



**THE CHILDREN'S HOME** | EDUCATION & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

**\*\*May 1, 2020\*\***

**CINCINNATI** – The Children’s Home’s pandemic childcare program has received a timely grant from the COVID – 19 Regional Response Fund in a collaborative effort made possible with the Greater Cincinnati Foundation and United Way.

“This generous grant could not have arrived at a more opportune time,” said Pam McKie, chief operating officer of The Children’s Home. “As parents begin to gradually make their way back to the workplace, childcare that has the appropriate and safest protocols will be needed more than ever. Our CoStars preschool is already poised to serve these children and parents who need our help.”

In March, CoStars Preschool by The Children’s Home shifted its program to become what the state now calls “pandemic certified.” To meet these stringent criteria, The Children’s Home instituted different classroom sizes, smaller student-to-staff ratios and a commitment to remain open to serve children of essential community workers – usually healthcare personnel and first responders.

As the state begins to reopen in accordance with Governor DeWine’s three phase plan, all working parents with young learners will need affordable, quality, and most importantly, safe childcare.

“It’s significant that we were able to become pandemic certified at a breakneck speed,” said Jill Wiegele, operations director of The Children’s Home and emergency childcare program administrator. “However, we knew families would need a specialized capability like ours when the state began to re-open and we’ve prepared for that. We’re diligently following the health guidelines the state has issued, have had no illnesses reported among our kids or staff, and have room to serve other families who need us.”

Information for families who wish to consider placing their child with the CoStars emergency childcare program is available by calling 513-527-7306.

CoStars Preschool by The Children’s Home is rated a 5-Star Step-Up to Quality program – the highest rating in the state. CoStars accepts private pay, childcare vouchers and is an approved Preschool Promise provider. It provides a full-day program (7 a.m. - 6 p.m.) specifically designed for working families, includes all meals, and is staffed by passionate, licensed and skilled preschool educators.

**MEDIA:** Please contact Steven Wilson, communications director at The Children’s Home, for coordination and assistance. Steve may be reached at [swilson@tchcincy.org](mailto:swilson@tchcincy.org); office: 513-527-7294; or cell: 859-240-2010.

Learn more at [www.tchcincy.org](http://www.tchcincy.org).

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