



# *COVID-19*

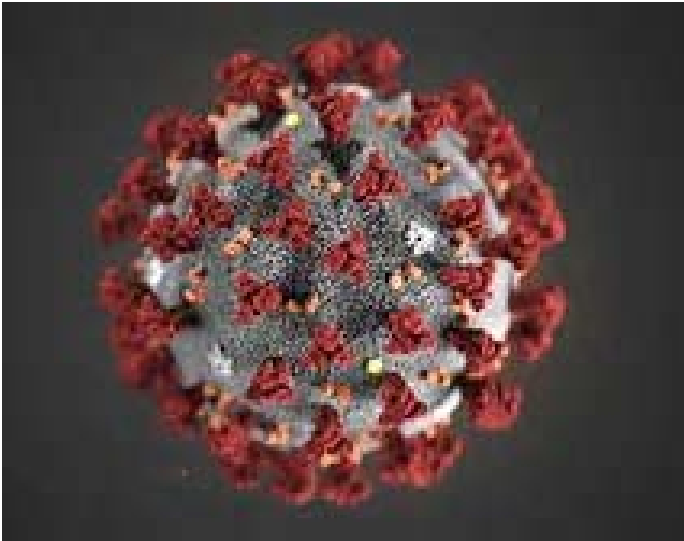
## *Impact on*

### *Center Operations*

Lupe Nevarez & Carmen Lucero – Owner/Operator  
Las Cruces, NM



**March 2020**



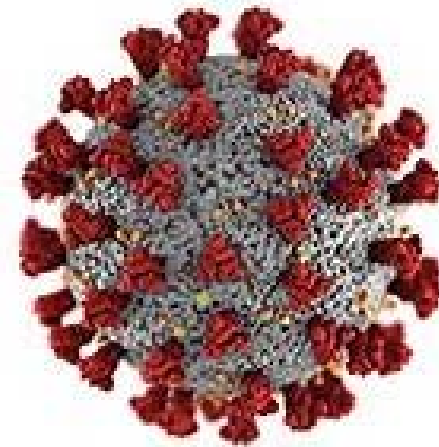
On March 11, 2020, Governor Lujan Grisham declared a public health emergency in order to maximize the resources available to fight the spread of the novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) and minimize public health risks for New Mexicans.

Since that time, the New Mexico Early Childhood Education & Care Department & the New Mexico Department of Health have provided Health and Safety Guidance for child-care centers and Early Childhood Professionals.

This short presentation is to relay our experience through this pandemic and how it has impacted our center operations, funding and child enrollment.

## March 2020 Announcement of Pandemic Closure of the State

- Rapid drop in attendance from approx. 80-100 daily attendance to 30-35 children across all sites.
- Child care for essential workers only
- Parental concerns regarding the health and safety of their child and COVID-19 exposure.
- Employee concerns regarding loss of employment
- Centers to develop safety plans for COVID-19 practices
- Community fear – loss of jobs and childcare
- ECECD & DOH strategic planning prepared providers to successfully mitigate COVID-19 in child care facilities.





- Incorporated strict sanitization procedures for all areas of the center
- Increase in payroll due to having designated employees to clean and sanitize hourly
- Financial increase in purchasing of sanitization materials (Disinfecting sprays, wipes, bleach etc.)
- Drop in child enrollment and attendance
- Reduction in classroom capacities (20 to 10)
- Mitigation of exposure – classroom containment
- Assigning employees to classrooms (this was a hardship as the enrollment did not offset the payroll)
- Restriction on combining of classrooms
- Implementation of face coverings for ALL employees and children present at the centers
- Health checks performed at drop of and departure

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was sought and purchased for the employees at all sites
- Gloves, face masks, face shields, gowns, contact less thermometers
- Financial detriment to the company due to price hikes by the sellers
- Purchase of hospital grade sanitizer

***March 2020 – Gloves \$37.00 a case***  
***August 2020 – Gloves \$79.99 a case***



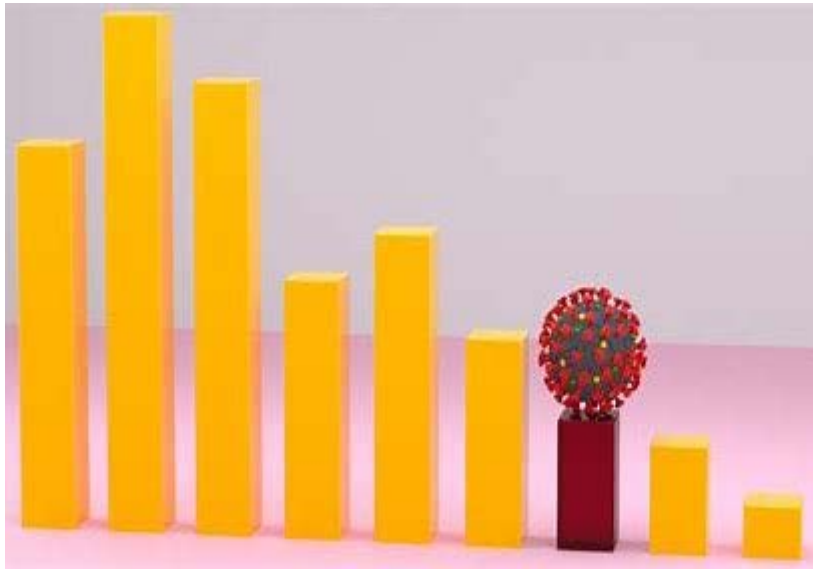
# Financial Support



## March 2020 – June 2020

- Financially stable enough to maintain full time staffing (March-April)
- No layoffs or reduction in hours for employees
- All centers remained open and maintained the same hours of operation.
- CCB continued to be paid by enrollment
- Incentive pay for essential employees
  
- The Children’s Garden applied for and received the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) grant
- This helped to maintain payroll at all locations.

