

June 17, 2020

Dear Kinship, Foster and Congregate Caregivers,

Your ongoing support and commitment to serve children and support families continually inspires the community to serve in new ways. Thank you for all you do to support children and young people in foster care day after day and year after year!

I truly appreciate many of you sharing your thoughts, feelings and requests over the past few weeks, whether directly with me, the DCS team or via social media. Through our partnerships in serving children and young people we have been able to continually adjust guidelines and recommendations to improve the support provided to maintain social connections and familial relationships. This has not been easy and I am thankful for your ideas and creative solutions to help ensure we are working together to meet the needs of children and families.

We are continuing to watch the situation very closely. We have reinforced the in-person [child contact](#) and [visitation guidelines](#) and have made some additional adjustments with precautions within our facilities.

Many factors go into these decisions and we are continuing with in-person visitations. This decision is revisited on a daily basis as well as supporting decisions regarding service delivery and support of staff engagement in the community.

Much consideration is given to each guideline and directive and we continually welcome feedback on how to further improve. We ensure that our guidelines are reviewed by medical professionals and are aligned with CDC recommendations. It has been challenging but we are committed to continue fulfil our shared mission while supporting public safety guidelines.

I want to personally thank you for your support. There have been many heart-warming stories shared with me in just the last week of families reunifying and finding permanency despite the public crisis we find ourselves in. Thank you to each of you for supporting children and families when they need you the most. Without your commitment none of this is possible.

Sincerely,

Mike Faust
Director