directly to discuss this possibility. For a list of quality coaches by ZIP code with their work cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses, please click [HERE](#).
- ELRC 18 will host several online meetings throughout the month of September to answer questions about the new standards. Please stay tuned for dates/times.
- The recorded webinar is roughly 33 minutes in length and can be accessed at any time through the following link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtW\\_xibHwQI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtW_xibHwQI) or on the PA Keys website on the Keystone STARS page at <https://www.pakeys.org/keystone-stars/>.
- You will also find self-reflection tools on the PA Keys website at <https://www.pakeys.org/program-quality/program-quality-assessment/resources/>

**United Way Lunch & Learn: Early Childhood Development and Education with Dr. Mariama Grimes**

*(As a supporter of the United Way, I am happy to share the following opportunity with you...)*

Dr. Grimes, who most recently served as the VP of Family and Community Engagement at the Public Education Foundation in Las Vegas, will discuss what she has learned about the local Early Childhood Education system from conversations with more than 60 early learning stakeholders and will share how United Way is adapting our work as a result of COVID-19. Dr. Grimes will be joined by two key staff members from our agency partner, **First Up: Tyrone Scott**, Director of Government Affairs and **Jillian Best Adler**, Program Manager.

**Thursday, August 27, 2020, 11:30am - 12:00pm**

If you’re interested, [register here](#). For more information, contact 215.665.2539 or [events@uwgpsnj.org](mailto:events@uwgpsnj.org).

## **Front Porch Series: Elevating the Role of Cultural Responsiveness in Effective Teaching Practices**

Thursday, **Sept. 3, 2020**, 3–4 p.m. ET

[Register Online Now!](#)

Join the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching and Learning to explore research related to the role of culturally responsive materials and practices in high-quality instructional interactions. Discover the value of making authentic connections between concepts that children are learning and their home language and culture. Examine examples of how to elevate instructional interactions with culturally authentic and relevant connections to support early learning in all domains.

Topics for the webinar include:

- Examining the research behind the effectiveness of using culturally responsive materials and practices in high-quality instructional interactions
- Viewing examples of teachers infusing authentic cultural supports in learning activities
- Learning ways to effectively use culturally relevant materials and books to relate concepts to children's prior knowledge

Target Audience

- Head Start directors
- Education managers and preschool staff
- Child development specialists
- Coaches
- Disability services coordinators
- Regional T/TA specialists

How to Register

Select the link to register for the webinar:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2065029/1E3F68481F740A2367563CDC9A322432>

Share This Opportunity

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this invitation? Stay up to date by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

Questions?

To learn more, contact the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) at [ecdtl@ecetta.info](mailto:ecdtl@ecetta.info) or (toll-free) 844-261-3752

## **COUNTDOWN TO SUMMIT: Early Bird Registration Ends **August 31, 2020****

Join PACCA at Pennsylvania's largest and most comprehensive statewide early childhood conference held October 18-21, 2020. This year we are going virtual!

Three days, 3 keynotes, 12 sessions, 58 workshops, exhibitors and the Summit Marketplace.

Register by **August 31st**, 2020 to take advantage of the ECE Summit's Early Bird registration rates. Registration fee includes all workshops and networking sessions. If you miss a session you wanted to attend, all sessions will be recorded and available for reviewing after the event with the opportunity to earn PQAS and Act 48 credit. Please visit the Summit website for more information at [www.earlychildhoodsummit.org](http://www.earlychildhoodsummit.org).

## **Online School-age Credential (and other CDA Cohorts) Offered by HACC**

HACC, Central Pennsylvania’s Community College, is offering a series of distance learning opportunities for obtaining your CDA, including a School-age Credential. See the [attached flyer](#) and apply before **September 2, 2020**.

## **Webinar Series from Teaching Strategies**

At Teaching Strategies, we recognize this back-to-school season will look different for every program. We’re pleased to announce a [series of webinars](#) to share more about how we’re supporting multiple learning environments including distance learning for back-to-school.

Our webinar will explore how you can:

- Prepare for any back-to-school scenario—distance learning, traditional classroom, or hybrid models—and easily pivot between print and digital.
- Ensure 24/7 access to your curriculum, including new family resources.
- Build powerful family partnerships with new two-way communication, family observations, and a robust library of videos modeling learning activities that families can do at home.
- Set teachers up for success as they adapt to substantial change with unlimited access to a robust library of on-demand online courses to help them keep up with the most current early childhood best practices for classroom or remote learning.
- Integrate formative assessment to assess COVID-19 learning loss, meet children’s individual needs, and ensure all children can progress.

With several dates available, [secure your spot](#) today!

## **Schools Re-Opening Support and Provider Survey for Families**

PENN SACCA is here for you! We realize that making plans for re-opening schools and the implications on offering school age care possess many unanswered questions and challenges. School Districts and School Age Child Care programs can partner to serve their community children and families. With that being said, we need to know one another’s needs.

The PENN SACCA Team felt it may be helpful to provide you with some guidance:

1. **Converse** with your local school district and find out, “What the re-open plan is for today”. The “plan for today” is not to be taken lightly, as the COVID-19 virus has required that we face each stage of a plan in a fluid manner. Many districts have three different plans that they are working on. If you are not in close contact with the district, today is the time to build that relationship. If you need help building that relationship with your school district, please reach out to PENN SACCA at [pennsacca@aol.com](mailto:pennsacca@aol.com) and a board member will help facilitate that conversation.
2. **Visit** your school district web page daily and review their re-open and health and safety plans. Each district is to create a plan, have it approved by their school board and then submit these plans to the Department of Education.
3. **Survey** your enrolled families so you know who plans on coming to your program and how frequent they plan on coming. This will be tricky, as many school plans may change over the next few weeks. However, having some initial data will help you in your planning and program offerings.

Please click [HERE](#) to access the sample survey. You can adjust it to meet your program needs. In addition, for further support feel free to reach out to PENN SACCA at [pennsacca@aol.com](mailto:pennsacca@aol.com)

We've also created an online example of the survey template using Google Forms. Google Forms link to the survey: <https://forms.gle/eUivzh64QkeupkPJ8>

If you would like to have access to this exact form, please contact Jillian at [jmiller.ps2016@gmail.com](mailto:jmiller.ps2016@gmail.com) She will be glad to assist and share it with you! Once Jillian makes you an owner of a copy of this form, you will have access to edit it as needed and view your responses.

Again, please reach out to us if you need any additional resources, have questions or just need someone to listen.

## **MORE Resources for School-age Programs**

- <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/covid/reopening-programs.cfm>
- <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/covid/reopening-outreach.cfm>
- <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/How-Afterschool-Supports-Students-Learning.pdf>
- [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/afterschoolSnack/-Mitigating-the-ongoing-stress-of-a-pandemic-A-toolkit-for\\_07-27-2020.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/afterschoolSnack/-Mitigating-the-ongoing-stress-of-a-pandemic-A-toolkit-for_07-27-2020.cfm)
- [https://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CASEL\\_Leveraging-SEL-as-You-Prepare-to-Reopen-and-Renew.pdf](https://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CASEL_Leveraging-SEL-as-You-Prepare-to-Reopen-and-Renew.pdf)
- <https://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/SEL-ROADMAP.pdf>
- <https://www.pakeys.org/coronavirus/>
- <https://naaweb.org/professional-development/item/1317-resources-for-coordinating-with-schools-to-reopen>

## **Second Round of Afterschool and Summer Surveys**

The Afterschool Alliance and the National Summer Learning Association are teaming up to ask you to complete a follow-up survey that focuses on what programming local providers have been able to offer this summer and what they have planned for fall. The survey should take no more than 10-15 minutes of your time and your responses will be anonymous. To thank you for your time, 50 respondents to the survey will be randomly selected to win a \$50 cash prize.

## **Tools for Promoting Healthy Weight Practices in Early Childhood Education: An Integrated Approach to Coaching Online Course**

*Although this course was initially designed for ELRC training coordinators and coaches, OCDEL is making it available to child care providers, as well.*

The Department of Health (DOH), through their State Physical Activity and Nutrition (SPAN) grant, has been working with OCDEL to offer an online course on the Professional Development Registry (PD Registry) entitled, *Tools for Promoting Healthy Weight Practices in Early Childhood Education: An Integrated Approach to Coaching*. This 1.5 hour online professional learning opportunity will support participants in understanding the complexity of childhood obesity and the evidence that supports implementing healthy weight strategies in early childhood education settings. Participants will be able to use new knowledge and resources, identify and leverage opportunities, and support implementation of practices and policies related to nutrition, physical activity, and farm to early care and education standards during their quality coaching with early childhood education programs.

The course is for ELRC Training Coordinators and Coaches, but other ELRC staff members are welcome and encouraged to participate. ELRCs may also inform and share the course information with providers to promote participation. The course is currently available on the PD Registry.

The registration page direct link is located at: <https://www.papdregistry.org/register.aspx?evid=316368>

## **Supporting Families Experiencing Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

### **[Watch Now on the ECLKC \(Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center\)!](#)**

In this video, Dr. Bergeron has an insightful conversation with Barbara Duffield, executive director of Schoolhouse Connections. They discuss ways Head Start programs can best support families experiencing homelessness during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) crisis. During this difficult time, it is critical to establish or strengthen partnerships with community providers to address needs such as mental and physical health, developmentally appropriate educational items, and more. Homelessness supports can also be embedded into existing partnerships. Head Start programs can share ways to help make shelter environments more early childhood friendly. They can also help families access food and critical healthcare by coordinating transportation and mobile food delivery services, where possible. Ms. Duffield reminds staff to use non-stigmatizing, people-first language when working with families experiencing homelessness, as well cultural sensitivity.

Access the Video

Select the link to view the video any time on-demand: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/blog/supporting-families-experiencing-homelessness-during-covid-19-pandemic>

Featured Resources

- [Communication and Connectivity: Family Supports for Remote Service Delivery](#)  
Phones, laptops, tablets, Wi-Fi, and charging capability are critical tools for Head Start and Early Head Start remote service delivery. This list of resources can support Head Start and Early Head Start families in getting the access they need.
- [Supporting Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness](#)  
Use this interactive learning series to enhance your knowledge about family homelessness. Learn more about outreach, enrollment, and partnerships with Head Start and Early Head Start families experiencing homelessness.
- [Five Ways to Protect Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers Experiencing Homelessness During COVID-19](#)  
Early childhood, housing, and educational providers can use these strategies to support young children experiencing homelessness during and after the COVID-19 emergency.
- [Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness: Coordination Guidance for Integrating Homelessness into Working Agreements and MOUs Between Head Start Grantees and Local Educational Agencies](#)  
Use this resource to guide coordination and development of services, policies, and practices for children experiencing homelessness. It will be useful for Head Start and local education agency agreements and collaboration efforts.

Stay Informed

Please share this message with colleagues who may be interested in this topic.

Did someone forward you this announcement? Get your own copy by subscribing:

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/subscribe>

## **ELD VIRTUAL 2020-2021 Workshops REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

Join Center for Schools and Communities English Language Development experts for these free virtual workshops.

Events are open to any educator who is currently employed by a public licensed educational agency. Sessions are Act 48 eligible. Please note sessions will NOT be recorded.

[View complete schedule and details.](#)

[View Center for Schools and Communities events.](#)

### **EL Identification Procedures**

In response to the need to identify newly enrolling students as English learners (ELs) during extended school closures, the Pennsylvania Department of Education has developed a provisional identification procedure. This virtual workshop will overview the procedures for provisionally identifying ELs when continuity of education services are being delivered virtually and face-to-face screening is not possible due to extended school closures. Participants will have the opportunity to review the procedure and ask questions to best prepare them for continuing EL identification as required by state policy.

**Wednesday, August 5, 2020 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

**Tuesday, August 11, 2020 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

**Thursday, August 20, 2020 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

**Tuesday, August 25, 2020 | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

**Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

**Monday, Sept. 21, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

### **ELD Curriculum Guidance**

Participants will consider the critical components of ELD curriculum and explore methods for engaging in the

collaborative development process by approaching development that utilizes the Understanding by Design framework and the elements of Universal Design for Learning to integrate academic content standards and 2020 updated WIDA ELD Standards. *Please register for **only one series**.*

**Part 1: Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 2: Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 3: Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

**Part 1: Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 2: Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 3: Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

**Part 1: Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 2: Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 3: Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

**Part 1: Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 2: Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 3: Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

**Part 1: Monday, Nov. 16, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 2: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Part 3: Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2020 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

### **Deconstructing the Pedagogy of Pity: Towards a Critical Educational Practice**

Deconstruct the pedagogy of pity within a framework informed by Geneva Gay's notion of culturally responsive caring, and analyze and discuss a series of commonly occurring scenarios in diverse classrooms to articulate actions that deconstruct the pedagogy of pity and construct a critical pedagogy in its place.

**Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

### **WIDA: Scaffolding Learning Through Language**

This three-part WIDA webinar series provides educators with a fresh look at how to engage multilingual learners in rigorous content area learning with a balance of challenge and support. Explore how rigorous, well-sequenced curriculum within the content of meaningful experiences contributes to rich classroom interactions that mediate learning. Topics are (a) valuing students' resources for learning, (b) developing a strong community of learners, and (c) engaging students in rigorous curriculum. *Please register for **only one series**.*

**Part 1: Thursday, Sept. 10 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 2: Thursday, Sept. 24 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 3: Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

**Part 1: Monday, Oct. 5, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 2: Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 3: Monday, Nov. 2, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

### **WIDA: Reading Supports for Multilingual Learners**

**Essential Question:** *How can educators support multilingual students who are struggling with reading in English?*

The purpose of this eWorkshop is to create an online professional learning community that supports participants' collaboration and fosters ownership of their learning. Over the course of 15 weeks, participants engage in six modules that each consist of three sections: Explore, Make It Work and Share. They select ideas to try out in their classrooms and share their experiences with colleagues in online discussion boards and one online meeting. The estimated time needed to complete the eWorkshop is 20 hours.

**Asynchronous online modules: Sept. 14 – Dec. 21, 2020**

**Synchronous live online workshop: Thursday, Dec. 10 | 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

### **Culturally Responsive Teaching: From Concept to Classroom Practice**

Review tenets of culturally responsive teaching by deep diving into critical cultural concepts of acculturation, immigrant paradox and Funds of Knowledge. Consider ways to replace deficit perspectives with ones that leverage cultural and linguistic abundance.

**Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

### **EL Reclassification Tutorial**

Overview of reclassification policies and the completion of reclassification rubrics while schools are implementing distance learning. Participants will walk through an example of calculating student scores using the language use inventories rubrics, utilize the online reclassification tool for completing rubrics and generating data files, and uploading the master data file to generate individual student cover sheets.

**Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

**Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

### **Book Study: Pedagogy of the Oppressed (Paulo Freire, 1970)**

In a community of practice, participants will read, discuss and interrogate Freire's "Pedagogy of the Oppressed" and relate it to historical, current and future educational practice. Particularly attend to critical thinking about the ways in which Freire's thinking can inform equitable education for English learners.

**Monday, Sept. 28, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | Preface, Introduction and Chapter 1**

**Monday, Nov. 9, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | Chapters 2 and 3**

**Monday, Dec. 21, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | Chapter 4**

[Register Now](#)

### **Facilitating Positive Acculturative Outcomes Through Mentoring**

Create a school- or district-wide plan that addresses the acculturation process for all students. Using a current mentoring program initiative led by the presenters as a guide, participants will identify areas of focus for their own school programming, and a needs assessment and comprehensive plan for a mentoring program will be discussed and created.

**Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m. | [Register Now](#)**

### **WIDA: Engaging Multilingual Newcomers**

Focusing on the latest research regarding newcomer multilingual learners' success in schools, this WIDA webinar series eWorkshop will focus on how language specialists can build a network of educators in their buildings to support newcomer students in their schools. This eWorkshop will be comprised of a series of three live webinars and tasks to be completed between webinars. Completing the entire webinar series and tasks will take approximately six hours.

**Part 1: Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 2: Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 3: Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

### **Educational Linguistics**

Focus on developing an understanding of the structure and sound systems of English in relation to other

languages and in relation to a variety of teaching strategies, and pedagogical language knowledge with regards to the ways in which students' rich linguistic repertoires are leveraged in learning a new language. Develop greater awareness about the difference between systematic errors that may require explicit instruction and natural errors that will correct themselves with appropriately modeled language input.

**Part 1: Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 2: Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 3: Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Part 4: Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020 | 2 – 3:30 p.m.**

[Register Now](#)

## **ECELS EMAIL ALERT: August is National Immunization Awareness Month!**

August is National Immunization Awareness Month - held annually to highlight the importance of immunizations. Staying up-to-date with immunizations provides the best protection against disease and is essential to health. Some diseases are no longer common in this country because of vaccination. However, if we stopped vaccinating, the few cases we have in the United States could very quickly become tens or hundreds of thousands of cases. Getting vaccinations on time is still important during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is crucial everyone—children, staff and parents—receive their regularly scheduled vaccines.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, parents and guardians should schedule immunization appointments early. Some health care providers may have delays in scheduling and decreased appointment windows. Health care providers are taking every precaution to ensure the safety of patients, families, and staff. Call your health care provider if you have any questions or concerns about scheduled well-child visit, or for immunizations. The Pennsylvania departments of Education, Health, Human Services, and Insurance reminds parents to ensure their children's immunizations are up to date as part of back-to-school preparations. In the Wolf Administration's announcement, [Importance of Vaccinations and Updated Guidelines for New School Year](#) released 8/10/20, there is a temporary suspension of children's immunizations requirements that allows children to enter and attend school or an early childhood program for two months without the required immunizations. See the document for full details.

Early childhood education staff should make immunization a priority. Foster an environment of health with:

- Immunization tracking
- Staff education and adult vaccination as needed
- Parent education

Unvaccinated children are at increased risk for disease and can spread disease to others. Babies are at high risk since they are too young to be fully vaccinated. Un- and under vaccinated people are a threat to children and adults who might not be able to receive certain vaccines because they have cancer or other health conditions. Children who are not up-to-date with vaccines recommended for their age may be excluded from child care and schools if an outbreak occurs. Some reputable immunization websites to educate staff and parents include:

1. American Academy of Pediatrics - Healthy Children <https://www.healthychildren.org>
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [www.cdc.gov/](http://www.cdc.gov/)
  - Easy-to-read immunization schedules (in English and Spanish) <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/child.html>
  - Vaccine information for parents [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/resources](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/resources)
  - Infant Immunization - Frequently Asked Questions [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/parent-questions.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/parent-questions.html)
3. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Vaccine Education Center <http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center>
4. Vaccinate Your Family <http://vaccinateyourfamily.org/>
5. Flu Vaccine Materials for Early Education/Child Care Staff and Schools <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/resource-center/freeresources/print/print-schools-childcare.htm>

## **The 2020 U.S. Census Is Still Open - Encourage Families to Respond Now!**

The 2020 U.S. Census is well underway and will close on Sept. 30, 2020. Did you know that both young children and families with low incomes tend to be undercounted? Head Start programs can help with this! Encourage Head Start parents and families to be counted. Let them know federal spending programs rely on information derived from the census to guide the distribution of funds to states, counties, cities, and households. The funds help communities provide services, including those that benefit children, such as special education, and after-school programs, school lunch assistance, children's health insurance, child care, and housing support. Help parents and families that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to do so. It's not too late. This year, it has never been easier to respond to the census. It's something families can do in the safety of their home while practicing social distancing.

Parents and families can respond to the census by completing the questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail.

- To complete the census online, visit <https://my2020census.gov/>
- To respond by phone, call (toll-free) 844-330-2020
  - Learn more about available [language support](#)
- To respond by mail, follow the instructions on the print copy sent to all households

Remind parents that the census questionnaire asks a few simple questions, like the age, sex, and marital status of the people who live in your home, including newborns and non-relatives, as of April 1. The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to protect any personal information collected and keep it strictly confidential. To learn more about what to expect, visit <https://www.2020census.gov>.

### Featured Resources

#### Young Children

- [Counting Young Children in the 2020 Census](#)
- [Shape our children's future. Start with the 2020 Census.](#)

#### Infants and Newborns

- [Remember to Count](#)

#### American Indian and Alaska Native

- 2020 Census Snapshot:
  - [American Indian/Alaska Native](#)
  - [Alaska Native](#)
- [2020 Census Question on Race](#)

#### Immigrants and Refugees

- [Everyone Living in Your Home Counts](#)
- [Why We Ask](#)

#### Counting Those Experiencing Homelessness

- [How the 2020 Census Counts People Experiencing Homelessness](#)
- [You Count, No Matter Where You Live](#)

Select the link for more information about the 2020 census: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/community-engagement/article/counting-young-children-2020-census>

Last, but definitely not least, in my haste to get the e-bulletin out on Friday, I neglected to attach a flyer at PHMC's health and safety technical resources and FREE PPE and cleaning supplies in Spanish. [Here you go!](#)

That's all for now. I'm sure I'll be back soon, but please e-mail me if you need something before then!

Have a great week,  
Diane

## **Diane Getzinger**

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2019 3:04 AM  
**To:** Brittany Eaddy; Charlese Anderson; Cheri Howard; Denise Bowie; Jamillah Dutton; Lillian Olivo; Markeeta Jones; Meisha Campbell; Natasha Melvin; Nick Felici; Nicole Reed; Nicole Spellman; Richard Kee; Rothana Greene; Vernicka Allen  
**Cc:** Alease Ralph; Keith Smith; Guytonwallace, Lillie  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Important info about payments/agreements and some exciting opportunities, too!  
**Attachments:** 2019-2020 regulated agreement - updated.pdf; Direct Deposit Flyer.pdf; Join PACCA's field team.pdf; Let's Get Moving flier\_2020.pdf; MELC CPO 2019.pdf

Good morning, ECE community!

On behalf of Early Learning Resource Center Region 18 (ELRC 18) I want to share several important updates and opportunities with you!

### **PROVIDER PAYMENTS**

- If you submitted your July invoice timely, by now you should have received your payment for July.
- No provider payments were withheld or delayed this month due to incomplete provider agreements.
- Providers who wish to receive Direct Deposit of their monthly reimbursement and who were not previously receiving subsidy reimbursements from CCIS South/West Philadelphia must complete a new Direct Deposit form. Due to bank timelines, providers who already submitted Direct Deposit forms to ELRC 18 may have received a paper check for July. ELRC 18 Finance Department staff mailed the attached flyer with a blank Direct Deposit form to all providers who received a paper check on August 20, 2019. To check on the status of your Direct Deposit or to request forms, please contact the ELRC Finance Department at (215) 382-4762 ext. 2206.

### **PROVIDER AGREEMENTS**

Approximately 1,600 licensed child care facilities in Philadelphia must complete an updated provider agreement with ELRC 18 in order to continue participation in the subsidized child care program. To date, approximately:

- 1/3 have COMPLETED their ELRC 18 provider agreement update.
- 1/3 have submitted something, but are missing one or more documents needed to COMPLETE their agreement update
- 1/3 have not yet submitted any of the provider agreement update documents

*All providers MUST have a complete updated provider agreement in place by September 5, 2019 in order to receive timely payment. Failure to complete a provider agreement update will result in your direct deposit being stopped and payment processed as a check, which will be held until your agreement has been completed.*

If you have submitted documents and have not already been informed that your agreement update is complete, please send an e-mail to [elrc18providers@caringspeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringspeoplealliance.org). Be sure to include your program name and either your

PELICAN provider number or MPI number in the e-mail. You will receive a response within 24 hours. (Please do NOT resend documents “just to be sure.” Each document that is received needs to be logged in, and sending duplicate copies delays our ability to process the large volume of documents being received.)

Attached to this e-mail is an agreement packet containing the pages that must be completed and return along with:

- Proof of your tax ID number (either an EIN assignment letter from the IRS or a copy of your Social Security card)
- A copy of your parent handbook and published rates (signed and dated)
- A copy of your photo ID (*for family child care providers only*)

You can fax your provider agreement documents to (215) 940-0226 or scan/e-mail them to [elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org).

### **Miscellaneous ELRC 18 Reminders**

- Our ***waiting list*** is currently at March 4, 2019. There is no wait for children on the prioritized waiting list (foster children, infant siblings of currently enrolled subsidy children, children needing before/after care for Head Start/PreK Counts, teen parents, and families experiencing homelessness). Please continue to encourage families who may be eligible to apply – either online at [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us), by downloading an application from [www.philadelphiaelrc18.org](http://www.philadelphiaelrc18.org), or by contacting one of our three locations to request a paper application.
- If you operate a multi-site program and have children transferring from one location to another, please send a list, including all necessary details (child’s name, record number, date of transfer, your provider number and which locations are involved in the transfer). You can e-mail the list to [elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org) or fax it to (215) 940-0226.
- If you participate in Head Start, PreK Counts or PHLpreK, please remember to send in the appropriate enrollment verification form for subsidy children receiving before/after care for these programs.
- If you have additional staff who should be receiving these e-bulletins, please reply to this e-mail and send their name and e-mail address, along with your program name and either your PELICAN provider number or MPI number.
- Philadelphia providers wishing to access the ***SMART Document Uploader***, should use the following link: <https://www.pastarsuploader.org/user/register?elrc=891E06B1-2D3A-4B5C-9682-11DC7978964D>

### **For PA PreK Counts Providers: Infant Toddler Contracted Slots**

*Deadline Sept. 9, 2019*

Child care providers from across the commonwealth are encouraged to apply for the 980 expansion Infant Toddler Contract slots. Eligible providers must currently serve PA Pre-K Counts funded children and have an established infant/toddler program. ***Application due by Sept. 9, 2019, at 3:00 p.m.***

Last year, \$2 million of federal funding was utilized to fund a pilot program serving Child Care Works eligible infants and toddlers via contracted slots. The Governor’s 2019-20 budget includes \$15 million to expand the Infant Toddler Contracted Slots program to serve more eligible children.

The Infant Toddler Contracted Slots Program builds upon the already established infrastructure of the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts (PA PKC) Program model. PA PKC has been in existence since 2007 and provides high quality pre-kindergarten services to eligible children. Building an infant toddler focused program with established PA PKC programs will allow continued focus on quality programming while building strong transitions from infant-toddler to pre-kindergarten classrooms.

