April 16, 2020

TO: ALL CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL LICENSEES AND FFA-APPROVED OR CERTIFIED HOMES

Original signed by Pamela Dickfoss

FROM: PAMELA DICKFOSS
Deputy Director
Community Care Licensing Division

SUBJECT: TRAUMA INFORMED RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS, CAREGIVERS AND CHILDREN RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary
PIN 20-07-CRP provides trauma-informed resources related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) for licensed children’s residential facilities, licensed foster family homes, and homes certified or approved by a foster family agency.

On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a statewide stay at home order, based on enhanced risk to older and vulnerable Californians and the fast rate of spread of COVID-19. This ever-evolving situation can create uncertainty for all Californians. Therefore, providers are reminded to use trauma-informed interventions, practices, services, and supports that recognize and respond to the varying impacts of traumatic stress on children, nonminor dependents, and those who have contact with the child welfare system. In line with these requirements and particularly during this uncertain time, the Department is sharing some trauma-informed resources to support the staff, caregivers, and the children and youth we serve.
TRAUMA-INFORMED RESOURCES:

For Staff: This link is a one-page check list designed for adults that encourages actions in three categories of self-care: Awareness, Balance and Connection: The National Child Traumatic Stress Network--Taking Care of Yourself.

For Homes and Caregivers: This site contains easy to navigate information on planning ahead including a household readiness checklist, cleaning/disinfectant recommendations, information regarding what to do if you’re sick, and frequently asked questions for individuals and families: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- Household Checklist.

This site is a caregiver guide to helping families cope with COVID-19 including: family readiness, reducing risk, and coping responses such as scheduling and activities, hygiene and medical care, and self-care. The link includes a guide to helping kids cope organized by age group that includes information on how children at different ages may respond to the COVID-19 crisis and ideas for how to help them: The National Child Traumatic Stress Network--Parent/Caregiver Guide to Helping Families Cope with the Coronavirus Disease 2019.

For Children: This site includes several pages of activities that children and adolescents can do with readily available supplies or no supplies at all: The National Child Traumatic Stress Network--Simple Activities for Children and Adolescents.

In addition to these resources, licensees and caregivers are encouraged to stay up-to-date with the Department’s COVID-19 information page.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, please contact the Community Care Licensing Division at (916) 657-2346 or via email at CRPOPolicy@dss.ca.gov.