

Dear SMNS Families,

It's hard to believe we are already a month into the COVID-19 crisis and Saint Mary's Nursery School closure. On behalf of the SMNS Board of Directors, we would like to extend our heartfelt hopes that you and your families are weathering this storm and have a good support network in place. We also hope SMNS teachers and staff have offered some lightness during your days with videos and zoom calls. Staying connected with one another and caring for one another during this crisis is how we will move through this.

Executive Director Traci Childress and staff are working tirelessly to uncover every opportunity we can use to stay afloat and remain of service to you and to our shared community. We have applied for public and private sector small business loans and grants\*, **but we and the whole Early Education sector are threatened, and we won't be able to reopen without our entire community's support.**



We know how much you care about your SMNS community - teachers, staff and your fellow SMNS families.

**That's why we are reaching out to you, asking for your help to sustain SMNS' essential service by clicking here → [to donate](#) to the SMNS COVID-19 Emergency Fund, making a gift that is meaningful, significant, and affordable to you.**

If you can [donate](#) your monthly tuition, that would have a huge impact, since we have lost approximately 97% of our monthly income because we are no longer receiving private pay tuition. **And we express our sincere thanks to so many of you who have already donated almost \$17,000.**

#### **Did you know? A Snapshot of SMNS Expenses**

- One Week of Staff Healthcare Costs: approximately \$1,100
- One Week of Fixed Expenses (e.g. rent, insurances): approximately \$3,200
- One Week of Staff Payroll: approximately \$18,000

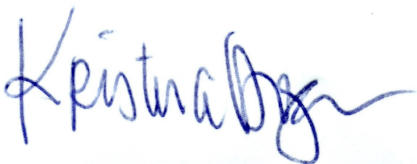
We understand and appreciate that not everyone is able to give at this time. That's why families who can donate are critical in shoring up our entire community who are being affected by COVID-19 financially and healthwise. Your [donation today](#) will help sustain all of us through this crisis.

If we can answer additional questions or if you have thoughts you would like to share, please reference our [Q & A document](#), or reach out to board president Tracy Buchanan at 267-257-3969, [tbuchanan357@gmail.com](mailto:tbuchanan357@gmail.com) or board governance chair Kristina Dugan at 703-568-4983, [kristina.a.dugan@gmail.com](mailto:kristina.a.dugan@gmail.com). Hopefully, we will be seeing each other again soon. In the meantime, take care, stay safe, and keep the hope!

With warm regards,



Tracy Buchanan, Board President



Kristina Dugan, Governance Chair

on behalf of the SMNS Board of Directors:

Mike Agnew	Tracy Buchanan	May Chang	Collin Cordoza
Kristina Dugan	Carolyn Johnson	Mark Karsz	Ning Li
Holly Mack-War	Bob Miller	Benn Roe	Neal Swisher

**\*P.S. Some great news just came in this morning - we have been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Philadelphia COVID-19 Small Business Relief Fund.**

**Together we will make it through! Make your [donation](#) today. Avoid credit card fees using [this form](#).**