
**Report to
The Vermont Legislature**

**Report on CRF for
The Child Development Division**

In Accordance with 2020 Act 136 (H.965), Sec 14

Submitted to: House Appropriations Committee
Senate Appropriations Committee
House Human Services Committee
Senate Health and Welfare Committee

Submitted by: Sean Brown, Commissioner
Department for Children and Families

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Manager

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**AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES
Department for Children and Families**

Coronavirus Relief Funding Report:
\$12M For Additional Restart Grants, PCCs,
CIS for info tech training and equipment necessary for telehealth

In 2020 Act 136 (H.965), Sec 14, the Child Development Division (CDD) of the Department for Children and Families was allocated \$12 million in Coronavirus Relief Funding (CRF) to develop a competitive grant process to support child care and afterschool programs, summer day camps, Parent Child Centers, and agencies who serve as fiscal agents to Children's Integrated Services for COVID related impacts and operational needs. This program is called the Operational Relief Grant Program (ORG). These funds will be awarded to the above-mentioned providers and agencies through a competitive grant process administered by the Child Development Division with assistance from the Economic Services Division and the DCF Business Office. This multi-division project was appointed a project manager by Commissioner Brown on 7/22/20. This project manager is a current DCF employee who was re-tasked to this position.

Application forms and supporting documents have been developed for programs and agencies to submit for funding. Successful applicants will provide information and supporting documentation on income losses and expenses already incurred and anticipated losses and expenses which all must meet the federal criteria for funding eligibility.

The application process opened on August 7th. The Child Development Division, in collaboration with Building Bright Futures (BBF), hosted a live, informational webinar for childcare providers, afterschool programs and summer day camps on the grant program and the application process on August 11th.

Another meeting was held for Parent Child Centers and Children's Integrated Services fiscal agents to learn about their opportunities to apply for funding.

Applications will close on August 26th and notification of awards is anticipated by September 11th.

In our October report, we will inform the legislature on the details of the funding and awards, and whether there will be unspent funds. We will be collecting the following data points related to this funding:

- Number of applications received
- Number of applications granted
- Average grant amount

We anticipate this grant program will be well received and that we will have many applications based on our outreach and support of providers through this process.