

## **Letter to Hospitals/Medical Providers/Other Essential Businesses:**

Dear Employer –

All essential employees are encouraged to contact the Child Care Council with their child care needs. Financial assistance will be made available to those families who are considered essential to the health and safety of our community. For the duration of the state of emergency surrounding COVID-19, Chautauqua County DHHS has waived certain guidelines to allow more families to receive financial assistance in paying for child care.

We are encouraging all businesses to distribute this information to all essential employees and to provide child care assistance information, let them know there is financial assistance available, and inform them of what they are to do if they are in need of child care. Please encourage each family to fill out this needs survey: [Child Care Survey](#). There is a sample message to families below. Please feel free to use as is or to modify to meet your needs.

During this challenging time surrounding the COVID-19 crisis it is the responsibility of our community to come together to support our workforce who are protecting the health and safety of our community. The COVID-19 impact on our community is rapidly changing by the minute. As such, we have worked together to create a Chautauqua County Child Care Emergency COVID-19 Response Plan to support your business.

Child care is an essential function that allows parents to work, especially for our emergency workforce who is on the front line of COVID-19. The Child Care Council is working with school districts, child care providers, the County DHHS, and the community to combat the child care crisis during this time. We want to reach out to all businesses of Chautauqua County to inform their staff who are considered essential employees that they have child care options available.

We are encouraging all businesses to distribute this information to all essential employees and to provide child care assistance information, let them know there is financial assistance available, and inform them of what they are to do if they are in need of child care. Please encourage each family to fill out this needs survey: [Child Care Survey](#). There is a sample message to families below. Please feel free to use as is or to modify to meet your needs.

Employers should contact the Child Care Council with individual employer needs and/or potential needs. Our goal is to provide a cohesive, coordinated plan responsive to community need with flexibility for evolving needs (informed by data - match supply with demand) ensuring medical personnel, emergency service employees, and other essential employees have access to child care in order to respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

We want to thank all of our businesses who are working to protect the health and safety of our community! You may reach out to the Child Care Council for any child care needs at 1-800-424-4532 or [childcare@chautopp.org](mailto:childcare@chautopp.org).

Childcare plays an important role during public health & economic emergencies. Congress must support the child care system in their #COVID19 stimulus. #FundChildCare #ChildCareNow

[#FundChildCare](#)

**Letter to Parents/Families of essential workers (Sample for Hospitals/Medical Providers/Other Essential Businesses to use):**

Dear Parents/Families of essential workers—

As we navigate through these critical times the Child Care Council is working in coordination with the community to support all of our families in Chautauqua County who are essential to the health and safety of the community during the COVID-19 state of emergency. We are working diligently to update and inform the community of the Chautauqua County Child Care Emergency COVID-19 Response Plan.

The Child Care Council is working cohesively with school districts, child care providers and businesses to inform parents of their child care options. In order to assess the need for child care in Chautauqua County we are asking families to complete the following survey.

[Child Care Need Survey](#)

All essential employees are encouraged to contact the Child Care Council with their child care needs. Financial assistance will be made available to those families who are considered essential to the health and safety of our community. For the duration of the state of emergency surrounding COVID-19, the local DHHS has waived certain guidelines to allow more families to receive financial assistance in paying for child care.

Families are encouraged to contact the Child Care Council Resource and Referral Specialist who can assist with finding child care. You may reach out to the Child Care Council for any child care needs at 1-800-424-4532 or [childcare@chautopp.org](mailto:childcare@chautopp.org).

Thank you.