## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

## Division of Welfare and Supportive Services Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.

DWKS

Steve H. Fisher

03/18/2020

Dear Nevada Child Care Business Owners and Staff,

These are extraordinary times and we are all working to get through this together. The Governor's Office has declared that licensed child care is an essential service for the children of first responders, hospital staff and others who will be needed throughout this crisis. The State of Nevada's Child Care and Development Program (CCDP) is determined to support the Governor in his efforts, and we'll do everything we can to keep child care businesses open because they are critical. We understand that parents who can have their children at home are helping because fewer children means that teachers can focus on good hygiene and social distancing and essential workers can stay at work.

Below are some of the policies we are implementing to do our best to support Nevada's Child Care and Families:

## **Support for Providers:**

- We will continue to provide subsidy for children participating in the program if they stay home for reasons related to COVID-19 (e.g. parent is now working from home, using social distancing, or illness related). As such, there will be no need to tell parents they'll lose their slots if they are participating in the subsidy program.
- We are working to bring you additional children of health care workers to fill in for the children you may be losing
  and CCDP encourages expediting their applications if possible. We don't expect them to stay with you permanently.
  When this crisis is mitigated and families return to work, we encourage you to give priority to the subsidy children
  previously in your care and temporarily not using the service.
- CCDP is anticipating that your business will have less of a fiscal impact because you will continue to receive subsidy for children who leave due to COVID-19 and new client money from essential workers in need of child care. We are looking at all options to keep all of you in business, because we need you.

Support for Essential Workers (e.g. Health Care and First-Responder Families):

 Reach out to the Las Vegas Urban League (<u>childcareinfo@lvul.org</u>), or The Children's Cabinet (<u>subsidy@childrenscabinet.org</u>) if you need child care and we will help you find slots on a temporary basis.

## **Support for Parents:**

- If you are working from home and can take your children home, or if you just want to take your children home due to worries about COVID-19, you won't lose your subsidy slot.
- Keep the subsidy program updated via email of changes to your situation. You will not lose your services due to layoffs or other changes related to this situation; however, staff may be able to provide you with more support during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Christell Askew
Child Care and Development Program

Child Care Business Owners and Staff, please use the address below to compete a survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuJ5zbZkpTYjor3u8EBdrLYWuAaRPqpJcRJzFbHOyOMmhb3Q/viewform?usp=sf link