To view the application and learn more, visit the [PA Key website](#)

### **For STAR 3 and 4 Programs: Building Capacity for Coaching**

*Deadline Sept. 20, 2019*

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) in collaboration with The Pennsylvania Key is pleased to announce the *Building Capacity for Coaching* Initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to leverage coaching supports from Penn State Better Kid Care (BKC) and other professional growth activities in order to develop internal coaches in STAR 3 and STAR 4 facilities. Selected applicants will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of early childhood practices and must have the approval of their administrator or director as this will require a time commitment.

What participants will gain:

- Selected coaches will receive a one-time stipend of \$2,500;
- Participating teachers will receive supports and coaching on areas of practice that can strengthen or improve child experiences in their classroom;
- The program will have developed the internal capacity to offer coaching to other staff in the future to ensure continuous quality improvement;
- You will receive exceptional professional development opportunities at no cost as well as access to the Learning Community; and
- You will have provided valuable insight as OCDEL works to learn more about what is needed in terms of coaching supports for early childhood education providers.

Visit the [PA Key website](#) for more information, including expectations, requirements of participation and how to apply. Deadline to submit applications is **Friday, Sept. 20, 2019**.

### **Keystone STARS Bonus Points Tip Sheets**

OCDEL has created five new tip sheets in order to both highlight the bonus point opportunities as well as to provide additional information to providers. Tip sheets include:

- The Keystone STARS Performance Standard to which the bonus points will apply
- Explanation of how the bonus point quality initiative aligns to Keystone STARS
- Types of evidence programs should be able to provide their Quality Coach after successful implementation of the quality initiative
- Additional points of contact for the specific quality initiative
- Additional websites and resources related to the specific quality initiative

You will find all five tip sheets [here](#) (at the bottom of the screen).

### **Changes to Rising STARS Tuition Assistance**

OCDEL's Rising STARS Tuition Assistance program (administered by The Pennsylvania Key) covers a portion of tuition costs for early childhood professionals.

This program has several important changes for Fiscal Year 2019-2020:

- “Grandfathered” applicants seeking an AA, BA, or PreK-4 Teacher Certification will continue to receive 95% of tuition costs with a maximum benefit of \$6,000 per individual. These applicants will need to transition to T.E.A.C.H. or another financial aid resource by Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
- New applicants for approved CDA or Credential Coursework will receive 95% of tuition costs and fees net of other funding sources for approved credential or CDA coursework up to eighteen (18) credits.
- Additionally, new applicants for approved CDA or Credential Coursework can submit a request form (including receipt) for reimbursement for books after purchase.
- A voucher for the CDA Renewal fee for \$125 is also available.

The application process for Rising STARS Tuition Assistance changed as of July 1, 2019. [Access the tip sheet on how to apply](#). To learn more, [visit the Rising STARS Tuition Assistance page](#).

Questions? Call 1-800-284-6031 or email [pakeyvoucherprogram@pakeys.org](mailto:pakeyvoucherprogram@pakeys.org)

## **Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health**

There's a new way to request Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Consultation services.

IECMH Consultation is a child-specific consultative model which addresses the social-emotional Early Childhood Mental Health development of young children within their early childhood and education (ECE) program.

The PA Key has streamlined the process for Keystone STARS programs to request IECMH Consultation beginning July 1, 2019. Programs and parents can contact the program leadership directly at [PAIECMH@pakeys.org](mailto:PAIECMH@pakeys.org) with questions, concerns and request for service forms.

Find out more <https://bit.ly/2XsHqgg> Get the request form [here](#).

## **Job Openings**

- Montgomery Early Learning Services (MELC) is seeking a Chief Program Officer. Please see and share the attached flyer.
- The County of Delaware has **multiple** Casework vacancies in Child Protective Services (C&Y) and Mental Health/ Intellectual Disabilities (MH/ID). There are also several openings for Clerical staff. **The Deputy Administrator/Director position is listed as “Casework Manager 1”**. The posting closes 8/30/19. Applicants are required to apply for each position online at <http://www.employment.pa.gov>. Click “Continue to Open Jobs. On the Search tab, Filter by Location: select Delaware County.

## **Furniture/Equipment for SALE**

Inside or Outside – Tables \* Chairs \* Lockers \* Rugs \* Crafts \* Supplies \* Toys (and many more items!!!)

Kings Kidz, 5901 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Nedro). (215) 436-7100.

## **Creative Curriculum Training**

Arch Street Preschool is planning to have a Creative Curriculum training in the Fall (dates are not set yet) provided by Creative Curriculum instructors at their facility. There will be two sessions: Day 1 Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos and Day 2 Creative Curriculum for Preschool. They would like to open their trainings to other centers and community partners that also use this curriculum and are interested in getting their staff trained. This is a very expensive training that is not easily accessible to all; as a non-profit organization, it has taken Arch Street quite a few

years to get to this point and they are very excited! They are envisioning this as an opportunity to partner up, get to know colleagues in the field, and grow your professional circles. The cost of the training would be \$125.00 per person or \$100.00 per person for groups of 5 or more, and they have 40 spots open for each session. They will provide refreshments and snacks. The facility is located next to Suburban Station and has multiple Septa bus stops in the block. For details or to reserve your space, email Veronica Alvarado-Frias at [archstreetpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:archstreetpreschool@gmail.com).

### **First Aid/CPR Resource**

PulseCPR is a company based out of the Philadelphia region providing American Heart Association CPR training to healthcare workers as well as sports organizations, child care centers, etc. Classes are personalized to meet the individuals needs of clients in order to obtain their training goals. They provide 100% mobile training, meaning they will travel to your establishment. Per state regulations, child care staff would require the Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Training. For more information contact Daniel Navarro at [dan.nav@pulsecprphila.com](mailto:dan.nav@pulsecprphila.com) or (215) 617-2072.

### **Next SEPECC Meeting**

Join SEPECC on Tuesday, September 17th **from 8:45 to 11:00 am** for their first meeting of the fall at Children's Village (125 N 8th Street, Philadelphia). A guest speaker from PHMC will share information on Philadelphia's new PDO. Hope to see you there! Note future meetings in your calendar: 11/12, 1/21, 3/24, and 5/19.

### **Let's Get Moving!**

Are you interested in promoting healthy practices for your children, families and staff? Let's Get Moving! First Up and Get Healthy Philly are excited to share information with you about an opportunity for a free series of Professional Development sessions, Coaching Support and a Stipend for materials! Please check out the attached flier for more information and the link to register for a webinar to learn more about the upcoming series of Professional Development, Coaching Support and Stipend. You may also [Click here to register!](#)

### **PACCA Field Team Opportunity**

The PACCA Field Team is an extension of PACCA's advocacy power – the power that child care providers and families can have when they unite and mobilize. Collectively, the team will focus on engaging PACCA's member child care providers and ELRCs to provide a robust, on-the-ground presence throughout the state. For additional information, including how you can become involved, see the attached flyer (and be sure to share it with families in your programs, too)!

### **No Small Matter - A Film Screening & Panel Discussion**

Join KenCrest, their partner PNC, and a special panel of guests to view and discuss the documentary, *No Small Matter*, about the importance of early childhood education.

*No Small Matter* is built from stories of real children, families, and teachers, illustrating the impact of high-quality early childhood experiences. In the film, we meet parents who are struggling to do their best for their kids, incredible teachers who model what early childhood classrooms should and could be like, and children learning and developing in real time. These positive, hopeful stories serve as motivational tools in both the film and the *No Small Matter* campaign: Change is necessary, critical, and attainable if we put our minds to it.

#### **What:**

*No Small Matter* film screening and panel discussion

#### **When: Friday, September 13, 2019 from 7:30 - 9:15 a.m.**

7:30 - 8:00 a.m. - Registration, networking, and light breakfast provided by KenCrest

8:00 - 8:10 a.m. - Welcome

8:10 - 8:45 a.m. - Film screening

8:45 - 9:15 a.m. - Panel discussion/Q&A

**Panelists:**

- U.S. Representative Mary Gay Scanlon, 5th Congressional District of PA
- Carol Austin, Executive Director, First Up
- Shante' A. Brown, Ed.S, Director of Operations, PHLpreK, Mayor's Office of Education
- Dr. Rebecca Kanine, Ph.D., Psychologist, Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

**Where:** PNC, 10th Floor Conference Suite  
1600 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**Attendees:**

Legislators and staff, business professionals, and community members who believe in the importance of early childhood education

**RSVP:** by Friday, September 6, 2019. Seats are limited, so [sign up today to reserve your spot](#).  
*Questions about the event? Contact Maureen Quinn at [maureen.quinn@kencrest.org](mailto:maureen.quinn@kencrest.org) or call 610-825-9360 X1020.*

**NAEYC Needs YOU!**

The next set of recommendations from the Power to the Profession Task Force, known as [Decision Cycles 7+8](#), addresses the resources, infrastructure, and accountability to support a prepared, diverse, well-compensated early childhood education profession. [Read the draft](#) and tell NAEYC what you think via the [online survey](#) or [p2p@naeyc.org](mailto:p2p@naeyc.org) by **September 13, 2019**.

**Wolf Administration Launches Helpline for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Other Kinship Care Families**

Pennsylvania departments of Human Services (DHS) Secretary Teresa Miller and Aging (PDA) Secretary Robert Torres announced a helpline for families in kinship care situations, including grandparents raising their grandchildren because of the opioid crisis. The KinConnector helpline can help kinship care families access local, state, and federal resources.

KinConnector was created by Act 89 of 2018, which established a kinship navigator program for Pennsylvania. KinConnector will be the bridge that helps families identify resources that can ease this process for the entire family.

The KinConnector helpline is staffed by Kinship Navigators – compassionate, knowledgeable social service professionals prepared to help families locate, understand, and access resources that may be able to help them. Kinship Navigators will connect grandparents and other relatives who are raising children with resources such as health, financial, and legal services, support groups, training, and parenting advice. They will help families locate physical or behavioral health services, enroll the child in school, find support groups, and other services designed to help caregivers.

They will also be available to help families apply for federal, state, and local benefits such as Social Security, public assistance, or CHIP. And the helpline is just the beginning. A website of resources is set to launch later this year. KinConnector can be reached by calling 1-866-KIN-2111 (1-866-546-2111.) Help is available Monday - Thursday 9 a.m.- 10 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 4:08 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** RE: ELRC 18 E-bulletin: CARES funding Round 3

Good afternoon, everyone,

DHS announced round 3 of the CARES funding earlier this afternoon. The official information is on the [PA Keys website](#). I am attaching the new attestation form [here](#). Please read the announcement and form CAREFULLY **before** you send in your attestation. Here are just a few highlights:

- The CARES Act funding is intended for eligible licensed providers **who have reopened, opened since July 17, 2020, or intend to reopen operations**. Licensed providers who permanently close are not eligible for CARES Act funding.
- As a condition of your eligibility and acceptance of this payment of CARES funding, you as a child care provider **agree to remain open for a minimum of 60-business days after receipt of the funds**.
- Child Care Providers accepting funds under this distribution **must maintain documentation of use and be able to provide a reporting of expenditure uses if asked**.
- Additionally, funds awarded under this distribution **must be spent by November 30, 2020** as identified in Act 24.
- **In order to request funds, this form must be completed and submitted to the ELRC by September 18, 2020**.
- 

**Please also note the following when submitting your round 3 attestation form:**

- Be sure to indicate (anywhere on the form) the date that you reopened or will reopen. There is no space for it, but because it is a condition of acceptance of the grant, we must have this information.
- You must send a separate form for each location.
- You must send your form only to the ELRC where your program is located (regardless of where your enrollments come from). Only the ELRC where your program is located will issue your CARES payment.
- Be sure to **SIGN** – not type – your name on the bottom of the form (which is now on page 2).
- If at all possible, e-mail your completed form to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). We will confirm receipt. (This is the most efficient way to make sure we receive your attestation.)
- If you cannot e-mail your form, fax it to (215) 940-0226.
- If you cannot e-mail or fax your form, place it in the dropbox at either our 5548 Chestnut Street or 2361-2373 Welsh Road locations. The dropboxes are available Monday-Friday from 8a-5p.
- If all else fails, you can mail your attestation, but remember, **if we do not receive it by September 18, 2020, we will not be able to process your CARES payment**. The mailing address is:

Attn: Provider/STARS Department  
Early Learning Resource Center Region 18  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114

I will share additional information as I receive it. This is an INCREDIBLY tight turn-around time. It is CRITICAL that you submit only one form, that your form is complete, and that you send it only one time. If you have any questions, please e-mail me directly.

Thanks, in advance, for your cooperation,  
Diane

P.S. – The revised **form for parents to request full-time school-age care** can be found [HERE](#). I'm sorry for confusion about the form. If you've already submitted forms, don't worry about it. If you haven't, though, please be sure to use only this form. Thanks!

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2020 11:36 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: School-age opportunities / resources, STARS webinars and MORE!

Hi everyone,

This is going to be a busy (but important) one. Please be sure to read the items you're interested in carefully!! Here we go...

### ELRC18 Quickies

- There is currently no waiting list for eligible families.
- It is September 1<sup>st</sup>, so we have return to pre-COVID payment policies (see 8/21/2020 e-bulletin)
- If you have school-age children in your program and will be providing full day care while they participate in virtual education, be sure to have the parent complete [the attached form](#). Please collect these forms from your parents and e-mail them in a batch to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org).
- If you have a parent requesting to keep their kindergarten age child in your care for full-day preschool care, please have the parent contact ELRC18 eligibility staff by calling (215) 382-4762 or sending an e-mail to [eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org).
- We are currently collecting Round 3 CARES attestations, due **September 18<sup>th</sup>**. All providers had to submit a new, revised attestation form. OCDEL has released the funding formula for this round of CARES funding. Visit the [PA Keys website for the form and additional information](#). Due to the delayed release of this information, there was no CARES payment issued at the end of August, as was previously expected (weeks ago). We are working very hard to get this funding into your hands as quickly as possible and will confirm your grant amount and timing of the payment when your attestation is processed. ***If you have not yet submitted your form, please remember to write your reopening date/anticipated date anywhere on the form.*** (see 8/27/2020 e-bulletin)

### School-Aged Children with Childcare Providers

There have been several requests from licensed childcare providers who wish to provide full-day care of school-aged children while the School District of Philadelphia deploys education virtually to begin the school year. This is more pertinent now that OCDEL [announced its approval](#) of subsidy payments for full-day services of school-aged children.

For **licensed** childcare centers that wish to be listed on the ELRC website, and on the map of sites available to families, please complete the form found here: [Licensed Childcare Serving School-Aged Form](#). A few notes:

1. The map and list will be refreshed every Friday, beginning September 4, 2020, in order to be available on the subsequent Monday (beginning September 7) for families. This refresh will include any forms completed by the childcare site to reflect updated vacancy information.
  - a. If a site wishes to make edits to its listing (notably vacancy info), please complete a new form, and the most recent one submitted will be used each Monday.
2. Childcare centers are required to review the city of Philadelphia's Department of Public Health guidance for school-aged children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup>), as found here: [LINK](#).
3. There are additional resources available for those inquiring further about the work of full-day school aged care:
  - a. [PDPH Guidance](#) for Childcare
  - b. [SDP Resources](#) for computers and lessons
  - c. [PHLConnectED](#) for K-12 student digital access
  - d. [Operations/Procedural Info](#)

4. If you have urgent questions or concerns, please e-mail [DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org) or Sean Perkins at [sean.perkins@phila.gov](mailto:sean.perkins@phila.gov).

Finally, if your site wishes to either pursue the licensing requirements necessary to be listed, and/or be eligible for subsidy payments, please contact Diane Getzinger at [DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org).

### **More School-Age Resources**

*Many thanks to OCDEL's Karen Grimm-Thomas for sharing these helpful links!!*

- [PDE Answers to FAQs page](#): I added/updated the topic called *School Age Child Care Programs* and it links directly to this page: <https://www.pakeys.org/sacc-coronavirus-resources/>
- [Guidance and Resources for Pre-K to 12 Schools During COVID-19 page](#): I added a blue box called *School Age Child Care Programs* and it links directly to this page: <https://www.pakeys.org/sacc-coronavirus-resources/>
- [OCDEL landing page](#) - COVID-19 section (middle of gray resource box): I added a link called *Information on school age child care programs* and it links directly to this page: <https://www.pakeys.org/sacc-coronavirus-resources/>

### **National Civilian Community Corps**

PSAYDN, together with the Afterschool Alliance and Mott Foundation, has been informed of an opportunity to utilize National Civilian Community Corps teams (through the Corporation for National and Community Service program) to support afterschool programs. NCCC teams are comprised of 8-10 young people who will be sent into the community for 6-8 weeks between October 2020 and March 2021, to lend their services to afterschool programs. NCCC members are classified as essential workers. For more information and to voice interest in receiving one of these teams at your afterschool program, contact [Winnie Black](#)

### **Take a Deeper Dive....STARS Standards as of August 1, 2020**

By now you should have received [OCDEL's announcement](#) explaining that the Keystone STAR Standards changed effective August 1, 2020. The staff from ELRC Region 18 (along with our friends from across the ECE community) are hosting a series of six virtual meetings to break it down for you! Each session will allow time for discussion about a specific aspect of the Standards, plus plenty of time for questions. With the exception of Week 1, these sessions will be geared toward programs that have already achieved STAR 2, 3 or 4. (To our STAR 1 friends: The quality coaches are working on a separate series of meetings that will more effectively address your Move Up goals. Look for details after 10/15/2020, and be sure to talk with your quality coach.) **If you are interested in any of the following sessions, please RSVP directly to your quality coach.** Not sure who that is or how to contact him/her? No problem – [check out our ZIP code listing of coaches](#).

1. **How Can I Designate Under the 2018 Standards?** – **Thursday, 9/10/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 9/12/2020 (10a-noon)**  
*For this meeting only, quality coaches will invite eligible providers.* Certain programs may be eligible to complete an in-process Move Up or Renewal under the 2018 Standards. Designations must be completed no later than October 15, 2020, so the window is small (and getting smaller every day)!
2. **Health and Safety Plan** – **Thursday 9/17/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 9/19/2020 (10a-noon)**  
All programs must now incorporate a Health and Safety Plan that incorporates (at a minimum) the four COVID-19 criteria that Certification representatives will be looking for at inspection. Come discuss what must be included, what should be addressed and what you should additionally be considering.
3. **What happened to the PQA?: Part 1 – Internal Assessment Process** – **Thursday 9/24/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 9/26/2020 (10a-noon)**  
Although there is a temporary suspension of a formal external program quality assessment, the Internal Assessment Process (IAP) will engage programs, quality coaches and assessors in an intentional discussion and research-based evaluation that will inform future continuous quality improvement goals. And speaking of CQI...
4. **What happened to the PQA?: Part 2 – Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)** – **Thursday 10/1/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 10/3/2020 (10a-noon)**

Come explore how the new IAP impacts CQI...OMG! (Sorry, I couldn't resist!) Seriously, this session will help you understand how to use internal program observations to reflect on your continuous quality improvement goals, craft effective plans to reach them and adjust as new information gives you deeper insights into your quality journey.

5. **Career Pathways / PD Plans – Thursday 10/8/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 10/10/2020 (10a-noon)**  
Explore how the Career Pathway compares to the Career Lattice, and learn how the PDO can provide you with the resources you and your staff need to reach those goals.
6. **Sources of Evidence – Thursday 10/15/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 10/17/2020 (10a-noon)**  
What would a discussion of the Standards be without a look at SOE? In this session, we will highlight the most significant changes, as well as answer your questions about how to document individual Standards.

## **Recent Announcements from Certification**

- **Announcement C-2-04 Revised Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic**  
OCDEL released the [Announcement C-2-04 Revised Suspension of Regulatory Requirements for Certified Child Care Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). It announces that DHS has suspended certain regulations in 55 Pa. Code Chapters 3270, 3280 and 3290 effective March 6, 2020. This communication was revised and amends the announcement to include additional regulatory suspensions not included in the original communication relating to school age child care. Inclusions to this announcement are in red within the [Announcement](#)
- **Licensed Facility COVID-19 Data Collection Tool**  
*Many providers have received an email to access their account, but some have not. If you have not received an access email, or received the incorrect information to access your account, please send an email to [RA-ocdchildcarecert@pa.gov](mailto:RA-ocdchildcarecert@pa.gov). If you did receive an access email to access your account, but are having difficulty creating your account, please email [ra-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov](mailto:ra-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov).*

Beginning Friday, Aug. 28, 2020, OCDEL transitioned to an online response tool – the *Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection Tool* – for reporting of new active cases. **As an update to an earlier email, OCDEL asks that you continue to notify your certification representative of exposure and/or new positive cases of COVID-19.** Eventually certification representatives will be able to access your report in the system, but until then, continued communication with them is important. We'll provide an update to you when to shift to only using the Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection Tool.

There are two steps to begin using the Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection Tool:

- **First-Time Account Set-Up:** On Friday, Aug. 28, 2020, please use the information contained in the Username and Password emails sent to you from PW, Unified Security inbox ([ra-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov](mailto:ra-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov)) to **Set-Up Your User Account**. Included with the emails are instructions to setup your account and troubleshoot if you encounter issues.
- **Initial Tool Login and Day 1 COVID-19 Infection Reporting Data Entry:** On Friday Aug. 28, 2020, after setting up your account, login to the [Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection Tool](#) and complete the *Report new COVID infections at a Licensed Facility* response form for your licensed facility(s) with current information on active cases for program participants and staff. OCDEL asks you to report in to confirm facility access as well as receive current state information.

As a reminder:

- **Username and Password Information:** You received two emails ([samples here](#)) from PW, Unified Security inbox ([ra-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov](mailto:ra-unifiedsecurity@pa.gov)). The first email contained your username. The second email contained your temporary password for first-time sign. Please note, a username and password are required to login to the tool as it is a secure solution.
- **Updating Facility Contact/Reporter:** If you will not be the reporter for your Licensed/Approved Facility and would like to change the user associated, please send an email to [RA-ocdchildcarecert@pa.gov](mailto:RA-ocdchildcarecert@pa.gov) and we can work to update that information and set up their credentials.

- Ongoing COVID-19 Infection Reporting: Ongoing, as you are notified that staff or a program participant have tested positive for COVID-19 (including staff and program participant deaths), log on to [Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection Tool](#) to complete the *Report new COVID infections at a Licensed Facility* response form for that date in time. You will be able to view your past submissions at any time through the tool. Please note, we are not loading historical data into the tool for responses prior to Aug. 28, 2020. Only submissions from Day 1 going forward will be available to view.
- Response Tool Training & Support: Also available is the detailed [Licensed Facility COVID Data Collection User Guide and FAQs](#) to support you in understanding how to use the new tool, answer any questions you may have, and provide troubleshooting information.

If during the transition to this new system you experience any technical difficulty, please utilize the RA account provided to troubleshoot the problem. The goal with this tool is to reduce the burden of effort on all of you, streamline the process, and collect comprehensive data. DHS is using this data to support internal and Federal reporting, identify areas of need and support, as well as provide transparency into the data and information on its website. For general DHS guidance and provider resources, please visit the [Coronavirus-Related Provider Guidance and Resources page](#).

## Online CDA Program

ECE PDO at PHMC with Northampton Community College is offering a funded CDA program this fall.

### **IMPORTANT!**

**All questions from link on flyer must be completed to be considered for eligibility**

- Fall 2020 semester - starts September 22, 2020
- Tuition and Textbooks are covered!
- Credits apply to the AAS Degree, and also meet credentialing requirements with The Council for Professional Recognition.
- Infant/Toddler, or Preschool, or Family (no Home Visitor)
- Must be working with age group 10-15 hrs a week; as a part of the COVID-19 we are making accommodations for work related activities in our online content until we are able to return to working with children
- 8-10 hours of online work per week, programs ends May 11, 2021 - this IS NOT a self paced course
- Attend FULLY online!

Click link below for further enrollment information

Please note: If you encounter an issue, you can contact [education@northampton.edu](mailto:education@northampton.edu) - First come, first serve, only 15 seats available. If this cohort fills, another one may become available.

We have re-opened this form

**DEADLINE - Monday, September 14, 2020 at 11:59 pm**

[CDA Online Program Flyer for ECE PDO at PHMC Fall 2020](#)

## From First Up

- **Free Credit-Bearing Webinars**

First Up is presenting a new series of free webinars beginning on **September 1<sup>st</sup>**. The webinars will be pre-recorded and posted on YouTube.

- Webinars are credit bearing (there will be instructions in every webinar about how to obtain credit).
- Registration is through the [PA Keys website](#) as one would register for a regular (non-recorded) webinar.
- All content is relevant to current situations for e.g. the Out of the Box Series which includes courses about creative and unique solutions in Art, Library and Math Centers plus much more. Also included in

the webinars are Self-Care Courses with sessions about *Mindful Families* and *Stress Management for the ECE Provider* and more.

For additional information contact [Ashley Haneiko](#).

- **First Up 2020-2021 Virtual Conference**

The First Up Conferences will be held via an immersive event platform that's as close to an in-person conference experience as we can offer without being physically together. Registration is now open for the first two of our multiple, half-day virtual conference experiences at [www.firstup.org/annual-conference](http://www.firstup.org/annual-conference). PQAS and Act 48 credit will be available.

- **Saturday, September 26** - 9:00am-1:30pm Family and Group Child Care Conference featuring the Trailblazers of Family and Group Child Care
- **Saturday, October 3** - 9:00am-1:30pm Personal Empowerment for the ECE Professional featuring Dr. Veirdre Jackson

### **Opportunity for FCCH: “More than a Nurturing Heart”**

Come learn about the Business Administration Scale as a research-based instrument to measure and improve business practices. An overview of the instrument and scoring is provided. See the [attached flyer](#) for more details

Two free sessions are being offered statewide on **October 7<sup>th</sup>**. Choose either the 1-3pm or 6-8pm session.

Register by **September 16<sup>th</sup>** to ensure receipt of training materials. Registration is limited to 25 per session.

Sign-up for either session on the PD Registry [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org)

### **Early Childhood Education Summit - **October 18-21, 2020****

#### **Early Bird Registration Extended until **September 13, 2020****

<https://earlychildhoodsummit.org>

*From PACCA:*

We know that folks are juggling a lot right now. Deep breath. Take some time and review the workshop offerings before you make your choice. Attend Monday, Tuesday, and/or Wednesday – choose what works best for your time and budget.

Miss a session? Can't decide between sessions? Want to attend everything, but can't make up your mind? Good news...All sessions are being recorded and will be available for viewing through December 31, 2020. Earn Act 48 and PQAS credits for both LIVE and recorded sessions.

