Memorandum

To: All DCF Staff
From: Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes
Date: 10/18/2020
Re: Update on Department Operations and Weekly Video

We will be creating both the content of our updates to be available for you to keep you informed and will give us an idea of what is needed.

Another way to get the most current pandemic response info, are the regular briefings Gov Lamont does to keep us all up to date. [https://portal.ct.gov/governor](https://portal.ct.gov/governor). This week he introduced a color coded, town-by-town response framework, guided by the public health metrics. The test positivity rate is climbing (over 800 new cases in one 24hr period last week!). PLEASE Stay informed Stay vigilant Stay Safe.

Also, in this week’s video you will hear about:

- The kickoff of the Leadership Academy for Middle Managers (LAMM)
- Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) summit celebrating 100yrs
- CT DCF leaders sharing best practice methods in a forum hosted by Casey Family Programs, Annie E Casey Foundation -- supported also by Jim Casey Youth Opportunity Initiative & ChildFocus.
- A shout-out to our unsung pandemic heroes such as our 24/7 staff & foster parents @ the Children’s League of CT (CLOC) press conference
- CT DCF COVID data to date & staff + trendline

ARE YOU TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF ???

None of us could have predicted that we would still be in this situation. In fact, some of us had made plans that were abruptly interrupted. Take for example, one of our Legal Managers, Katherine Dwyer who was training for The Boston Marathon when the Stay Safe Stay Home warning went into effect. That didn’t stop her determination. Please join me ( & her really proud kiddos!) in congratulating Kate for completing the run -- in a time that would have qualified her for Boston!!!

This is a great reminder to use of our Employee Assistance Program to sort out how you’re coping with work/life balance.

In our Safe & Sound Culture, the use of your supervisor or someone in your chain of command can help you prioritize and gain clarity.

We **must** stay focused on our MISSION CRITICAL work. Child safety depends on our honesty and best effort...even in these most trying times!

Click here to watch this week's video updates ➔ Commissioner’s Weekly Video 10-18-20

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