



**Special Communication to City of Burlington
Emergency Operations Center and Mayor
Regarding COVID-19**

To: Brian Lowe

From: Kayla Donohue of City Analytics Team

RE: Childcare for essential personnel, health care workers, and first responders during school closures

Date: March 17, 2020, 5:30pm

Updated:

Key Messages:

- It is estimated that 15% of healthcare workers will need childcare during school closures. This could potentially impact up to 1,125 UVMHC employees.
- The State through the VDH is working on this. Neale Lunderville is the lead for the school closure and related efforts including the childcare assistance.
- According to Victor Prussack from Burlington School District, King Street and possibly Flynn will be used as childcare sites for Pre-K-5th Grade children of City Residents who work at UVM Medical Center, other medical facilities, and for the City. A survey assessing need has been developed and will be shared with Pre-K-5th grade BSD families today or tomorrow. BSD is planning to solicit help from BSD staff, but they're still developing a plan for compensation and logistics.
- Solutions to activate emergency childcare to support front line workers range from statewide coordinated efforts through departments of education/health utilizing schools, to drop-off emergency care programs run through parks districts, to existing afterschool/community centers offering the service (i.e. Boys & Girls Clubs). Specific examples are below.

Key Resources

- [CDC Guidance for School Settings](#)
- [Interim Guidance for School Administrators with School Closure Decision Tree](#)
- [North Carolina's Guidance for Childcare Providers Remaining Open](#)

Summary of Research

Estimating Need

Using estimates from [this study](#), approximately 15% of healthcare workers will need childcare during school closures. UVM Medical Center reports **7,500 employees**. This means there are potentially 1,125 UVMHC employees that may need childcare.

Important Note Regarding this Document: *The coronavirus pandemic, and local, state and federal guidance/orders regarding this pandemic, are rapidly evolving. Information contained in this memo is presumed to be accurate and reflective of the situation as of the date and time noted above. Information in this memo is offered as review of actions, events, case studies, and data based on specific requests of and research by the Analytics Team. The original audience for this document was the Mayor and members of the City's Emergency Operations Center. These resources are being made available in the event that they may be informative for other Vermont communities.*

Other Cities and States Childcare Solutions

- Minnesota Dept of Education has noted that schools should continue to provide care for children of emergency workers, age 12 and under (define staff as healthcare staff, first responders, correctional service personnel, VA Homes staff, public health agency employees, individuals who help enroll individuals through the state's health insurance marketplace, case managers, and emergency management/health & human service employees).
- Los Angeles
 - School district will be open for childcare from 6am-6pm
- [Chicago](#)
 - Food distribution centers
 - Stocking a number of food distribution centers with 3-days worth of food that can be picked up between 9am-1pm. There's a hotline to call if you need food delivered
 - Drop-off emergency childcare programs at 18 parks run by the Chicago Park District
 - Libraries will remain open
 - Community run preschools and early learning centers remain open
 - Sending home packets of schoolwork
- [San Francisco](#)
 - Closing all city libraries March 13-31 and turning them into temporary youth facilities offering homework help and educational enrichment for grades 6-12 Monday-Friday 8am-6pm
 - Recreation and Park facilities such as clubhouses and recreation centers will also be closed to the public and turned into childcare centers for children in grades K-5. Rec and Park is canceling all regular indoor programming and classes through March 31.
 - These facilities will be open to low-income families and those with parents working on the front lines of the COVID-19 outbreak (healthcare workers, Health Department employees, and Disaster Service Workers)
 - [Online registration for the programs by invitation only](#)
 - [Free meal pick-up](#)
 - [YMCA is suspending all camps and other childcare programs and services until further notice](#)
 - [KiddieCorp typically provides childcare for large events and conferences and they're looking into onsite daycare for local businesses](#)
- [Phoenix](#)
 - Local community centers, such as the Boys and Girls Club and the YMCA are extending hours and remaining open with added health precautions (hand hygiene and cleaning/disinfection) to offer childcare during school closures
 - Some [Boy and Girls Club sites](#) are offering breakfast and lunch to kids in need
 - The Y is extending [Spring Break Camp](#)

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- [Louisville](#)
 - The YMCA will be closing for two weeks and stop offering childcare
 - Places like [Mac's Childcare](#) are planning to remain open
 - They're doing temperature checks and all kids when they arrive and immediately washing their hands, in addition to enhanced daily cleaning and disinfection
 - They have plans in place to isolate children in private rooms if they become symptomatic until parents are able to pick them up

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