Check out the conference schedule and download the daily workshop listings and descriptions at

<https://earlychildhoodsummit.org/schedule>

### **Career Advising Services Now Available!**

Fall is quickly approaching and the “back to school” feeling might be a bit different this year. ECE PDO funded degree and credential programs for FY21 are in full swing and offered in various formats to meet your needs.

ECE Program Directors:

- Is your staff interested in furthering their education within the field of early childhood education?
- Do you need support in helping your staff find and enroll in coursework or degree programs?
- Do you have questions about how staff credentialing can support quality initiatives such as keystone stars?

The ECE PDO at PHMC offers Career Advising Services for the ECE workforce at the program level, or for individuals, who are interested in advancing their placement on PA's Career Pathway.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a flyer to learn more about Career Advising Services for the ECE workforce. Our ECE/IHE Coordinators can meet with directors and teachers to review resources to help with CDA, AA, and BA program enrollment and supports for completion. Contact us today!

## **FREE WEBINAR! Mindology Emotion Regulation and Stress Management Tools and Techniques**

Join Coach Troy from Mindology to learn valuable tips, exercises and more that can teach adults and children self-soothing techniques for emotion regulation and managing stress, a common challenge in today's environment! You will complete the webinar with a toolbox of organic, quick, effective, and fun techniques, leaving you at the source of your solace and peace of mind – regardless of the circumstances.

**A \$20 / per person value!**

**Date/Time: September 22nd: 4 PM EST**

**LIMITED AVAILABILITY! [REGISTER TODAY!](#)**

## **Share your Information in the August OCDEL Provider Survey**

The 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has had significant impacts on the child care provider community beginning in March 2020. OCDEL is interested in understanding the successes and challenges child care providers are experiencing as they operate during the pandemic. One strategy to collect information is a brief monthly survey on staffing and enrollment. The OCDEL Provider Survey is providing valuable information every month. A huge thank you to the more than 1,400 early childhood education providers who provided their response in the June survey and the more than 1,200 who participated in the July survey! Your response provides very valuable information to represent the child care situation in Pennsylvania. Your participation this month will be particularly useful as we understand the impacts changes in local school district schedules are having on school age child care enrollment. The survey is voluntary and will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. We encourage every child care operator's participation in this brief survey.

[Click here to complete the survey](#)

Please complete the survey by Tuesday, **September 8, 2020**. OCDEL will issue the final survey at the end of September to compare and analyze changes.

## **NAEYC Resources to Help Navigate the Unique Challenges of the 2020 Back-to-School Season**

The National Association for the Education of Young Children has put together some great resources for educators as more schools and centers re-open for the 2020-2021 school year. These resources are also great for child care centers and family child care providers that have remained opened through the pandemic.

[Developmentally Appropriate Practices in the Time of COVID](#) As educators in the midst of a pandemic, we are faced with these novel challenges of face coverings, adapting to and learning new guidelines while providing developmentally appropriate instruction and care with young children.

[Preventing Compassion Fatigue: Caring for Yourself](#) Self-care for educators is always a relevant topic and now as we navigate these unprecedented times and a global health crisis, we must show up for ourselves in order to best support the young children we care for and educate each day.

[Featured Teachers: Adjusting to the New "Normal"](#) Learn and collaborate with these featured teachers to gain perspective on how educators across our country are adjusting to the new "normal."

## **To Share with Parents: Competence and Confidence Partners in Policymaking - Early Intervention (C2P2 EI) 2020-2021**

**Competence and Confidence Partners in Policymaking for Families of Children in Early Intervention (C2P2EI) is a free leadership development training for families of children who receive Infant-Toddler Early Intervention or Pre-School Early Intervention Services.**

This four-weekend program provides participants with up-to-date information, leadership development training, resources and skills. Participants learn about the local, state and national issues that affect children with disabilities.

Attendance for all dates is required. Currently, in-person sessions are planned. Alternative options and participant supports will be available based on the directives of the Commonwealth.

**DATES (ALL sessions required):**

**- Virtual Sessions**

Week of 10/5, 90 minute virtual introduction to C2P2 EI/ time and date TBD by participants

Saturday, October 10th, 9AM-2:45PM Session 1, part 1

Saturday, November 7th, 9AM-2:45PM Session 1, part 2

Saturday, January 9th, 9AM-2:45PM Session 2, part 1

Saturday, February 6th, 9AM-2:45PM Session 2, part 2

**- In-Person sessions**

Friday, March 5, 1PM-8PM Session 3

Saturday, March 6, 8:30AM-3PM Session 3

Friday, April 9, 1PM-8PM Session 4

Saturday, April 10, 8:30AM-3PM Session 4

**LOCATION:**

Sheraton Harrisburg/Hershey

4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111

[APPLY NOW!](#)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 18, 2020**

All applicants will be notified the week of September 25

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,** contact Cathy Roccia-Meier

Email: [cathyRM@temple.edu](mailto:cathyRM@temple.edu)

Tel: [215-204-1772](tel:215-204-1772)

**Kudos to Joy Maxwell of Open Arms ELDC!**

Greetings Colleagues!

I just wanted to send you guys a note to officially introduce a new children's book entitled "Why can't we go outside today?" It was written by myself in response to the inquisitive questions my twin four-year-old's had about the pandemic and why we had to stay home. I wanted to share the link with you guys, if you could share it I would greatly appreciate it! I am also available for a zoom read aloud for centers. <https://linktr.ee/childcarejoy>

That's all for now. Except to share with you [this song](#) that I heard while driving home at the end of a VERY long day. (I played it on repeat several times!) Thank YOU for being the heroes in MY neighborhood!

Warmly,

Diane

Diane Getzinger

Assistant Director of Provider/STARS

ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County

2361-2373 Welsh Road

Philadelphia, PA 19114

Phone: 267-504-4179

Fax: 215-940-0226

## **Diane Getzinger**

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 12:30 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Subsidy updates and MUCH more!

Hi everyone,

I hope you had a great weekend and got to enjoy the beautiful fall weather! I have LOTS to share with you, so pull up a comfy chair and let's get going...

First, I want to acknowledge that I added MANY e-mail addresses from the CARES forms and e-mails that were received. If you are new to this e-bulletin and do not wish to receive it, please just reply and let me know. Also, if you're looking for something that's not included here, please let me know. I plan to send another e-bulletin later this week. Thanks!!

### **ELRC 18 Updates**

#### **September invoicing**

- The deadline for submitting your September invoice is Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- I heard from a couple of you who had problems logging into PELICAN Provider Self Service this weekend. If you are having trouble getting into PSS, please call Password Reset at 1-800-281-5340 (M-F 8:30a-4:30p).
- We return to recording actual attendance for September.
- For school-age children who are with you full-time, if you submitted the forms completed by parents requesting full-time care, please change the schedule on your invoice to full-time (if necessary). We received well over 500 e-mails (many with multiple forms), and we continue to process them as quickly as possible. If your schedules are not updated in time for the payment on October 20<sup>th</sup>, you should receive a payment adjustment at the end of the month.
- If you remained closed for September, but received an invoice, please be sure to return it, but mark all children as not attending.

#### **Round 3 CARES funding**

- All completed forms have been processed. If you did not receive confirmation of the amount and timing of your payment, please check your junk mail folder first. If you did not receive the confirmation, please contact me right away at [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org). Be sure to include your PELICAN provider number (or MPI number), as well as when and how you sent in your attestation (i.e. what fax number, what e-mail address, etc.) so I can track down your form.
- I'm sorry to report that we received complete forms from only 1,254 eligible providers.
- OCDEL extended the original September 18<sup>th</sup> deadline to September 25<sup>th</sup>. If it is extended any further, I will be sure to send out an update.
- For those that did receive Round 3 funding, please remember to track your expenses and spend the full amount by November 30, 2020 (even if you are not yet reopened).
- At this time, I am not aware of any future rounds for the CARES funding, but of course, will be sure to send out an e-bulletin if that changes.

#### **Subsidy updates**

- ELRC 18 recently began a waiting list. There are currently about 240 children on the waiting list. No children on the prioritized waiting list.

## STARS webinars

- We've had great response to the Thursday/Saturday webinars to breakdown the new Keystone STARS Standards. There are still a few sessions left (see below). If you're interested in attending, please contact your quality coach to register.
  - **Career Pathways / PD Plans – Thursday 10/8/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 10/10/2020 (10a-noon)**  
Explore how the Career Pathway compares to the Career Lattice, and learn how the PDO can provide you with the resources you and your staff need to reach those goals.
  - **Sources of Evidence – Thursday 10/15/2020 (1p-3p) or Saturday, 10/17/2020 (10a-noon)**  
What would a discussion of the Standards be without a look at SOE? In this session, we will highlight the most significant changes, as well as answer your questions about how to document individual Standards.
- The webinars are being recorded, and we will publish the links once the series is complete later this month.
- If you are not sure who your quality coach is, please see the [attached list](#).
- **Career Pathway: Tips for a Successful Application** - Here are some tried and true tricks to help you in uploading your information to the PD Registry for the Career Pathway Placement.
  - Have PDF versions of your transcripts and or certificates on your computer ready to go before uploading
  - Ensure that you are uploading **all** credentials that you have obtained to be placed on the appropriate level
  - Be sure that your employment section is updated with your current position at your current place of work
  - Review the application before submitting when prompted

[Attached is a tip sheet from the PA Key website](#) to walk you through step by step how to complete. Need more assistance? Your Keystone STARS Quality Coach and ECE PDO Specialist are available to walk you through the process.

## Recent Updates from the Certification ListServ

**Announcement C-20-12 - Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic** – The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Bureau of Certification, has released the [Announcement C-20-12, Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic](#). This guidance covers policies and procedures providers should implement during the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides certified child care facilities with guidance on how to handle a positive COVID-19 case or exposure to a positive COVID-19 case in child care facilities. This announcement replaces C-20-06R and includes updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Topics addressed in this guidance include:

1. Reopening
2. Transmission
3. Symptoms of COVID-19
4. Practices, Policies, and Procedures for Consideration
5. Social Distancing in the Child Care Setting
6. Face Coverings
7. Dealing with confirmed positive COVID-19 cases and exposure to COVID-19
8. Reporting
9. Additional Resources

For full details, please see the [\*Announcement C-20-12, Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic.\*](#)

**Announcement DS-03 - Inclusion of All Children in Early Childhood Education Programs in Pennsylvania** – The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) Bureau of Certificate Services, Bureau of Policy and Professional Development, Bureau of Early Intervention Services and Family Supports, and Bureau of Operations and Monitoring have released the [\*Announcement DS-03, Inclusion of All Children in Early Childhood Education Programs in Pennsylvania.\*](#) This Announcement provides guidance on strategies that promote inclusion for all children, sets an expectation from OCDEL that high-quality early childhood education (ECE) programs are inclusive of children with disabilities, and identifies resources available to local ECE programs. This Announcement provides OCDEL’s response to federal policy issued in 2015. Pennsylvania ECE programs have worked for years to establish inclusive program policies and opportunities for all young children and increase the number of children with disabilities in ECE programs. OCDEL will continue building on the success of this work to ensure access to high-quality inclusive programming is available for all young children and their families. Get details, including next steps, in the [\*Announcement DS-03, Inclusion of All Children in Early Childhood Education Programs in Pennsylvania.\*](#)

## **COVID-19 Reminders and Resources**

**Philadelphia Department of Health** – (215) 385-5488 (M-F 8:30a-6p and Sa/Su 9a-5p) – In addition to reporting confirmed cases, you can also report suspected cases. Because COVID is reportable, they can investigate while respecting the family’s privacy. The PDH also has a WEALTH of printed resources and is available to answer your questions, as well! Their guidelines for early childhood were updated recently: <https://www.phila.gov/media/20200529115020/Guidelines-for-Childcare-Early-Education-Centers.pdf> .

**Free COVID testing** – The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium continues to provide free COVID testing at events throughout the community. Thanks to funding from the William Penn Foundation, staff from early education programs are encouraged to participating in this important service, especially as programs prepare for reopening. If you would like to receive a weekly list of upcoming events on Friday evening, please send an e-mail to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org). There is one testing event scheduled for the upcoming week: **Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 3p-7p** at Hunting Park Recreation Center, 1101 W. Hunting Park, 19140.

**Check out cleanstuff.com** – medical grade cleaning supplies

**COVID Alert PA** is a free mobile app using Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) technology and the Exposure Notification System developed by Apple and Google. The app offers:

- Interactive COVID-19 symptom checker
- Opt-in for alerts for potential exposures to the virus
- Updates on the latest public health data about COVID-19 in PA
- Advice for what to do if you have a potential exposure to COVID-19

**COVID Alert PA protects both privacy and personal information.** The app does not use GPS, location services, or any movement or geographical information. It will never collect, transmit, or store personal information. It is completely anonymous. Existing traditional contact tracing processes rely on a positive individual to remember and name who they have been in contact with recently, and for how long. In many cases, positive COVID-19 individuals may not even know the people they were in close contact with, like if the contact happened on a bus or train, at a check-out line in a grocery store, a restaurant or some other public venue. The app supplements traditional contact tracing processes by being able to identify strangers a positive app user came in contact with and help stop the rapid spread of COVID-19. If the app detects that you have been in close contact with another user who has tested positive for COVID-19, you will receive a push notification on your phone. This is called an exposure alert and will be

followed by what you should do to monitor your own health. You can learn more about the app and how it works [here](#). The Department of Human Services is committed to supporting this effort and helping protect the people we serve encouraging use of COVID Alert PA. This technology only works if others have downloaded the app, which is why we are asking all Pennsylvanians to unite against COVID and download the app. **Will you join us in the fight against COVID-19? Download the app for free from the [Google Play Store](#) or [Apple App Store](#).**

## **Reminder: Kindergarten Registration**

Childcare providers, please remind and encourage families with children who have turned 5 years of age by September 1, 2020 to register for Kindergarten at <https://www.philasd.org/studentplacement/services/kindergarten-registration/>. Children who register now will participate in digital learning with their kindergarten teacher until the School District returns to in-person education.

## **FREE advocacy professional development sessions**

PennAEC is pleased to join partners at First Up and Trying Together to offer a series of FREE professional development sessions for anyone interested in learning more about advocating for children. Join them for any or all of the sessions to brush up on your advocacy knowledge and learn new techniques that can be used to help us #SaveChildCare and speak up in support of all areas of early care and education.

### **Monday, October 5 from 6:30 to 8 pm**

**Getting Your ECE Community Out to Vote** hosted by First Up and Trying Together

Join First Up and Trying Together for a workshop on voter registration and how to engage your staff and families in get out the vote efforts. This session will review why voting is important and walk you through how to make sure an individual is registered, as well as how to apply for and check on a mail-in ballot. We will discuss early childhood voter engagement activities for staff, families, and children. Additionally, we will show you how to find out where your candidates stand on issues impacting young children. Your voice matters. Your vote counts.

[Register here](#)

### **Tuesday, October 6 from 1 to 2:30 pm**

**Advocacy 101** hosted by Trying Together

This workshop is designed to break down the Pennsylvania budget cycle. Participants will receive an overview of the Early Learning PA campaigns and how ECE programs are impacted by the budget process and ways professionals and families can use their experience and knowledge to advocate. Participants should leave with foundational knowledge of the PA budget, ELPA campaigns, and various advocacy actions they participate in or lead.

[Register here](#)

### **Thursday, October 8 from 6:30 to 8 pm**

**Engaging Families in ECE Advocacy** hosted by First Up

Empowering families and caregivers to advocate for themselves, their children, and issues in ECE. Become a better advocate for the families you serve, and help them advocate for the teachers and programs who care for their children.

[Register here](#)

### **Monday, October 12 from 6:30 to 8 pm**

**Start Strong PA: Advocating for the Needs of Infant and Toddler Care** hosted by First Up

As publicly-funded preschool has become more common, resources for programs serving infants and toddlers has become more scarce. Early Learning PA launched Start Strong PA in 2019 to increase access to high-quality

care for the youngest Pennsylvanians. Learn more about infant and toddler development, the impact of high-quality care on young children, and the campaign working to serve the needs of their caregivers.

[Register here](#)

### Wednesday, October 14 from 1 to 3 pm

**Raising Your Voice in Support of Children: Share Your Story** hosted by PennAEYC

Increasing support for early childhood programs is critical for children, their families and our communities.

You're experienced in advocacy and want to do more, but you are looking for more ideas for effective outreach? This session will help you think through currently efforts and how to build more support in your community with business, civic and legislative leaders.

[Register here](#)

### Thursday, October 15 from 6:30 to 8 pm

**Register to Vote** hosted by First Up

Although families of young children rely on policymakers to build a system which supports their interests and needs, families and teachers of young children are considered unlikely voters. Learn about the importance of voting for young people and families, and build strategies to support their involvement in the democratic process.

[Register here](#)

### Tuesday, October 27 from 6-7:30 pm

**Advocacy 201: Crafting Your Message** hosted by Trying Together

Effective messaging helps advocates communicate key points to their audience that can potentially influence their level of support. This workshop is for ECE professionals who have taken our Advocacy 101 or any other foundational advocacy training and would like to take the next step in preparing to speak with elected officials. We will review early childhood research and effective messaging such as brain science, return on investment, impact on workforce and business community, and high-quality teaching. Attendees will leave the workshop with talking points for meeting with elected officials to advocate for early childhood.

[Register here](#)

## **Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program is Now Accepting Applications for Spring Cohort 23**

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses (10KSB) is a practical educational program that drives business growth, increases job creation and drives the business owner to **work strategically "on"** the business, not work **tactically "in"** the business. The "toolbox" acquired when going through the program can be applied to your current business and any future entrepreneurial pursuits.

- The 10KSB program is designed to facilitate the growth of your business and yourself as a leader. The primary tool for stimulating this development is the creation of your Growth Plan. **Growth Plan: a strategic and tactical implementation to guide your business growth.**
- Participants develop a **tailored growth plan that can be used to immediately** benefit their businesses
- Babson College of Boston created the curriculum – Ranked No. 1 in Entrepreneurial Education by US News and World Report.
- One on One Business Advisors, Subject Matter Experts, Peer Learning Business Support Resources and on-going Alumni Services (currently 568 alumni) provided to the participants
- Become part of an ecosystem where 86% of alumni buy products/services from each other
- **No-cost to you:** Full scholarship provided by the Goldman Sachs Foundation.

Requirements for enrollment are:

- Owner or Co-Owner
- Minimum of two years in business
- \$150,000 in 2019 (minimum revenue)
- Four (4) employees (includes owner, FTE's, temps and consultants)

**Apply Now:** [www.10ksbapply.com](http://www.10ksbapply.com)

**Applications due October 9th. Cohort 23 classes start January 2021.** *\*Please note that due to COVID-19, Cohort 23 will be conducted virtually.*

**Cohort 24 begins May 2021**

For questions, email: [kralph@ccp.edu](mailto:kralph@ccp.edu)

## **Upcoming SEPECC Meetings**

Join the Southeastern PA Early Childhood Coalition to hear updates from OCDEL and local ELRC agencies, advocate for the needs of the field, and learn about resources for early learning providers. Please email [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org) your questions to be addressed by OCDEL & ELRCs by 3pm Monday.

-Click [to register for the 10/13 Meeting](#)

-Click [to register for the 10/27 Meeting](#)

[Click here for recording and slides from previous meetings](#)

## **Boosting Enrollment When Your Program Needs it Most – October 14, 2020 at 2p**

Join Early Childhood Investigations for another **FREE** conference-quality webinar! This webinar is sponsored by [Procure Software](#).

Preschool owners across America are navigating the 'new normal' as states open back up under various and continually changing protocols. Many are anxious about their schools' chance for survival struggling between the need to build enrollment quickly and the critical element of developing post-COVID-19 systems and procedures. Quality care continues to the gold standard but how do we do it all well? Teaching teams have changed and training health, safety and sanitation protocols have never been more important. During [this webinar](#), [Kathe](#) and [Molly Petchel](#) will look at fail-proof systems that will lead your program to quality, while considering the overall challenges. With easy to implement ideas on how to get your preschool back to full enrollment, curated resources and systems templates, Kathe and Molly will provide hands-on strategies to implement. [LEARN MORE](#)

## **Closing The Gender Wealth Gap - Saving the ECE Sector**

Join WOMEN'S WAY for *Closing The Gender Wealth Gap: Saving the ECE Sector*, a powerful panel discussion addressing the urgent needs of the early childhood education sector and the drivers of the gender wealth gap on **October 14 from 4-5pm**. Featuring Carol Austin, Executive Director of First Up, Shannon Ruddisil, Executive Director of Early Childhood Funders Collaborative, and Sophia Ezomoghene, a Early Childhood Literacy Specialist for the Free Library of Philadelphia, these leaders will come together for a timely discussion about the gender wealth gap. This is an event you don't want to miss! [Register here](#).

## **Physical Activities that Allow For Physical Distancing in the COVID Era**

The COVID-19 pandemic has prompted numerous changes in child care practices, including the recommendation to maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from others. Join a webinar on **October 15th** at 1pm and learn ideas for physical activities that can be enjoyed by young children while maintaining physical distancing. These physical activities use inexpensive equipment and are fun for two to five-year-old children to play and adults to lead. [Click here to register](#).

## **2020 Virtual ECE Summit Registration is Open!**

Registration for this year's [VIRTUAL Early Childhood Education \(ECE\) Summit](#), to be held **Oct. 18 - 21, 2020** is now

open. Keynote speakers include Teacher Tom on Tuesday and poet-activist Carla Christopher Williams on Wednesday. Join other ECE educators to learn the latest in national and state policy developments, best practices in ECE, and ideas and inspiration for ECE educators. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

### **Join First Up And Golf For A Great Cause!**

Are you a golfer who is looking forward to some time spent outdoors playing for a great cause? Then you're in luck! The annual Golf Classic of the Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation will be held at the French Creek Golf Club on **October 19th**. It's a great opportunity to get outside, get some exercise and fresh air while maintaining a healthy social distance from others. The event will support the work of the Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation and First Up. For sponsorship information or to register, contact [rebecca.tyrrell@firstup.org](mailto:rebecca.tyrrell@firstup.org). For the flyer, [click here](#).

### **Building Equity in ECE Settings Through Perspective-Taking and Empathy**

To achieve an equitable world tomorrow, young children must grow in empathetic and equitable classrooms today. Because children under five are developmentally geared to understand the world from an egocentric perspective, early childhood educators must intentionally help children see other perspectives. This webinar, presented by early childhood empathy and equity experts will provide insights about working directly with children (virtually and in person) to build new critical skills. For the seminar on **Oct. 22 at 2:00pm**, [click here for more](#).

### **ServSafe Manger Certification – November 14, 2020**

Lakia Wilson of Star Training and Consulting is offering this full-day training at Acclaim Academy on Germantown Avenue on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. The class includes study materials and is training and test in a one-day format. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for details and registration information.

### **Reinvestment Fund's Coaching To Success**

The Coaching to Success program offers assistance to Philadelphia-based ECE providers of all sizes, structures, and quality levels as they seek to navigate these challenging times. A host of supports and interventions will be designed and administered based upon feedback from the provider. Resources include webinars, peer networks and individualized coaching and support - on topics like parent engagement, financial best practices, leadership cultivation and more. [Click here to get involved](#).

### **COVID-19 Health and Safety System Supports Trainings Available for Providers**

*from the Sept. 28, 2020 OCDEL ECE Recap.* The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is happy to announce the COVID-19 Health and Safety System Supports Training Webinars are now available for Providers. We are here to help and we want to make sure we are all on the same page! [The Health and Safety System Supports Training Webinars](#) provided to the Regional Health and Safety System Task Force Members are now publicly available. OCDEL intentionally developed a no-wrong-door approach so each Task Force member has received the same training and to help answer your questions. Please continue to reach out to whomever you feel comfortable talking to in your region but we wanted to offer the training webinars to you as well. Periodically Task Force members will meet to discuss feedback they have received from you as well as tackle common issues coming up in the field. As a result we'll implement our own continuous improvement process for supporting you on issues around health and safety. [CLICK HERE](#) to read the full *Sept. 28, 2020 OCDEL ECE Recap*.

### **Funded CDA and Early Intervention Diploma**

The Education Institute for Early Intervention offers the following:

- A credit-bearing Child Development Associate
- Early Childhood Education Inclusion Associate (ECEIA)
- School Age Inclusion Associate (SAIA)

For more information about these programs, see [the attached flyer](#).

## **PA School-age Professional Credential 2020-2021**

The Pennsylvania School-Age Professional Credential is a competency based program modeled after the Child Development Association (CDA). It provides individuals working in school-age programs the opportunity to examine their work in relation to the Pennsylvania School-Age Care Competency Standards. An online course will be available starting October 20, 2020 and running until May 18, 2021. The course will meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30p and there will be a “do at your own pace” weekly assignment that should take two hours to complete. FREE to those who qualify based on eligibility. See the [attached flyer](#) for more information.

## **Sayre Mobile Care Unit**

The Sayre Mobile Care Unit (MCU) is an outreach program by Sayre Health Center, a not-for-profit and Federally Qualified Health Center located on 59<sup>th</sup> and Walnut Street. Sayre MCU is a large van installed with medical equipment and designed to be a doctor’s office on wheels. Through their MCU, they hope to make healthcare more accessible to homeless and food insecure populations and help them navigate the complexities of the healthcare system. Please see [the attached flyer](#) for a list of service and additional information. If you’re in the Cobbs Creek area and interested in learning more, please contact:

Ashley Mercer, MPH  
Assistant Director  
Mobile Care Unit (MCU)  
Sayre Health Center  
227 South 59th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19139  
Office: 215-474-4444  
Cell: 609-851-7208  
Fax: 215-474-6021  
[amercer@sayrehealth.org](mailto:amercer@sayrehealth.org)

## **Important Immunization Reminder**

ECELS has informed that pediatric visits and vaccine rates have declined in the wake of COVID-19. They are sharing the [attached fact sheet](#) to emphasize the importance of sticking to immunization schedules to keep preventable diseases at bay. ECELS recognizes that the Fact Sheet is not the easiest read and is working on a user-friendly companion infographic. Stay tuned...

## **Pennsylvania's FY 2022-2024 CCDF State Plan**

The federal Office of Child Care requires states to submit plans that speak to how they will administer CCDF funds - the federal dollars that fund child care subsidies - for a period of three consecutive fiscal years. Our current State Plan cycle takes us to the end of this federal FY 20-21 which technically ends in October of 2021. In the final year of a State Plan cycle, OCC posts a Draft Preprint of the next cycle's Plan. The Public is then given the opportunity to comment on the items that states need to account for/report on. OCC incorporates those into a final plan and state's then develop, vet and submit their response.

