

Early Childhood Grantee COVID Call – September 15, 2020

Chat log:

14:01:34 From Susan Mims to All panelists : Wondering if centers are getting the support (testing, supported isolation and quarantine to protect families/others) and have access to the resources (masks, gloves, cleaning supplies) they need.

14:04:48 From Marcia Whitney to All panelists : The Health Dept. has been incredibly accessible. Testing delays have been the biggest challenge for staff, faculty, and families connected to our centers. We've been able to find resources, but that at times has been a challenge.

14:06:02 From Tiffany Hagemeyer : We are having trouble finding a source that provides cleaning supplies on a consistent basis

14:06:25 From Aimee Spooner to All panelists : Health department has been great. Finding where to go for testing has been an issue. Some charge, and some families do not have the money for testing.

14:06:45 From Marcia Whitney to All panelists : Buncombe Partnership for Children has been a great support and resource! Thank you Jenny, Deanna, and team.

14:10:01 From Jenny Vial : Yes, this is a big concern for multiple programs in the county.

14:15:03 From Corise Gambrell to All panelists : SVCCC very appreciative of urgent needs grant from Community Foundation.

14:17:52 From Jane Hatley : How helpful would it be to be able to add hazard pay to compensate staff in this period?

14:18:17 From Aimee Spooner to All panelists : so true

14:18:30 From Jenny Vial : Very helpful.

14:18:45 From Deanna LaMotte : YES!!!

14:19:34 From Corise Gambrell to All panelists : Very appropriate.

14:20:33 From Marcia Whitney to All panelists : Hazard pay would be helpful, but even more helpful would be more funding for staffing in general to accommodate reduced classroom ratios/more classrooms needed to allow for social spacing. I love the idea of general operating support for staffing or whatever else a program needs!

14:22:17 From Philip Belcher : would like to hear more about the comment about focusing on education and not just child care.

14:23:11 From Leslie Anderson to All panelists : is the county government considering prioritizing ensuring that all homes have internet access?

14:23:49 From Philip Belcher : what would that mean in terms of funding? Do you see gaps re education funding?

14:23:56 From Ami Worthen to All panelists : completely agree!

14:24:00 From Maura Davis to All panelists : What, we are just babysitters!

14:24:27 From Jane Hatley : I'd also like to hear more about how we might help with recruitment.

14:24:57 From Mistie Reising-Cogbill to All panelists : Agree Deanna, especially as these teachers will be the first response to the social and emotional outcomes of covid

14:26:42 From Rich Johnston : Have you seen greater investment and commitment from families during this time?

14:27:02 From Susanne Swanger : County Government and HHS have been very helpful!

14:27:20 From Marcia Whitney to All panelists : We were able to create a bit of employment for some of our EHS families who had lost their jobs but were able to support our community by making masks.