



MEMORANDUM

TO: DCF All Staff
FROM: CT DCF Commissioner Vanessa Dorantes
DATE: April 26, 2020
SUBJECT: Update on Department Operations and Weekly Commissioner Video

As another week has gone by, I remain thankful for all our staff who continue to balance our mission critical work with the health and safety of themselves and their families.

This past week saw the Department launch the "*When it Builds Up, Talk it out Campaign*." In the weekly video, you will learn more about our early successes and how many parents the message has already reached.

Our efforts to empower and strengthen families was highlighted when I took part in the second presentation as Tri-Chair for the Governor's Council on Women and Girls Health and Safety Subcommittee lead by Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz. Along with my colleagues, we discussed the supports available for survivors of intimate partner violence and their children. We continue to share resources about this on our website.

With great pride, I appeared on Hot 93.7 FM and WTIC 1080 AM to discuss our daily operations and the www.talkitoutct.com campaign. Deputy Commissioner Michael Williams also spoke with the Hartford Courant about the impact of the pandemic on families. More interviews are scheduled this coming week as we provide our knowledge to diverse audiences.

As we remain connected to our own staff, please keep in your thoughts our partners at the Department of Developmental Services and Judicial Branch who have lost employees as well as the Department of Veterans Affairs for the loss of a Veteran due to the COVID-19 virus.

Your efforts are so appreciated, and I am grateful you are part of the Department of Children and Families workforce. Or better said, the DCF Family.

Please see my weekly video for additional updates on the Department: [Commissioner's Weekly Video 4/26/20](#)