



Local Leadership Council October 21, 2020

What is the Local Leadership Council?

- The formation of the Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC) Region 17 Local Leadership Council (LLC) is one strategy being utilized to ensure that ELRC Region 17 is working in an integrated and collaborative way within the local early learning service community

ELRC Region 17 Office Updates

- The ELRC office continues to be fully operational
- Staff are working remotely to every extent possible
- The HSC building remains closed to the public
- An [Employee Directory](#) is available on our website
- View our [monthly Newsletter](#)
- Visit our website for the latest information, montcopa.org/elrc
- Email questions and concerns to elrcregion17@pa.gov

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Distribution

- October 7th – 1st round
- October 28th – 2nd round – 100 more Free PPE Kits to give out
- If you received PPE during the 1st round, you may also receive a kit for 2nd round.
- First come, first serve.
- Contactless distribution.

Montco Cares Program

- Montgomery County helping to alleviate the struggle of childcare facilities experiencing disruption due to low enrollment and parents struggling to pay for childcare due to loss of income resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic will soon get financial help.
- The Montgomery County Commissioners have allocated up to \$12,000,000 of Federal Cares Act money to fund the Montco Cares Program administered by the Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC), Region 17, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.
- Grant program for providers and families to help them to remain solvent or to stay solvent to help with debt and setbacks because of COVID 19. Providers are struggling to stay open and/or struggling to get to regain stability (pre-pandemic status). Families are struggling too. Families that are not eligible for CCW now have school-age children whom need care. Families did not incur this financial strain prior to school being delivered in a virtual format. ELRC is working with Montco Dept of Health & Human Services. Programs were asked to submit a proposal for how they would be able to use CARES Act funds to be able to service the community that they work with every day. County received CARES Act funds to help the residents in Montco. The proposal was created based off of the need that was found. Proposal was accepted in June to put a program together. Program was

created. Montco Cares Program was granted \$12 mil to allocate towards providers and families.

Families

- For families who are struggling to pay for childcare due to loss of income due to COVID-19.
- Will cover costs of child care from 10/5/2020 through 10/30/2020.
- Must be DHS Licensed Facility
- Family requirements:
 - Above 200% above federal income guidelines
 - Below 100% area median income in the family guidelines
 - Reside in Montgomery County
 - List how affected by COVID-19
 - Children 6 weeks to 13 years old - must have proof of birth certificate or custody court order
 - Payments are made to the child care providers, no funding is paid to family
- Questions:
 - Can families' apply before they are enrolled? **Yes**
 - Will families receive notice of eligibility? **Yes**
 - What happens if the family lives in Montgomery County but the center that they are interested in is in Chester County, right across county line? **We are able to pay an out of county provider.**

Providers

- Ensure financial viability to Montco child care centers
- For profit entity
- Must be operating before March 1st 2020
- Capacity not more than 600 max
- If received MontcoStrong grant, will receive the difference between both grant programs
- Center located in Montco
- Active DHS Compliance Certificate
- Business must not have any tax liens
- Used for unbudgeted payroll expenses
- Refer to grant guidelines for detailed information
- Rent and utilities allowed under Montco Cares Program
- Funds used between 10/5/2020-12/30/2020
- Questions can go to the 2 emails for Families and Provider emails:
 - MCPProviderapplications@montco.org
 - FamilyMCPapplications@montco.org

Guest Speaker – Alessandra (Ali) Gonzalez

- IEMHC – child specific in helping teachers to support them in working with the challenging behavior
- Complete assessments and give referrals if needed
- Before COVID, go into classroom and work with teachers directly
- During COVID, teleconsultations and focusing on the teachers
- Challenging behavior or social emotional difficulties
- Resources: how it works, how to get a referral
- Need parent permission because its child specific
- Covers Philadelphia, Chester, Bucks, and Montgomery County

- Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation
For more information, please visit:
www.pakeys.org
<https://www.pakeys.org/getting-started/ocdel-programs/early-childhood-mental-health-ecmh/>
- Child care providers can request services by using the Request for Service Form (PDF). Completed forms can be submitted via email PAIECMH@pakeys.org or faxed to 717-213-3749.
- Contact information:
Ali Gonzalez, IECMH consultant for the Southeast Region
alegon@pakeys.org

OCDEL Policies

- Announcement C-20-12: Updated health and safety info on operating during COVID pandemic
- Announcement DS-03: Inclusion for all children in ECE Programs in PA
- Announcement C-20-09-Revised: guidance on how a licensed child care program can move to a temporary location if the normal location is closed or unable to be used.
- Announcement DS-20 #02: Dates on some policies that are obsolete.

CCW Updates

- CCW provider payments paid as off 9/1/20 based on attendance
- Updates school age schedules as soon as possible
- Inform ELRC Region 17 of any changes
- CCW 4 month wait list – families that applied in Mid-June

Keystone STARS

- NEW - Internal Assessment Process - IAP
- Assessors will not be assessing in person
- Replaces onsite observations by assessors: scores do not determine STAR level
- Programs will need to complete a Virtual IAP
- Focuses on the plan – programs get the flexibility to meet their program goals
- IAP requires:
 - Designated IA Team
 - Virtual meet with their QC and assessor
 - Complete IAP Guide provided by QC
 - Virtual Designations
 - STAR 2,3,4
 - 2020 STARS Standards
 - Upload into SMART
 - Pre-des meeting – takes place of on-site meeting – using Microsoft Teams
 - Virtual Designations – STARS Designator, QC and provider for 2020 standards review and virtual tour of learning spaces

Resource and Referral Updates

- Assist clients with child care related questions as they apply for CCW
- Thanksgiving Meal Drive
- 40 winter coats – first come, first serve basis
- Winter Holiday Program

Fiscal Department Updates

- Process CCW Monthly payments
- Processing CARES Round 3 Payments - Funds need to be spent by November 30th.
- Montco CARES program – Funds need to be spent by December 30th

Provider Spotlight

- Feature a new program each month on our newsletter
- Please let ELRC 17 know if you are interested in participating

Next LLC Meeting: Wednesday, 2/20/2021 @ 1pm



In partnership with Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
Serving Montgomery County
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