DHS Child Care Provider Survey

On March 29, 2020, Governor Raimondo, in partnership with the RI Department of Human Services, mandated statewide closure of child care programs in response to concerns of potential COVID-19 community transmission.

On April 9, 2020, DHS administered an online survey in partnership with RIAEYC/BrightStars to all licensed child care providers in RI to understand the impact of this closure period on providers, families and children.
Purpose:

1) For state to understand the impact of the COVID-19 child care closure on
   a) families
   b) the workforce
   c) business owners/operators

2) Identify the resources needed for programs to reopen once safe to do so
682 licensed child care programs were contacted to complete the survey.

Constant Contact showed a 50% read rate.

217 individuals/programs completed the survey.

*40% of respondents have laid off their entire staff. One program laid off 236 employees.
Role of the Respondents

- Child Care Center Director: 95
- Child Care Center Teacher: 23
- Child Care Center Owner: 8
- Family Child Care Provider: 88
- School Age Program Administrator/Staff: 3
Top Concerns for the Owner/Operator

- Paying this month's mortgage: 22%
- Making payroll this period: 3%
- Making payroll next month: 5%
- Employees' financial welfare: 9%
- Losing employees to other jobs: 4%
- Families not returning after crisis is over: 44%
Timeline/Risks for Permanent Closure

Q: Without additional resources, how long could it be before your program is at risk of closing permanently?

- Less than 1 month: 16%
- 1-2 months: 26%
- 2-3 months: 18%
- 3+ months: 38%
What type of assistance from DHS would be most helpful right now?

- How to protect myself and employees from COVID-19: 28%
- How to protect children from COVID-19: 37%
- Information on financial assistance over the next 90 days for small businesses: 43%
- Continuation of CCAP payments by DHS: 66%
- Information about how to engage families while we are closed: 35%
- Learning resources for children that we can share: 34%
- Assistance with social media, family newsletters and other communication methods with families: 25%
What type of assistance from DHS would be most helpful for programs upon reopening?
Q: What are you currently using the continued CCAP payment from DHS to support?

- **Payroll and staffing benefits**: 27%
- **Rent/mortgage and utilities**: 66%
- **Insurance for program**: 35%
Utilization of Other Financial Assistance

Q: Have you accessed additional financial assistance during this time from any of the following entities?

- Line of credit: 19%
- Additional small business loan from traditional lending sources: 7%
- SBA disaster loan: 23%
- Grant: 19%

* 110 respondents have not yet applied for any additional funding/lending opportunities