

Parent Child Center Network Supports and Services During COVID-19

We remain open and continue to provide our 8 core services



Home Visiting	Early Childhood Services	Playgroup	Parent Education
<p>PCCs are continuing to provide home visiting services to all families during the COVID-19 crisis – these supports are being provided via telephone, video (zoom, skype, facetime, etc.) and texting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased frequency of virtual home visits as caregivers’ struggles with children’s behaviors increase due to their time at home • Virtual Welcome Baby supports • Rescreening and referrals for Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders, and Domestic Violence • CIS programming via telehealth – including Strong Families VT Family Support, Early Intervention, Specialized Child Care, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health 	<p>Some PCCs are providing childcare to essential service providers. ALL PCCs are supporting their childcare families and/or childcare providers and the early childhood system. This is happening in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialize childcare supports • Daily emails, calls, and curriculum bites for childcare families • Virtual story time and connection with families • Phone check-ins with providers to help them navigate system changes • Google and other virtual classroom platforms • Connecting with childcare providers to identify families that may be in need of extra support 	<p>While our in-person playgroups are currently on hold we are providing playgroup opportunities in the following ways on a regular and ongoing basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual story hours • Virtual read alongs • Virtual playgroup playtimes that offer stories, crafting, and meal ideas to families • Virtual music and singalongs • Connecting families to other virtual resources that support play-based learning, family bonding and attachment, and child development • Providing families with activity bags to participate in virtual playgroups with other families using the resources provided 	<p>We are providing parent education in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual parenting courses on a variety of topics • Social stories on how to talk to children about COVID-19 • Virtual parenting workshops • Virtual Learning Together (education program for pregnant and parenting youth) • Nurturing Parents workshop in collaboration with Prevent Child Abuse Vermont • Parenting the Strong-Willed Child course • Strengthening Families for Caregivers course
Parent Support	Information & Referral	Concrete Supports	Community Development
<p>We continue to offer parent support groups and check-ins with families in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual DULCE program • Virtual support groups on a variety of topics • Virtual caregiver daily check-ins • Virtual rounds at local hospital birthing unit • Offering play kits to families via delivery • Closed FB groups where families can connect with one another • Websites and FB sites include various resources for families (activities, resources, supports on how to emotionally support children, navigating the benefits system, understanding the evolving state guidance and info, etc.) • Virtual perinatal supports and welcome baby • Dads and non-birthing partner groups • Perinatal grief and loss 	<p>PCCs have and continue to act as family resource navigators to help answer families’ questions and connect them with supports to meet their needs including those that mitigate the risk and impact of COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childcare referral for children of families who are essential service providers • Centers accepting phone calls daily to allow families to connect with a live person • Childcare financial assistance support • Referrals to programming and/or connection to outside service providers (regionally/state) • Helping families navigate changes to the early childhood system • Helping families navigate changes to the benefits system 	<p>We have been offering the following concrete supports to families by way of home delivery and pickup and/or connection to agencies that can support other concrete needs:</p> <p>General - phone, gas, and grocery cards, personal hygiene items and feminine products, baby items (diapers, wipes, formula, cribs, strollers, carriers, books, toys, etc.), PPE</p> <p>Housing- support in paying rent/utilities, helping families in accessing supportive house, delivery of household hygiene and sanitation items</p> <p>Food- grocery shopping, meal prep and delivery, food shelf access and food shelf delivery, grocery cards</p> <p>Child Development – offering developmentally appropriate materials by way of activity boxes and play kits</p>	<p>PCC leadership is working diligently to stay connected to the local and state system to identify gaps and needs for families and helping families navigate the system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending local service providers meetings • Posting all relevant information on social media and websites • Answering questions on social media • Spreading information to families regarding community and state resources and updates • Attending local and state BBF and CIS meetings • Participating in food shelf and hunger council meetings • Attending daily housing review meetings • Supporting childcare and transportation conversations • Staying in close conversation with the local healthcare system including pediatrics and obstetrics

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