



Local Leadership Council February 10, 2021

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

Winter Coats

- ELRC still has winter coats available for those in need
- Different sizes and colors available
- Supplies are limited (first come, first serve)
- One coat per child or adult
- For more information about pick-up date and time, please contact:
 - Raquel Graham or Diahann Wiggins
 - OR use ELRC main email account elrcregion17@pa.gov
 - OR call (610) 278-3707

Books, Books, and Books

- ELRC has children's books available. We can offer a package of books to programs and/or families upon request
- Please contact Raquel Graham or Diahann Wiggins
- OR use ELRC main email account elrcregion17@pa.gov
- OR call (610) 278-3707

Montco Cares Program (October 5th – December 30th)

- Montco Cares Program Family Grant Statistics:
 - 341 families applied for the Montco Cares Family Grants
 - 155 families were determined to be eligible
 - Approximately 218 eligible children received childcare funding through this program
 - \$412,860 was awarded to providers serving MCP eligible children

- Montco Cares Program Provider Grant Statistics:
 - 308 Applications were received for the Montco Cares Program Provider Grants
 - 287 applications were found to be eligible
 - Grants ranged from \$2,100.00 to \$48,600.00 based on the DHS licensed capacity

Reporting COVID-19 Cases

- Child Care programs **MUST** contact certification, ELRC, & Office of Public Health to report positive cases
- To contact Office of Public Health:
 - Phone: (610) 278-6211 – Call will go directly to voicemail
 - Email: MCSchoolsCovid19@montcopa.org – This email account was set up for school districts but should also be used for child care programs in Montgomery County
- Website for additional info: www.montcopa.org/COVID-19
- Email for general questions: COVID19@montcopa.org

COVID-19 Call Center

- The COVID Call Center is open and accepting calls!
- Contact the call center at 1-833-875-3967
- Hours and Times of Operation: Monday – Saturday (8:00 am to 8:00 pm)

Health and Safety Regional Task Force Meeting on 1/27/2021

- During this meeting, the Montco Office of Public Health shared the following valuable information
 - Montco COVID-19 Exclusion and Return to School Recommendations Tool – will be made available on ELRC 17 website after LLC Meeting
 - Montco COVID-19 Testing Sites
 - Individuals will need to register for an appointment by website for phone call. The website and phone number make registering for an appointment easy.
 - Information on testing sites is available at www.montcopa.org/COVID-19
- Quarantine recommendations if no symptoms are present – We recognize quarantining for 10 days has now been stated by outside agencies as an appropriate amount of time to quarantine; however, we still recommend 14 days due to it being safer.
- COVID Vaccination Information
 - COVID-19 vaccine and registration can be found at <https://www.montcopa.org/3660/COVID-19-Vaccine>
 - This link provides information about the vaccine and the most up-to-date information on Montco COVID-19 vaccination Plan
 - This link also includes very helpful FAQ's
 - After you register for an appointment, please do not share that link with others.
- OCDEL's FAQ's: COVID-19 Vaccine
 - When will I know if I am eligible to receive the vaccine?
 - ECE professionals are included in PHASE 1B and not eligible statewide for vaccinations now unless they are 65 years of age or older or have an underlying medical condition that qualifies them for PHASE 1A
 - Will OCDEL register staff/coordinate locations for staff to receive the vaccine?
 - No. Please visit DOH's webpage <https://www.pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/>

ELRC 17 PPE Distribution Event

- ELRC 17 is hosting another PPE Distribution Event.

- PPE Kits will be available for pick-up at 101 Brower Avenue, oaks, PA 19456 during the following dates and times:
 - Tuesday February 16th 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 - Wednesday, February 17th 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 - Thursday, February 18th 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM-**Cancelled due to inclement weather**
- Kits include: 3-Ply medical face masks with ear loops; 20 disposable face shields; non-surgical isolation gowns; 4 boxes of nitrile gloves; Hand sanitizer 8oz 62% alcohol with a flip top; hand sanitizer 16 oz hand pump; wipes 50 count; shoe covers; and infrared thermometer
- ELRC will send out a map of distribution event location – the location of the building is the same as previous distribution events; however, the door to pick the kits up at has changed due to snow/ice
- 1 kit per location will be available
- Providers can send 1 representative to pick up kits for multiple locations
- Each PPE kit weighs approx. 65 pounds

