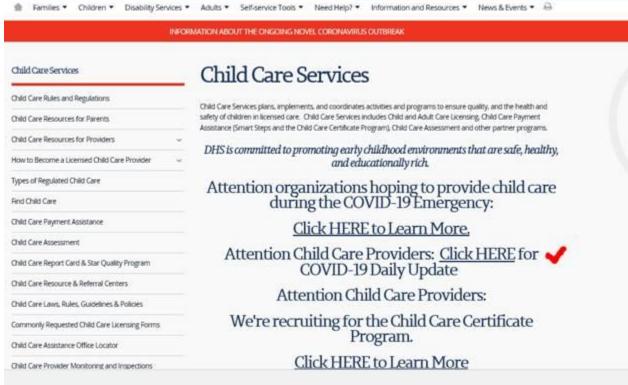
Child Care Services Daily Update- March 19, 2020

Dear Child Care Providers.

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) is working to provide you with the most current information pertaining to licensed Adult and Child Care programs as we continue to navigate through the impact of COVID-19. To be most impactful in getting our messaging out, we have created a landing page on our website to post information. We will remain diligent in keeping this site current.

To access the daily updates you may visit our website at https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/for-families/child-care-services.html. This page provides information and several resources available to providers and families. Our daily update will appear within the link stating "Attention Child Care Providers: Click HERE for COVID-19 Daily Update.



Additional Information:

- We understand that the continuously evolving situation of COVID-19 generates stress and uncertainty for providers and families. We continue to explore strategies for supporting providers and families during this time. We will post updates as further information becomes available.
- Suspension of routine monitoring visits- TDHS is suspending routine monitoring visits during this
 time to reduce stress on agencies and our staff pertaining to health risks and social distancing.
 Our Licensing Staff will continue to be available to offer Technical Assistance and Guidance and
 to track impact on agencies due to COVID-19. We will continue to monitor when a complaint is
 received and perform the necessary actions related to that complaint.

- Child Care Program Assessments have been suspended during this time. Assessment staff will be available to assist with Technical and Consultation support and may be reaching out to you to answer questions and provide guidance.
- Licensing and Assessment Program staff will be available to offer Technical Assistance and guidance to temporary locations through telephone contact or on-site consultation if needed.
- Like you, we continue to work diligently to understand the impact of COVID-19 for childcare providers, families, and communities in Tennessee. Each agency should use its discretion on the decision of whether or not to remain open in response to the COVID-19 situation that is unfolding in their community. There are many factors to consider, and each agency's situation will be different. As a caring citizen and business owner, we encourage each of you to make the decision that will be the best fit for your program, the families you serve, and the larger community.

Thank you,

Gwen



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