

Child Care Services Daily Update – March 24, 2020

Dear Child Care Providers,

The Tennessee Department of Human Services is very excited to share with you the availability of Disaster/Emergency Response and Recovery Grants to support licensed child care agencies who have been impacted by the March 3rd tornados or COVID -19. We have partnered with Community Foundations of Middle Tennessee to administer the application process. Starting today, March 24, you will be able to apply for grant money to recoup some of your losses and expenses.

These grants are available to support licensed child care agencies with eligible expenditures including but not limited to:

- Lost Income: Demonstrated and itemized lost operating income that results from closing the agency due to the disaster/emergency and that impacts the agency's ability to pay ongoing expenses such as staff salaries, utilities, or insurance that are necessary for an agency to maintain viability during the process of response and recovery.
- Response & Recovery Operations Costs: Unique activities that occur as a result of the disaster/emergency such as cleaning, utility repair, inspections, or substitute staffing.
- Equipment, Materials & Supplies: Replacement of equipment, materials, or supplies that were lost or compromised as a result of the disaster/emergency such as area rugs, soft toys, like stuffed animals, books, curriculum, learning tools and displays, damaged cabinets and shelving, supplies, and playground surfacing and equipment.
- Consultants and Coaches: Support for procuring curriculum, coaches, or consultants that are specifically related to disaster/emergency impacts such as helping children, caregivers, or staff through recovery, grief, anxiety, stress, or trauma.

The award amount for the Equipment, Materials & Supplies and Consultants and Coaches categories will not exceed \$1,000 per slot of licensed capacity to care for children.

We encourage you to learn more about the grant opportunities and to apply online by visiting www.childcaretennessee.com. To begin the process, please create an account, or if you already have an account simply login to begin. I have attached the Press Release being announced today for your reference.

Should you have any questions, please contact your Licensing Program Evaluator or email us at ChildCare.Services.DHS@tn.gov

Thank you for all you do each and every day for the families and children of Tennessee.