

15 March 2020



To all families, service users and students enrolled in Mothercraft programs:

Thanks for your patience and understanding while Mothercraft assessed all of the advisories and announcements from the last few days and sought clarifications from its funders and regulators regarding expectations about impact on services.

We know that Friday’s announcement from the City of Toronto regarding the closure of city facilities and services created some confusion, especially with regards to licensed child care. We have clarified that the City’s announcement was regarding city-run programs only – including city-run licensed child care centres – not community-based centres operated by organizations like Mothercraft. As a result, the decision to remain open or closed, at this time, rests solely with Mothercraft, via myself and the Board of Directors. As I have noted previously, all of our decisions have carefully considered the recommendations from experts, direction from our funders and regulators (which span all orders of government) and, most importantly for us, ensuring we provide as much support as possible to our services users/students during this very challenging period. Specifically, we want to ensure families have time to make alternate plans for their children’s care, that the students enrolled in Mothercraft College of ECE are adequately supported so their academic year is not interrupted or compromised and that we give careful consideration to the vulnerable children and families we serve via our infant and early childhood mental health programs.

We have made the following decisions regarding our operations:

Program Area	Service Decision
Breaking the Cycle	Open Mon, Mar 16 & Tues, Mar 17 On-site/in-person services suspended effective Wed, Mar 18 Alternate service support to be continued beyond Mar 18 by phone/email Effective Mon, Mar 16, street outreach and home visitation services to be provided on a reduced and case by case basis with enhanced precautions
Centres for Early Development	Open Mon, Mar 16 & Tues, Mar 17 Closed effective Wed, Mar 18
CityKids	Open – phone-based service delivery only
CYSIS	Open – phone-based service delivery only
EarlyON Child & Family Centre	Closed effective Mon, Mar 16 Telephone & email responses/support provided
Magic Castle	Closed effective Mon, Mar 16
Mothercraft College of ECE	On-site classes open until Fri, Mar 20 Alternate learning/course delivery plan may be in place for Mon, Mar 23

 Head Office EarlyON Child and Family Centre Robertson House Centre for Early Development 32 Heath Street West Toronto, ON. M4V 1T3 Tel: 416.920.3515 Fax: 416.920.5983	 Mothercraft College Community Data Group 646 St. Clair Ave. West Toronto, ON. M6C 1A9 Tel: 416.483.0511 Fax: 416.483.0119	 Early Intervention Breaking the Cycle Parent Infant Program 860 Richmond St. West Suite 100 Toronto, ON. M6J 1C9 Tel: 416.364.7373 Fax: 416.364.8008	 Toronto Eaton Centre Centre for Early Development 14 Trinity Square Toronto, ON. M5G 1B1 Tel: 416.340.9651 Fax: 416.340.7407	 Brookfield Place Centre for Early Development 10 Front Street West (Mail: 161 Bay St) Toronto, ON. M5J 2S1 Tel: 416.367.1758 Fax: 416.367.3839	 CITYKIDS 32 Heath Street West Toronto, ON. M4V 1T3 Tel: 416.920.6543 Fax: 416.920.1543	 Magic Castle Princess Margaret Hospital 610 University Ave Toronto, ON. M5G 2M9 Tel: 416.946.4501 ext. 5157
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At this time, service interruptions/suspensions/closures are in effect until Sunday, April 5th. We hope we will be able to resume full operations on Monday, April 6th but will keep you informed as the situation regarding COVID-19 continues to evolve and as we know more. Families who are enrolled in Mothercraft's CEDs will not be charged fees during this period nor will they be charged should they choose to keep their children home on Monday or Tuesday while the centres are still open.

Please continue to monitor announcements by the Public Health Agency of Canada and contact Toronto Public Health should you have concerns or questions about your family's health. I also encourage everyone to take whatever precautions you feel are necessary to keep yourself and your family healthy and know that we support you in these decisions.

As always, please feel free to contact your program/centre manager for additional information or if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Michele Lupa
Executive Director