March 12th, 2020

Dear Parents,

The East Coast Migrant Head Start Project (ECMHSP) major priority is the health and safety of our children, families and staff. Due to the spread of Coronavirus, which you have heard about in the news, we want to assure that you have accurate and current information about what ECMHSP is doing and what you can do to keep your family safe.

WHAT IS THE CORONAVIRUS: The Coronavirus can cause illnesses, ranging from a cold to severe breathing illness like pneumonia. It is spread through coughing or sneezing, touching surfaces with the virus, or through close personal contact. The illness is like the flu or cold and may include coughing, fever, and difficulty breathing. Older people and people with health issues, like diabetes, are more likely to get sick.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Here are things you can do to keep your family safe:
- WASH HANDS FREQUENTLY for at least 20 seconds with soapy water. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Help your child wash their hands.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes.
- When sneezing or coughing cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces frequently.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Follow ECMHSP policies regarding sick children. If your child is sick, please keep them home and contact your health officials or the center’s health coordinator if you have questions or need assistance.

WHAT ECMHSP IS DOING: We are watching the news closely so that we can keep you and staff informed.
- All ECMHSP centers are following strict cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting schedules.
- All ECMHSP centers are following the instructions of local and state officials.
- We will send flyers home to families with updated information and information will be available in centers.
- We will also keep our website www.ecmhsp.org current with updated information.
- As new information becomes available, we will send text and email messages alerting you of updated information.

If you have any questions, please contact your center Health Coordinator or other center staff.

Sincerely,

Maria Garza, CEO
José Simón Villa, Ph. D. CEO Emeritus