OCDEL has begun to engage the Early Learning Council on the development of the plan that will cover federal fiscal years 21-22, 22-23 and 23-24. There will be a couple of ways that the public can get involved. The first is going on right now. OCC posted the Draft Preprint of the Plan (which is basically the questions/items that they require states to report activities on) on September 10th for a 60-day public comment period. As a first step, people can go into the Federal Register and provide comments on the Preprint itself - make suggestions about other things that they think states should have to consider or have to report on. OCC will use these public comments to develop the final CCDF State Plan and PA will then need to submit our plan by the end of next summer. There will be a public comment period associated with our draft Plan sometime early in the new year that people will have a chance to react to as well and I will make sure to keep SEPEEC posted on that timeline once OCF finalizes it. For now:

- [A copy of the draft FY 2022–2024 State and Territory CCDF Plan Preprint can be accessed using this link](#)

- The public comment period will end on November 10, 2020. Please refer to the [Federal Register publication for instructions on how to submit comments.](#)

## **Job Openings**

- **Little Einsteins** is looking for a Director - We are looking to hire a qualified Child Care Director to manage our day-to-day operations and establish and sustain a positive learning environment for children. You will oversee the coordination of education programs that comply with local and federal regulations, ensure that facilities are maintained, manage and support a complement of daycare staff, and manage the center's financial affairs. The successful applicant will have demonstrable experience in managing all aspects of a daycare center or nursery school, as well as strong leadership skills. You should display a friendly demeanor, have a love for children, and strive to create a supportive and encouraging environment for both children and teachers. Early childhood development experience is a plus. Email [janaltaylor@comcast.net](mailto:janaltaylor@comcast.net) for additional information.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Ensure a safe, happy, and stimulating environment for children
- Manage and coordinate curricula with staff that complies with state and federal requirements
- Ensure that center facilities are safe for children and comply with laws and regulations
- Evaluate and purchase materials, equipment, and supplies
- Manage and support teaching staff and promote their professional development
- Interview, hire, and train new staff members, ensuring they meet all policies and legal requirements
- Complete ongoing training and courses to remain up to date on daycare standards and procedures
- Communicate and meet with parents regarding their children and the center's policies
- Manage and oversee the budget and accounts and ensure that the center remains profitable
- Develop and facilitate a marketing and communications plan

### **Requirements:**

- Associate's or Bachelor's degree in a related field
- Early childhood education experience may be preferred
- Licensure is required
- Comply with local, state, and federal laws governing child care
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Strong leadership and interpersonal skills
- Excellent organizational, problem-solving and time-management skills
- Maintain a professional appearance, attitude and work ethic at all times

## **KinConnector Website Connects Kinship Families to Resources**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services has launched [www.kinconnector.org](http://www.kinconnector.org), a resource designed to help kinship care families connect to services and supports that can help children and their caregivers. Grandparents raising grandchildren are among the most common type of kinship caregiver, but kinship care families also can include an aunt or uncle, adult sibling, or a non-relative caregiver such as a close family friend raising a child when their parents cannot care for them. Kinship care arrangements help maintain family bonds and reduce trauma experienced when children cannot be cared for by their own parents.

Kinship caregivers make a selfless choice to care for young loved ones so they receive care and support from a family member they know and trust. As children navigate their own emotions around their family situation, this connection and familiarity can be a grounding force necessary to help children process and heal. While this can be an easy choice for kinship caregivers, navigating this new family situation can have its challenges for both the caregiver and children. KinConnector is here to be a resource and support to ease this process for the entire kinship family.

KinConnector was established through Act 89 of 2018 and is part of a kinship navigator program for Pennsylvania. After a competitive procurement process, The Bair Foundation was selected to administer the

kinship navigator program coordinator and will work with kinship care families around Pennsylvania to help them access resources and supports and connect with families in similar situations around the commonwealth. Kinship caregivers can visit the KinConnector website to find resources in their communities, learn about trainings and services available for kinship families, and find support groups and networks of other kinship care families and family care professionals.

KinConnector also runs a helpline that can be reached by calling 1-866-KIN-2111 (1-866-546-2111) The KinConnector helpline is staffed by knowledgeable, compassionate social service professionals prepared to help kinship care families understand and access resources that may be able to help them. The helpline is available from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. The KinConnector helpline can support callers needing assisting in English and Spanish.

**More information and resources are available on [kinconnector.org](http://kinconnector.org). To speak with a trained KinConnector professional, call 1-866-KIN-2111.**

Last, but most definitely NOT least, please remember to encourage your staff and families to participate in the **2020 CENSUS!** Here's a great video for you to share: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKFmNjJoiKM&feature=youtu.be>.

Thanks for all that you're doing for children and families!

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 18, 2020 12:51 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Lots of updates and opportunities!

Hi everyone,

First, on behalf of the entire staff at ELRC Region 18, I want to sincerely thank you for your patience over the last several weeks. As many of you know, the volume of work we have been processing, especially since September 1<sup>st</sup>, has been truly unprecedented. We know that you count on timely and accurate payments to be able to pay your staff and bills, and I assure you that our staff are working diligently to process applications, redeterminations, transfers, invoices and all manner of requests for information and updates as quickly as possible. You'll see some general updates below, followed by a ton of resources that I hope you find helpful.

### ELRC Region 18 Updates

#### SUBSIDY:

- As of 9/1/2020, OCDEL's COVID payment policy ended, and we returned to paying only for children physically receiving care in your facility. Part of what is creating confusion is that not all providers are open or had reopened as of 9/1/2020. Please note the following:
  - Be sure to record accurate attendance for all children.
  - If you remained closed as of 9/1/2020 – We will not be able to pay for subsidy enrollments until you reopen.
  - If you remained closed during the entire month of September, please be sure to note this on your September invoice and return it, even though no payment will be made. We must suspend all enrollments as of 9/1/2020.
  - If you reopened by 9/1/2020 (or never closed) – For any children on your subsidy enrollment who did not return on 9/1/2020, please be sure to notify ELRC. If you did not mark this on your September invoice, please send an e-mail to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). Include the child's name and record number. If you recorded this on your September invoice, you do not need to do anything further.
- Payment for COVID-19 related closures as of 10/1/2020:
  - If your entire facility was closed and you are charging your private pay families for these days, you will need to use some of your annual paid closed days in order for ELRC to pay you for these days. If you use PELICAN Provider Self Service, be sure to enter these closures directly on your provider profile before the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month. If you do not use PELICAN PSS, you must notify ELRC within 3 days of reopening in order for us to enter paid emergency closures on your behalf.
  - If an individual child or classroom (i.e., not your entire facility) had to be excluded from care due to COVID concerns
    - If the absence lasts 5 or more service days, ELRC must suspend care effective the first day of absence and re-enroll when care resumes. Please send us a list of these children including the name, record number and dates of absence. You will

not receive payment for the time that care is suspended, nor is the parent responsible for paying their co-payment. However, remember that that co-payment is a weekly fee and is not pro-rated. If there was care for at least one day during the week, you should collect the full weekly co-payment.

- If the absence will be less than 5 service days, you should simply mark the absences on your invoice, and you will be paid for these days (up to the 40-day annual maximum per child).
- Full-time care for school-age children engaged in virtual education
  - If you already turned in forms for full-time care of school-age children and were paid at the part-time rate – Please note that we are continuing to process these forms, and you will receive a payment adjustment for the balance owed.
  - If you have not yet turned in a request form signed by the parent – Please have parents complete [the attached form](#) and return it to you. After you have verified that it's complete and signed it, send it to [ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:ELRC18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org) or by fax to 215-940-0226.
  - FYI - For forms that did not include a start date – ELRC staff were instructed to change the child's schedule to full-time effective 9/1/2020.
  - There is no deadline to return the forms, but we cannot update the schedule without parent's confirmation.
  - We are aware that the Philadelphia School District has announced a return to hybrid education (2 days in person and 3 days virtual). Please note the following:
    - If parents choose to have their children remain with you for full-time care for five days, you will not need to do anything.
    - If parents choose to have their children attend school in-person 2 days/week and remain with you for full-time care for 3 days/week, we will pay you for 3 days of full-time care, and either:
      - If the child attends your programs for before/after care on the 2 days of in-person care, we will pay those two days at the blended rate. Details about how to report this will be announced later.
      - If the child does not attend your program on the 2 days of in-person care, we will not be able to pay you at all for those two days. ELRC cannot pay for drop-in care, so the parent would need to pay you privately for any holiday that falls on one of these two non-care days. Details about how to report this will be announced later. There is no change to the weekly co-payment if the child is enrolled only 3 days/week.
- If parents are having difficulty reaching an ELRC representative by phone, please encourage them to send an e-mail to [Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:Eligibility@caringpeoplealliance.org). This will ensure that there is a written record of their contacting our office. Please refrain from instructing parents to call me or the provider services department directly. All that we can do is to transfer the call to eligibility, which is adding to an already frustrating situation for many parents.

#### **CARES FUNDING:**

- As far as I am aware at this time, Round 3 is the final round of CARES funding being distributed through ELRC 18. Those of you with friends in Montgomery County may have heard about another round of CARES funding. This is specific to Montgomery County and has been made possible by the Montgomery County Commissioners.
- Many of you have asked how the funds can be used. According to the letter that was sent with your confirmation: ***“These funds are intended to be used for facilities costs, personnel costs,***

***or the cost associated with fulfilling the implementation of increased health and safety practices due to COVID-19.*** The only other additional information that we have about this funding is: “A payment received under this section may only be used to cover necessary COVID-19 related costs, including, but not limited to, a cost:

- (A) not otherwise reimbursed by Federal, State or other source of funding; and
- (B) **incurred during the period between March 1, 2020, and November 30, 2020.**”

This means that you can expense the funds for salary, rent/mortgage and utilities retroactive to 3/1/2020.

- Remember that if you received Round 3 funding, even if you are currently closed, the funds must be expended by 11/30/2020.
- I do not yet have information about how you will be required to account for these funds. You should keep records and receipts, but do NOT send them in. We will send additional information about this when it is available.

### **KEYSTONE STARS:**

- As I hope you’re aware, the Keystone STARS Standards changed on August 1, 2020. You can find the updated Standards and Program Manual on the [PA Keys website](#).
- Most programs that have at least a STAR 1 (regular Certificate of Compliance, not a provisional) are assigned a Quality Coach based on their ZIP code. If you are not sure who your Quality Coach is or how to contact him/her, please see [the attached listing](#). Most quality coaches are working remotely, so please be sure to use only their e-mail or cell phone for contact.
- **Announcement ELRC 20 #16 Internal Assessment Process (IAP) Guide** - The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) Bureau of Policy and Professional Development has released [Announcement ELRC 20 #16 Internal Assessment Process \(IAP\) Guide](#). Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, OCDEL has temporarily changed the requirement for Program Quality Assessment (PQA), in the 2020 Keystone STARS Performance Standards for all STAR 3 and 4 programs for FY 2020. The updated requirement is found in quality indicator EC 3.4.5. Previously, Keystone STARS required all programs seeking to move to a STAR 3 or 4 or renew their STAR 3 or 4 designation to have an external PQA using either Environment Rating Scales (ERS®) or Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) and meet the minimum threshold scores for each STAR level. As explained in ELRC Announcement 20 - #12 Keystone STARS Performance Standards and Program Manual, programs will not be required to have an external ERS® or CLASS® assessment in order to move up to or maintain a STAR 3 or 4 designation during FY 2020. Suspending the Keystone STARS quality indicator that requires an ERS® and CLASS® external assessment for programs seeking to renew their current STAR 3 or 4 designation or move to a STAR 3 or 4 at this critical time will allow programs to focus on maintaining or reopening operations safely. Additionally, the PQA team, ELRC staff and others, will be responsive to the emergent health and safety support needs of Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs. [Click here for the announcement](#). Please plan to attend the **October 27<sup>th</sup>** SEPECC meeting for a deeper dive into the IAP process.
- Having just completed a series of webinars on the 2020 STAR Standards, the ELRC18 quality coaches and staff are looking forward to holding more virtual Conversations with you! Some ideas for upcoming sessions include:
  - Policy and Procedure Writing
  - Lesson Planning
  - Selecting Curriculum and Assessment
  - How to Facilitate Family Networking Groups
  - Marketing for your Program Virtually

- Organization Profile Management: Creation and Updating
- PD Training 101: Where to Locate, What Counts

What do you want to talk about? We'd love to hear your ideas for other Conversations topics! Please reach out to your quality coach or send suggestions to me at [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org).

## **OCDEL Announcements**

You should have received all of the following over the last several weeks from the Certification listserv. If you don't recall reading them, please take a minute to go back over them!

- [Announcement DS-03, Inclusion of All Children in Early Childhood Education Programs in Pennsylvania](#)
- [DS Announcement 20 #02: COVID-19 Related Policies Announcements and Communications that are Sunset or Obsolete](#)
- [Announcement C-20-12, Interim Guidance for Certified Child Care Facilities Operating During the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic](#)

## **Reminder About Reporting COVID Concerns**

If you have questions or concerns about how to handle a possible exposure in your program, please call the Philadelphia Health Department at (215) 685-5488 (M-F 8:30a-6p and Su/Su 9a-5p).

If you have a positive case (student or staff) in the center, you MUST also report this to Certification (1-800-346-2929).

## **Weekly COVID Testing Locations**

As the nation moves into flu season, the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium will begin offering free flu shots to help mitigate the morbidity and mortality associated with the coronavirus. Additionally, the group will continue to offer no-cost, barrier free coronavirus and coronavirus antibody testing on the following dates and times, at the locations listed below. If you or your staff are going, please be sure to identify that you work for an early childhood education program, as there is special funding from The William Penn Foundation to support this initiative. Also, an updated listing is available every Friday; if you are interested in receiving the weekly update directly, please send an e-mail to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org).

- **Tuesday, October 20, 2020 from 4p-7p:** Esperanza, 4261 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140
- **Thursday, October 22, 2020 from 4p-7p:** New Covenant Church of Philadelphia, 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19119
- **Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 10a-3p:** Yesha Ministries Worship Center, 2301 Snyder Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19145

## **GIANT Company Announces \$200,000 Grant Program For Child Care Programs Impacted By COVID-19**

[The GIANT Company](#) announced the creation of a \$200,000 grant program, designed to provide funding to child care providers in Pennsylvania who are facing operational and financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is being offered in partnership with Pennsylvania Key and The Hershey Company, to child care organizations who are licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL). Beginning **October 8 and running through Nov. 13**, child care providers can apply for grants up to \$10,000. For full criteria and to apply for funding, visit [www.pakeys.org/GIANTprovidergrant](http://www.pakeys.org/GIANTprovidergrant). Recipients will be notified in late November and funds will be distributed before the end of the year.

## **REMINDER: School-Aged Children with Childcare Providers**

For **licensed** childcare centers that wish to be listed on the ELRC website, and on the map of sites available to families, please complete the form found here: [Licensed Childcare Serving School-Aged Form](#). A few notes:

1. The map and list will be refreshed every Friday, in order to be available on the subsequent Monday for families. This refresh will include any forms completed by the childcare site to reflect updated vacancy information.
  - a. If a site wishes to make edits to its listing (notably vacancy info), please complete a new form, and the most recent one submitted will be used each Monday.
2. Childcare centers are required to review the city of Philadelphia's Department of Public Health guidance for school-aged children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup>), as found here: [LINK](#).
3. There are additional resources available for those inquiring further about the work of full-day school aged care:
  - a. [PDPH Guidance](#) for Childcare
  - b. [SDP Resources](#) for computers and lessons
  - c. [PHLConnectED](#) for K-12 student digital access
  - d. Operations/Procedural Info
4. If you have urgent questions or concerns, please e-mail [DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org) or Sean Perkins at [sean.perkins@phila.gov](mailto:sean.perkins@phila.gov).

Finally, if your site wishes to either pursue the licensing requirements necessary to be listed, and/or be eligible for subsidy payments, please contact Diane Getzinger at [DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:DGetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org).

## **From PHMC PDO: Holy Family University**

Treat yourself to an information session about Holy Family's ECE Pathway! If you hold a recent PK-4 AA degree from CCP or Bucks County Community College, this is an ideal program to complete your BA degree with certification (PK-4 or PK4/Spec Ed). Even if you are at a different point on your education pathway, come find out about the options that exist and that will be there for you when you are ready. For our **Oct. 20** meeting we have representatives from TEACH who will share slides & answer any TEACH-related questions. We are thrilled to be able to offer this program and eager to connect with those interested in the Pathway. Center directors, teachers, and students are welcome! Come with your questions for TEACH or Holy Family.

**Tuesday, Oct. 20 (7-8 pm)**

Please RSVP at this link: <https://forms.gle/BnCmqoH3oCHQshWt6>.

We look forward to hearing from you!

## **School-age Tips for Current Events – 10/22/2020 from 10a-11a**

Many schools are open and school-age child care may be supporting a different day for students that includes remote learning, social distancing and ongoing change. Join a group of SAC specialists who will share tips for running a SAC program during our current events. Participants will receive 1 PQAS credit hour. Click [HERE](#) to register or view [the attached flyer](#) for additional information.

## **LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL - OCT. 22**

T-minus seven days to launch of Lights On Afterschool, the nation's celebration of afterschool programs! Remember to [register your own event](#).

Join PSAYDN virtually for a week of Light On Afterschool events. [Sign up](#) at Afterschool Alliance for one or all events below.

Engineer for the Week: Coding Activity Led by Facebook Engineers - **Monday, Oct. 19 at 6 p.m.**

Wings for Kids: Bring SEL to Life — Virtual Field Trip Watch and Play party - **Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 5:30 p.m.**

Young Entrepreneurs: Invention Activity and Live Panel - **Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 5 p.m.**

Young Rembrandts: Draw With Young Rembrandts Art Activity - **Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m.**

LOA Youth Town Hall - **Thursday, Oct. 22 at 6 p.m.**

NASA and Million Girls Moonshot: Speak Live With Astronaut Jasmin Moghbeli - **Friday, Oct. 23 at 3 p.m.**

*The STEM Next Opportunity Fund, Million Girls Moonshot and NASA are collaborating with the Afterschool Alliance to provide afterschool youth with an out-of-this-world LOA celebration. Students can speak live with astronaut Jasmin Moghbeli to talk about her journey to becoming an astronaut and the Artemis mission to land on the moon.*

Mindfulness: Session With Committee for Children - **Friday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m.**

## **The Hunt Institute: Race & Education Webinar (October 22nd 7PM)**

I recently had the pleasure of participating in The Hunt Institute's discussion on supporting the human needs of children of color. (You can find the recording on [The Hunt Institute's Facebook page](#).) During the next [Race & Education webinar](#), students will discuss their vision for the future of equity and access in our education system. The conversation will take place on **October 22nd at 7 pm** on Zoom and Facebook Live. If you are unable to attend the webinar live but would like to watch the recording, please register so they can share the video with you at a later date. Join the conversation by registering here: [bit.ly/34CtMIF](https://bit.ly/34CtMIF)

Guests include:

- [Andrew Brennan, Co-Chair Civic Project Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation](#)
- [Kenvin Lacayo, Youth Instructor The Literacy Lab](#)
- [Maya Logan, University Senate Speaker Pro Tempore, UNC-Chapel Hill](#)
- [Brianna Cea, Co-Founder, and CEO of Generation Vote](#)

## **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: Tuesday, October 27th 9:00 - 11:00 am**

Join the Southeastern PA Early Childhood Coalition to hear updates from OCDEL and local ELRC agencies, advocate for the needs of the field, and learn about resources for early learning providers. Do you have questions you want answered by ELRCs and OCDEL? If so, email them to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org) by 3pm on the day prior to the meeting.

-Click to [register for the 10/27 Meeting](#)

-Click here for the [recordings from previous meetings](#).

## **Webinar on Maintaining your Business in a Pandemic**

Join a [virtual panel](#) of legal experts to discuss challenges facing small business owners, including: Insurance Coverage, Employment Issues and Commercial Leases. Panelists include Tara Humma & Douglas Christian of Ballard Spahr LLP and Jeffrey Maynard of PNC Bank. The webinar will be on **October 28 at 12 pm**. [Click here to register](#).

## **Families First 2020**

Learn the Early Intervention System. Be an informed, active part of your child's team.

## FULL SCHEDULE OF VIRTUAL TRAINING SESSIONS

### **What's the Philly 4-1-1?**

Up to-the-minute news for Philly families during Coronavirus. Get the dish, learn about resources and connect to other Early Intervention families.

DATE/TIME and REGISTRATION LINK: \*all "4-1-1" sessions run 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

- **October 20\***  
<https://tinyurl.com/Phily411Oct>
- **November 17\***  
<https://tinyurl.com/Phily411Nov>
- **December 15\***  
<https://tinyurl.com/Phily411Dec>

### **SERIES SESSIONS: EI Conversation Café**

Meet other Early Intervention families. Talk, share and get support.

DATE/TIME, THEME and REGISTRATION LINK:

- **November 21** — 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
*TBA*  
<https://tinyurl.com/Elcafenovember>

### **ALL OTHER FALL SESSIONS:**

October

- **Challenging Behaviors**  
What families can do to make a difference  
**October 29** — 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
<https://tinyurl.com/behaviorOct29>

November

- **Get Zen**  
Some calming tools when stress leaves a mess!  
**November 5** — 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
<https://tinyurl.com/ZENNoV>
- **Rules, Rights and Regulations in Early Intervention**  
Corona edition  
**November 12**— 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
<https://tinyurl.com/RulesnregsNov>

December

- **Creating a Vision for Your Child**  
Have some fun, explore your dreams and your dreams for you child and learn to connect your child's services to fulfill those your dreams.  
**December 10** — 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
<https://tinyurl.com/VisionDec>

**Monthly prize raffle for families that attend!**

You must register 3 days in advance for a language other than English.

For questions contact Cathy Roccia-Meier at [cathyrm@temple.edu](mailto:cathyrm@temple.edu) or 215-204-1772.

## **The Census Has Been Extended Until October 31!**

The census happens only once every ten years, yet census data helps local governments determine where \$800 billion a year in federal funding goes. [Complete the census today!](#) Responding to the census is easier than ever and only takes about 10 minutes to complete.

## **PennAEYC Hosts Virtual 2020 VOICE for Children Award Celebration**

Dear Friends of PennAEYC,

The **2020 VOICE for Children Celebration** event to a virtual party that will be held on **Friday, November 6, 2020 at 6:30 pm!** We will be using a Zoom platform to honor and celebrate the 2020 VOICE for Children Awardees. Our celebration will include some special activities and as always networking with our peers!

Put on your finest (or not!) and join us on Nov. 6 at 6:30 for the 2020 VOICE for Children Celebration! Event ticket price is \$25/person. Group tickets can be purchased by contacting Rose Snyder at [rsnyder@pennaeyc.org](mailto:rsnyder@pennaeyc.org)

Visit the PennAEYC website for more information at [PennAEYC VOICE for Children Celebration](#). We hope you can join us!

Special shout out to Philadelphia's own **Leslie Spina**, Founder, Owner and Executive Director, Kinder Academy Inc.

**VOICE for Children Honoree / [VOICE Bio, Leslie Spina](#)**

[Register Here](#)

## **NAEYC 2020 Annual Conference: A Virtual Experience. November 8-10!**

Registration is now open! [Register now](#) to experience the innovative new ways you can connect with peers, presenters, exhibitors, and NAEYC representatives to build your own unique learning experience. This year's event features:

- Must-know session topics on Trauma, Equity, Developmentally Appropriate Practice, and more
- 3 Daily Plenary Speakers, including Featured Presenter: [Tabatha Rosproy](#)
- 18 Concurrent Sessions
- 60+ On-Demand Sessions
- 6+ Learning Paths specifically for Teachers, Directors, Higher Education Faculty, Students, and More
- 30 Days of Continued Access to ALL Session Presentations

[Join NAEYC or renew](#) today at the Standard or Premium level to save significantly when registering for the conference.

## **From the Devereaux Center for Resilient Children: DECA Program (Birth through Five) Three-Part Webinar Series**

**November 16, 18, 20, 2020**

The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Program for Infants and Toddlers (DECA-I/T)/DECA Preschool Program Second Edition (DECA-P2) is a strength-based assessment and planning system designed to promote resilience in young children, 4 weeks up through 5 years old. The DECA-I/T/DECA Preschool Program is implemented using a five-step approach, which includes: (1) collecting information on individual children, the home and the group care environment, (2) administering the DECA-I/T/DECA-P2 - strength-based assessments

of social and emotional development, (3) summarizing assessment results, (4) developing and implementing plans for children who have concerns and for building quality environments, in homes, groups care settings and/or classrooms, and (5) evaluating progress. Through this webinar series, participants will learn specific strategies to promote young children's social and emotional development and to enhance the overall quality of early childhood programs. Strategies for effectively involving families and for building the resilience of adults caring for young children are also addressed in training. This training is appropriate for those who work with infants/toddlers only, preschool children only, or those that work with children birth through five years old.

[REGISTER HERE](#) - Registration closes at 11:59pm ET on Monday, **November 9, 2020**.

## **2020 Safe Schools Conference | Dec 8-10 | Virtual**

The [2020 Safe Schools Conference](#) brings together representatives from schools, community agencies, mental health organizations and law enforcement to work towards ensuring safe environments where children can learn and teachers can teach. It is a high quality professional development opportunity for school administrators, student support personnel, teachers, school nurses, SAP team members, school resource officers, local law enforcement and community partners.

## **Future Program Administration Scale (PAS) virtual Trainings**

Participants are introduced to the Program Administration Scale (PAS) as a research-based instrument to measure and improve organizational practices. Additional sessions of this popular pd opportunity have been added to the PA Key. View [the attached flyer](#) for additional details or register on the PD Registry.

## **First Up Credit-Bearing Webinars**

First Up began presenting a new series of free webinars beginning on September 1. The webinars will be pre-recorded and posted on YouTube.

- Webinars are credit bearing (there will be instructions in every webinar about how to obtain credit).
- Registration is through the [PA Keys website](#) as one would register for a regular (non-recorded) webinar.
- All content is relevant to current situations for e.g. the *Out of the Box Series* which includes courses about creative and unique solutions in Art, Library and Math Centers plus much more. Also included in the webinars are Self-Care Courses with sessions about *Mindful Families* and *Stress Management for the ECE Provider* and more.

