



**Rethinking Opening Child Care in Louisiana Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 28, 2020**  
**12:00 - 1:00 pm CT**

**Objectives:**

1. Build consensus on what information a roadmap for reopening child care providers should include
2. Brainstorm the most effective ways to create the roadmap and how to ensure the information is shared effectively and providers are supported
3. Discuss strategies to get increased funding to child care centers to support them as they reopen

Time	Agenda
12:00 - 12:05 pm	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Agenda Overview</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Roll call</li> <li>2. Review objectives</li> </ol>
12:05 - 12:45 pm	<p><b>Key Questions for Discussion for Child Care Providers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>What “buckets” will the roadmap need to include?</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Health Screening and Prevention</u>: Temperature checks, PPE, frequency of cleaning, visitor policies, revising sick policies for children and adults, pick up drop off policies, etc.</li> <li>b. <u>Labor</u>: How do programs make staffing decisions? Programs will likely need more staff to meet new group size and ratio requirements and higher health screening and prevention strategies</li> <li>c. <u>Children’s Social-Emotional Needs</u>: Increased behavioral health challenges experienced by children, trauma from abuse/neglect</li> <li>d. <u>Intersection with the Emergency Child Care Response</u>: Process to disenroll families receiving emergency child care; how to support the emergency and essential workforce’s ability to access care?</li> <li>e. <u>Monitoring</u>: What does monitoring look like after these changes are in place?</li> <li>f. <u>Communications</u>: How do programs explain and communicate these changes to the families they serve?</li> <li>g. <u>Insurance and liability</u>:</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>How do we create the roadmap and by when?</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What is the process by which we create the roadmap?</li> <li>b. What is Colorado currently doing? Colorado Office of Early Childhood &amp; Governor’s Office reached out to specific organizations and asked them to send their thoughts; not sure what the next step in their process looks like?</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. <b>Once the roadmap is finalized, how will we share the roadmap with child care</b></li> </ol>

	<p><b>providers and support them in implementation?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. State law authorizes BESE to be responsible for providing guidelines</li> <li>b. Need to ensure that LDOE and LDH are in coordination and LDH is involved in this process since the specifics of some protocols should come from our state and local public health officials (i.e., group sizes of no more than 10, protocols around program entry and exit, volunteers, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Which entity/entities were responsible in Colorado?</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. How will ensure that information is clearly communicated and reaches every child care provider? (e.g. LDOE webinar, press release, Ready Start Networks share, etc.)</li> <li>d. How will we ensure providers are supported (financially and otherwise) with implementation?</li> </ul>
<p>12:45 -12:55 pm</p>	<p><b>Key Questions for Discussion for Advocacy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>What is the total amount of money that we need to get child care back up and running in Louisiana?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. LPIC has done cost-modeling work</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>What are our asks for state lawmakers?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. \$65M coming into the state from CCDBG funds should cover</li> <li>b. Ready Louisiana Ask: (1) Use one-time federal money, including funds from the CARES Act and other sources, to stabilize the child care industry and (2) Commit \$25.1 million in new state funds to expand access to the Child Care Assistance Program for 4,000 more children and authorize coverage for parents actively looking for work</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b>What incentives are needed to get private funding from employers?</b></li> <li>4. <b>What are other sources of funding that we can tap into (e.g. economic development, workforce, tax credits)?</b></li> </ul>
<p>12:55 -1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Wrap-Up &amp; Next Steps</b></p>

## Call Notes

### What “buckets” will the roadmap need to include?

- Make sure to include guidance on new ratios

### Labor

- How are adults factored into ratio number?
- For Beary Cherry Tree, # children will be cut in half and staffing will be cut in half; fewer teachers may be needed
  - Could have centers gauge what demand is going to look like
  - Doodle poll sent out to families to understand where they are at
- Keep in mind that currently, teachers are making \$847/wk (about \$20/hr) - PAU assistance ends 7/31; child care providers could use \$ from LDOE to pay staff
- Guidance for programs to articulate what teachers need to work (e.g. recommending health clearances from doctors saying they are in good health) and how to support teachers who are vulnerable and is difficult to come back to work (could consider getting staff to sign waivers? )
  - Important to put new employee handbook, liability is already incredibly high
- If camps are closed during the summer, there may be a higher demand for school-agers and providers may not be used to this age group

