

May 6, 2020

Dear Early Childhood Provider,

First and foremost, we hope that this letter finds you and yours well and healthy. We are acutely aware of the stress and uncertainty of this current public health crisis and share everyone's concerns about the effect this is having on Rhode Island's early learning programs, educators, children and families. Our mission, as always, is to promote the social and emotional well-being of young children, which is more important than ever. Supporting the adults most central to young children's lives is essential for this mission. As we learn to navigate our current world, SUCCESS consultants are committed to staying engaged with you, to providing support, and to helping you prepare for the reopening of your programs.

SUCCESS is offered through the Rhode Island Department of Human Services and Rhode Island Department of Education in partnership with Bradley Hospital. This <u>free service</u> pairs early learning programs with Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants (ECMHCs) to support the social emotional competencies and behavioral health needs of children.

Please see the enclosed tip sheets for information that might be helpful during the coronavirus crisis. We have taken the best resources we've seen and put them together in one place for you. The Center for Early Professionals has also created a list of local and national resources that you might want to check out: <u>https://center-elp.org/resourcesforms/covid-19-resources/</u>

SUCCESS consultants are available and will use virtual means as necessary. We will work with you in a flexible manner to identify goals for consultation. Call us if:

- You would like to discuss strategies for individualizing the content in the enclosed tip sheets for your program, staff, families, and children.
- You continue to have regular contact with staff, children, and families and want to talk about promoting social and emotional wellbeing and addressing stress during this time, for both children and for adults.
- You want to prepare for the social, emotional, and behavioral health needs that may emerge when your program reopens.
- You have concerns about a specific child or family who remains engaged with your program while you are closed.
- You have concerns about a specific child or family once you reopen.

CONTACT US AT 793-8700 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SUCCESS.

Be well, stay healthy, and take good care.

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exceed.ri.gov/success