For additional information contact [Ashley Haneiko](#).

## **Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Scholarships Available Now!**

First Up is excited to announce that we have full-tuition preschool scholarship funding for families of young children experiencing financial hardships, especially due to COVID-19. STAR 3 and 4 providers, if you know of families who are unable to send their children to preschool due to a loss of jobs, income, or being on a subsidy waiting list, you may be eligible to receive EITC Pre-K scholarship funding to support those families. [Click to watch](#) this video. [Click here to apply](#) or email [Tyrone Scott](#) if you have additional questions.

## **Shared Services Workgroups from Get Healthy Philly**

The Shared Services Workgroup will meet to explore shared services related to health and nutrition. Sample topics will include; Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), group purchasing, local food procurement, record-keeping strategies, etc. The time commitment will range from 6 - 9 virtual meeting hours with the opportunity for virtual discussion and assistance in between meetings. They anticipate being able to support

15-20 programs through the Shared Services Workgroup. Stipends will be provided for time and participation. [Click for more information](#)

## **Resources and events for school-age programs from PSAYDN:**

- [Financial Planning in Response to COVID-19](#)  
The threat of COVID-19 has disrupted lives across the globe, with education one of the hardest hit areas. To help you think through the current reality and adapt your programs to continue to best serve your beneficiaries, Overdeck Family Foundation has designed a financial analysis tool that will support you in creating multiple scenarios to evaluate financial sustainability in a fast-changing environment. This tool, along with others here curated by Afterschool Alliance, will help your organization as you plan, fundraise and execute during this uncertain time.
- [Supporting Families Through Changing Educational Environments](#) - **Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2020, at 4 p.m.** | Webinar
- [Empathy in the Classroom: A Hands-On Guide for Educators](#) - **Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020, at 6 p.m.** | Webinar

## **Strong Supports for SAC**

Shout out to Betsy Saatman, TA Specialist for School Age Initiatives at the PA Key, for sharing the attached article, "[The Demand for Both Coverage and Quality in Out-of-School Time: Parents Share What They Value in School-Age Programs.](#)" If you operate a school-age program, please check it out for ideas on ways to meet your families' needs that you may not have considered!

## **Women's Way Change the Narrative Paid Six-Month Fellowship**

The Change the Narrative Fellowship is, a six-month paid fellowship program aimed at training and empowering 10 women who are currently experiencing economic hardship to share their personal stories through professional-level audio, visual, and print production. The purpose of this fellowship is to generate awareness of racial and gender inequities in economic opportunity and spur actions among the public and private sectors that improve economic security for women in the Philadelphia region. Applications will be open from **October 14th to November 1.** [Click for a detailed flyer](#) and [click here for FAQs.](#)

## **From PHMC PDO: Alternative Certification for PreK-4**

Are you an ECE Teacher with a Bachelor's Degree, interested in obtaining PreK-4 State Certification? This Fall, the ECE PDO at PHMC is recruiting candidates for the second cohort of the Alternative Certification program! For more information, [CLICK HERE!](#) Registration is now open with workshops scheduled to begin in November! Interested candidates should submit the following documentation to [altcert@phmc.org](mailto:altcert@phmc.org) no later than **Friday, October 23, 2020.**

- [Completed Application](#)
- Updated resume
- Official transcripts

Please direct all questions to [altcert@phmc.org](mailto:altcert@phmc.org).

## **BUILD Initiative Focus Groups for Early Education Providers**

The BUILD Initiative invites you to participate in an important project designed to capture the voices of child care and early education providers in Philadelphia. You are providing essential services and your perspective is needed. There will be focus groups at 10 different times on weekdays and Saturdays between **October 20-29.** Each participant is limited to one focus group and focus groups are limited to 20 people. A \$15 e-gift

certificate will be provided for participants as an appreciation for sharing your experiences and recommendations.

[To sign up, click here.](#)

## **"We are back in school!" Social Story Resource: Supporting Re-Entering into Early Childhood Education Programs after COVID-19**

The Pennsylvania Key [Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation \(IECMHC\) Program](#) Consultants worked collaboratively to create the social story "[We are back in school!](#)" and tips and resources to support re-entering into Early Education Centers after COVID-19. The social story can be used by early childhood education staff as a resource to support social and emotional being as children and staff start the process of re-entering the child care setting. Each page in this social story contains Teacher Tips, Prompts, Resources and Activities which can help with discussions with children in child care. There are clickable links and even spots where staff can jot down their own notes! View the [Tip and Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

## **Happy 21st Anniversary CCPN**

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, Child Care Professionals Network celebrated their 21st anniversary! From a small group of like-minded professionals in 1999 to over 1000 members statewide today, their members are dedicated and committed to improving the quality of care for young children and for keeping ECE voices on the front lines to be heard and truly recognized as professionals.

Child Care Professionals Network (CCPN) is a non-profit organization with the purpose of improving the quality, affordability, and accessibility of early and school age childcare and education to families in our region. CCPN coordinates with a network of early learning centers and professionals across Southeastern PA by sharing resources and information to stay informed and prepared for updates in the ECE field. CCPN organizes professional development trainings, runs numerous CDA courses, hosts quarterly meetings, and collaborates with stakeholders in our region to make sure ECE and its workers are given the acknowledgement and respect they deserve. You can find out more about our network and our recent professional development opportunities in [the attachments](#).

## **Wolf Administration Reminds of Dec. 31 Deadline for FBI Background Checks, Encourages to Start Process Now**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has reminded those needing Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history background checks as a condition of employment that the December 31 deadline to obtain this clearance is approaching and strongly encouraged anyone needing this clearance to start the process now. Earlier this year, Governor Wolf signed Act 18 of 2020, which extends the time period for certain professions required by the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) to obtain an FBI background check upon hiring. "The pandemic and stay-at-home period created challenges for people needing clearances to work with children. A temporary extension was passed in order to create flexibility for the FBI criminal history background check, but that deadline is approaching," said DHS Secretary Teresa Miller. "I urge anyone needing a new clearance or who needs to renew an existing clearance to start this process now. Getting this clearance ahead of the deadline is the best way to avoid delays and ensure that you have what you need to stay in compliance and continue working."

In order to receive an FBI background check, fingerprints must be submitted as part of the criminal history check. Fingerprint scans can be taken at an Identogo location in the commonwealth. Many Identogo locations were temporarily closed in the spring, creating challenges for people still trying to

meet the fingerprinting requirement. An extension on the FBI clearance requirement was passed to accommodate workers during this challenge, and since then the majority of Identogo locations have reopened. Required clearances must be obtained by December 31 for workers to remain in compliance.

Pennsylvanians are still strongly encouraged to get fingerprinted and obtain their FBI Criminal History Clearance as soon as possible to avoid potential delays due to an increase of people obtaining clearances. A map of all open Identogo locations is available [here](#), and this map is updated as new offices begin to reopen. Anyone seeking fingerprinting services should call IDEMIA's customer service at 844-321-2101 to ensure the location is still operating, schedule an appointment, and discuss necessary COVID-19 safety precautions.

If employers have a large number of employees needing new or renewed clearances, arrangements can be made to have fingerprinting occur at the workplace. Mobile fingerprinting services are available for an additional fee through IDEMIA for groups of 20 or more needing clearances. Agencies with this need should contact [IDEMIA](#) to schedule.

Under [Act 18 of 2020](#), individuals who are required to obtain an FBI background check were given additional time to meet this requirement because of closures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The extension for new hires to obtain the FBI background check lasts until 60 days following the expiration of the disaster emergency declaration issued by Governor Wolf or December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner. Individuals seeking a renewal of the FBI Criminal History Background Check have until December 31, 2020 to obtain the check. All individuals required to obtain additional clearances, including the Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check and the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, must still obtain these clearances prior to employment. Both of these clearances can be obtained online.

Act 18 of 2020 applies to individuals who must get their FBI Criminal History Background Check prior to beginning employment as found in [Section 6344](#) of the CPSL and those individuals required by [Section 6344.4](#) of the CPSL that are due to have their fingerprint checks renewed. The law does not extend the fingerprinting and background check requirement for new volunteers under the CPSL, public school employees prior to employment, and others required to receive FBI background checks under different departments.

For more information on clearances necessary to work with children, visit [www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov](http://www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov).

## **DHS Seeks Candidates for Director, Bureau of Certification, OCDEL**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) is seeking candidates with experience in human services or social services program management for a senior-level role in the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL). The position, [Director, Bureau of Certification, OCDEL](#), directs the administration and oversight of Pennsylvania's child care licensing services and regulatory administration.

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK

- Participates in the development and directs the implementation of protocols for the child care licensing system for consistency in the interpretation and application of licensing throughout the regional offices.
- Develops and maintains policies and procedures for granting licensure to child care facilities from inspection of facilities' program planning, management and staff training.

- Directs the licensing work of the five Regional Offices with other Departmental staff and contractors involved in the child development system.
- Collaborates in the development of training and the provision of technical assistance to new and existing regulated providers to ensure compliance with all applicable state and federal child care licensing and registration regulations and guidelines.
- Oversees technical assistance training and the day-to-day licensing activities of regional staff.
- Monitors the regulated child care system for efficiency and effectiveness in meeting Departmental goals and objectives.
- Ensures oversight of the regulatory compliance system for public and private child care providers regulated by the Department of Human Services.
- Coordinates regulatory systems with the Legal Office for negative sanctions such as licensure removal or downgrade.
- Serves as a liaison with Federal, State, and local officials, and other entities and coordinates child care operations with other state agencies including the Department of Labor and Industry, Education, and Health and other Departmental bureaus to support the growth of the child development system.
- Provides support and advice to the Deputy Secretary for Child Development and Early Learning on licensing and registration issues, recommends policy changes and coordinates DHS efforts to improve child care licensing and regulatory administration.
- Responds to press inquiries on child care licensing issues and prepares responses to inquiries from providers, legislators and consumers.
- Reports to the Deputy Secretary for Child Development and Early Learning on the status of the statewide licensing child care programs, services, and problems.
- Monitors and share new program needs and recommends the development of legislative regulations and procedures to improve program effectiveness.
- Confers with child care stakeholders and other public and private child care agencies and entities regarding child care licensing policies.
- Meets with the state's interdepartmental Early Learning Team to ensure that all licensing related early childhood education related policies, procedures, and rules, regulations, and initiatives developed by state and federal agencies are coordinated.
- Directs the design and implementation of the data system supporting Certification and Licensing.
- Based on Management Directive 530.22, this position has been determined to be a major nontenured policymaking or advisory position and is therefore deemed to be excluded from coverage under the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation statute. Accordingly, the incumbent in this position will not be subject to an Unemployment Compensation Tax deduction and will not be eligible to receive unemployment compensation benefits when separated.

Please review the [position description](#) for more information, including required experience, training and eligibility. Application will close October 26, 2020.

### **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**

The Pennsylvania Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps low-income households pay their heating bills through energy assistance grants and emergency repair assistance. LIHEAP will be open this season from **November 1, 2020 through April 9, 2021**. [Click here for the flyer.](#)

### **Updates from NAECY:**

- [Site visits have begun again!](#) - Accreditation site visits have resumed as of September 1st. NAEYC recognizes that programs will be operating under new public health mandates for an indefinite period of time, so please review the site visit protocol that has been adjusted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [COVID-related Environmental Health Resources](#) - Our friends at the [Children's Environmental Health Network](#) have developed some clear research-based recommendations for cleaning, disinfecting and maintaining good indoor air quality throughout the pandemic.
- [COVID-related Outdoor Learning Resources](#) - Our partners at the National Wildlife Federation have some great ideas about expanding outdoor learning environments to maximize children's healthy play, especially now. See "Lets Get Outside" in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

## Sharing Corner:

- *From Adrian Fields, CEO/Founder of Camp Endeavor* - This was just a resource that helps non profits and education centers and its local - [www.trypocket.info](http://www.trypocket.info). Hope it helps.
- *OCDEL Program Representative, Lillie Guytonwallace* shared a recent update on [Children's Mental Health](#) from the CDC. It's got GREAT resources and tips, including supporting children with ADHD in virtual learning!

I want to finish tonight by sharing a recent e-mail from Exchange Every Day:

### **Having a Vision Increases Happiness**

October 14, 2020

*I wish I could show you when you are lonely or in the darkness, the astonishing light of your own being.*

*-Hafiz*

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In his book, *Authentic Happiness*, bestselling author and psychology professor, Martin E. Seligman, Ph.D., describes how having a vision for work increases both the happiness of a leader and people throughout an organization. Here's how he describes what is needed:

"Your beliefs shape your actions and are a source of comfort to you." He says that life will have more meaning because of "attachment to something larger than you."

In their popular book, *From Teaching to Thinking*, Ann Pelo and Margie Carter share examples of vision statements from a program called Hilltop Children's Center. This is Hilltop's vision statement for educators:

"We want educators at Hilltop to be on fire about their work; to feel competent, excited, curious, and profoundly attentive to children. We strive to be a program in which educators move between theory and practice, with a solid understanding of the thinking underneath our teaching practices and with lively teaching practices that set each classroom alight. We commit to knowing the children intimately, and to living alongside them in ways that communicate our affection, delight, and regard."

And Holly Elissa Bruno, in her bestselling book, [Happiness is Running Through the Streets to Find You: Translating Trauma's Harsh Legacy into Healing](#), writes about how she transformed painful childhood experiences into a meaningful vision for her life's work:

“To speak up for wounded children, I claimed my truest voice. My greatest vulnerability became my greatest strength...I have spoken for survivors because, as Diana Nyad says, ‘Freedom lies in being bold!’”

As we continue to navigate these challenging time, here’s wishing you a glimpse of your own astonishing light!

Best,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## **Diane Getzinger**

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 25, 2020 6:40 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Quick rundown of resources and opportunities

Hi everyone,

I hope you had a good weekend. This is just a quick e-mail to share a variety of opportunities and resources with you (but they're really good ones, so you won't want to skip them)!

### **Learn About The Curriculum Fund – [MONDAY, 10/26 at 1p](#)**

High quality, research based curriculum is a critical element to providing developmentally appropriate instruction in early childhood education classrooms. However, the cost to purchase, train, and implement a curriculum creates a financial burden for many child care providers. Come find out how the Curriculum Fund can help you purchase and implement a high quality, OCDEL-approved curriculum. Join an information session on Monday, October 26 at 1p. See [the attached flyer](#) for additional information and the event registration link.

### **Next SEPECC Virtual Meeting: [Tuesday, October 27th 9:00 - 11:00 am](#)**

During the first half of this meeting, you will hear updates from OCDEL, ELRCs and Community Partners, advocate for the needs of the field, and learn about resources for early learning providers. The second half will focus on the newly developed Keystone STARS Internal Assessment Process (IAP) Guide and will be presented by PA Key assessors Regina Wright and Claribel Soto-Nieves. Please email any questions to be addressed during this meeting to [jackie.groetsch@firstup.org](mailto:jackie.groetsch@firstup.org) by **October 26th**.

- Click to [register for the 10/27 Meeting](#)
- Click for the [recording and slides from the \*\*October 13<sup>th</sup>\*\* meeting](#).

### **COVID-19 Testing and Flu Shots**

As the nation moves into flu season, The Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium will begin offering free flu shots to help mitigate the morbidity and mortality associated with the coronavirus. Additionally, the group will continue to offer no-cost, barrier-free coronavirus and coronavirus antibody testing on the following dates and times, at the locations listed:

- **Tuesday, October 27, 4p-7p**  
Northeast Baptist Church, 4744 Tackawanna Street, 19124
- **Thursday, October 29, 3p-7p**  
Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church (East), 2800 W. Cheltenham Ave., 19150
- **Saturday, October 31, 10a-3p**  
Hartranft Playground Alliance, 800 W. Cumberland St., 19133

If you or your staff attend, please be sure to let them know that you work at an early education program!

### **Expanded Community COVID-19 Testing for Children**

CHOP has partnered with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health to increase access to COVID-19 testing for children. They have partnered with the City Parks and Recreation Department to open the first of two new

CHOP testing sites in Philadelphia on **October 22** at the 48th and Woodland Recreation Center. **Families with children who develop symptoms of COVID-19** can request testing through the online portal at [www.chop.edu/covid-testing](http://www.chop.edu/covid-testing) or hotline intake at 1-800-722-7112. Testing criteria through the online portal and phone hotline remain aligned with the CHOP [Outpatient COVID-19 Pathway](#). Criteria will adjust to new evidence-based guidance as it emerges, and the populations that they can reach with testing will adjust to test availability. The [pathway](#) will remain the easiest and most up-to-date location for current information on symptom and testing criteria. **Please note:** At this time, they continue to use NP swabs at their testing sites as opposed to anterior nares swabs. Additionally, they are unable to offer pre-travel testing or testing for other screening purposes. For additional information on children's COVID-19 testing, please visit: <https://www.chop.edu/covid-19-testing-kids>

## **Yet Another Resource for COVID-19 Testing**

Whether you're planning a trip, returning to work, or just want to know your status, vype urgent care offers FDA authorized COVID-19 tests. Learn if you're actively infected or have had prior exposure. If you have symptoms associated with COVID-19, please [schedule a telemedicine \(video visit\)](#) appointment. All COVID rapid antigen tests require an appointment at your nearest vype [location](#).

## **We Need YOU!**

The Philadelphia Quality Improvement Project is working to provide information and recommendations to strengthen Philadelphia's quality improvement services. The project is being conducted by the BUILD initiative and funded by The Vanguard Strong Start for Kids Program™ and the William Penn Foundation. ***This is your opportunity to share your experience with quality initiatives, including your ideas for improvement!***

- **FOCUS GROUPS** are being offered at different times between **October 19 through November 2**. Participants will receive a \$15 e-gift card. Focus groups are facilitated by Philadelphia early childhood leaders Adrienne Briggs, Sherilynn Kimble and Sharon Neilson. To sign up: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PQIPFocusGroupReg>.
- **ON-LINE SURVEY** was sent to all ECE programs certified by OCDEL. The survey is available until **November 6**. Participants will receive a \$5 e-gift card. To take the survey: [https://urban.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_4SplInoaaZ9nKDj](https://urban.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4SplInoaaZ9nKDj).

## **Sessions to Connect Home-Based Child Care Providers**

All Our Kin is hosting sessions in English and Spanish specifically for family child care providers. The sessions will be an opportunity for family child care providers to hear from their peers across the country and to discuss the role of family child care in securing federal relief funds and in the election. They will be short, high-energy sessions to foster hope and connection.

Participants must register in advance:

- **October 27th** session in English [register here](#).
- **October 28th** session in Spanish [register here](#).

## **Family Child Care Coalition Kicks Off Mastermind Meetings – 11/6/2020**

FC3 is beginning a series of monthly meetings for family child care providers. Participants will earn 2 PQAS credit hours. For information about how to join FC3 or register for the first meeting, "I'm Minding My Business," on **11/6/2020 (6:30-8:30p)**, please see [the attached flyer](#).

## **Network of Victim Assistance**

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) is currently offering a free live webinar on child sexual abuse prevention.

This training supplements Mandated Reporter training by focusing on abuse prevention and protecting children from experiencing abuse before a report needs to be made. Act 48 and PQAS credits as well as contact hours for many licensed professionals are available at no cost. The webinar is run several times a week; sessions are available through **November 6**. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

### **School-age Care Tips for Current Events**

A recording of this recent professional development opportunity presented by the PA Key is now available. Continuing education credits are available. See [the attached flyer](#) for details and registration link.

### **Free Trauma-Informed Webinar Series**

Hear from the same trauma-informed thought-leaders who contributed to Teachstone’s Interactions at the Heart of Healing online training in this free, on-demand webinar series. [See the webinar details and links here.](#)

### **Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Family Scholarships**

First Up is excited to announce that they have full-tuition preschool scholarship funding for families of young children experiencing financial hardships, especially due to COVID-19. STAR 3 and 4 providers, if you know of families who are unable to send their children to preschool due to a loss of jobs, income, or being on a subsidy waiting list, you may be eligible to receive EITC Pre-K scholarship funding to support those families. [Click here to apply](#) or email [Tyrone.Scott@FirstUp.org](mailto:Tyrone.Scott@FirstUp.org) if you have additional questions.

### **Start FBI Background Clearance Check Now**

Wolf Administration reminds of **Dec. 31** deadline for FBI background checks and encourages Pennsylvanians to start process now. [Click to read.](#)

That’s all for now! I hope you have a great week and that you, your staff and families stay safe and healthy!

Warmly,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 19, 2020 11:14 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: COVID-19 closure/absence payment policy and some more opportunities

Good evening, everyone!

Late this afternoon, we received the information from OCDCEL about how subsidy payment of COVID-related closures/absences will be handled effective **November 1, 2020**. I suspect that you will receive it tomorrow in the Certification listserv or the PA Early Ed News, but I know that you have been waiting for this very important information, and it impacts calls that we're receiving now and work that we're doing on a daily basis. You will find the full text [HERE](#).

What we need you to do now:

- If you entered COVID-related closures for November 2020 in PELICAN Provider Self Service:
  - If the length of the closure did not exceed 14 days, DELETE the closures
  - If the length of the closure exceeded 14 days, DELETE the first 14 days and send me an e-mail so the children (either individual children or full facility) can be suspended (and re-enrolled if they subsequently returned to care)
- If you do not use PELICAN Provider Self Service and previously requested closed days due to a COVID-related closure, please send me an e-mail, so we can update your closures appropriately.
- If you previously reported COVID-related absences (individual children or classrooms), we will try to update the suspensions as appropriate (based on the length of the suspension) prior to invoicing being generated and mailed. However, when completing your November invoicing, it will be important to update children who still show as suspended (if it was due to a COVID-related absence).

There are going to be LOTS of questions about this, specifically how to account for absences/closures in diverse situations. To the extent that you are able, please EMAIL these questions to me instead of calling. It is REALLY IMPORTANT to get this right the first time (or I suppose in this case, the second time), so that payments can be processed accurately and timely without unnecessary adjustments.

Quick highlights:

- You will be paid for up to 14 consecutive days of a COVID-related closure or absence. This will not count toward your 15 paid closed days nor toward a child's annual 40-day cap absences.
- Anything beyond 14 days will result in the suspension/re-enrollment of children.
- DO NOT charge parents co-payments during a full week of COVID-related absence.
- How to mark invoices for COVID-related absences:
  - Paper: Write CA for "COVID absence"
  - Online: Mark the absence with an A, but indicate in the child comment that the "absence was COVID-related"
- BE SURE TO READ THE FULL TEXT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT (either tonight or when it comes out on the Listserv or PA Early Ed News)

- EMAIL your questions to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org) (Philly providers only, please. All others contact your local ELRC directly!!)
- *We will get through this ... TOGETHER!*

Okay...now that that's out of the way...I also have some really exciting opportunities to share with you!

## **OPEN NOW until 11/23 - small businesses relief program!!**

*Shared by Pamela Haines of First Up!!*

A small business relief program that just opened for applications Tuesday (11/17/2020), and is only **open until 11:59pm EST on Monday, November 23, 2020. First Come, First Served.**

[Unfinished Business](#) is a program by Hennessy that provides immediate relief and long-term support to Black, Asian, and Latinx small-business owners.

For more information and application: <https://www.unfinishedbusiness.us/apply.html>

Eligibility Requirements:

- Black, Asian, and/or Latinx small-business owner
- Business is registered in the US and its territories as a legal entity, with a valid EIN
- Applicants must have a physical US address (No [P.O.Box](#))
- Annual sales not to exceed \$3 million USD
- Total employees not to exceed 50
- All owners at least 21 years of age
- Have been in business for at least two years as of March 2020
- Does not have an alcoholic beverage license
- Business is NOT a non-profit organization, smoke shop, or firearm business
- To receive this funding, must have a bank account that accepts electronic transfers
- In the spirit of Hennessy's ethos 'Never Stop, Never Settle', your business intends to support the community in the future

## **Grab-and-Go Meals**

Grab-and-Go Meals for students are available through the city every Friday 9a-2p. Find your nearest school food site here: [philasd.org/grab-go-meals](http://philasd.org/grab-go-meals).

**Please note: The distribution scheduled for Friday 11/27/2020 will take place on 11/25/2020 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

**Please plan to pick up your 7 day meal box on Wednesday, 11/25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

## **From Devereux: Building Your Bounce**

**Simple Strategies to Promote the Resilience of You and Your Team: a three-part webinar event**

All across the country, early care and education settings are simply just not the same. New rules, new regulations and mounting expectations may prove to make the work we do a bit more challenging.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE. We can do this together! We will not let physical distancing get in the way of providing professional development that supports social connections. In this live webinar series, Nefertiti B. Poyner, Ed.D., will help participants to unfold the concepts of risk, resilience, protective

factors and overcoming obstacles - big and small. Complete with creative, reflective experiences, the goal is to provide participants with an opportunity to self-reflect on their well-being, and then take action to better support their resilience. Whether individuals work directly with children or parents, or support children and families indirectly, this virtual experience can benefit each member of your team! [Register now](#) or continue reading to learn more.

A look at these three webinars...

**Part 1 on December 3, 2020 from 1:00-2:00pm ET**

Unpack the meaning of resilience and the powerful connection between your resilience and the quality of the care you provide as a child-serving professional.

**Part 2 on December 10, 2020 from 1:00-2:00pm ET**

Your past and present risk factors matter, and so too do your protective factors. Our risks do not have to dictate our life outcomes. Discover the important role protective factors play in contributing to your resilience.

**Part 3 on December 17, 2020 from 1:00-2:30pm ET**

We've saved the best for last. Reflect on your personal strengths and areas for growth as you learn about four key protective factors of resilient adults. Take action and begin to create your personal resilience-building plan. Learn a few protective factor-building strategies and how to create a life-long, resilience-building action plan.

In times like these, we need our tools. Skills related to resilience and utilizing our protective factors might just be the tools we need. We hope to *virtually* see you there!

**Fees for [Registration](#)**

- Register 1 participant = \$129 per person
- Register 2-3 participants = \$119 per person
- Register 4 or more participants = \$109 per person

## **Center for Safe Schools: 2020 Safe Schools Conference**

### **Keeping Our Children Safe: Strategies for School and Communities**

**December 8-10 / Virtual Event**

Schools often focus on physical safety alone. The [2020 Safe Schools Conference](#) will host presentations that show the critical value of pairing a focus on positive school climate and culture in addition to ensuring physical safety. Don't miss these featured sessions:

#### **Social Emotional Learning: The Key to a Better Future**

Explore lessons learned from providing teacher training in national model programs, classroom management training, present initial findings of student outcome data and the impact of social emotional learning.