# Financial Impact



## June 2020 – July 2020

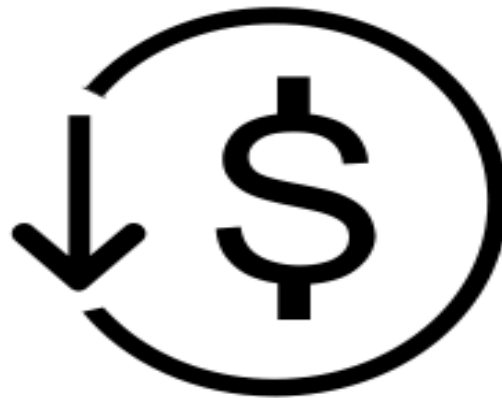
- The Children's Garden has not laid off employees
- Due to budget cuts employees are on reduced work hours.
- All centers have remained open, hours of operation reduced at all sites
- CCB paid by attendance and not enrollment
- Incentive pay for essential employees no longer available
- 10-day sick pay for employees under the FFCRA
- Revenue drop of 40%
- Unable to continue operating under funding cuts

# Childcare Subsidy

## New Mexico Childcare Revenue

### March- June 2020

80% - Childcare Subsidy  
20% - Self Pay



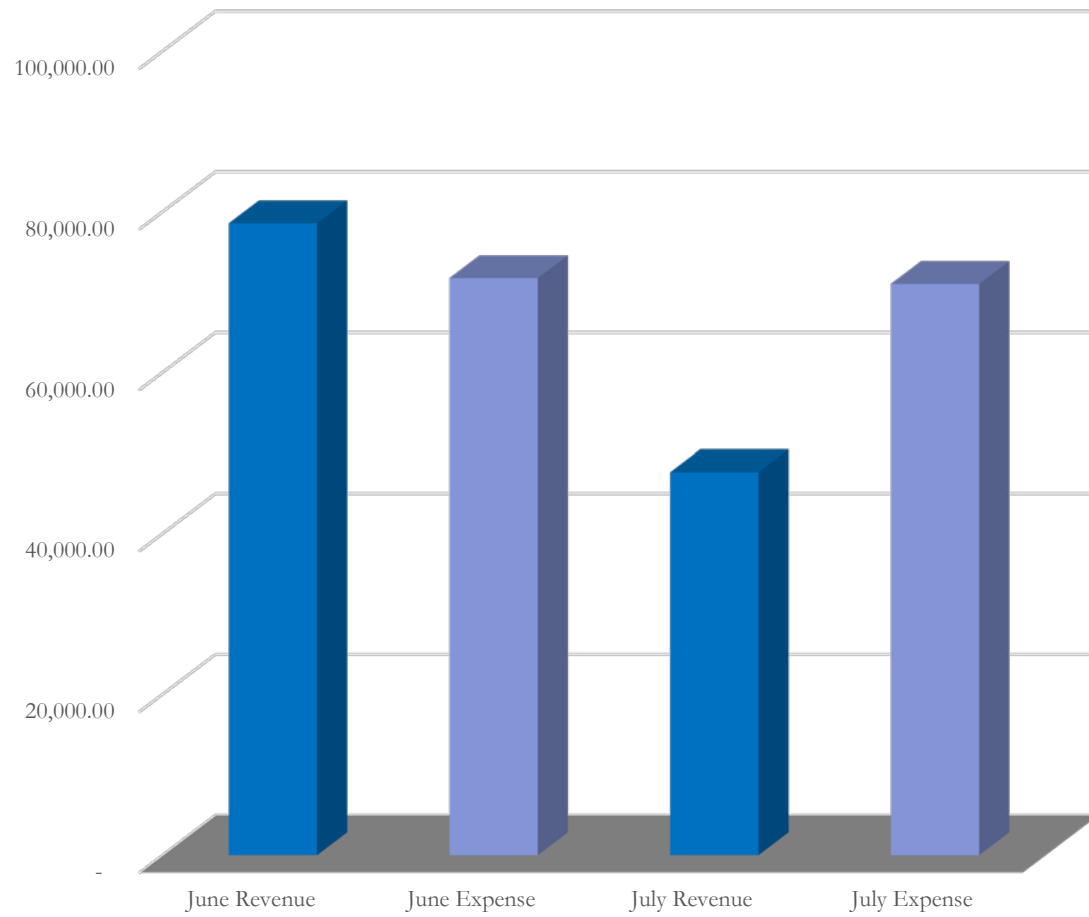
### July 2020 - Present

40% - Childcare Subsidy  
5% - Self Pay

Substantial loss in revenue: Childcare programs need funding and support to implement safe & healthy child care programs during this pandemic



Revenue/Expense by Month



Average Expense Breakdown  
June - July 2020

June Revenue	78,564.82
June Expense	71,734.72
July Revenue	47,627.22
July Expense	71,000.00



## School Age Care Requirements

- Additional teachers to assist children to navigate canvas online learning
- Upgrade of wireless network
- Increase in bandwidth with an additional cost
- Extended technology support from Onpoint Computer Solutions (contracted tech support)



- COVID-19 guideline require a fully staffed center
- Adequate funding is needed to successfully mitigate COVID-19 outbreaks at childcare centers by:
  - Child Care subsidy payment by enrollment and rate increase
  - Subsidy stipend to offset revenue loss
  - Childcare Recovery Grant extension





### Las Cruces Child Care Licensing Office

- Quick response in answering questions
- Sharing of information in a timely manner

### NM Early Childhood Education and Care Department

- Consistent updates on State mandates
- Zoom call and weekly emails

### NM Department of Health

- Onsite COVID-19 testing
- Contact Tracing
- Rapid test results