



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

March 16, 2020

Dear In-Home Providers,

As State and Local responses to the COVID-19 outbreak continues to alter and in light of the decision yesterday to close schools through March 27th, the stress and challenges for the families we serve is increasing.

These families need our collective support to deal with these challenges more than ever. As a department we have prioritized the following three mission critical actions:

- Responding to and assessing safety on allegations of abuse and neglect
- Completing child and caregiver contacts including court hearing preparation and participation
- Facilitating parenting time between children and their parents

The direct support our in-home families need from the department and you as their service provider could never be more apparent. Engaging with them to improve their caregiver protective capacities is desperately needed at this time. Helping them develop the very skills that are being tested right now is ultra-critical to keeping kids safe.

Based on the recommendations of DHS and the CDC, we are continuing to engage with families in home. We are asking that if staff are symptomatic that they remain home until they are symptom free for 72 hrs without the aid of medication. Additionally, if families are symptomatic please use Skype or some video calling means of engaging until no one in the home is symptomatic for 72 hrs. If the child/children have a safety plan in place, please contact the In Home Specialist if you are unable to complete the in person visit due to illness in the home.

If there are questions please let us know. Otherwise, we thank you for the support to fulfill the mission of Engaging children and families to ensure safety and achieve permanency.

Mike Faust
Director