Presented by **Katie Kucz**, Prevention Director, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Norristown, Pa.

**Tuesday, Dec. 8** | 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

#### **What Are School/Community Assistance Dogs and How Can They Support Social-Emotional Learners**

### **In and Out of the Classroom**

School/community assistance dogs build a connection by fostering safe relationship skills for vulnerable members of our communities.

Presented by **Katy Harrison Ostroff**, NEADS World Service Dogs, Princeton, Mass., and **Tracey Stoll**, Learning Solutions, LLC, Norwood, Mass.

**Tuesday, Dec. 8** | 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

### **Bullying Prevention and SEL: What is One Without the Other**

Explore the recognition that SEL and bullying prevention initiatives can result in positive outcomes for students, understanding their connection and integrating both into schoolwide prevention.

Presented by **June Jenkins**, Training Coordinator, and **Jan Urbanski**, Director, Safe and Humane Schools, Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.

**Wednesday, Dec. 9** | 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

### **Growing Protective Factors and Wellbeing Throughout Your School and Community To Enhance School Climate**

Participants will also be able to serve as a catalyst in uniting and amplifying their school's SEL and related activities and catapult impacts toward their goals.

Presented by **Amy McDonald**, School Counselor, Southeast Island School District, Thorne Bay, Alaska

**Wednesday, Dec. 9** | 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

### **Tempering School Climate Through SEL Strategies**

Experience research-validated strategies and hear about lessons learned from a program designed to increase community-wide social and emotional development, belongingness and sense of self in order to improve our sense of safety and foster self-regulation.

Presented by **Anne Contreras**, Director of Programs, and **Michelle Kelsey Mitchell**, Director of Partnerships, Pure Edge Foundation, Wilmington, N.C.

**Wednesday, Dec. 9** | 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

### **Teaching Inner Strength: A Unique Mindfulness and Critical Thinking System To Promote Teen Wellness**

Learn about a successful, evidence-based system that has empowered 10,000 Philadelphia students using mindfulness, brain science, compassion and cultural awareness.

Presented by **Amy Edelstein**, Founder, Inner Strength Education, Philadelphia, Pa.

**Wednesday, Dec. 9** | 1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

### **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for Pre-Service Educators**

Presenters will share research-based resources, including an overview of the program and provide opportunities for participants to engage in case-study experiences.

Presented by **Wendy Bellew**, Lecturer, and **Peter Licona**, Assistant Professor of Education, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pa.

**Thursday, Dec. 10** | 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | [Session Info](#) | [Presenter Bio](#)

[REGISTER](#) before November 30 for savings!

## **2021 Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards Applications Now Available!**

The applications for the 2021 Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards are now available! The Teacher Awards acknowledge the critical role childcare teachers play in providing quality early care and education. Childcare

teachers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and on U.S. Military bases and installations around the world are being invited to apply. For the first time ever, there are two application types available, [a PDF application](#) to mail in or [a fully electronic version](#). The Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards have been proudly presented since 1994. Applications are due by **January 29, 2021**. For more information [click here](#), or contact [Sharon Bell](#).

## **Philly Families Reading Together - A Resource for Grandparents**

*Shared by ELRC18 Provider/STARS Manager, Shira Badanes*

I just received [this resource information](#) from a friend at SOWN. This virtual group is specifically to support grandparents in encouraging literacy in their grandchildren (ages 3 -10.)

## **From NAEYC: Culturally Appropriate Positive Guidance**

Professional Development that fits your busy schedule. Don't miss this [1-hour self-paced online module](#) that includes:

- Classroom examples and practical strategies to enhance awareness of how cultural practices are deeply embedded in children and families behavior.
- A deeper understanding of culture in family practices (things families think, say, and do)
- Strategies to be more responsive to the diverse families and children in our programs
- An abridged version of the webinar, Culturally Appropriate Positive Guidance with Young Children.

Just \$20 for NAEYC Members! [Sign up today](#).

## **NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Updates**

### **Understanding Accreditation**

New to accreditation or new to an accredited program? Make sure to check out our website for great information on getting started and understanding the benefits of being an accredited program!

### **Site Visits are Happening!**

NAEYC realizes that there are factors that affect a program's ability to host a site visit. It is a program's responsibility to request a site visit disruption if they are unable to maintain standard operations due to weather emergencies, public health emergencies, natural disasters or if they are not serving children.

## **One more from NAEYC: Conversations that Matter: Talking with Children About Big World Issues**

Children rely on their trusted adults to help them make sense of the confusing messages the world sends them about what and who are safe and okay. Children need direct, truthful responses shaped to meet their developmental level of understanding. [Learn more](#) about talking with children about big world issues.

That's all for now. I hope to have another e-bulletin out to you all tomorrow night. Stay tuned, and have a GREAT Friday!!

Take good care,  
Diane

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 19, 2020 3:06 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: What we know, what we don't know and lots of opportunities, too!

Hi everyone,

I'd like to apologize to you all for not sending this sooner. I try to not bombard you with e-mails, and there's so much going on right now. I was just waiting for the moment when everything would come together. So, while we're waiting for that, please take advantage of the AWESOME opportunities below. (You will likely hear from me again VERY soon!)

Please look for the following very important announcements in the next few days:

- An announcement from OCDEL with information about reporting your Round 3 CARES expenditures
- An announcement from OCDEL about payment for COVID-related closures and absences
- Information about a streamlined process for reporting COVID exposure and positive cases in your Philadelphia facility
- Information for programs that are open/operating about free PPE and cleaning supplies

### **A quick word about COVID reporting**

Currently, if you have COVID exposure in your program, you **must** contact the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (email [covid.schools@phila.gov](mailto:covid.schools@phila.gov) or call 215-685-5488) and OCDEL Certification (1-800-346-2929). You should expect a follow-up call from someone on PDPH's COVID Schools Team. It is **CRITICAL** that you both answer this call and cooperate by supplying the requested information. If you have concerns about the validity of the person calling you, get their name and call 215-685-5488 or e-mail [covid.schools@phila.gov](mailto:covid.schools@phila.gov) to confirm that it is a legitimate call from PDPH.

### **COVID Testing Sites**

Following is this week's schedule of **FREE FLU SHOTS AND COVID-19 TESTING** from the **Black Doctor's COVID-19 Consortium**.

No registration is required, but if you send staff, please send me a list of names with the event that they attended.

All events are walk-up or drive-thru. First come, first served.

Please be sure to check [www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com](http://www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com) for last minute scheduling changes.

#### **Thursday, November 19 – 4p-7p**

Sharon Baptist Church – 3955 Conshohocken Ave., 19131

#### **Friday, November 20 – 10a-2p**

Deliverance Evangelistic Church – 2001 W. Lehigh Ave., 19132

#### **Saturday, November 21 – 11a-4p**

Liacouras Center – 1776 N. Broad Street, 19121

## **And while we're at it...**

If you missed the Mayor's press conference on Monday about new restrictions in the City due to the rise of COVID cases, please see the details here: <https://www.phila.gov/2020-11-16-philadelphia-announces-new-safer-at-home-restrictions-in-response-to-rising-covid-19-cases/>

## **The Hunt Institute: Race & Education Webinar (November 19th 2PM ET)**

During the next Race & Education webinar, resource experts will discuss Racism in America's Childcare Industry. The conversation will take place on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 2PM ET on Zoom and Facebook Live. If you are unable to attend the webinar live but would like to watch the recording, please register so we can share the video with you at a later date. Join the conversation by registering here: [bit.ly/2TZR6oP](http://bit.ly/2TZR6oP)

**Resource Experts:** [Dr. Kerry-Ann Escayg, Professor, University of Nebraska Omaha](#)

[Dr. Iheoma Iruka, Director of Early Childhood, UNC Chapel Hill](#)

[Jennifer McConnell, Academy Director, Brookland Baptist Church](#)

Moderator: [Dr. Bernadine Futrell, Senior Director of Effective Practice, National Head Start Association](#)

## **Upcoming SEPECC Meetings**

If you haven't been attending the biweekly SEPECC meetings you are missing out on a TON of important and interesting information – OCDEL and ELRC updates, the latest on the federal and state funding scene, and great guest speakers with resources for you, your staff and your families. Here are links for the next two meetings (which are held from 9a-11a):

- **Nov 24:** [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUqdOmrqz8jG9eA2C65\\_J19-Eo40MVplpfz](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUqdOmrqz8jG9eA2C65_J19-Eo40MVplpfz)
- **Dec 8:** <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIsf-yhpjliE9yJXl4i8lml85TqNZ-NtQFt>

## **Provider and Families Working Together - CAN WE TALK? - JUST US**

*From Sharon Neilson of Woodland Academy*

I am very concerned for our field and our families who are struggling to stay afloat in the middle of this pandemic and scarcity of resources. It is overwhelming at times to try to figure out how to support staff, families, comply with CDC guidelines, meet compliances and standards, guide children through their developmental growth and development, pay bills, etc.

Despite all of these challenges that weigh us down, we have one resource that we don't use enough each other!

Let's come together and talk about what we are facing and how we can better support our businesses and families. Let's move past the stigma and narratives that says, "providers can't work together" or that claims "providers and families don't respect each other."

Let's do something different by uniting with each other as the first steps towards true change.

Using the doodle poll, choose the best days and times that work best for you to meet and a Zoom link will be provided after we reach a consensus. Since I will be using the ELRC to reach providers, you will have to send me an email to provide me with your contact information for the zoom link.

Although we may have to have multiple meetings to accommodate all providers who are interested, I am committed to ensure that at some point we connect with each other.

The doodle poll will close on Thursday, November 26 th at 6pm and a Zoom link will be sent out over that weekend (November 27 th-29th) so that we can set up meetings starting the week of November 30th- December 5th. [https://doodle.com/poll/m9sm3dzvmyrrvkgi?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/m9sm3dzvmyrrvkgi?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)

***"We can be the change we want to see" Gandhi***

Sincerely,  
Sharon Neilson, Director  
Woodland Academy  
215 868 1661  
[srneilson@verizon.net](mailto:srneilson@verizon.net)

## **Hold the Date for *Holding Space***

ELRC Region 18 is very happy to host The Pennsylvania Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Program in offering ***Holding Space: Let's talk about: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience***. *Holding Space* is a series of online discussion groups where participants can connect and gain insights about how to cope with the challenges of 2020. There will be separate Holding Space series for directors, for teachers, and for families. 2020 has given us months of stress, change, and uncertainty. This group is a place to find support and a listening ear from others who have similar roles and concerns.

- **Directors** – Tuesdays from 11:30a-12:30p – Dec 1, Dec 15, Jan 5, Jan 19
- **Teachers** – Thursdays from 1p-2p – Dec 3, Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 21
- **Families** – Wednesdays from 7p-8p (Dec 2, Dec 16, Jan 6, Jan 20)

## **For FCCH/GCCH: PA CCDF State Plan Listening Session**

**December 2, 2020, 6p-7p**

Hosted by Tracey Campanini, OCDEL Deputy Secretary and Karen Grimm-Thomas, OCDEL Director of External Relations

Every three years, the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care requires states to submit a Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan that describes how they will administer CCDF dollars in their state's child care system. This includes all activities in Pennsylvania related to child care licensing, professional development, quality improvement and subsidized child care.

In preparation for developing Pennsylvania's next plan, OCDEL is seeking robust stakeholder input around what is working, what is challenging and what child care providers think should be Pennsylvania's priorities for Child Care Works (CCW) moving forward.

Please join this CCDF State Plan listening session and share your experiences and your ideas about what it should look like over the next three years. In addition to listening sessions, OCDEL anticipates posting the draft plan for public comment in the first quarter of 2021. The current deadline for plan submission is June 30, 2021.

Join the Zoom Meeting on Dec. 2! <https://bit.ly/38Op08w>

Questions? Contact Michelle Zitsch, Workforce Development Specialist at the Pennsylvania Key - [miczit@pakeys.org](mailto:miczit@pakeys.org) or 814-779-2619

## **Application Open for PA NAPSACC Mini-grant Project!**

**Who: 100 Licensed Child Care Providers**

You're entrusted by families with the care and well-being of their children. Amidst a world-wide pandemic, child care has emerged as a lifeline for families, adapting routines and policies to ensure that children are safe, healthy, and secure. In a time when health practices are more critical than ever, you are in a position to make a pivotal difference in children's lives by helping them form positive nutrition and physical activity habits while in your care.

**What: The Pennsylvania Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (PA NAPSACC)**

PA NAPSACC is a continuous quality improvement process focused on obesity prevention practices and policies within early care and education settings. The program utilizes Go NAPSACC, an on-line, evidence-based tool, to guide you through self-assessment, action planning, implementation, policy development, re-self-assessment and reflection. The process empowers program leadership and includes individualized technical assistance to increase knowledge and improve quality of practice and policy. Programs will also participate in online TA networks focused on policy development, which will be led by a Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) at no cost to the site. The CCHC will review current practices and policies, assist with developing sustainable policies, and offer guidance for continuous quality improvement.

**Where: Online**

Work at your own pace with a guided timeline, and rest assured that technical support and policy consultation is available to all participants via phone, email, and virtual meetings.

**When: The PA NAPSACC Mini-grant Project will follow the timeline below**

Applications due by **December 15, 2020**

Notification of Acceptance - December 23, 2020

Orientation and kick-off - week of January 11, 2021

Have 5-6 months to implement!

Reflection and wrap up in June 2021

**Why:**

Beyond the reward of making a difference in the health of the children in your care, those who participate and complete project requirements will also receive a \$500 mini-grant to support their action steps. For STAR 3 and 4 programs, and STAR 2 programs moving to STAR 3, participation in all components of the PA NAPSACC program satisfies the performance standards and/or bonus point requirements related to utilizing a health care consultant to establish and maintain health policies above those required by certification as well as participating in an organized effort to promote nutritional health for children.

We recognize that you are faced with challenges beyond the norm. We are currently hosting sharing sessions with past project participants to identify strategies and resources that will support you as you develop and implement nutrition and physical activity action steps while balancing the impact and necessary guidelines of the pandemic.

**To Apply: Complete and submit the electronic application found [HERE](#).**

A PDF of the application content is attached for reference, but applications are only valid if submitted using the online link. **Applications must be submitted by [December 15, 2020](#).**

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Lori McMonigal, Coordinator for Special Projects - Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, at 717-248-4942 x 112 or [lmcmmonigal@tiu11.org](mailto:lmcmmonigal@tiu11.org). Funding for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health through the State Physical Activity and Nutrition grant and Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.

## **Coaching to Success**

The Coaching to Success program offers assistance to Philadelphia-based early childhood education (ECE) providers of all size, structure, and quality level as they seek to navigate these challenging times. A host of supports and interventions will be designed and administered based upon feedback from you – the provider. Through consultation with a coach who knows the industry, ECE providers may access customized activities to help them achieve stabilization, recovery and long-term sustainability goals. [www.reinvestment.com/Coachingtosuccess](http://www.reinvestment.com/Coachingtosuccess)

*The program is made possible with support from Vanguard Strong Start for Kids Program™.*

## **Mindfulness...FOR CHILDREN!!!**

Peter Moses and *The Mindful Experience* has been serving early childhood kids and staff with on-site and online Mindfulness Education for the past four years. The peace, focus, emotional self-regulation and well-being – all proven benefits of mindfulness, are especially needed now. The increased empathy, gratitude and kindness are all timely as well!

As a PQAS certified instructor, Peter offers two workshops in this realm:

- **“Stress Management and Mindfulness for Teachers, Parents & Kids”** (2 PD credit hours) and the in-depth **“Mindfulness X”** (12 PD credit hours). You may call for a program summary for either of these trainings. In-service dates as well as flexible day, evening or Saturday workshop plans can be arranged. The workshops can be provided ‘live’ onsite or through Zoom sessions. With the virtual training option, multiple affiliated sites can participate together and share costs.
- A **Mindfulness Teaching Kit for Schools** is also available (and currently discounted). It is an effective, enjoyable, user-friendly, multimedia, online resource for classroom teachers. Have a look at all the Kit includes by visiting their website at [www.themindfulexperience.com](http://www.themindfulexperience.com) and click on **Mindfulness Teaching Kit** at the top of the home page.

**In this exceptional and difficult school season, Peter would like to GIFT the curriculum and all the resources of the Teaching Kit (no cost) to any schools and centers participating in any of the workshops.** You can reach Peter with questions or goals at 215-233-5795 or at [peter@themindfulexperience.com](mailto:peter@themindfulexperience.com)

## **Tri-State – Resource for Fire Safety, CPR/First Aid and MORE!**

Tri-State is a statewide leader in safety training for childcare providers. We not only provide training but we also sell PPE and provide fire extinguisher inspections. We travel to childcare facilities and we host public classes bi-weekly at Acclaim Academy located at 5615 Germantown Ave Philadelphia, PA 19144. Fire Safety classes at 10am-11am and CPR/FA classes from 1130am-1pm.

Dates for 2021 are:

January 9th, 16th, 30th

February 13th, 27th  
March 13th, 27th  
April 10th, 24th  
May 8th, 22nd  
June 5th, 19th  
July 10th, 24th  
August 7th, 21st  
September 4th, 18th  
October 2nd, 16th, 30th  
November 13th, 27th  
December 11th

Participants can sign up for classes at [www.tristatetraining.com](http://www.tristatetraining.com) or by calling 866-503-3430.

### **Funds still available for Rising STARS Tuition Assistance**

The Rising STARS Tuition Assistance Program pays 95% of tuition costs for eligible college coursework taken by early learning professionals, with a maximum benefit of \$8,000 per individual each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Tuition costs net of other funding sources such as scholarships, stipends, discounts or grants (except the Pell Grant) are used to determine the amount of assistance. It is recommended completed applications be submitted at least four weeks prior to the start of the course, or prior to the tuition due date, whichever is first. Submit your completed application by June 15 for consideration. For more information, visit <https://www.pakeys.org/keystone-stars/rising-stars/>, and for a tip sheet on how to apply, click [HERE](#).

### **PACCA Accepting T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Applications for Spring 2021 Semester**

The Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA) is accepting T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship applications for the Spring 2021 semester. Early Childhood Education professionals interested in attending college for the Spring semester that begins in January should apply to T.E.A.C.H. now! T.E.A.C.H. applications must be complete and submitted with all required documentation/information by Friday, Nov. 20, 2020, to be considered for the Spring 2021 semester. PACCA will continue to accept applications on an ongoing basis, however incomplete applications and applications received after this date will not receive priority for consideration. PLEASE NOTE: New scholarship awards for the Spring 2021 semester will be dependent upon funding availability at that time.

Interested applicants should also begin the college admissions process now and contact an ECE advisor at their intended college/university. This helps to ensure that scholarship applicants are admitted to their college/university and can register for courses if/when they receive a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship. T.E.A.C.H. can provide contact information for ECE advisors at partnering institutions if needed.

[CLICK HERE](#) to download a scholarship application.

Questions? [CLICK HERE](#) to contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor.

### **NAEYC Survey of the Field**

It's here: the last NAEYC survey of 2020 on child care and the pandemic. It is as critical as ever for you to take the survey, and share your experience of what's happening now so that policy makers and the public can understand the ongoing urgency of the challenges you face. Although it can be hard to see, we

promise that your responses and your voices are making a difference. Every proposed federal relief package has included funding for child care. *We can't let up now.*

- Child Care [Survey in English](#)
- Child Care [Survey in Spanish](#)

But we know how much is on your plate, so as an added “thank you!” for your time and expertise, [submitting this completed survey will qualify you for a sweepstakes!](#) NAEYC will select at random 10 survey respondents to receive a \$50 gift card - but hurry! This **survey will close at midnight on Sunday, November 22**, so get your responses in quick. And thank you all, for everything you do.

## **Public Comment Period Open for Proposed Changes to the Subsidized Child Care Eligibility Regulations**

Changes to the current subsidized child care eligibility regulations are being proposed that may impact families, children, and early childhood education providers. Comment period is open until **Dec. 14, 2020**. [Get more info.](#)

## **Announcing NAEYC's New Position Statement on Developmentally Appropriate Practice**

*From NAEYC:*

We are so pleased to share with you the new, fourth edition of the [Developmentally Appropriate Practice \(DAP\)](#) position statement. (Available in Spanish: [Prácticas Apropriadadas al Desarrollo](#)) We are deeply grateful to the many members of the [DAP work group](#) and the [NAEYC Governing Board](#), as well as the early childhood educators and faculty members who shared their experience, expertise, and guidance over the course of revising this position statement. First published nearly 40 years ago, this foundational position statement is one of five created by NAEYC in collaboration with the early childhood profession. It puts forth a framework for educators to promote each child’s optimal development and learning through a strengths-based, play-based approach to joyful, engaged learning.

While many of the core considerations, principles, guidelines, and recommendations remain consistent with previous editions, there are critical changes, which align with the [Professional Standards and Competencies for Early Childhood Educators](#) and the [Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education](#) position statements. This edition of *DAP* reflects new research that—more extensively than in previous editions—ensures each piece of the position statement underscores the importance of social, cultural, and historical contexts of development and elevates the need for active engagement through play, exploration, and inquiry in ways that support the whole child.

No matter your role, we hope you will read the statement today, and commit to **sharing it with your colleagues, including on social media**, using the hashtag [#naeycDAP](#).

## **Public Comment Period to Open for Proposed Changes to the Subsidized Child Care Eligibility Regulations**

**Starting Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020: Public Comment Period to Open for Proposed Changes to the Subsidized Child Care Eligibility Regulations**

Changes to the current subsidized child care eligibility regulations are being proposed that may impact families, children, and early childhood education providers, including, but not limited to, the following areas:

- Expanded eligibility periods of 12 months;
- Expanded eligibility to cover hours the parent or caretaker requires sleep following completion of overnight work shift;
- No changes to the amounts of subsidy and co-payment for the duration of the eligibility period, unless to the family's benefit;
- Abolished the requirement for the parent or caretaker to pay an advanced co-payment prior to enrollment;
- Children who turn 13 during the eligibility period will continue to receive the subsidy until the eligibility period ends;
- Codifying payment practices permitting tiered reimbursement for providers who voluntarily exceed the basic health and safety requirements;
- Codifying payment practices based on enrollment and not attendance, to include increasing the number of permitted absences from 25 to 40 per fiscal year;
- After five consecutive days absent, the child maintains eligibility, but the enrollment is suspended until the child returns to care; and
- Establishment of waiver provisions and periods of presumptive eligibility for particular populations, including victims of domestic violence and families experiencing homelessness.

Proposed changes to the subsidized child care eligibility regulations at 55 Pa. Code Chapter 3041 will be published effective tomorrow, **Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020**, and starting tomorrow can be viewed in the [PA Bulletin](#). Once available, please navigate to the issue dated **Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020**.

You can review the current regulations by clicking [here](#).

### Dates to know

- **Nov. 14, 2020**: Public Comment Period Opens
- **Dec. 14, 2020**: Public Comment Period Closes

### How to submit your comments

All public comments must be submitted *in writing* by the closing date of the public comment period on **Dec. 14, 2020**.

All comments, suggestions or objections should reference the regulation number(s), section(s), and subsection(s), and must be submitted in writing. Please select the one way to submit comments which best fits your situation.

1. Email submit to: [RA-ocdschildcare@pa.gov](mailto:RA-ocdschildcare@pa.gov)
2. Fax submit to: 717-214-6575
3. US mail submit to:

Michael Ordonez  
Office of Child Development and Early Learning  
333 Market Street, 6th Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17126

If respondents would like a response, they should include their contact information. Click [here](#) to view and share the flyer.

## **PENN SACCA Board Openings – deadline to apply is 12/4/2020**

The Pennsylvania School-age Child Care Alliance (PENN SACCA) is currently soliciting nominations to fulfill open positions to serve on the Board of Directors. They are seeking professionals with a background in school age care with strong leadership abilities, a commitment to Out-of-School-Time (OST) programs, and a desire to help promote the mission of PENN SACCA: *To guide, champion, and represent out-of-school-time-professionals*. Please visit the [PENN SACCA Website](#) to learn more and access The Board Candidate Nomination Form today!

## **West Philly Food Resources**

*From Alliance for Early Learning (AFEL)*

The Promise Neighborhood has been working with the City to identify and share out resources for free food in West Philadelphia near the heart of the uprising. We have heard from our families that food access is a challenge as stores have been boarded up. Please share this resource, which will be updated regularly, with your personal and professional networks who are working/living in West Philly <https://sites.google.com/view/west-philly-food-resources/food-assistance>. Also, if you hear of any additional food or donation sites please share that with the PN and AFEL teams so that we can get it out on social media and to the City.

## **Job Openings**

My Bright Beginnings is looking for dedicated teachers to join our team with locations in both Graduate Hospital and Fishtown. Both have easy access to public transportation. We are looking for creative, caring and engaging educators who have good communication skills and the ability to work as a team. Email [mybrightbeginningsgh@gmail.com](mailto:mybrightbeginningsgh@gmail.com) for additional information.

### **Requirements**

1. Prefer one year of experience with working with children
2. Preferred but not required 9 Early Childhood Education college credits or a CDA (Child Development Associates Certificate) or willing to obtain these credentials using our scholarship program within one year.
3. Must have high school diploma or GED.

ALL employees are required to provide:

- Current Health Assessment and TB test
- Child Abuse Clearance
- PA State Police Background Check
- FBI fingerprinting Clearance

-2 written letters of reference and verification of previous experience

For full-time employees, benefits include paid holidays, paid time off, and tuition reimbursement and education retention grants through Keystone STARS.

Please email resume. We look forward to hearing from you.

We are an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate in employment opportunities because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability.

Job Type: Full-time

Pay: \$12.00 - \$16.00 per hour

Finally, although it's not Tuesday, please take a minute to check out Devereux's Tuesday Tip with Nefertiti Poyner. I look forward to this brief time to recharge every week. [Check it out!](#) I hope you enjoy it as much as I did, and remember...look out the window!

Be well, everyone, and I'll "see" you again soon!

Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, November 20, 2020 9:28 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Launch of Centralized Reporting Form for COVID-19 Positive in Childcare and...yes...MORE!

Hi everyone!

