





# Preparing to Reopen:

**Updates on Business Supports and** Resources for your Child Care Business

# Objectives & Agenda



**Objectives:** With the reopening of child care businesses on the horizon, questions about business liability, the safety of you and your employees, and new requirements might have your head swirling. We're here to help. Though we don't have all of the answers, we do have some sound advice from a panel of experts.

#### Agenda:

- Welcome, Reminders, & Overview (5 minutes) Emily Blistein; Director of Business Strategy, LGK
- We will hear from (28 minutes):
  - Lawrence Miller; Consultant, Five Vine Consulting, LLC
  - John Hollar; Attorney, Downs Rachlin Martin
- Q & A (25 minutes)
  - Facilitated by Brenda Metzler; Community & Program Support Specialist, LGK
- Closing & Summary (2 minutes) Emily Blistein



### **Professional Development Reminders**



This online real-time training is eligible for one professional development hour through Northern Lights. A reminder that in order to receive PD, you will need to:

- Remain in the training for the entire hour
- Submit your BFIS number OR full name and address exactly as it appears in the information system
  - There was a prompt to enter your number when you registered for this training, so you may
    have already done this
  - If you had any trouble, or don't know your BFIS number, please contact Ansley@letsgrowkids.org and she will help you out!

## LGK's Coronavirus Resource Page



LITTLE KIDS · BIG IMPACT  What We Do Get Involved News & Events Resources About	DONATE + SIGN + ACT +	
S□S Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources	<b>E</b> 3	
STAYING HEALTHY		Talands
STAYING INFORMED		
RESOURCES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS		
RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES	Name*	
RESOURCES FOR EMPLOYERS	Email*	
WHAT YOU CAN DO	Phone*	
WEBINARS	Name of your child o	eare program*

## Updates from the State



- Governor Phil Scott announced last Friday that he is ending the closure of child care programs starting June 1st. This means that child care programs can open to families starting June 1st. Programs can start to transition back to opening May 18th.
- The Child Care Stabilization and Essential Persons Financial Support Programs will be ending Saturday, May 30th. The Child Care Financial Assistance Program will move from enrollment-based payments back to attendance-based payments starting 5/31/2020.
- The Governor announced the availability of funds to help child care programs and school age programs/camps to open to families in June. More information will be available on eligibility for these funds later this week.



New guidance was posted on May 13<sup>th</sup> for health + safety of child care programs that choose to open:
 <a href="https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Health-Guidance-for-Childcare-Afterschool-Summer-Programs.pdf">https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Health-Guidance-for-Childcare-Afterschool-Summer-Programs.pdf</a>

## Health & Safety Considerations



There are many questions about the health and safety guidelines that will be in place on June 1. The Department of Health and CDD are working together to ensure the guidelines are provided as soon as possible.

- Following health guidelines is the best way to ensure safety and mitigate liability
- What's allowed, not allowed

#### Additional resources:

- The Vermont Department of Health: <a href="https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/schools-and-child-care-programs">https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/schools-and-child-care-programs</a>
- Vermont Department for Children and Families has information for child care providers and families on COVID specific issues: <a href="https://dcf.vermont.gov/COVID-19">https://dcf.vermont.gov/COVID-19</a>
- Recording of a training on the best practices for health and safety, and updated protocols for the reopening of child care programs, best practice for drop-off/pick-up, and cleaning/sanitizing practices: <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Child Care Services with Breena Holmes, MD</u>
- Pop-up testing centers: <a href="https://humanresources.vermont.gov/popups">https://humanresources.vermont.gov/popups</a>

## Timing of Reopening



- Are you and your facility ready?
- Gates not dates
- Staff training/reorientation
- Communications to parents and staff:
  - How you make sure parents have read it and act on it
  - Draw on your experience remember peanut-free facilities communications?
- What you can control and what you can't!
  - Agency is restored, but not fully
  - We want to empower you to make the decision that's best for you

## If You Don't Reopen Right Away



- Unemployment eligibility has been historically expanded under a new State law (H.742)
  - Programs that have not participated in the Stabilization program can furlough employees under this law (with a return to service date later in the summer)
  - Those who have participated in Stabilization can do so after May 31, when
     Stabilization ends
- New benefits for self employed individuals
- LGK has advocated to make restart grant program as flexible as possible
- Let us know if you need to talk!

## Allocating Slots



- Guidance is coming out, and we know it feels fast
- Will be specific to your facility
- Work with LGK Programs Team and CDD
- Who do you include in the first 25?

## Cashflow & Payroll



- PPP and EIDL funding may have expired
- FFCRA (tax credits for sick leave/family leave)
- SBA express loans
- Stabilization program revenue fungible dollars, can be allocated flexibly in connection with these and other programs

## Liability, Worker's Comp, & S.342



- Brief overview of worker's compensation program
- S.342 does not look likely to move out of the House
- Mitigate liability by adhering to Health guidelines
- Talk to your broker about your policy

### We Hear You!



#### LGK position paper – we are recommending solutions:

- Restart grants should offer flexible support
- CCFAP should be based on enrollment, not attendance
- Providers should have access to PPE and supplies through state procurement process
- BFIS IT infrastructure requires immediate investments
- Invest in wage supplements for early educators through 2020

# YOUR QUESTIONS



### Resources



- Let's Grow Kids <u>COVID-19 resource page</u>, which includes the web form survey you can fill out to be connected with one of our consultants who can provide 1:1 support FREE of charge, *sponsored by LGK's Emergency Fund*
- Connect with early childhood professionals across VT and access resources to save time and reduce costs: www.sharedservicesvt.org
- VSECU's Member Emergency Loan: <a href="www.vsecu.com/memberemergencyloan">www.vsecu.com/memberemergencyloan</a>
  - Early educators can access loans of up to \$2,000 with low- or no-interest
  - Let's Grow Kids is covering \$25 membership fee for non-VSECU members and their first month's loan payment

#### **Health & Safety Resources:**

- The Vermont Department of Health: <a href="https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/schools-and-child-care-programs">https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/schools-and-child-care-programs</a>
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Stay tuned for registration details for our next real-time online training on 5/28!



