



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

December 14, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you well and in good health. This year has been challenging for all Arizonans and no one knows this more than you. I am continually thankful that you continue to participate in parenting time/visitation and services to strengthen your family.

COVID-19 is widespread and there have been children and youth in care who have tested positive for the virus. There have been no serious cases amongst the children in care, and no children in foster care have been hospitalized because of the disease. In the event your child were to test positive for COVID-19, your DCS Specialist will let you know.

As the spread of COVID-19 grows, the Department is committed to continuing in-person parenting time and services in accordance with your case plan. To do so, we need your continued support. First, if you are symptomatic, are awaiting COVID-19 test results, or have tested positive for COVID-19 please communicate this to your DCS Specialist. The team will work to adjust your visits and services to virtual service delivery until the quarantine period has concluded. Recently, the Department has turned away parents who arrived to in-person parenting time with COVID-like symptoms. Where we understand the desire to visit in-person, we need everyone's assistance in following the guidelines so that your children remain safe and healthy while, in-person activities continue. Second, when participating in parenting time and services, please adhere to the In-Person Visitation Guidelines ([link](#)). This includes wearing a facial covering during the visit and participating in a health screening when entering DCS facilities.

The Department's employees, services providers, judicial partners and caregivers are all committed to supporting you in achieving your case plan. The pandemic has presented challenges, but collectively these partners have worked diligently to support you and your children. It is unclear how long this will last, but we remain committed to strengthening your family and supporting you and your children to reach your case plan goals.

Thank you again for your continued progress, and thank you in advance for supporting the safety guidelines.

Sincerely,

Mike Faust
Director

Safety · Accountability · Change · Family · Engagement · Compassion · Teaming · Advocacy