



March 16, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Over the past few weeks, we have watched the spread of the COVID-19 virus (coronavirus) across our country and across the world. It will be up to all of us to help stop the spread of this disease by limiting our exposure to other people. Unfortunately, this means that Illinois Action for Children will need to suspend some of the programs and services that we provide.

**All Illinois Action for Children Early Learning Centers will be closed on Tuesday, March 17** and will remain closed until further notice.

We recognize that this is a major change and may present a hardship for many of our families. Please know that we do not take this step lightly, but have made this decision to protect the health and safety of the children and families that we serve and of our staff.

During this closure, we will update the message on our parent emergency hotline -- 708-365-5610 – with information about the status of our centers. In addition, we will update the status of each of our centers on the Emergency Closing Center -- <http://www.emergencyclosingcenter.com/>

Please let your family engagement specialist know about any resources or support that you may need during this time. In the event you are a healthcare worker or first responder that must report to work during this time, please let us know and we will strive to support you in finding alternate care. Specialists will reach out to you by phone or text message on a weekly basis during our closure period.

**In addition**, we intend to have meals available for children enrolled in our programs and all other children under age 18 at our centers on a “grab and go” pickup basis. We will have information about this service posted at each site and on our emergency hotline. In the event we need to discontinue this service, we will work to connect you to other resources in your community.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Please know that all of us at Illinois Action for Children are looking forward to welcoming you and your child back to our centers as soon as possible.

Yours,

Bryan Stokes II  
Vice President, Early Learning Programs

[www.actforchildren.org](http://www.actforchildren.org)

Administrative Office  
4753 N. Broadway, 1st Floor  
Chicago, IL 60640  
P: 312.823.1100 | F: 773.561.2256

17926 South Halsted, Suite 1 East  
Homewood, IL 60430  
P: 312.823.1100 | F: 312.823.1200