I hope this is the last time you'll hear from me this weekend, but I have a very exciting announcement to share with you and, believe it or not, I still have MORE resources and opportunities! (I feel like a magician pulling scarves out of my sleeve!)

First, and most important, please see the following announcement about a new Centralized Reporting Form for COVID-19 cases. I'm including it in its entirety here, but you can also find the separate document [HERE](#).

November 20, 2020

Dear Philadelphia Childcare Providers,

We are reaching out to ensure you have seen the City of Philadelphia's updated restrictions for businesses and gatherings pursuant to the recent rise in positive COVID-19 cases, which you can [read about here](#). At this time, licensed childcare centers **are permitted** to conduct regular early learning services. This does not mean, however, that childcare centers are immune to the effects of COVID-19. We have heard from many providers requesting additional assistance in managing operations and ways to protect the teachers, staff, children, families, and communities you serve. With that in mind, we have created a centralized reporting form for any COVID-19 positive cases for your children, teachers, and/or staff. You can report any new positive cases, as of Monday, November 23, at the link here:

<https://form.jotform.com/203145664181149>

To help control the spread of this disease, please complete the above form with accurate contact information (e-mail and phone number) so that the PDPH team can follow-up with you to conduct its contact tracing and information collection protocols. In addition, OCDEL's Bureau of Certification, Early Learning Resource Center #18, the School District of Philadelphia, and the Mayor's Office of Children and Families will receive a copy of the reported case(s) to reduce the number of agencies you need to call and file reports. There still may be additional agencies with whom you need to report positive cases, but you will be provided a copy of the report filed above to help share with all other agencies.

Finally, there are additional resources for you to utilize during this time. A list of those are below, and we are continuously working to modify policies and procedures, advocate for supports, and unify systems to best support the incredible work you do with our city's youngest learners.

Please continue to stay safe and remember, especially as we enter the holiday season:

- Limit the number of people with whom you have in-person contact
- Socially distance yourself whenever engaging with people
- WEAR A MASK! #MaskUpPHL

PDPH Guidance: <https://www.phila.gov/media/20200529115020/Guidelines-for-Childcare-Early-Education-Centers.pdf>

Screening Templates: <https://www.phila.gov/documents/resources-for-child-care-and-summer-camp-operators-during-covid-19/>

Free COVID-19 Testing: [www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com](http://www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com) or <https://www.phila.gov/covid-testing-sites/>

PPE: [https://www.sustainingquality.org/images/Health\\_and\\_Safety\\_PPE\\_Available\\_One\\_Pager\\_8620.pdf](https://www.sustainingquality.org/images/Health_and_Safety_PPE_Available_One_Pager_8620.pdf)

Site Evaluations: Call Philadelphia's Department of Environmental Health Services at (215) 685-7495

Mental Health Supports: <https://mindphltogether.com/>

Kindest regards,

School District of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
OCDEL Bureau of Certification  
Early Learning Resource Center #18  
City of Philadelphia Office of Children and Families

## **CARES Act Reporting Requirements for Child Care with Tracey Campanini, Deputy Secretary for the Office of Child Development and Early Learning**

Child care providers who accepted Round 3 CARES Act funds were informed as part of the application process there would be a reporting requirement.

Any person or entity accepting a Round 3 CARES Act payment must provide documentation to the Department of Human Services (DHS).

DHS has developed an online reporting form to collect information about the use of Round 3 CARES Act funding. The reporting form captures provider information and COVID-19 related expenditures. The link above provides a brief overview of the four reporting buckets.

Instructions for accessing web-based reporting portal will be sent at the end of November. This email communication will be sent directly to the lead agency contact for OCDEL licensing . DHS expects the final report to be available in the web portal beginning in early December.

Providers that accepted Round 3 CARES Act funding are required to complete a cost report through the web-based portal by no later than **Dec. 21, 2020**. Providers should keep all documentations related to the costs reported in the final report for a minimum of five years.

Thank you for your ongoing assistance during these trying times. Please submit any questions about Round 3 CARES Act expense reporting to [RA-PWELRCQA@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PWELRCQA@pa.gov).

## **BDCC Free COVID-19 Testing**

Following is this week's schedule of **FREE FLU SHOTS AND COVID-19 TESTING** from the **Black Doctor's COVID-19 Consortium**.

No registration is required, but if you send staff, please send me a list of names with the event that they attended.

All events are walk-up or drive-thru. First come, first served. Please be sure to check [www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com](http://www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com) for last minute scheduling changes.

### **Saturday, November 21 – 11a-4p**

Liacouras Center – 1776 N. Broad Street, 19121

### **Monday, November 23 – 10a-2p**

69<sup>th</sup> Street Transportation Center – 6901 Market St., Upper Darby, PA 19082

## **Registration Now Open for Holding Space**

ELRC Region 18 is very happy to host The Pennsylvania Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Program in offering ***Holding Space: Let's talk about: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience***. *Holding Space* is a series of online discussion groups where participants can connect and gain insights about how to cope with the challenges of 2020. There will be separate Holding Space series for directors, for teachers, and for families. 2020 has given us months of stress, change, and uncertainty. This group is a place to find support and a listening ear from others who have similar roles and concerns. Click on the links below for additional information registration links for each of the series, and please be sure to share this with your teachers (including those who may have not yet returned to the classroom!) and parents (including those who are reluctant to return their children to care).

- [Directors](#) – Tuesdays from 11:30a-12:30p – **Dec 1, Dec 15, Jan 5, Jan 19**
- [Teachers](#) – Thursdays from 1p-2p – **Dec 3, Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 21**
- [Families](#) – Wednesdays from 7p-8p – **Dec 2, Dec 16, Jan 6, Jan 20**

## **Leap Into Science**

You are invited to join the **Leap into Science National Network** for science and literacy by receiving training and materials to lead workshops for children and families!

If your organization was already trained in the Leap into Science Wind curricula, you are NOT eligible to attend this training.

[Leap into Science](#) is a nationwide program developed by [The Franklin Institute Science Museum](#) that integrates open-ended science activities with children's books, designed for children ages 3-10 and their families. The program empowers educators to offer workshops in community settings like libraries, museums, and out-of-school time programs to engage underserved audiences in accessible and familiar settings. Leap into Science provides workshops on a science theme for three possible audiences: early childhood, elementary, and/or family groups.

The Pennsylvania Leap into Science Team is hosting a **two hour free virtual training** on the Leap into Science Light & Shadow workshops at the following times:

- **Friday, January 29, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**
- **Tuesday, March 16, 9:30 am – 11:30 am**
- **Thursday, May 13, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

Each organization who participates in Leap into Science will receive:

- A 2-hour virtual training on high-quality science and literacy curriculum and facilitation strategies for two or more educators
- Ongoing support during program implementation as part of a Leap into Science National Network
- Access to the national Leap into Science leadership team and online resources
- A curriculum and materials kit (valued at \$300)

As a Leap into Science partner organization, you are committing to:

- Scheduling and **leading at least three (3) Leap into Science workshops** for children and/or families living in underserved rural or urban communities by Sept 2021, including an event during National Leap into Science Week (*June 7 – 13, 2021*)
- Posting each workshop to [The Connector](#), a searchable directory for STEM programs across the country.
- Completing a **workshop report** following each workshop.
- Participating in **quarterly calls** with other trained educators in your state.

Leap into Science is funded by the National Science Foundation, and led by [The Franklin Institute](#) and [The National Girls Collaborative Project](#).

To participate in the national network and attend one of the trainings listed above, **please complete this brief [application form](#) by December 14, 2020**. Priority will be given to organizations that can send at least two educators to the training and who serve traditionally underrepresented audiences. If selected, you will receive email notification of your acceptance by the end of December with details about the training you will attend.

QUESTIONS Please Contact:

**Betsy O. Saatman**

TA Specialist/SAC Initiatives | The Pennsylvania Key

*In support of Pennsylvania's Office of Child Development & Early Learning*

[betsaa@pakeys.org](mailto:betsaa@pakeys.org) | 484-955-5909

[www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org)

200 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 2nd Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17101

1.800.284.6031

## **Webinars from Teachstone**

- [How to Best Use CLASS® in a Family Child Care Program](#) - **December 3, 2PM**  
*Tiffany Lee, Director, Family Child Care Initiative, ParentChild+*  
*Sarah Hadden, Senior Advisor, Policy & Research, Teachstone*

- [Strategies for Effective Interactions Among Adults Supporting Students with Learning Differences](#) - **December 9, 2PM**  
*Tia Barnes, Assistant Professor, University of Delaware*  
*Christina Cipriano, Assistant Professor and Director of Research, Yale*

## **Interested in Opening Your Own Montessori School?**

[Wildflower Schools](#), teacher-owned and led micro-schools committed to Montessori education, are looking for teachers and childcare providers to open their own Wildflower schools. Join them on **December 1** for [Wildflower 101](#) an information session about Wildflower and how Wildflower supports educators in the start up journey to create Wildflower schools and child care centers in their communities. For more information, contact [Sunny.Greenberg@wildflowerschools.org](mailto:Sunny.Greenberg@wildflowerschools.org).

## **Competence and Confidence: Partners in Policymaking 2021**

C2P2 is a 9-weekend interactive leadership development training and networking series to educate, inform and develop leadership skills of Pennsylvanians who are

- family members of children or young adults living with an intellectual disability and/or on the autism spectrum
- adults living with intellectual disabilities and/or on the autism spectrum

### **2021 Session Dates and Details**

- **January 29, 30**
- **February 26, 27**
- **March 19, 20**
- **April 23, 24**
- **May 14, 15**
- **June 4, 5**
- **June 25, 26**
- **August 27, 28**
- **September 17, 18**
- **Sessions will be held virtually, using Zoom.** (In-person option MAY become available in the summer of 2021 and would be held in Harrisburg, PA)
- **Applicants MUST commit to attending both sessions, all nine weekends:** Fridays 4p-9p, Saturdays 9:30a-3p
- **In addition to nine weekend sessions, participants are required to attend ONE of the following introductory sessions:**
  - Saturday, **January 23, 2021** – 11a-12:30p OR
  - Monday, **January 25, 2021** – 5:30p-7p OR
  - Wednesday, **January 27, 2021** – 7p-8:30p
- **Applications must be completed and submitted by January 8, 2021.** All applicants will be notified if they were accepted, during the week of **January 11, 2021** via email.

### **TO APPLY AND FOR MORE DETAILS**

For further information, email [IOD@temple.edu](mailto:IOD@temple.edu)

## **AWESOME Resources for School-age Providers!!!**

- [Flyer: Trauma-informed Schools during COVID-19](#)
- [Super SAC Resources in Pennsylvania and Beyond](#)
- [Professional learning opportunities provided through the Center for Youth Program Quality](#)
- [Flyer with links: School-age Care Supports YOU!](#)

## **Children's Playhouse – Diaper Bank and Formula**

*Shared by Damaris Alvarado-Rodriguez*

Children's Playhouse – Whitman (2501 S. Marshall St., 19148) is a diaper bank (distributions on Tuesday's from 12-2). We are giving our free formula too until supplies last. For details, please call 215-372-7050.

## **From ECELS - Nebulizers, Asthma and COVID-19**

Do you have children in your care with asthma? Parents/caregivers of children with asthma who use nebulizers should contact their child's health care provider about using a metered dose inhaler (MDI) instead of a nebulizer. Use of inhalers with spacers instead of nebulizers involves decreased close exposure time during the medication administration. According to The Centers for Disease Control's ([CDC](#)), people with asthma should use inhalers with spacers (with or without a face mask, according to each student's personal treatment plan) instead of nebulizer treatments whenever possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Children's medical records/care plans should be reviewed to see who may require nebulizer treatments. Care plans should be updated as per the health care provider's recommendations. [Guidance for Operating a Childcare Center, Group Home or Family Child Care During the Coronavirus Pandemic in Pennsylvania](#) - The Pennsylvania Key Resource for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) pages 16-17 offers important guidance to consider and precautions to take.

Increased cleaning and disinfecting is necessary because of the pandemic. Disinfecting products maybe a trigger for some children so care should be taken to prevent exposure:

If you have asthma:

- Ask an adult without asthma to clean and disinfect surfaces and objects for you.
- Stay in another room when cleaners or disinfectants are being used and right after their use.
- Use only cleaning products you must use. Some surfaces and objects that are seldom touched may need to be cleaned only with soap and water.
- Make a list of the urgent care or health facilities near you that provide nebulizer/asthma treatments. Keep it close to your phone.
- If you have an asthma attack, move away from the trigger such as the disinfectant or the area that was disinfected. Follow your [Asthma Action Plan](#). Call 911 for medical emergencies.

Sandy McDonnell, MSN, CRNP, ECELS Training/Technical Assistance Coordinator  
ECELS is a program of the PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics.

That's all for now. Have a great weekend, and here's a sincere wish for each one of you...

<https://youtu.be/je4Qb0qryEs>

Best,  
Diane

## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Monday, November 30, 2020 1:21 AM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Elwyn meeting on Friday, plus MUCH more!

Hi everyone,

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Once again, we have a very busy week with some great opportunities and resources, so without further ado...

### **Pennsylvania 30 Day Fund**

The non-profit Pennsylvania 30 Day Fund provides forgivable loans for Pennsylvania-based small businesses. The forgivable loan is intended to provide **immediate financial assistance** (within maximum three days) to meet payroll, preserve healthcare coverage for employees and save jobs while they await recently approved federal funding. The Pennsylvania 30 Day Fund is designed to be quick, easy, and free of red tape, as small business owners work to keep employees on board in the near term. All we ask in return: if you can, pay it forward. [LEARN MORE](#)

### **'Circles of Truths' community discussion on **Nov. 30th** from 6-8 p.m.**

Join the [City of Philadelphia's Pathways to Reform, Transform, and Reconciliation Group](#) for the first session of a community engagement series on police reform titled "Circles of Truths."

This virtual event will center around truth-sharing, grief and building a space for healing, discussion, and listening as we work towards building an equitable future for all. As the city and nation continues to reckon with racial disparities, police-involved violence, and the tragic killing of Walter Wallace Jr., the series will provide an opportunity to have dialogue around meaningful change. The series' opening session will center on addressing and repairing harm, and gathering collaborative feedback. Moving forward, it will focus on fostering relationships, community building and the continued development of public safety and policing reforms.

This event will be hosted via Zoom, and a portion of the program will be shown on the [Mayor's Office of Public Engagement Facebook page](#). [Pre-registration is required](#). Email [public.engagement@phila.gov](mailto:public.engagement@phila.gov) for more information.

### **T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Applications for Spring 2021 Semester Due **Monday, November 30th****

*(From PHMC PDO)*

ECE Professionals interested in attending college for the Spring semester that begins in January should **apply to T.E.A.C.H. now!** T.E.A.C.H. applications must be complete and submitted with all required documentation/information by **Monday, November 30, 2020** in order to be considered for the Spring 2021 semester. PACCA will continue to accept applications on an ongoing basis, however incomplete applications and applications received after this date will not receive priority for consideration. ***PLEASE NOTE: New scholarship awards for the Spring 2021 semester will be***

**dependent upon funding availability at that time.**

Interested applicants should also begin the college admissions process now and contact an ECE advisor at their intended college/university. This helps to ensure that scholarship applicants are admitted to their college/university and can register for courses if/when they receive a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship. T.E.A.C.H. can provide contact information for ECE advisors at partnering institutions if needed.

[CLICK HERE](#) to download a scholarship application.

Questions? [CLICK HERE](#) to contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor.

## **2020 Child Care Regulation Changes Training for Child Care Providers and Question and Answer (Q&A) Sessions**

The Child Care Facility Regulations were approved by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) on Oct. 15, 2020, and will take effect Dec. 13, 2020. Over the past two years, OCDEL has released these changes as policy updates to align with the amended facility regulations. Programs who have been implementing these OCDEL policies will not experience any changes and should have limited updates to operations. To support child care programs in their understanding of these new regulations, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) will be sharing the updated Certification Regulations Training Video for Child Care providers at 9:00 am on **Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020**. The Training link will be shared with all providers via email and available on YouTube on demand.

To support implementation and answer providers' questions, OCDEL has scheduled the following Live Training and Q&A Sessions on Dec. 1, 2020. Please only register for the session for your region and / or provider type. Registration is required and space is limited. **Please Note:** These sessions are for **current child care providers only**. Interested stakeholders are encouraged to view the recorded video but NOT to register for the live Q&A session due to limited capacity.

Click below to register:

- [10:00 AM - Southeast North Group Child Care Homes and Center Providers](#)
- [10:00 AM - Southeast South for Group Child Care Homes and Center Providers](#)
- [6:30 PM - All Family Child Care Home Providers](#)

Regional Certification Staff will be offering additional, virtual Q&A sessions with providers over the next few weeks. Regional Certification Offices will also be offering Office Hours throughout December to connect and answer providers' ongoing questions.

## **School-Age Programs: PA CCDF State Plan Listening Session (specific to SAC)**

Wednesday, **December 2 – 11a to 12p**

Hosted by Tracey Campanini and Karen Grimm-Thomas

OCDEL is seeking robust stakeholder input around what is working, what is challenging and what child care providers think should be Pennsylvania's priorities for Child Care Works (CCW) moving forward.

Questions to think about in advance:

- In your role as a child care provider- what are the things that work well about the system?
- What are things you think we should consider changing as part of the next plan cycle?

Here are the bucket areas:

- Protect the health and safety of children in child care – this is child care certification.
- Help parents make informed consumer choices and access information to support child development – This is family engagement, resource and referral, the websites and consumer education.
- Support equal access to stable, high quality child care for low-income children – This is payment strategies for child care
- Enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce – this is professional development, training, and Keystone STARS.

Pre-registration is required at: <https://bit.ly/3nyEgdS>

Questions? Contact Betsy O. Saatman, [betsaa@pakeys.org](mailto:betsaa@pakeys.org) or 484-955-5909

## **ELWYN Presents PBIS Resource Guide on December 4<sup>th</sup>!**

Good Afternoon ECE Community Partners –

I hope this email finds you well! My name is Ashlee Brown and I oversee the professional development efforts of Elwyn Early Learning Services (ELS), the preschool EI provider in both Philadelphia and the city of Chester.

**Is your program or team struggling with challenging student behavior during this challenging time???**

If so, our team is eager to share the attached *Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports (PBIS) Resource Guide*, designed to support early childhood programs with the implementation of positive behavioral support strategies. PBIS-based strategies are evidence-based and designed to support ALL students in educational settings.

In addition, our team of Positive Behavior Support Consultants will be overviewing the resource guide and offering live demonstrations of various behavioral “quick tips” at a virtual professional development session on Friday, 12/4/2020 from 12:00-1:00 PM. Please join us!! **Registration is available for attendees at the following**

**link: [https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_D14IijZBRXeEjAgyO0e02A](https://temple.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D14IijZBRXeEjAgyO0e02A). Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email and the virtual access information needed to join us on 12/4.**

If you have any questions, kindly let me know. Otherwise, we hope you find the resource guide helpful and we look forward to collaborating on 12/4/20.

Thank you and have a warm & restful holiday!

Best,

Ashlee M. Brown, Ph.D., BCBA  
Director of Professional Development & Research  
Elwyn Early Learning Services  
267-234-1291 (cell)  
[Ashlee\\_Brown@elwyn.org](mailto:Ashlee_Brown@elwyn.org)

## **Reminder: Holding Space Sessions start this week**

ELRC Region 18 is very happy to host The Pennsylvania Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Program in offering ***Holding Space: Let's talk about: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience***. *Holding Space* is a series of online discussion groups where participants can connect and gain insights about how to cope with the challenges of 2020. There will be separate Holding Space series for directors, for teachers, and for families. 2020 has given us months of stress, change, and uncertainty. This group is a place to find support and a listening ear from others who have similar roles and concerns. Click on the **UPDATED** links below for additional information registration links for each of the series, and please be sure to share this with your teachers (including those who may have not yet returned to the classroom!) and parents (including those who are reluctant to return their children to care).

- [Directors](#) – Tuesdays from 11:30a-12:30p – **Dec 1, Dec 15, Jan 5, Jan 19**
- [Teachers](#) – Thursdays from 1p-2p – **Dec 3, Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 21**
- [Families](#) – Wednesdays from 7p-8p – **Dec 2, Dec 16, Jan 6, Jan 20**

## **IMPORTANT: Announcement C-20-13: Reopening of Certified Child Care Facilities Temporarily or Permanently Closed Due to COVID-19**

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Bureau of Certification Services, has released [Announcement C-20-13, Reopening of Certified Child Care Facilities Temporarily or Permanently Closed Due to COVID-19](#). The Announcement provides protocols on the reopening of certified child care facilities temporarily or permanently closed due to COVID-19; and to announce the Department of Human Services' (Department's) renewal inspection process for child care facilities that temporarily closed due to COVID-19, whose licenses have not expired, and that plan to reopen.

Since the issuance of the Disaster Proclamation, some child care facilities' certificates of compliance expired during the temporary closure. The Department's intent is to support child care facility efforts to reopen to the greatest extent possible, and to continue to support their efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for the children they serve.

Any child care facility that has temporarily closed due to COVID-19, plans to reopen, and has a certificate of compliance that is expired as of Nov. 30, 2020, or thereafter, will be considered permanently closed unless they contact the regional office to communicate the facility's plan to reopen and follow the protocols outlined below. The facility must contact the regional office before Dec. 11, 2020, or within 10 days prior to the expiration of the certificate of compliance, whichever is later.

The [protocols for reopening of certified child care facilities temporarily or permanently closed due to COVID-19](#) address different circumstances that may apply to child care providers and steps providers must take to reopen a facility that is temporarily or permanently closed and plan to reopen.

For additional details, please see the [Announcement C-20-13, Reopening of Certified Child Care Facilities Temporarily or Permanently Closed Due to COVID-19](#).

## **PA Keys Staff Scheduling PD on Program Quality Instruments**

The PA Key has transitioned some of their face-to-face professional development sessions to virtual offerings. Attached is the new [PQA Virtual PD Statewide Calendar](#). This document includes self-paced

online sessions available, virtual POI webinars facilitated by a Program Quality Assessor, the monthly calendar of PD sessions currently available to register for, and some additional information. Underneath each specific POI PD being offered, the Event ID number is included. This will assist you in finding and registering for these trainings on the PD Registry more easily.

## **ECELS EMAIL ALERT: Use of Non-Contact Infrared Thermometers During Cold Weather**

Cooler weather in Pennsylvania is here. Monitoring children's temperatures during the health screening procedure may need to be adjusted if using a non-contact infrared thermometer (NCIT). The [FDA](#) describes the following [pros and cons to using these devices](#). The benefits to using a non-contact infrared thermometer include: the reduction of risk of spreading disease since there is no contact between the person and the device, it is easy to use and disinfect, and it is a quick way to measure a person's temperature. Improper use of NCITs may lead to inaccurate measurements.

The drawbacks to using a non-contact infrared thermometer include that the environment, placement, and clothing may affect the reading. Strictly follow the manufacturer's guidelines and instructions for use for the specific thermometer. Typical use is to monitor the temperature of the forehead by holding the non-contact infrared thermometer perpendicular to the forehead at the distance and time specified in the manufacturer's instructions. The environment should be draft-free and out of direct sun or heat sources. Environmental temperature should be within the range specified by manufacturer, usually around 60.8-104°F (16-40°C) and relative humidity below 85 percent. The person being screened should have a clean, dry forehead. Excessive clothing or head covers (headbands, hats, bandanas) could increase the temperature reading and should be removed with ample time to permit the temperature of the forehead to stabilize.

In a recent survey, early childhood education (ECE) providers offered suggestions to address possible issues with the cold weather affecting temperature screening, including:

- Storage and Use:
  - Store and use thermometer in area that is a constant temperature within manufacturer's suggested range.
  - Carry thermometer in and out when bringing the child to their classroom via the aprons that program provides.
  - Use other different types of thermometers, such as an ear thermometer with probe cover or a digital thermometer with disposable plastic covers, if the non-contact infrared thermometer doesn't work. (Note that additional disinfection procedures of device may be necessary).
  - Some manufacturers suggest aiming the thermometer at the area behind the child's ear if forehead readings are inaccurate.
- Screening Variations:
  - Screen students as they remain in their vehicles for temperature checks and screening questions during daily check-in. Parents exit vehicles and walk child to the entrance after all temperatures are taken for that drop-off group. Drop off times are assigned 10 minutes apart to allow time for this process.
  - Take temperatures at the door and then again in the timeframe recommended in the manufacturer's guidelines. Continue with mid-day scans of the children and staff to monitor temperatures throughout the day and at the end of the day.
  - Perform the temperature screening indoors:

- Keep the thermometers inside and allow children to enter a small area that is indoors but outside of the center (i.e. a foyer or empty side room). Permit the children to remove their hat and coat.
- Screen children indoors while parents are still present at drop off. If temperature appears to be off, take temperature again 15 minutes later. The child should remain socially distant and wearing mask during this waiting period.
- Install a double door entry foyer.  
*Example: During a prior renovation, a program installed a double door entry foyer with a sink just inside the second door. Family members enter the first door, then check the student's temperature. The adult shows the temperature recorded to the staff member through the glass wall of the second door. Staff member asks the health questions through the glass wall of the second door. Staff member determines whether child can be admitted. If yes, the adult uses the computer pad in between the two glass doors to clock in their student. This triggers door to open and student is admitted to center. The foyer entryway is heated via a small built-in-the-wall, heating unit.*

Additional information can be found in "[Are infrared thermometers safe?](#)" by Elizabeth Murray, DO, FAAP at [HealthyChildren.org](http://HealthyChildren.org), the [American Academy of Pediatrics'](#) website for parents.

Remember to update your COVID-19 Health and Safety plan if you modify screening practices.

Sandy McDonnell, MSN, CRNP  
 ECELS Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator

## **First Up Professional Development Opportunities Updated Virtual Professional Development Catalog**

All topics have been intentionally created to support best practice and are aligned with the NAEYC Competencies. PQAS and ACT 48 credit hours are available for all trainings. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more. **Professional development is a click away with these free recorded webinars!** [CLICK HERE](#) for details.

### **Sensory Box**

*(From family child care provider Thomasina Lee)*

[PICTURE THIS, PICTURE THAT SENSORY BOX](#) was created for individuals with various disabilities that may have sensory issues. In this box, there are tools to help the individuals to focus better and self-soothe to give them the right kind of stimulation they are seeking. To purchase, send an email to [Thomasina@Picturethisbook.org](mailto:Thomasina@Picturethisbook.org).

