



Dear ABCD Family,

I hope this message finds you and your family well.

Over the past few weeks we have all been inundated with information on the COVID-19 (Coronavirus). To help keep us connected and informed of the most up to date information impacting our organization, I am beginning a series of weekly communications to share ABCD programmatic and operational updates, as well as highlight some of the good work that we continue to do to help our communities through this crisis.

This week the Governor extended his executive order to close all nonessential Massachusetts businesses through May 4. Thus, **ABCD will continue to operate with reduced staffing levels until at least May 4, 2020** in order to continue the essential services we provide to the community.

Also happening this week at ABCD:

- The **Community Coordination** team has distributed food to **648 clients across our five pantry locations**, providing support to families with food insecurity and other emergencies while we all deal with the impact of COVID-19 on our community.
- Also, **Early Head Start and Head Start** have already distributed grocery packages to **536 families** to date and will continue to respond to this need for our families with a variety of staple items, such as milk (soy/lactaid free for those with allergies), diapers and formula.
- The weekly payroll process has continued without interruption.
- **Open Enrollment**, during which you may make changes to your benefit elections, **is extended to April 10th**.

These are just a few of the activities happening at ABCD this week. All ABCD Departments are open, operating remotely, and helping our neighbors as well as assisting internal needs of the organization.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all that you do!

John J. Drew