November 2, 2020

Dear Caregivers,

As we approach the end of 2020 it is important to reflect on the challenges that we have faced as a community but also be so thankful for what we have been able to accomplish by partnering together and focusing on our core values and ensuring that children are safe and free from abuse and neglect. I have continually been strengthened through these times by all of you helping children reunify with their parents and providing children with permanency through adoption and guardianship when they could not safely return home.

We know that this journey is not over and there is still much work to be done. The Department is continuously monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and assessing guidelines and protocols on a regular basis to ensure that we are focused on the safety of children and continuing to do our part to slow the spread. The Department has reviewed and updated all of our guidelines LINK for parenting time/visitation and visits to your homes. If you find that the guidelines are not being followed please reach out to the warmline 1-877-543-7633 option 3, so we can resolve the matter quickly to ensure everyone remains healthy.

With the holiday's fast approaching we know that events will look different this year. The Foster Supports team is working closely with community providers to ensure that children still have a magical holiday season. If you are in need of resources or supports to help this season please reach out to the team at the warmline, or your licensing agency so that we can help ensure you are connected to supports this season.

I know that this year has unforeseen challenges but I am continually grateful to all of you; our caregivers who support and love children and families and remain focused on their safety, well-being and permanency. Thank you for all you do to support Arizona's children.

Sincerely,

Mike Faust
Director

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