PPE for Providers

- When a provider contacts office of Public Health with first positive COVID-19 case, OPH will send a pre-packaged PPE kit to the location
 - Kits are limited. Only 1 kit per location at this time.
- ELRC 17 has an Open Purchase Order with SAFEWARE
 - Providers can place orders with SAFEWARE for **FREE** PPE
 - A new flyer is available with a price list
 - SAFEWARE has created a new email account for orders and questions mcoppe@safewareinc.com
 - Limit \$1,000.00 per location to start
 - First come, first served
 - Currently there is plenty of funding available
 - PPE will be delivered directly to the location
 - DELIVERY ADDRESS MUST MATCH LOCATION ADDRESS IN PELICAN
 - Thank you for your patience as ELRC continues to work with SAFEWARE to process and deliver orders

Pandemic Relief Awards

- Deadline for submitting applications is 2/12/2021
 - No extension on deadline will be given at this time.
 - ELRC can accept applications until the end of the day on 2/12/2021
- To apply, visit <https://www.pakeys.org/application-now-open-child-care-covid-19-pandemic-relief-award>
- Funding has been distributed regionally and ELRC has been asked to create waitlists

Governor Wolf Announces Increase to Base Payment Rates for Child Care Providers Participating in Subsidized Child Care

- <https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/wolf-administration-announces-increase-to-base-payment-rates-for-child-care-providers-participating-in-subsidized-child-care/#:~:text=Effective%20March%201%2C%202021%2C%20base,child%20care%20providers%20currently%20sit.>
- Base payment rate for CCW has been increased – Exciting news!
- New rates go into effect on March 1, 2021
- Each region has their own rate

Mina Abdollahi, ECE and IHE Coordinator - Updates on PDO

- Reached 2nd half of 1st year
- Has enrolled 1,600 students in PDO funded CDA, AA or BA, and apprenticeship programs
- Eager to learn and understand the challenges that might have discouraged individuals from completing ECE degree or programs in the past
- PDO works to make sure classes offered are at convenient times, places, languages, and modalities for the local communities
- PDO works with employers and staff or with individuals
- Encourage everyone to visit website <https://ecepdo.phmc.org>
- Contact information: mabdollahi@phmc.org, (267) 822-8362

Jeanne Frantz, MA, Supervisor - Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Southeast Region

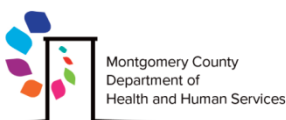
- IECMH Program is a program of the PA Office of Child Development and Early Learning administered by the PA Key
- Provides free services to early childhood practitioners within PA
 - Currently conducting tele-consultation due to pandemic
 - Work with “the adults”
 - Services are designed to:
 - Support staff and family’s knowledge and understanding of social emotional development and its impact on a child’s overall educational success
 - Reduce the number of children suspended or expelled from childcare due to behavior issues
 - Connect systems and services on behalf of a child, family and program
- Services:
 - Education and resources for providers that support the social-emotional development of young children in childcare setting
 - Coaching and support of action plan strategies for providers and families
 - Referral information for when children may benefit from specialized services
 - Professional development events
 - Services are Free of Charge and include:
 - Observation
 - Social-emotional screening
 - Partner with ECE professionals
 - Develop a child-specific action plan
 - Assist ECE professionals in communicating with families
 - Resources and referrals for a child and their family for specialized services
- For additional information, visit <https://www.pakeys.org/getting-started-ocdel-programs/early-childhood-mental-health-ecmh/>
- Contact info: jeafra@pakeys.org, (610) 717-6082

Announcements from Other Organizations, Questions, Comments, Concerns:

- Jackie Groetsch from First Up
 - Working hard to make voices of providers heard by legislators
 - Right now unique opportunity due to new legislators who’ve taken office
 - Scheduling virtual meetings with legislators
 - If you would like to participate, reach out to Jackie
- Carol Szollose – Visiting Nurse Association carol.szollose@vnacs.org
 - Anyone lacking health insurance has until the end of May 2021 to enroll in a health insurance plan
 - Certified to help with these enrollments

- Kathleen Marine, Director of Early Intervention for children birth to three years
 - Thanks to everyone who mentioned EI
 - Wanted to put her name and contact into chat box for providers
 - Can make referrals for any child in Mont Co
 - Can also point you in the right direction for who to contact if child is 3+ years old
 - Contact Info: kmarine@montcopa.org
 - EI phone Number: 610-277-7176
 - Have no waiting list at this time
- Jeanine Moser, ELRC 17
 - Currently no waiting list for CCW at this time
 - Now is a good time to apply
 - Applications can be mailed, emailed, faxed to the ELRC
 - Families can call ELRC front desk for apps or go to COMPASS website to apply

Next LLC Meeting: Wednesday, 4/21/2021 at 1:00pm



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