*Note of correction: Over the past 9months, every DCF location has received at least one notification by the leadership of that workspace, that a staff member has had a positive COVID-19 test result. On 1-2-21, a standard notice was sent to 'all DCF staff' regarding a staff positive on the 5th floor of 505 Hudson St. That communication was intended* ***only*** *for 'Central Office employees' and should not be interpreted as one which indicates any greater level of concern. Apologies for any confusion this may have caused.*



Memorandum

To:          All DCF Staff

From:    Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes

Date:     1/3/2021

Re:         Update on Department Operations and Video

Welcome 2021…

We are still standing!

Across CT, border to border -- and beyond:

Children have been cared for & kept safe

Families have been supported & helped

You have protected yourself & others

WE have stayed connected



None of this has been easy… Recovery will take time and will not be quick.

Thank you for compassion, dedication, diligence, and commitment of our entire workforce this past year.

Continued appreciation to the employees of the Careline, Solnit South and Solnit North.  You *'do what you DO'* to maintain 24/7 operations even through these most intense and difficult time.

Thank you to the faithful video watchers in 2020-- Hearing from the Commissioner directly helps sort out any misinformation as we evolve our pandemic response.

Stay Tuned for more signs of GRATITUDE in the coming weeks.

The next months will be critical to minimize the transmission of the virus. This week's video will clarify:

* Least effect to most effective means to prevent virus spread & importance of maintaining social distance all the time
* Clarify when a surgical mask and face shield are required
* Which DCF staff are eligible for the Mass Vaccination Plan **phase 1a**
* Consulting with your Supervisor other leaders to discuss public health & safety while conducting the many facets of our work

Click here for  [**Commissioner's Video 1-3-2021**](https://youtu.be/RBHmGGpDyNM)& further clarification on these topics and updates on CT DCF stats

Continue to send your questions and comments to our  [DCF.COVID-19@ct.gov](mailto:DCF.COVID-19@ct.gov) mailbox.

We are getting through this TOGETHER.

VANNESSA L. DORANTES, LMSW

COMMISSIONER

CT DEPT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES

505 HUDSON STREET

HARTFORD, CT 06106

[commissioner.dcf@ct.gov](mailto:commissioner.dcf@ct.gov)  (860)550-6300

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

*m angelou*