



May 28, 2020

Dear families:

We hope this letter continues to find you and your family well.

As we all know, the past few months have been unlike any other in our 35-year history. Therefore, let us begin this letter by thanking all of the members of the Children's Place family for the extraordinary response to the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Words could never adequately convey how deeply grateful we are to all of you and to our staff. As a result of hard work, devotion, and creativity, we have been able to ensure that in spite of the disruption, we remain committed to our core values.

In a recent correspondence, we expressed our hope to reopen on June 1, 2020. Since then, we also surveyed our families to determine your level of comfortability in returning to childcare. As a result of the survey responses, it is clear that the majority of families are not comfortable returning at this time. Due to the Governor's On Pause, reopening process and Executive Orders, the Board of Directors has voted to delay our opening **until June 29**. We know this time has been difficult for us all but we take the reopen of Children's Place extremely seriously. We must and will conform with the Governor's plan to restart New York. This plan begins with the directives outlined in Moving **New York Forward**, which is focused on getting people back to work and easing social isolation without triggering renewed spread of the virus or overwhelming the hospital system.

Guided by these directives and in collaboration with our local health department and regional medical providers, we must place the health and safety of our children, families and staff in the front of our minds and hearts. We have to carefully balance this decision making with considerations for the fiscal and business sides of our programs.

As we move forward, we assure you that our every action will be guided by three commitments: a commitment to ensure the safety and wellbeing of every member of our community; a commitment to sustain and nourish our core values and dedication to safe and quality early childhood education and a commitment to doing all we can to prepare for a future filled with hope for Children's Place.

As we continue to work on the reopening process, we ask for your help and support. Please continue to communicate with us, sharing any thoughts or concerns about reopening. We will continue to seek your input towards sustaining our partnership. Thank you in advance for your helpful responses, as we use that data collection to make informed decisions. Thank you to the families who have continued to make a donation to the Center. Please know that donations are

accepted gratefully and used judiciously. We are proud to report that our staff continues to be paid while they work from home.

We began this letter by acknowledging the tremendous work that you have all done to support the Centers and our core values in a moment of unprecedented challenge. We close with a heart filled with gratitude for your generosity, your understanding, and your deep devotion to our program.