



DCF COVID-19 Daily Update Supporting Children, Families and Staff June 16, 2020

TEAM NEW BRITAIN AND A HEALTHY FATHER

This work can be hard, let alone with the added stressors of personal life, family life and, Covid-19. For Investigations Social Worker, Amalia Horton, she learned first-hand how social distancing could not separate her from a virtual experience with her colleagues, especially at a time when she needed them most.

"I literally thought that my father was going to die", said Horton, reflecting on those moments when her father was admitted to a New York City Hospital due to the Coronavirus. She explained how helpless she felt being out of state during this family crisis, wanting to be with her Dad. It was her Supervisor, Rachel Marotta, who reached out every single day with reassuring support and a depth of concern for her and her Mom, too.

Along with her colleagues and Program Manager, Melanie Mercado, Amalia was provided advice, some guidance and unrelenting compassion. She said they kept her focused and grounded until this storm could pass.

Amalia's Dad is now recovering and doing much better.

She states, *"We have really become so much closer as a unit"* Further adding, *"Sometimes you don't realize the deep, familial relationships you build at work and it takes a crisis to realize how important those people are in your life"*



Amalia Horton, LMSW
Intake Social Worker, New Britain