### Health Screening and Prevention

- Encourage center directors to think through who is doing the sanitation and regularly cleaning high-touch services
- Help providers to visualize what processes look like (e.g. pickups, cones, feet apart, PPE, etc.)
- What are best practices for PPE and masks; Governor is recommending; Will staff use them and when, especially during high-interaction times (pick up, drop off, meals)?
  - Will children use them (might backfire)?
  - How will children react (behaviorally and developmentally) when teachers wear masks?

### Children’s Social-Emotional Needs

- making sure that address Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) and knowledgeable on strategies and using and help children who have experienced trauma (children experiencing many changes and transitions including different centers, schedules, teachers, etc.)
- Highlight that the next few months are less about trying to dig into instructional support but emotional support for children and teachers
- Resources include Teachstone and Conscious Discipline resources open for 90-days currently free (\$)

### Intersection with the Emergency Child Care Response

- Think about timing as people transition off emergency CCAP and what is a long enough runway
  - LDOE will be contacting families to inform them whether or not they will be eligible for CCAP
  - Families received an email and mail about the 30-day extension of emergency CCAP
- Some families may have moved into FCC and teachers may be called into centers resulting in children bouncing around

#### Monitoring

- While we think about executive orders with limited group sizes, what does monitoring look like? When will state employees begin to go out?
- Concern is reduced ratios will be in place but who is to say that a child care center won't bother following them since no one will be monitoring
- Where is monitoring in regulation? Does emergency rule need to be made?
- LDOE looking for incidents and reports and haven't had anything critical yet and are looking at different ways of monitoring virtually or go in before or after sites are open but nothing has been set in stone
- Ratios and group sizes - LDOE pushing for what LDH has recommended (recommendations vs. requirements)
- The scale and scope of monitoring will increase dramatically, if we are thinking about the future this shouldn't become an additional responsibility of R&Rs and RSNs; think through tension introduced should that need to fall on existing infrastructure as they are currently designed
  - What happens is that R&R and RSN we are there to assess observation and there to coach you (are you showing up with the carrot or the stick)?
  - Have clear expectations when people are showing up, how they are showing up, etc.
  - Paula shared that some local DHH centers have been starting to come into monitor (concern from child care providers that there will be additional monitors)

#### Communications (e.g. reduced capacity)

- What do we advise families to do about the children they have?
- What is it going to cost?

#### Insurance & Liability

- Is the risk too high if children could have complications from the virus (UK headline)?
- We can't do this in a vacuum and how do we engage with the Dept. of Insurance to protect child care provider?
  - There have not been conversations with the Department of Insurance
- What makes premiums go up or down? (e.g. space walks) Would it help to have a different regulation in place to help with insurance that doesn't harm kids and improves the safety of kids?
  - Child care providers always have had to show proof of liability as a prerequisite

- We need more information before we ask for something; are their requirements that the policy has to have? Is someone evaluating the policy to determine the limits?
- Are they operating as a business with a business account and in the best place to protect themselves?
- Do they have sufficient liability coverage?
- If they get personally sued, are they covered?
- Recommend that child care providers read their insurance policy and talk with their insurance providers
- Could engaging with the Workforce Commission be helpful and explaining the importance of child care be an opportunity?
  - Grant specific to training

#### Next Steps

- Next Call: Thursday, April 30th at 10:00 am
- Could have smaller groups working and then bring information back to the full group
- LPIC & UWSELA are trying to work with the Exc. Order from the Governor related to the ECE Task force (with multi-sector representation) and if it does happen, will inform the Task Force and LDOE and help us think about a cohesive plan