Child Care Licensing visits will resume on July 1, 2020. All Staff will take extra safety precautions prior to entering family child care homes to conduct licensing visits and will be equipped with PPE.

COVID-19 related questions
Child Care Policy Help Desk 1-877-302-2347, option 4

COVID-19 Resources or Information
For Center programs click here: For Child Care Centers
Child Care Centers
For Family Child Care Homes
Family Child Care Homes

The Cleveland Department of Public Health strongly suggest that all child care programs create and follow an Infection Control Plan. This plan should include following all recommendations from the Center for Disease Control.

CDC - Schools and Childcare
Ohio Health Dept.
COVID-19 Childcare Checklist

Contact Information:
FCCH Providers Zeppora McClain at mcclainz@starting-point.org.

Center-based programs Karla Martin martink@starting-point.org.

Food Sponsors are currently following the federal guidelines and waivers required by the Ohio Dept. of Education. The link below provides additional pandemic information – Click for more information.

<https://cuyahogakids.org/resources/Early-Childhood-Mental-Health>

This blog post summarizes some of that work.
COVID-19 Diagnosis in a Child Care Setting - When the Local Health Department (Cleveland Department of Public Health) is notified of a confirmed COVID-19 test result of a resident of the City of Cleveland, they call that individual to commence the disease investigation to establish timelines of symptom onset and identify close contacts of the Index Case (the person diagnosed). A number of questions will be asked to determine where the Index Case has been and who they have been in prolonged contact with while symptomatic. The Index Case will be issued Isolation Orders, ordering them to stay home and in isolation so as to not infect others for approximately 14 days.

If the Index Case is a worker, staff member or childcare provider, they will be issued an Employer Letter which can be sent to the employer indicating why they must not come to work until such time as they are released from isolation. If the Index Case was at work while symptomatic, the employer will be contacted by the Health Department as part of the investigation. They will also provide guidance for the workplace (childcare center/home).

Close contacts of the Index Case, upon interview and determination of risk of infection, may be issued Quarantine Orders, requiring them to stay home for 14 days. They too may be issued Employer Letters.

The Health Department issues Release from Isolation, Release from Quarantine and Return to Work Letters after the individuals have satisfied the CDC recommended time strategy, ‘time since illness onset and time since recovery’ for discontinuation from isolation. For Index Cases, the CDC recommends that isolation be maintained for at least 10 days after illness onset and at least 3 days (72 hours) symptom free.

From the Director of the Cleveland Department of Public Health

While sectors of the state are opening, please keep practicing all health and safety precautions and stay diligent. Here’s what you can do to continue to keep yourself, your loved ones, and fellow Ohioans healthy and safe:

Stay home unless it is absolutely necessary to leave especially if you are sick.

If you develop a fever and have a dry cough or are experiencing shortness of breath, please call your doctor immediately. If you feel you need to go to the Emergency Room, call first BEFORE you visit an emergency department or doctor's office. Stay home if you feel sick.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hand washing facilities are unavailable, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Don't touch your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Reframe from shaking hands or hugging when you greet someone.

Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve on the inside of your elbow, then wash your hands

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects such as doorknobs, light switches, tables, countertops, chairs, phones, remotes, keyboards, and touchscreen electronic devices.

Cloth face coverings are highly recommended if you must go out in public in order to protect others should you have COVID-19 but not have any symptoms or be otherwise unaware of whether you are infected.