



DCF COVID-19 Daily Update Supporting Children, Families and Staff

April 6, 2020

LEGISLATOR ACTION

THANK YOU REPRESENTATIVE TONI WALKER

We are appreciative of Representative Toni Walker's suggestion to have consistent updates provided by Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes to our legislators during this time of great uncertainty. Currently, a weekly call takes place with the Commissioner and includes the chairs and ranking members of the Appropriations, Children and Human Services Committees. The call provides an opportunity for the Commissioner to update key policy makers in the legislature and take their questions. It is a valuable exchange of ideas and a method for the Department to learn of issues developing on the ground and managed before they become crises.

Along with the call, the Department established an email distribution list of legislators as another means of transparency and communication. The Department sends daily emails and shares agency updates about our response to the COVID-19 pandemic with policy makers and key legislative staff. Please email Vincent Russo, Legislative Programs Director, at vincent.russo@ct.gov if you would like to be added to the email updates.

REPRESENTATIVE JEFF CURREY PROVIDES IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON COVID-19

Representative Jeff Currey of East Hartford is known for his constituent outreach, usually contacting state agencies personally on behalf of citizens in his district. As the COVID-19 pandemic was beginning to spread in CT, he put together a webpage outlining information about the virus and how to access resources. This page proved valuable to the general public and his legislative colleagues serving as a one-stop location for various materials.

It can be found by clicking the following link: <https://mailchi.mp/cga/currey-ently-trying-to-alleviate-your-stress?e=184b3411b7>

REPRESENTATIVE ROBIN COMEY'S WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Representative Robin Comey of Branford publishes a weekly email newsletter for her constituents that informs them of relevant activities in state government. Lately, her newsletters have focused on the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The newsletters have been instrumental in getting the word out to people by sharing summaries of the Governor's executive orders and agency initiatives in a way that is easy to understand. Her most recent newsletter highlights efforts to maintain a safe environment in grocery stores.

Rep. Comey is also vice-chair of the General Assembly's Committee on Children and the executive director of the Branford Early Childhood Collaborative. Her public and private experience makes her a great advocate for protecting children and providing services to families.

You can sign up for her email newsletter by visiting her website at <http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Comey>