



May 26, 2020

Hello PIC Community,

I am sure that many of you have now heard [Governor Wolf's announcement](#) that Philadelphia County is expected to move to the "yellow phase" of reopening on Friday June 5. Per PA guidelines, child care centers may reopen when the county moves to the yellow phase. **While this is terrific news on so many levels, I want to make sure our PIC families understand that PIC will not be welcoming families back for at least a few weeks after that date.**

Our Reopening Task Force has been working diligently and aggressively for many weeks to plan for the safe reopening of PIC. Now that we have guidance from the Governor on when Philadelphia may start to reopen, the Task Force will meet this week to determine the date we can welcome our families back, as well as a timeline for other critical work that must be done before it is safe for children and staff to return. ***We anticipate announcing the reopening date for families in the Early Learning program--as well as PIC's plans for summer camp--by early next week.***

We understand from the responses to our Reopening Family Survey that child care is a critical need during this time, and many of you are very anxious to hear an opening date. Please know that while we are working hard to finalize the date, we are also carefully navigating the complex guidelines from the state and CDC to ensure that we can reopen in compliance with new health and safety protocols. There is much work that must be done before children return: We need to ensure staffing is in place, receive newly needed supplies, check all internal facilities systems, and engage in significant cleaning before we can reopen. We need to adjust our programming and operations on many levels. Most significantly, all of our staff members need to be trained in the new procedures and protocols, and thus our staff will return to the building well in advance of our children.

We will also need to contact all families soon and ask for a commitment of a return date. Information about enrollment is critical to finalizing all of the new operational plans, policies and procedures that PA requires for the safe reopening of child care centers.

Once we are able to announce a date that children can return, we will continue to keep everyone abreast of all the actions being taken to safely open our doors, including the new policies and procedures for families.

I am extremely grateful for the patience and general goodwill from our PIC community. These are challenging times on every level. I am reminded that [the very first value listed on our seven core values](#) is that of community and I believe it is in the most challenging of times that community is most needed and is most appreciated.

Stay tuned. Be well.

Deb Green
Executive Director