### **Message from Tracey Campanini, OCDEL Deputy Secretary**

Both Governor Wolf and Secretary Levine have been stressing the concerns for added caution as we are seeing increased incidence of COVID-19 cases statewide. OCDEL has been hearing there is concern the Administration will take bold actions similar to the spring and issue closure notice to child care.

Please assist in communicating that as of Friday, Nov. 20, 2020, there are NO plans to issue closure notices to child care. With the added health and safety protocols in place, child care can continue to operate.

In the event COVID-19 community spread reaches a level where more aggressive actions are needed, we will communicate any changes related to closure as quickly as possible.

Thank you for supporting this clarification.

Tracey Campanini, Deputy Secretary

And last, but not AT ALL least, thank you to all of you who have used the centralized reporting form to report positive COVID-19 cases in your program. In case you missed it last week:

November 20, 2020

Dear Philadelphia Childcare Providers,

We are reaching out to ensure you have seen the City of Philadelphia's updated restrictions for businesses and gatherings pursuant to the recent rise in positive COVID-19 cases, which you can [read about here](#). At this time, licensed childcare centers **are permitted** to conduct regular early learning services. This does not mean, however, that childcare centers are immune to the effects of COVID-19. We have heard from many providers requesting additional assistance in managing operations and ways to protect the teachers, staff, children, families, and communities you serve. With that in mind, we have created a centralized reporting form for any COVID-19 positive cases for your children, teachers, and/or staff. You can report any new positive cases, as of Monday, November 23, at the link here:

<https://form.jotform.com/203145664181149>

To help control the spread of this disease, please complete the above form with accurate contact information (e-mail and phone number) so that the PDPH team can follow-up with you to conduct its contact tracing and information collection protocols. In addition, OCDEL's Bureau of Certification, Early Learning Resource Center #18, the School District of Philadelphia, and the Mayor's Office of Children and Families will receive a copy of the reported case(s) to reduce the number of agencies you need to call and file reports. There still may be additional agencies with whom you need to report positive cases, but you will be provided a copy of the report filed above to help share with all other agencies.

Finally, there are additional resources for you to utilize during this time. A list of those are below, and we are continuously working to modify policies and procedures, advocate for supports, and unify systems to best support the incredible work you do with our city's youngest learners.

Please continue to stay safe and remember, especially as we enter the holiday season:

- Limit the number of people with whom you have in-person contact
- Socially distance yourself whenever engaging with people
- WEAR A MASK! #MaskUpPHL

PDPH Guidance: <https://www.phila.gov/media/20200529115020/Guidelines-for-Childcare-Early-Education-Centers.pdf>

Screening Templates: <https://www.phila.gov/documents/resources-for-child-care-and-summer-camp-operators-during-covid-19/>

Free COVID-19 Testing: [www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com](http://www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com) or <https://www.phila.gov/covid-testing-sites/>

PPE: [https://www.sustainingquality.org/images/Health\\_and\\_Safety\\_PPE\\_Available\\_One\\_Pager\\_8620.pdf](https://www.sustainingquality.org/images/Health_and_Safety_PPE_Available_One_Pager_8620.pdf)

Site Evaluations: Call Philadelphia's Department of Environmental Health Services at (215) 685-7495

Mental Health Supports: <https://mindphltogether.com/>

Kindest regards,

School District of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
OCDEL Bureau of Certification  
Early Learning Resource Center #18  
City of Philadelphia Office of Children and Families

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out!

Wishing you all a safe and healthy week!

Best,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS  
ELRC Region 18, Philadelphia County  
2361-2373 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
Phone: 267-504-4179  
Fax: 215-940-0226



## Diane Getzinger

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:38 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 E-bulletin: Important COVID updates and LOTS more!

Hi everyone,

As always, lots of information to share, so get comfy and LET'S GO.....

### **ELRC 18 Waiting List**

We have begun enrolling children from the waiting list again! Over 200 children were authorized for enrollment last week. Approximately 700 children remain on the waiting list dating back to September 8, 2020 (no children on the prioritized waiting list). If you have families who applied prior to 9/8/2020, please have them contact ELRC right away to check on their status. Also, please continue to encourage eligible families who need help paying for care to apply. Finally, remember that it is VERY important that you return calls/e-mails confirming new enrollments. Thanks, in advance, for your cooperation.

### **Tip Sheet for Completing your PD Profile and Registering for the ECE Career Pathway**

At renewal all staff in STAR 2, 3 and 4 programs must have applied for the Career Pathway. For a full designation or Move Up to STAR 3 or 4, all staff must be verified on the Career Pathway. Please see the [attached tip sheet](#) for creating/completing your profile and applying for the Career Pathway and reach out to your ELRC 18 quality coach with any questions.

### **Payment for COVID-related Absences**

Please note that information released in the last e-bulletin and during the SEPECC meeting on 11/24/2020 incorrectly stated that payment for COVID-related absences/closures would be based on calendar days. In fact, as noted in [Announcement 20 #17 Child Care Works Payment During the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency](#), **ELRC will pay for 14 consecutive BUSINESS days of COVID-related absence/closure.**

Quick highlights:

- You will be paid for up to 14 consecutive days of a COVID-related closure or absence. This will not count toward your 15 paid closed days nor toward a child's annual 40-day cap absences.
- Anything beyond 14 days will result in the suspension/re-enrollment of children.
- DO NOT charge parents co-payments during a full week of COVID-related absence.
- How to mark invoices for COVID-related absences:
  - Paper: Write CA for "COVID absence"
  - Online: Mark the absence with an A, but indicate in the child comment that the "absence was COVID-related"
- BE SURE TO READ THE FULL TEXT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT
- EMAIL your questions to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org) (Philly providers only, please. All others contact your local ELRC directly!!)

## **Reporting COVID-19 Positive Cases**

Please be reminded that reporting COVID-19 positive cases for children, teachers, and/or staff has been moved to a centralized form that is shared between the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH), OCDEL's Bureau of Certification, ELRC 18, the School District of Philadelphia, and the Philadelphia Mayor's Office of Children and Families. The link to that form is: <https://form.jotform.com/203145664181149>.

A few quick updates:

- Please use this form to report any known current COVID-19 positive cases, regardless of being open for in-person, virtual, and/or hybrid learning options.
- When reporting on funding agency(ies), we now are requesting all funding agencies at the site be informed, not only the classroom/cohort impacted.
- PDPH will contact the phone number provided after the form is submitted. Please be prepared to answer relevant contact tracing information, which are:
  - Name of the case(s)
  - DOB
  - Address
  - Phone Number
  - Scenario of case incident
  - Onset of symptoms
  - Last date or attendance to school or school sponsored activity
  - Email address of the school nurse/administrator
- After speaking with PDPH, they will provide you with its recommendations for any closures, quarantining, and reopening date(s).
- Generalized guidance for closures has been updated to the [new CDC recommendations](#) below. However, PDPH's final recommendation relies on additional details you need to provide when PDPH calls to conduct its contact tracing information collection.
  - **Everyone must quarantine for a full 7 days following their exposure (exposure day is day 0)**
    - (exception for healthcare workers in a staffing shortage in accordance with their occupational health teams)
  - **Everyone must wear a mask and monitor for symptoms for a full 14 days**
  - **Contacts can leave quarantine after day 7 (on day 8) if they have a negative test**
    - As long as they had no symptoms during quarantine
    - Either a PCR or rapid test can be used
    - Specimen can be collected up to 48 hours before they plan to end quarantine but they must still quarantine for full 7 days no matter what.
    - As long as they didn't have another exposure during quarantine from an active/ongoing exposure
  - **If they do not get a test, they should quarantine for 10 days and can leave on day 11.**

CDC still **recommends a 14 day quarantine** and the real **incubation period is still 14 days**. These are **OPTIONS** that can be utilized.

## **Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium Weekly Testing/Flu Shot Schedule**

Following are upcoming barrier-free COVID-19 testing events with the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium. If you plan to send staff to any of these events, please e-mail the date, your program name, your staffs' names and phone numbers to [dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org). Test and free flu shots, while supplies last, on the following dates and times, at the locations listed:

No registration required. Walkup or drive-thru. First come, first served.  
Check the website for updated information: [www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com](http://www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com)

- **Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 3p-7p**  
Salem Baptist Church of Roslyn  
2741 Woodland Road, Abington, PA 19001
- **Thursday, December 10, 2020, 3p-7p**  
Mastery Charter School – Wister Campus  
67 E. Bringhurst Street, Philadelphia PA 19144
- **Saturday, December 12, 2020, 10a-2p**  
New Covenant Church of Philadelphia  
7500 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119

## **Update from Tracey Campanini, OCDEL Deputy Secretary**

*The following was sent out by the PA Key on 11/23/2020:*

Both Governor Wolf and Secretary Levine have been stressing the concerns for added caution as we are seeing increased incidence of COVID-19 cases statewide. OCDEL has been hearing there is concern the Administration will take bold actions similar to the spring and issue closure notice to child care.

Please assist in communicating that as of Friday, Nov. 20, 2020, there are NO plans to issue closure notices to child care. With the added health and safety protocols in place, child care can continue to operate.

In the event COVID-19 community spread reaches a level where more aggressive actions are needed, we will communicate any changes related to closure as quickly as possible.

Thank you for supporting this clarification.

Tracey Campanini, Deputy Secretary

## **CARES Round 3 reporting survey**

The CARES Round 3 reporting survey has not gone out and the **anticipated** date is December 9<sup>th</sup>. Communications will come from the PA Key

## **CCDF State Plan Listening Tour Comes to Philly – Thursday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30a and 6-7p**

Every 3 years, the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care requires states to submit a Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan that describes how they will administer CCDF dollars in their state's child care system. This includes all activities in Pennsylvania related to child care licensing, professional development, quality improvement, and subsidized child care. In preparation for developing Pennsylvania's next plan, OCDEL is seeking robust stakeholder input around what is working, what is challenging and what child care providers think should be Pennsylvania's priorities for Child Care Works (CCW) moving forward. Please join OCDEL staff for a CCDF State Plan listening session and share your experiences and your ideas about what it should look like over the next three years in the following areas:

- Protect the health and safety of children in child care (child care certification including opening, annual inspections, complaint investigations, and facilities regulations).
- Help parents make informed consumer choices and access information to support child development (family engagement, resource and referral, the websites and consumer education).
- Support equal access to stable, high quality child care for low-income children (payment strategies for child care including rate structure and copays).
- Enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce (professional development, PDOs, TEACH and RSTA, training, and Keystone STARS).

In addition to listening sessions, OCDEL anticipates posting the draft plan for public comment in the first quarter of 2021. The current deadline for plan submission is June 30, 2021.

To participate in either session on 12/15/2020, please send an e-mail to [elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). Be sure to indicate the morning or evening session, as well as your name and program name. The Teams meeting link will then be e-mailed to you.

### **Next SEPECC Meeting: Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 9:00 - 11:00 am**

Join the ECE community of the Southeastern PA Early Childhood Coalition for updates from OCDEL and local ELRC agencies, advocacy opportunities, perspectives from early learning providers, information and resources from community organizations, and more. To submit questions for the ELRC and OCDEL, or to request or suggest topics and resources for upcoming meetings, email [Jackie.Groetsch@FirstUp.org](mailto:Jackie.Groetsch@FirstUp.org) by **12/7/2020**.

-- Click [to register for the 12/8/2020 Meeting](#)

-- Click here to access the [Meeting Slides and Recording](#) from the **November 24<sup>th</sup>** meeting

### **Webinar: COVID-19 Impact on Childcare: Employers, Providers, and Working Parents- December 9, 2020 3:00-4:00pm**

The U.S. Chamber Foundation's Center for Education and Workforce will discuss how COVID-19 has impacted childcare- how childcare challenges have been further complicated by COVID-19, how parents are trying to balance childcare and work, childcare providers are trying to stay open or re-open with decreased capacity and increased operational costs, and employers are trying to determine how and when their working parents can return to work. By understanding the perspectives of those impacted, we can begin to identify solutions to recover together [click here to register](#).

### **Holding Space: Let's Talk About: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience**

ELRC Region 18 is offering The Pennsylvania Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Program, *Holding Space*, a series of online discussion groups where directors, teachers, and families can connect and gain insights about how to cope with the challenges of 2020. Click on the links below for additional information and registration links for each of the series. Individuals can participate in any or all of the sessions.

[Directors](#) – Tuesdays from 11:30a-12:30p – **Dec 15, Jan 5, Jan 19**

[Teachers](#) – Thursdays from 1p-2p – **Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 21**

[Families](#) – Wednesdays from 7p-8p – **Dec 16, Jan 6, Jan 20**

### **Caring for Children with Asthma: An On-line Community of Learning**

Presented by PHMC and CHOIP PolicyLab

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 11:00a - 12:30p** [REGISTER HERE](#)

Asthma is the most common chronic disease among children who use childcare. About 7-10% of all preschool and school age children have the diagnosis and chances are that you have at least one child with Asthma in your program. Are you familiar with steps for caring for children with Asthma? Are you worried about serving children with asthma during the pandemic? If so, please join us as Dr. Tyra Byrant-Stephans, Director of the Community Asthma Prevention program at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, discusses how to best care for children with Asthma.

If you have questions you would like to have answered during the webinar, please send them to [eceprovidersupport@phmc.org](mailto:eceprovidersupport@phmc.org) and we will make sure to address during our session. For more information regarding Health & Safety Supports, please visit our [website](#) or email [eceprovidersupport@phmc.org](mailto:eceprovidersupport@phmc.org).

## **FREE WEBINAR: What You Need to Know about Electrostatic Sprayers**

*From SharedSourcePA:*

Managing cleaning and disinfection is more complicated than ever as child care programs respond to eradicating germs resulting from everyday sicknesses or something as serious as a coronavirus outbreak. As Directors and Owners, we are concerned with the safety and wellness of staff and children. And, our families want to know that we are doing everything possible to safeguard the wellness of their children. This webinar will provide helpful information about the newest technologies available to help support effective disinfection of all areas within your business. Join us **December 15th!**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

## **Request to Complete the Professional Development Survey**

*Survey Deadline **Dec. 17, 2020***

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is requesting the input of directors/owners of certified child care programs in the [Professional Development Survey](#). Responses to the online survey will assist OCDEL in understanding the number of staff who will need pediatric first aid/CPR training in the upcoming year; and to understand providers knowledge of the role of Professional Development Organizations.

The survey can be completed in less than ten minutes and collects information about

- the number of teaching staff at a child care program,
- the number of staff certified in Pediatric First Aid and CPR, and
- awareness of and connections to Early Childhood Education Professional Development Organizations (PDOs).

Directors/owners of programs holding a DHS Certificate of Compliance can [click here to complete the survey](#). Early childhood education staff can encourage their directors to complete the survey by **Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020**.

## **Proposed Changes to Regulations Subsidized Child Care Eligibility**

Until **Monday, Dec. 14**, a comment period for proposed changes to the subsidized child care eligibility regulations is open to the public. All comments, suggestions or objections must be submitted in writing and should reference the regulation numbers, sections, and subsections. Submit your writing via one of the following ways. If you would like a response, include your contact information.

- Email: [RA-ocdschildcare@pa.gov](mailto:RA-ocdschildcare@pa.gov)
- Fax: 717-214-6575
- U.S. mail: Michael Ordonez, Office of Child Development and Early Learning, 333 Market Street, 6th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17126

**Deadline: Monday, Dec. 14, 2020**

## **Certification Regulations Training Video for Child Care providers**

*In case you missed the live training sessions last week...*

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) created the Certification Regulations Training Video for Child Care Providers to support child care programs understand the Child Care Facility Regulations. The training is publicly available on YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=8JeCdUUP7Hw&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=8JeCdUUP7Hw&feature=youtu.be)

The Child Care Facility Regulations were approved by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) on Oct. 15, 2020. The measurement of compliance with the new regulations will begin Dec. 13, 2020. The Act of July 14, 2020 (P.L. 639, No. 62) relating to fire safety requirements, which are included in the Child Care Facility Regulatory amendments, was approved on July 14, 2020, and measurement of compliance began Nov. 11, 2020. Over the past two years, OCDEL has released these changes as policy updates to align with the amended facility regulations. Programs who have been implementing these OCDEL policies will not experience any changes and should have limited updates to operations.

## **Request Free Kinsa Thermometers in Philadelphia**

Childcare providers can enroll in a program called Fluency by [Kinsa thermometers](#)- every family in the site receives a Bluetooth-enabled thermometer connected to an app and can see if temperatures are rising in their school-based site. To request thermometers, email [Gail.Carter-Hamilton@Phila.gov](mailto:Gail.Carter-Hamilton@Phila.gov) and [Emily.Klein@Phila.gov](mailto:Emily.Klein@Phila.gov) with the name and address of the school/childcare, name, email and phone number of contact person, and number of thermometers requested.

## **First Up Professional Development Opportunities**

- **Updated Virtual Professional Development Catalog**  
All topics have been intentionally created to support best practice and are aligned with the NAEYC Competencies. PQAS and ACT 48 credit hours are available for all trainings. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.
- **Professional development is a click away with these free recorded webinars!**  
[CLICK HERE](#) for details.

## **Still Time to Register for Let's Chat About Early Language and Literacy**

There's still time to register for the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) and Early Intervention Technical Assistance (EITA) hot topics around early language and literacy development. Get access to resources to share with families and use in classrooms and centers. These 30-minute webinars will be offered at no cost at 8:30 am and repeated at 1:30 pm on the second and fourth Friday of each month running from January through March 2020. PQAS credit hours, Infant Toddler hours, and ACT 48 hours available for these webinars. [Get additional information on topics, credits and registration.](#)

## **Join ANS for Small Actions for Kids: Growing Great in December**

Join Academy of Natural Sciences (ANS) educators and scientists to learn how you can take small actions to spark big changes in your community. [FREE virtual events for children and families all throughout December!](#)

**For more details and to register visit:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/small-actions-for-kids-growing-great-registration-129354022363>

Did you know the plants you grow in your outdoor space provide a home and food for insects and other animals? Join Academy educators and scientists to learn how you can take small actions to spark big changes in your community! This event is developed for children and their families, but all are welcome to make positive changes for a healthier planet.

This event is presented in partnership with [GrowingGreat Veggies & Fruits: A National STEM Program](#).

## **Heating Assistance / LIHEAP**

The 2020-2021 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is now open! The season is scheduled to close on **April 9, 2021**. LIHEAP helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants. The cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$200 to \$1,000 based on household size, income, and fuel type. Remember: This is a grant and does not have to be repaid. [CLICK HERE](#) for eligibility details.

## **Resources for Supporting and Engaging with Children, Families, and Staff During COVID-19**

Protocols for social distancing, including staying 6 feet apart and quarantining when possible, can feel unnatural. But social distancing does not mean social isolation. Use the resources below to help connect with families virtually to support their physical and mental well-being. Learn how to creatively engage parents around children's learning and development. Find strategies for how to support families dealing with grief and loss.

Explore the [Head Start Heals Campaign](#) materials to learn more about addressing trauma and supporting resilience and recovery.

### **Featured Resources**

#### [Helping Children Thrive During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

In this video, Dr. Bergeron is joined by Sangeeta Parikshak, mental health lead at the Office of Head Start. They discuss how to help children feel loved and safe during the pandemic.

#### [Supporting Families Impacted by Substance Use Disorders](#)

Watch this webinar on how to best support families affected by substance use disorders. Discover the importance of offering non-judgmental support and connecting families to substance use treatment and mental health services.

#### [Head Start Heals: FAQs](#)

- [Talking to Children About COVID-19](#)
- [Engaging Families](#)
- [Supporting Staff, Families, and Children During Social Distancing](#)

- [Supporting Grief and Loss](#)

## National Resources

If you or someone you know is experiencing an emergency, dial 911. Find national hotline information and additional resources below.

### Mental Health

- [Disaster Distress Helpline](#): 800-985-5990 (toll-free)
- [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#): 800-273-TALK (8255) (toll-free)

### Parent Support

- [National Parent Helpline](#): 855-4A PARENT (427-2736) (toll-free)

### Domestic Violence

- [The National Domestic Violence Hotline](#): 800-799-SAFE (7233) (toll-free)
- [StrongHearts Native Helpline](#): 844-7NATIVE (762-8483) (toll-free)

### Child Abuse and Neglect

- [The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline](#): 800-4A-CHILD (422-4453) (toll-free)

### Substance Use

- [FindTreatment.gov](#)
- [Alcoholics Anonymous](#): 212-870-3400
- [National Association for Children of Alcoholics](#): 888-554-COAS (2627) (toll-free)
- [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#): 301-443-1124

## Sharing Corner

- From *ELRC18 Provider/STARS Manager Shira Badanes* - Attached are the slides from a presentation regarding [when to exclude children from child care because of Covid concerns](#). It was presented last week (11/18/2020) by CHOP Policy Lab and reflects very current information.
- From *Amber Kreuter at MKB's Over the Rainbow* – I contracted with a company to sanitize our whole center, they are licensed to do it and they can officially label it "certified" sanitized. I'm not sure if other providers might be able to use them too, thought I would share. The father is actually a daycare parent from way back. The company is KO Pest Control at 267-257-3051. I have been using them for pest control too, and they really helped us with solutions suitable for the daycare.
- From the *Safety Committee of Caring People Alliance* – Please see [the attached coronavirus posters](#) for use with young children.

Finally, here's a quote from the ExchangeEveryDay e-newsletter that caught my eye (and my heart). I hope you like it!

*It's a relief to hear the rain. It's the sound of billions of drops, all equal, all equally committed to falling, like a sudden outbreak of democracy.*

*-Alice Oswald*

That's all for now! Wishing you a wonderful week ahead, and as always, please reach out with any questions, concerns, suggestions, etc.!

Take good care,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger

## **Diane Getzinger**

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**From:** Diane Getzinger  
**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2020 1:28 PM  
**To:** Diane Getzinger  
**Subject:** ELRC 18 e-bulletin: Health Department Town Hall, OCDEL Listening Tour and MORE!

Happy Friday, everyone!

There are several exciting opportunities coming up this week, so I wanted to send a quick e-mail to make sure you have time to register and to get them on your calendar!

### **Town Hall Meeting with PDPH**

Join members of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health for a virtual town hall-style meeting to address your COVID concerns and get updated, accurate information on how to keep your staff and students safe during this challenging time.

**Date: Friday, December 18, 2020**

**Time: 1p-3p**

To receive a link to the meeting, send an e-mail with your name, organization name, and any questions you would like answered to [elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org). **Questions must be submitted to [elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringpeoplealliance.org) by close of business Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> in order to be addressed during the event.**

### **CCDF State Plan Listening Tour Comes to Philly**

**Thursday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30a and 6-7p**

***This is your chance to be heard!!!***

Every 3 years, the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care requires states to submit a Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan that describes how they will administer CCDF dollars in their state's child care system. This includes all activities in Pennsylvania related to child care licensing, professional development, quality improvement, and subsidized child care. In preparation for developing Pennsylvania's next plan, OCDEL is seeking robust stakeholder input around what is working, what is challenging and what child care providers think should be Pennsylvania's priorities for Child Care Works (CCW) moving forward. Please join OCDEL staff for a CCDF State Plan listening session and share your experiences and your ideas about what it should look like over the next three years in the following areas:

- Protect the health and safety of children in child care (child care certification including opening, annual inspections, complaint investigations, and facilities regulations).
- Help parents make informed consumer choices and access information to support child development (family engagement, resource and referral, the websites and consumer education).
- Support equal access to stable, high quality child care for low-income children (payment strategies for child care including rate structure and copays).
- Enhance the quality of child care and the early childhood workforce (professional development, PDOs, TEACH and RSTA, training, and Keystone STARS).

In addition to listening sessions, OCDEL anticipates posting the draft plan for public comment in the first quarter of 2021. The current deadline for plan submission is June 30, 2021.

To participate in either session on 12/15/2020, please send an e-mail to [elrc18providers@caringspeoplealliance.org](mailto:elrc18providers@caringspeoplealliance.org). Be sure to indicate the morning or evening session, as well as your name and program name. The Teams meeting link will then be e-mailed to you.

## **Holding Space: Let's Talk About: Reassurance, Regulation, Relationships, Resilience**

*If you have staff or families who are struggling with the challenges of 2020, PLEASE share this unique opportunity with them. Participating won't change their circumstances, but it may very well change their ability to cope with them!*

ELRC Region 18 is offering The Pennsylvania Key Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Program, *Holding Space*, a series of online discussion groups where directors, teachers, and families can connect and gain insights about how to cope with the challenges of 2020. Click on the links below for additional information and registration links for each of the series. Individuals can participate in any or all of the sessions.

[Directors](#) – Tuesdays from 11:30a-12:30p – **Dec 15, Jan 5, Jan 19**

[Teachers](#) – Thursdays from 1p-2p – **Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 21**

[Families](#) – Wednesdays from 7p-8p – **Dec 16, Jan 6, Jan 20**

## **Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium Testing and Free Flu Shots**

As COVID-19 numbers continue to spike, vaccines are being created and plans for their distribution dominates headlines, the Black Doctors COVID-19 Consortium will continue offering barrier-free COVID-19 tests and free flu shots while supplies last on the following dates and times, at the locations listed below. *If you plan to send staff to any of the events, please send me the date, your program name, your staffs' names, and phone numbers.*

- **Saturday, December 12, 12p-4p**  
Christian Stronghold Baptist Church, 4701 Lancaster Ave., 19131
- **Monday, December 14, 10a-2p**  
SEPTA Suburban Station, 16<sup>th</sup> Street & JFK Boulevard, 19102
- **Tuesday, December 15, 12p-4p**  
Esperanza, Nueva Esperanza Building, 4261 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St., 19140
- **Thursday, December 17, 3p-7p**  
Mastery Charter School, Hardy Williams Campus, 5400 Washington Ave., 19143
- **Friday, December 18, 10a-2p**  
Deliverance Evangelistic Church, 2001 W. Lehigh Ave., 19132
- **Saturday, December 19, 10a-2p**  
Mastery Charter School, Grover Cleveland Campus, 3701 N. 19<sup>th</sup> St., 19140

I will send another e-bulletin later this weekend with lots of other resources, but wanted to be sure to get this one out to you quickly.

Thanks,  
Diane

Diane Getzinger  
Assistant Director of Provider/STARS