# Revised Phase Three Child Care Guidance

September 28, 2020



# Agenda

#### Topic/Speaker

Welcome and Introduction (Kathy Glazer, VECF)

Presentation on Revised Phase III Guidance (Jenna Conway and Tara Ragland)

Q&A

Adjourn

# Jenna Conway Chief School Readiness Officer

# Tara Ragland Director, Division of Licensing Programs, VDSS





OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

### EARLY CHILDHOOD UPDATE FOR PHASE III

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2020** 

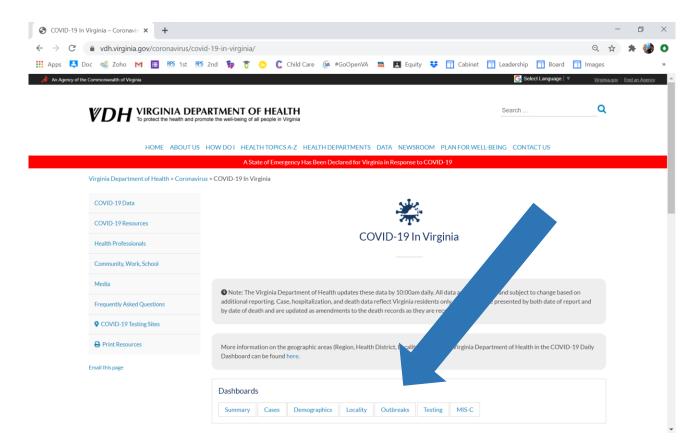
#### **OVERVIEW**

- Current Situation
- New Dashboard Child Care Specific Data
- Key Updates
  - Phase III Updated Guidance:
    - Key Changes for Child Care
    - Group Size Restrictions Lifted
    - Facial Coverings for Staff (per DOLI regulations)
  - Reminder on Key Mitigation Strategies
    - Cleaning and Sanitation
    - Social Distancing
    - Monitoring for Illness
    - Staying Home when Sick

#### CURRENT SITUATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH

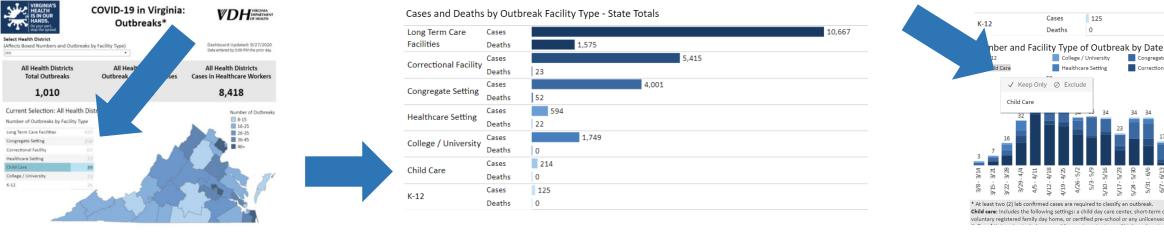
- As of 9/24/2020,
  - 52% of child day centers are now open
  - 53% of religious exempt preschools are now open
  - 87% of family day homes are now open
- Altogether, ~2,008 child care programs are closed a loss in capacity of ~153,000.
- ~900 programs have indicated that they have a reopening date.
- Half of open providers report making efforts to expand capacity to serve school-age children participating in virtual or hybrid learning
  - VDOE and VDSS issued joint guidance for school districts and child care programs
- 1,510 programs have been approved for round two of the **CARES Grant.** Yet financial losses experienced far exceed new federal funding available.

#### NEW DASHBOARD - WHERE TO FIND



https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/

#### New Dashboard - Child Care Specific Data



\* At least two (2) lab confirmed cases are required to classify an outbreak. Child care: Includes the following settings: a child day care center, short-term c voluntary registered family day home, or certified pre-school or any unlicensed

Top

Middle

**Bottom** 

125

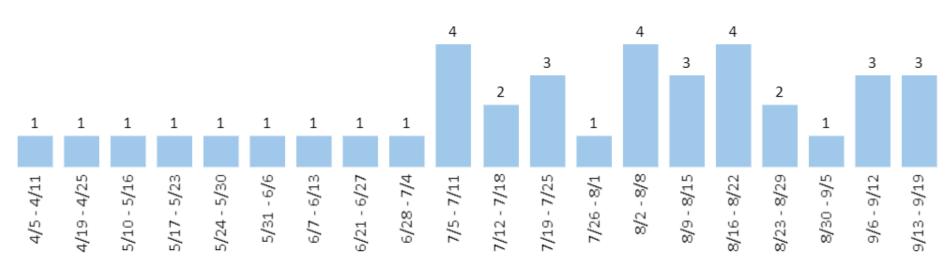
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/

#### Overall Child Care Outbreak Data

• Since April, a total of 213 cases associated with 39 outbreaks in child care settings with zero deaths have been reported in Virginia

Number and Facility Type of Outbreak by Date VDH Notified





https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/

#### PHASE III GUIDANCE UPDATE: KEY CHANGES

On September 24, the Department of Social Services updated Phase III <u>guidance</u> for child care and day camps:

- 1. Group size restrictions lifted
- 2. DOLI Regulations: Facial coverings for staff
- 3. Re-emphasizing key strategies to mitigate spread

https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19.html

#### GROUP SIZE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

Effective September 25, recommendations for modified group size for all ages are no longer in effect.

- Programs may resume operations under group size limits set by their license and/or subsidy agreement.
- Programs are expected to continue to adhere to adult:child ratios.

https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19.html

#### FACIAL COVERINGS

- Recently issued <u>regulations</u> from the Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) require staff in child care settings to wear cloth face coverings
- Face coverings are **strongly recommended** for children ages 2 and older

https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19.html

#### REMAINING VIGILANT

- Child care programs are doing an incredible job of keeping children and staff safe and healthy
- Updated guidance emphasizes key mitigation strategies:
  - Cleaning and sanitation procedures, including hand washing, cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces
  - Physical distancing, including maintaining 6 ft of distance, wearing a mask when physical distancing isn't possible, avoiding mixing groups
  - Monitoring for symptoms of illness by screening children and staff upon entry and conducting regular health checks
  - Reminding families and staff to stay home when sick

https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19.html

#### KEY RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS

- VDSS Child Care website includes <u>Updated Phase III Guidance</u> and revised <u>Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</u>
- VDSS will continue to email updates to all providers
- General Assembly is still in Special Session and additional funds may become available to support child care

https://www.dss.virginia.gov/cc/covid-19.html

## Questions?



### **New Webinar**

- Briefing on DOLI Workplace Standards
  - Thursday, October 1 at 12:00pm Register Here

