



March 26, 2020

Dear Saint Mary's Nursery Center Friends and Community,

I know you are likely experiencing challenges on many levels - business, family, and personal. On behalf of our entire community, I want to extend the utmost expression of concern and care to you during this unprecedented time.

**[We also need your help to get through this.](#)**

At this moment all childcare centers not operating with a waiver from the state are mandated to be closed by Governor Wolf. We are able to pay our staff in full through the end of April even though we have lost 93.5% of our monthly income. This is why **[we need your support.](#)**

You continue to be a critical part of our community, helping sustain our capacity to meet our mission: **Saint Mary's Nursery School is dedicated to the development of young children and to cultivating meaningful relationships with our community.** During these closure days, our staff have been making videos to share with families. Please check out all the videos being posted on our new **[SMNS YouTube Channel](#)** and our **[SMNS Facebook Page](#)**.

As you may know, as a part of this closure, we have also cancelled our April 18th fundraiser, *Spring For Our School*. We are hoping to create a contingency event that may be online or in a new format. Whenever we get to the specifics, your support and participation will remain integral to that event.

In the meantime, if you would like to continue supporting us, we welcome donations during this time. As a private pay center, we cannot collect tuition, and any donation to our SMNS COVID-19 Emergency Fund will help us in a number of strategic ways that you can read about on our **[Q & A page](#)**. **If you would like to make a donation you can do so [HERE](#).** Donations are tax-deductible; we are a registered nonprofit.

We also hope you will share ways we can support you and your business or organization. We will get through this together. We look forward to continuing to work as a Philadelphia community to support one another during and after this difficult time.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Traci M. Childress', is positioned above the typed name.

Traci M. Childress, M.A., M.Ed.  
Executive Director