



August 3, 2020

Hello PIC Community,

We are at a point in time where our focus needs to be a careful balance of all we have accomplished and all that we yet need to do. First and very significantly, over the past four weeks we have successfully navigated our new world of COVID-19 related policies and protocols. We have seen children so very happy to be with their friends and back to predictable routines.

We did so with the financial support of many and we express deep gratitude to:

- **Drs. Rotonya Carr, Judith Anesi, and Kristen Feemster** (current and former PIC parents) for continuing to share their professional time and counsel with great generosity.
- **University of Pennsylvania** for rent abatement during this time of need.
- **Federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPPL)** funds, which supported full staff salaries and benefits for eight weeks during our closure.
- **Current PIC families, alumni and friends** for generous support of our COVID Relief Fund, which benefited staff (salaries and benefits) before and after the PPPL coverage period.
- **Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education grant (PEFSEE)** that was used for teacher online technology support during our closure, as well as deep cleaning and other operational expenses.
- **Metropolitan Bakery** for donating \$100 in gift certificates to our teachers.
- **WSFS** bank for a grant to support operating expenses.
- **Federal CARES Act grant** funding for operating support.

How I wish the story would end here, but this crisis is far from over.

PIC, like most child care programs across the country, is operating with significantly reduced enrollment, and thus significantly reduced revenue. Even with twenty-four staff

members who have not yet returned to work, we are projecting a loss of over \$100,000 per month until our enrollment begins to approach pre-closure capacity.

No operation can withstand such a loss for any extended period of time.

Federal legislation has been passed by the House and will move to the Senate for consideration. While details are still unclear as to what this would mean for PIC, we recognize its importance to the entire child care industry. [An article on the proposed funding was in the Huffington Post recently](#). Please take a moment to contact our state Senators to ask for their support. [Here are the ways you can \(and the words you can use\)](#) to tell congress to provide relief to the nationwide child care system.

Much of our attention has turned to the fall and trying to project what it will look like for children, for families, for our staff, and the organizational health of PIC. The biggest challenge right now, as it has been all along, is the uncertainty that lies ahead.

I want to assure you that we are exploring all our options as fast as we can. As we continue to make decisions about hours of operation, center enrollment, staffing, support for school age children, drop-off and pick-up procedures, etc. I must ask once again for your patience. There is much to consider, please bear with us as the process unfolds and be on the lookout for additional communication to come.

Thank you for believing in PIC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debbie".

Deb Green
Executive Director