



1-800-424-4532

CHILD CARE CHAT

Spring 2020

Giving Providers, Parents and Businesses the Resources to Better Our Children's Future

“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, “Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.”

-Mr. Rogers

COVID 19 UPDATES

See the following pages for current and updated information and links on COVID-19 Information for Providers

[Webinars](#)

[Department of Health and Human Services/ Income Eligibility](#)

[Health Information and Community Organizations](#)

[Business Resources](#)

[Virtual Activities](#)

[Self- Care Ideas and Resources](#)

[Advocacy](#)



Upcoming Webinars

Live Webinar: April 8, 2020 at 7 p.m. OR Thursday April 9th at 2:00 p.m. Child Care Providers and Federal Assistance: Small Business Administration Loans and Loan Forgiveness

OCFS, in conjunction with the Civil Service Employees Association, will be hosting a live webinar on “Child Care Providers and Federal Assistance: Small Business Administration Loans and Loan Forgiveness” Featuring Tom Copeland, a leading expert on the business of child care.

Register at <https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/#t1-Updates-and-Important-Announcements>

Tom Copeland “ What a Budget Can Do For You!” April 9th 8 p.m. [Register here](#)

Training credit offered: 1 hour No one likes to budget! But you are more likely to meet your financial goals if you incorporate them into a budget. This webinar will:

- Define what a budget is and why you need one
- Explain how to create a simple one-year budget to forecast your income and expenses
- Explain how to incorporate short and long-term goals into a budget to make it more likely that you will meet them
- Show how a budget can help you plan ahead and make better financial decisions

Tom Copeland blog-view financial topics for child care providers-[Link](#)

National Resources and Policy Updates for Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19 **Date: Thursday, April 16, 2020** **Time: 1:00pm ET**

Join Small Business Majority and SCORE for a national webinar covering the new loan programs made available by the CARES Act, resources related to COVID-19 and policy recommendations to bolster small business owners right now.

Type: Webinar [Register now for this free webinar »](#)

[Understanding the Impact of Trauma on Behavior by Barbara Kaiser: \(Recorded\)](#)

[NEW RECORDING HERE](#)

[download the new version of the slides here.](#)

Department of Health and Human Services

As many of you know, The Office of Children and Family Services and our local Department of Health and Human Services have worked together to create a waiver that waives certain guidelines and raises the income eligibility level to allow more families to receive child care subsidy financial assistance during this time. Using the table below, please refer to the income levels under the **85% NYS Median Income to determine if your families are eligible during this time.**

Federal and State Income Eligibility Levels

Family Size	85% NYS Median Income	200% Federal Poverty Level
1	\$42,405	\$24,980
2	\$55,453	\$33,820
3	\$68,501	\$42,660
4	\$81,549	\$51,500
5	\$94,597	\$60,340
6	\$107,645	\$69,180
7	\$110,091	\$78,020
8	\$112,538	\$86,860

To help streamline the application processing we are asking that all completed financial assistance forms be e-mailed to Erika Hines at ehines@chautopp.org. Families will need to mail the original application to the following address: The Child Care Unit 7 North Erie Street Mayville, NY 14757.

[DHHS Financial Assistance Form](#)

[DHHS Supporting Documentation](#)

Subsidy Payment Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do GFDC and FDC need to have a contract with DHHS for their families to apply for subsidies if they currently had no families on subsidies? If yes what would that entail? If no would the families get paid direct? **No they do not need to contract. It would be paid to the parent if they choose not to contract.**
2. For Full time school aged and 3-4 year olds who were not full time: Question it won't let providers put in the current hours they are providing care – what should they do **I assume that these providers are doing web submittals. It should allow them to enter any time that they provided care. It will require an override by the pay clerks when approving the time sheet, however, we have worked out a process with Fiscal that they will override as long as the provider enters a comment in the notes that says "Child is now attending full time due to the school closures in response to COVID-19".**
 - a. in order to get paid for their absences or to get paid for their new full time status – **For absences the provider may bill for the number of hours that the child would have been there normally. If they were part day before that is what they should be billing for.**
3. Who notifies families that they do not have to pay the family portion? **The family must contact the child care worker in order for the change to be made on their case. With the exception of the families that are newly applying under the increased income guidelines of 85%, those will automatically be waived by the child care worker. If we are being billed only for an absence we will waive the family fee on those cases also.**
4. Are programs that have to close due to COVID-19 concerns, either because all families have pulled out and/or they have a household member with health conditions or are of an age that makes them especially vulnerable, being offered payment of any kind? If so, for how long? **Yes. Licensed or Registered daycares can be paid for closures for 30 days.**
5. Are absences that qualify for payment only those due to child being part of a quarantine order? **No**
6. Are qualifying absences for school age children full day due to school closures or before and after school hours? **Absences would be only for the hours they would have normally attended. For example, if a child was attending only after school for 3 hours, the absence should be billed for 3 hours. If the child is now attending for a full day instead of part day, the provider should make a note that the child is now attending full time due to the school closures in response to COVID-19 and the full day will be paid.**

Survey Links

The parent survey link is for families to fill out to inform the Child Care Council of their immediate or future child care needs during this time.

- [Parent Survey](#)

The emergency supply survey is for providers to take to let the Child Care Council know of any emergency and essential supplies you may need.

- [Emergency Supply Survey](#)

The emergency child care need survey is for providers to take to inform the Child Care Council of programs capacity, vacancy and additional shifts you may be interested in providing child care during this time.

