



Dear ABCD Family,

I hope that you and yours are healthy and safe. I realize that many of you have been directly affected by the coronavirus. Know that you are in my thoughts, and ABCD is here to help as we can.

This week, Governor Charlie Baker extended the Stay at Home advisory to May 18th. Schools and daycares, including Head Start and Early Head Start, remain closed through June 29th. If the state does start to reopen prior to that, many parents will face an urgent need for childcare. We are closely monitoring that potential challenge.

Whether the state begins the reopening process on May 18th or later, we'll be living in a new world, and we are preparing for it. Many of our colleagues are creatively reinventing several ABCD programs, finding new ways to deliver our services, and exploring emerging opportunities.

As we make these changes, be assured that we will take every precaution to protect everyone's health and safety. The work goes on.

I'd like to share some highlights from this week:

- We have launched the **ABCD COVID-19 Relief Fund** campaign to inspire donors to support our efforts to help those who are most at-risk.
- ABCD will start providing **rental assistance to Medford residents** who have suffered losses due to COVID-19 and cannot pay their rent.
- **State Representative Chynah Tyler** volunteered at our Roxbury/North Dorchester food pantry.

I encourage you to visit a special section of the ABCD website, bostonabcd.org/covid-19, for information about the programs and services we're providing during the coronavirus crisis, and follow ABCD's social media pages, where you'll find a steady stream of news and updates.

Thank you for another week of compassionate work and remarkable dedication, whether you're packing groceries at one of our food pantries or working on your laptop at the kitchen table. Together we are giving the people we serve hope, we're helping them to stay on course—literally through online learning and generally by providing critical services. And we're helping many to survive.

All the best and keep safe!

John J. Drew
President/CEO