Child Care Providers: How to Stop the Spread of COVID-19

Implement Social Distancing Practices.
- Keep children in small groups.
- Maintain children in the same groups each day.
- Limit the intermingling of groups of children (i.e. staggering playground times, etc.).
- Position children during nap times at least 6 feet apart, if feasible, and consider placing them head to toe to reduce transmission.

Modify Child Drop Off and Pick Up.
- Communicate updated procedures to families.
- Consider staggering arrival and dropoff times to limit direct contact with parents/guardians.
- Have childcare providers greet children outside the facility as they arrive.
- Have children wash their hands upon arrival before touching anything else.

Implement Screening Procedures for Staff and Children.
- It is important that any staff or child with a fever or signs of illness stay home – children with a temperature over 100.4 degrees should not enter your facility.
- Conduct daily health checks of staff and children in a safe and respectful manner. Screening method examples, like temperature checks and symptom checks, are located on the CDC’s website.
- Be consistent about sending children and staff home should symptoms arise after arrival.

Intensify Cleaning and Disinfecting at Your Facility.
- Routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched.
- Limit access to toys and set aside toys that have been in a child’s mouth and sanitize them before placing them back in the play area.
- Remove toys that cannot be easily cleaned from the play area, like stuffed animals or other cloth toys.
- Ensure that staff and children are washing their hands frequently.
- Place trash cans in every open room.
- Closely monitor cleaning supplies.

Implementing a Personal Protective Equipment Policy.
- Have staff and older children wear face masks when feasible. Face coverings should NOT be placed on children 2 and under as it poses a suffocation risk.
- Continue to teach children to wash their hands and practice social distancing.