MEMORANDUM

To: All Staff  
From: Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes  
Date: May 28, 2020  
Subject: Wear Blue for Foster Care Month

As we wrap up the celebration of Foster Care Month, we ask all of you to wear blue on Friday, May 29 to thank and recognize the wonderful parents who provide loving homes for the children in foster care.

We all are grateful to the heroes - the essential workers in the healthcare field and others who are enabling the rest of us to stay safe at home -- Their sacrifices during the pandemic have not gone unnoticed. This gratitude is extended to the "Heroes at Home" Foster parents open their homes to children at this most difficult time. Our foster parents too are enabling children to Stay Safe at home.

To recognize the incredible contribution of our foster parents -- relative, kin therapeutic and core -- we worked with partners to create this video: Heroes At Home.

Typically, during National Foster Care Month, the Department hosts events to celebrate foster parents, but the current health crisis has disrupted many of these plans.

We need your collective help!

With your commitment to WEAR BLUE on Friday 5/29/20, we will demonstrate that our bravest and most valuable heroes -- our foster parents -- are always in our hearts. Please snap a pic of yourself all decked out in BLUE to our DCF.COVID-19@ct.gov mailbox so we can share this effort.

As a demonstration of how wonderful our foster families are, let me share this story, beautifully reported by WTNH reporter Sara Cody, about a foster parent who, at the time of greatest uncertainty, opened her home to a child. Please take a few moments to review the video here: "She Needed Me to Say Yes"

Please join us in thanking the Heroes at Home by wearing blue tomorrow and sending us a photo!

VANESSA L. DORANTES, LMSW  
COMMISSIONER  
CT DEPT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
505 HUDSON STREET  
HARTFORD, CT 06106

commissioner.dcf@ct.gov  (860)550-6300

"I do my best because I'm counting on YOU counting on me..."

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