- [Provider Survey](#)



Health Information and Community Organizations

Health Information: Important, accurate information, data, directives, and announcements

The New York State Department of Health-[Link](#)

The Centers for Disease Control-[Link](#)

County Executive's Monday Morning Memo letters-[Link](#)

Government/Social Service information: Resources for small business employers and employees

The New York State Department of Labor-[Link](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)- [Link](#)

or call: Jamestown 716-661-8200 - Dunkirk 716-363-3500

Organizations: A variety of services and opportunities to serve

Chautauqua Child Care Council-CCR&R-[Link](#)

Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)-[Link](#)

Child Care Aware- [Link](#)

The United Way of Southern Chautauqua County- [Link](#)

The United Way of Northern Chautauqua County-[Link](#)

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce-[Link](#)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

New York State Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-942-6906

Crisis Text Line: Text "Got5" to 741-741

Business

[Tom Copeland](#) discusses the various loans available to child care providers; payroll protection program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), etc. Tom describes how to apply for the loans, figure your income losses, prepare balance sheets, etc.

SBDC small business COVID information and links to webinars

<https://americassbdc.org/coronavirus-information/>

Small business pandemic loans comparison guide

A chart comparing side by side the details and application process for 5 different loans available to small businesses and sole proprietors to assist with the economic hardships of the pandemic.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12xv4xcsg_9xoVeEE_Y1j2sicNbCvI2GAVinSowU2zgg/e/dit#gid=7

Local Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

Visit their web site or call Courtney for a one on one consultation:

Courtney Curatolo-Director

Email Address: CourtneyCuratolo@mail.sunyjcc.edu

Website: <https://www.sbdcjcc.org/> or Phone: 716-338-1024

[Paycheck Protection Program](#)-to access borrower application form [Click here](#) . Apply with an eligible lender. Check with your bank or credit union or try a local lender participating:

Cattaraugus County Bank

KeyBank

Lake Shore Savings Bank

Northwest Bank

M&T Bank

Community Bank

Five Star Bank

You **do not** need to have employees to apply for this

[Emergency Economic Injury Grant](#) Economic relief for immediate needs such as rent and mortgage and other business obligations. Small Business Administration-COVID-19 small business guidance & loan resources: [click here](#)

Chautauqua Opportunities Small Business Development Services-[Link](#)

The shared work program through unemployment insurance-[Link](#) or 716-338-1024

Unemployment Insurance-enhanced benefits due to the CARES Act:

<https://www.labor.ny.gov/home>

Guidance for Self employed individuals: [Click here](#)

Frequently Asked Questions: [Click here](#)

Step by step process to file claim: [Click here](#)

OCFS -Child Care Main Page-[Click here](#)

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Updated guidance from the CDC for Child Care Programs who remain open:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

OCFS Request for waiver

<https://ocfs.ny.gov/forms/ocfs/OCFS-4887.dotx>

Virtual Activities

During this time of “Social Distancing” there are many fun and educational options to do from the comfort of your home! Several museums and zoos are offering FREE virtual tours! Be sure to take advantage of their offer!

Smithsonian: <https://naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-tour>

Louvre: <https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne>

Van Gogh Museum: <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/van-gogh-museum?hl=en>

The Vatican:

<http://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/tour-virtuali-elenco.html>

Cincinnati Zoo Home Safari Facebook Live:

<http://cincinnati-zoo.org/news-releases/cincinnati-zoo-is-bringing-the-zoo-to-you/>

Houston Zoo: <https://www.houstonzoo.org/explore/webcams/>

Georgia Aquarium: <https://www.georgiaaquarium.org/webcam/ocean-voyager/>



Self-Care Ideas and Resources

When stressful times hit– it is even more important for us to take care of ourselves. The idea of self-care can be daunting when we all have many things to do and think about. Let’s face it COVID-19 may have slowed some of our daily duties, but it has not slowed down our thoughts!

For this reason we have included some simple ideas for self-care strategies. We also have included links to articles and activities to help you begin to practice self-care.

Take a moment to PAUSE ...

- ◆ Think of 2 things you are grateful for
- ◆ Take 3 deep cleansing breaths
- ◆ Reach out and call someone you know
- ◆ Stretch
- ◆ Put on some music and dance

Here are links to learn more about self-care:

<http://www.mindfulteachers.org/2020/03/coping.html>

<https://www.cceionline.com/march-2020-newsletter-self-care-how-can-i-practice-more-self-care/>

- NYS COVID-19 Emotional Support Line 1-844-863-9314

For Parents

<https://www.nhsa.org/covid-19-resources-parents>

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/covid19_pregnancyconsumerfags_3.21.20.pdf

Education at Home: <https://www.nhsa.org/educational-resources-learning-home>



Be In The Now.

Take An Active Role In Child Care. Thank you!

Early care and education policy needs your support in order to truly give all children a great start in life.

For more information go to:

<https://www.childcareaware.org/> or call 716-661-9430 ext. 2300.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES:

Governor Andrew Cuomo-<https://www.governor.ny.gov/>

State Senator George Borrello-
borrello@nysenate.gov or 716-664-4603/518-455-3563

State Assemblyman Andrew Goodell-
goodella@nyassembly.gov or 716-664-7773/518-455-4511

U.S. Congressman Tom Reed-
<http://www.reed.house.gov> or (716) 708-6369/ (202) 225-3161

U.S. Senator for New York Chuck Schumer-
www.schumer.senate.gov or (716)846-4111/ (202)224-6542

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand-
www.gillibrand.senate.gov (716) 854-9725 or (202) 224-4451

Chautauqua County Legislature-[Click here](#)

Chautauqua Child Care Council Staff

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If You Are Interested In Becoming A Council Advisory Board Member, Please Contact:

Susan Marker Child Care Council Director

716-661-9430

Ext. 2227