

Child Care Services Daily Update - March 27, 2020

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) will continue to provide you with the most current information pertaining to Adult and Child Care programs. We will continue to remain diligent in keeping this site current.

We want to hear from you and encourage you to take the survey below **by Sunday, March 29, 2020**

The Tennessee Department of Human Services would like to know the specific challenges child care providers are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and support services we may be able to assist with. Please take a moment to complete the following survey. Your feedback is appreciated.

Survey Link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCNeedsMarch2020>

We have heard from several licensed agencies of their intent to remain open and their current availability to accept children. We are working closely with our Tennessee Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) partner to assist us with collecting information from you on your available slots and to share this information with families within the community of your location who are seeking child care.

If you are open and available to accept additional children, please contact the CCR&R agency in your area with how many children you are able to serve. The numbers are below:

East & Upper East CCR&R	865-974-7750 (may have to leave a voice mail)
Mid Cumberland CCR&R	931-648-3695; 101 (may have to leave a voice mail)
Shelby County CCR&R	901-287-4748
South Central CCR&R	931-548-9835
Southeast CCR&R	866-296-3422
Southwest CCR&R	731-394-6626
Upper Cumberland CCR&R	931-319-4876

Reminder: We are including additional guidance on the application process for each grant category as you complete your applications.

The Department of Human Services is offering a wide menu of grant supports to help DHS licensed child care providers who have been impacted by the March 3 tornados and COVID-19. Here is a basic overview of those available grants. There are 4 categories of grants. Based upon their circumstances, programs may apply in more than one category and may need to apply more than once for a single category.

Child Care Programs Impacted by the March 3 Tornados

Tornado Relief Grant - Includes 3 types of support:

- 1) Operations costs like utility repair and inspections - based upon the specific costs incurred
- 2) Equipment, Materials & Supplies*- replacement of items that were destroyed, damaged, or lost because of the tornado
- 3) Consultants & Coaches*- consulting or curriculum that will help staff and/or children cope with stress, anxiety, grief etc.

*The maximum combined grant amount for these two categories is \$1,000 per slot of licensed capacity to care for children.

Agencies are encouraged to apply for a Tornado Relief Grant after they have completed all insurance recovery and have a complete picture of the full range of expenses.

Tornado Loss of Income Grant- Programs can apply for lost income due to closure of the agency because of tornado damage. Grant awards will be based on the itemized lost operating income for the period of closure. Maximum total grant availability will be **no more** than the lost income associated with a period of closure not to exceed 30 calendar days. **If funds are received from this grant, no family will be charged tuition for closure of child care agency during time of Emergency/Disaster. Providers that closed due to the tornado may apply at either a two-week or 30-day interval.**

Questions: Email DHSTornadogrant@cfmt.org

Child Care Programs Impacted by COVID- 19

COVID-19 Relief Grant - Includes 3 types of support:

- 1) Operations** costs like utility repair & inspections- based upon the specific costs incurred. DHS licensed child care agencies that remain open can apply for costs associated with operating under the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. These costs could be claimed for up to a maximum of 30 calendar days. This will allow agencies to continue to pay operating costs while factors such as child attendance, staff availability, and supply costs are impacted. Agencies would be eligible to apply for reimbursement of impacted operating costs upon intervals of two weeks or 30 calendar days.
- 2) Equipment, Materials & Supplies*- replacement of items that were destroyed, damaged, or lost because of the tornado
- 3) Consultants & Coaches*- consulting or curriculum that will help staff and/or children cope with stress, anxiety, grief etc.

*These two grant categories are less likely to be needed as part of the COVID-19 response. The maximum combined grant amount for these two categories is \$1,000 per slot of licensed capacity to care for children.

COVID-19 Loss of Income Grant- Programs can apply for lost income due to closure of the agency due to COVID-19. Grant awards will be based on the itemized lost operating income for the period of closure. Maximum total grant availability will be **no more** than the lost income associated with a period of closure not to exceed 30 calendar days. **If funds are received from this grant, no family will be charged tuition for closure of child care agency during time of Emergency/Disaster. Providers that closed due to COVID-19 may apply at either a two-week or 30-day interval.**

*** *Terms and Conditions apply to the Lost Income and Operations Cost grant awards that require families to be refunded or credited for tuition payment for times when children were not in**

attendance. If funds are received from this grant, no family should be charged tuition for days of a child's absence from the child care agency during the time period covered by the grant application.

Questions: Email DHSCOV1D19grant@cfmt.org