March 13, 2020

Dear Early Childhood CARES Families,

There is continuously evolving stream of information being communicated as we collectively look for ways to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, Covid-19. At 10:20 pm Governor Brown issued an executive order closing all schools and public education programs in Oregon beginning March 16, until after spring break. Early Childhood CARES will close services to children effective Monday, March 16 and resume services after our spring break on April 7th. Currently, there are NO known cases associated with our children and families.

Today, Friday, March 13, is the last day of services, including parent and staff activities. We have kept our program open and healthy for as long as recommended by state and local public health authorities. We understand that extended suspension of services may create hardship for many families. We know that in addition to education services and supports to children, we provide vital supports to our families and that closure could have a major impact. Contemplating additional time without the structure and care of services and preschool may seem overwhelming. Please know, Early Childhood CARES is doing our very best to make decisions that will help care for all of us as we navigate this challenge.

We are monitoring what will be available in the community to support family needs such as food and other basic needs and will communicate possible resources as we know them. If you are in need of such supports you can call our main line at 541-346-2578 and leave a message. This will be monitored daily. We will post any resources we learn about to our website.

On April 6, 2020, staff will report to the office to assess the status of the coronavirus in Oregon and prepare to resume services starting April 7, 2020.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding as we continue to work through this difficult situation. We will get through this together as a community.

Take good care,

Early Childhood CARES Staff