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Current information on:

1. Resources for children, youth and families
2. Resources for early childhood care and education providers

Updated 3/23/20

1. RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

The CYFD website (<https://cyfd.org/>) is continually updating information for early childhood providers and the families that need childcare. Here is the latest.

Expanding childcare for first responders and health providers: During the public health emergency, CYFD will issue full-time childcare assistance contracts to first responders and health providers who need childcare. Please call 1-833-551-0518 to connect with the state's childcare Resource and Referral line or go to www.cyfd.org to download a childcare assistance application.

Enabling family, friends, and neighbors (FFN) to deliver paid childcare services: During the emergency health declaration, the state will temporarily register family, friend and neighbor (FFN) providers who may be eligible to receive child care assistance funding; interested parties can call 1-833-551-0518. Temporary FFN providers will be required to complete a background check, as will all family members over the age of 18 living in their home. Temporary FFN providers will also be required to complete a three-hour online health and safety training and an online CPR training.

Expanding child care access for families: The state has a child care Resource and Referral line to help families find child care (1-800-691-9067; www.NewMexicoKids.org). Families can also contact their CYFD eligibility specialist via phone or email to let them know they now need full-time care; our team across the state will amend the contracts. In addition, all parents receiving child care assistance will have their copays waived during the public health emergency.

Protecting CYFD assistance benefits for families: Families who choose to keep their children home during the emergency will not lose their CYFD benefits. If a child care center closes and families need services, they may transfer their child care benefits to an alternative CYFD-approved provider -- and the state will continue paying subsidies to both providers.

Ensuring children have access to meals: The state applied for and received a waiver from the USDA which will allow school and non-school sites to provide meals (breakfast and lunch) to all children under age 18 needing food. Meals are provided "to-go" and must be consumed off-site, following guidelines for social distancing. New Mexicans with questions can call 1-833-551-0518 or email nutrition.program@state.nm.us.

Information for Navajo families: [Navajo Family Voices](#), Diné Bá Áłchíní Yíł Ádaaní, the Nation's Family-to-Family Health Information Center, has information for families in English and Diné, including hotlines for those needing assistance with food, water, supplies or with emotional support.

Free Parent-Child Activity (Parentivity) account to support online learning. The State Early Childhood Education and Care Dept. is providing free thirty-day accounts to Parentivity for all parents of New Mexico's young children. Parentivity is a web-based system that provides 24/7

customized information for parents of children from birth to age five. Parentivity includes 2-3-minute learning experiences in the form of interactive games, videos, and research-based resources. The system is designed for all families and covers topics such as health and safety, prenatal care, early literacy, nutrition, child care, safe sleep, fatherhood, and much more. Parentivity is accessible on smartphones, tablets, and computers. New Mexico's families may obtain their free Parentivity account at <http://parentivity.org/newmexico.html>.

3. RESOURCES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROVIDERS

Free Treatment Coverage for Child Care Workers Who are Diagnosed with COVID-19

In addition, the governor announced that the state will pay the cost of premiums so that uninsured child care workers who test positive for COVID-19 (*and their immediate household members*) who are not eligible for other coverage will be able to enroll in the New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool (NMMIP) -- the state's high-risk pool -- and receive comprehensive health care coverage until they recover. NMMIP provides comprehensive health coverage for people who have significant medical conditions, are uninsured, and are not currently eligible for other coverage (such as Medicaid or Medicare). The board of NMMIP held an emergency meeting on March 6 and voted to include COVID-19 as one of its covered conditions, which triggers expedited enrollment.

NMMIP does charge premiums to enrollees. ***The state of New Mexico will cover the premium costs for all uninsured child care workers with COVID-19 and their immediate household members who obtain coverage through NMMIP.*** Under emergency rules issued by the Superintendent of Insurance, *deductibles and copayments are waived for treatment of COVID-19, influenza and pneumonia through NMMIP.*

Uninsured New Mexicans who are not eligible for Medicaid or other insurance today may be able to sign up for comprehensive health insurance coverage through NMMIP if they pay their own premiums. The amount of the premium varies based on age, where in New Mexico you live and whether you are a smoker. More information about NMMIP is available at <https://nmmip.org/>

Ensuring continuity of payments for providers: While the state is encouraging child care providers to stay open during this emergency, we understand that individual providers will make choices appropriate to their circumstances. If a center chooses to close, child care payments will continue. As a parent or guardian, if you have the flexibility to stay home with your child, we encourage you to do so. If you need child care and yours has closed, please call the Resource and Referral line to see what options are available in your community.

Paying licensed providers a premium: If a licensed provider chooses to remain open during the public health emergency to support working parents, the state will pay a differential of \$250 per child for all children enrolled in child care assistance. The state will also provide waivers to programs licensed at 3 STAR or above who want to open additional sites during this period. Centers may contact their local licensing office for assistance with obtaining a waiver.

Partnering with the Public Education Department to provide child care: If you are a child care provider licensed by CYFD and you utilize a public school building, we encourage you to stay open. Our communities need to work together to support child care as you all are supporting children and families in our state. Programs that need assistance working with local school districts can call 1-833-551-0518.

Childcare Provider Supply Request: Starting Monday child care programs can complete a webform at www.newmexicokids.org detailing the food and cleaning supplies the programs need to serve children and families. The governor's office, along with various partners, is coordinating food and supply deliveries across the state. Programs asking about supply needs can also email at child.care@state.nm.us to inform the Early Childhood Education and Care Department. Child care centers can also call 833-551-0518 if professional cleaning support is needed.

Childcare Provider Availability Survey: If you are a childcare provider, please take this [online survey](#) to update your availability information with CYFD.

Daily Call-in for Childcare Providers: Early Childhood Education and Care Department Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky will host daily calls with childcare providers starting Monday for daily technical assistance and support. Providers can also call the resource and referral line at 800-691-9067 or email child.care@state.nm.us. Frequent updates will be provided on www.newmexicokids.org.

Expediting background checks: The Department of Public Safety is partnering with CYFD to provide expedited background checks so that child care centers can hire new, temporary employees at child care centers during this the emergency health declaration. New temporary staff will have to complete the online health and safety training at www.newmexicokids.org and the state will accept an online CPR certification.

How to become an emergency childcare provider: Information [HERE](#) about how to become an emergency childcare provider.