

Connections & Creativity During COVID-19

For the past eight weeks, our agency has been diligently working to provide virtual service options to avoid lapses in care, all while keeping health and safety our number one priority. Even though we are limiting physical entry into our building, we still remain committed in our mission to heal children, empower youth and strengthen families.



Here are just a few ways we've adapted services over the past few months:

The **Baby Pantry** remains OPEN weekdays from 8:00-10:00 a.m. and 3:00-5:00 p.m. Families are asked to call beforehand so CCFI staff can double check inventory and have their request ready upon arrival. This service has been a tremendous help to families during this uncertain time. One family even traveled from Wynnewood to pick up diapers and wipes for her daughter!

Bringing Up Babies in-home visits have transitioned into one-onone virtual sessions and have been well-received with families. Parents seem to be at ease with the new process and are grateful to have extra support during these difficult times. Boys & Girls Club of Norman is closed for the remainder of the school year and summer plans are still to be determined. To help stay connected with Club members, we've created weekly activity folders which are handed out every Friday. So far, these folders have been a HUGE hit with our families! Our staff has also set up a Google Classroom for the Club where we are sharing daily content such as games, activities, cooking videos and more.



Both the Children in the Middle and Divorce & Children educational classes are being hosted virtually each week through Zoom. We've also added a third weekly class series to provide even more options for parents.



Individual **counseling** sessions are being held through Zoom, with sessions ranging from 30 minutes to one hour. Separate meetings with parents are also taking place to continue reinforcing positive caregiver involvement. In fact, we've noticed that some of our counseling clients have been more open with sessions being done virtually, simply because they feel more comfortable communicating digitally.

Parents Assistance has also transitioned to a digital curriculum and is providing individual sessions through Zoom.

> To stay up-to-date with the latest agency news, please visit our website or follow us on social media.









Hands & Hearts is Going VIRTUAL

Every spring, CCFI hosts an annual fundraising luncheon to share our mission with the community and raise funds for our vital services and programs. Even though we were forced to cancel our in-person event due to the ongoing COVID-19 health crisis, we will still be hosting Hands & Hearts... virtually!



During the first two weeks in June, we will be hosting a virtual fundraising campaign through JustGiving, an online social platform for giving. During this two-week campaign, we'll share program updates, agency statistics, client testimonials and much more! Virtual quests will also be given the opportunity to make a financial contribution to provide steady, dependable support to our agency.

> Mark your calendars for June 1-15 for a virtual Hands & Hearts experience!

If you are interested in hosting a fundraising page, please contact Emily Banfield at ebanfield@ccfinorman.org.

Staffing Announcements

We are thrilled to announce that Kelley G. Nedbalek has taken on the role of Clinical Director for our agency! Kelley is a licensed clinical social worker and is endorsed as a Clinical Infant Mental Health Mentor. With close to 30 years of experience (most of which at CCFI) Kelley specializes in working with traumatized children under the age of 5.





Ashley Muns will be transitioning out of her current role to serve as Program Director where she will oversee Parents Assistance. Divorce and Co-Parenting and Bringing up Babies. Ashley is a licensed professional counselor supervisor and Nationally Certified Counselor. She holds a graduate certificate in Play

Therapy and was recently endorsed as

an Infant Family Specialist.

Jessica Hodges has been named Counseling Director and will manage the administrative functions and productivity of the counseling team. Jessica is a licensed clinical social worker who's served on the CCFI clinical team for close to a decade.



We would also like to welcome our new *Client Service Representatives*, Julia Reese (left) and Lauren Mattingly (right). Even in the middle of a pandemic, these two wonderful women have been running our front office flawlessly and are a wonderful addition to the team!





Baby Pantry Continues Helping Families in Need

During the month of April, we hosted a virtual diaper drive to help keep the Baby Pantry stocked. In just two short weeks, the community came together to donate 25 boxes of diapers and Pull-Ups! In addition, the Cleveland County Health Department hosted a resource drive and dropped off several more boxes of diapers, wipes and formula. With all of these donations combined, we collected an astonishing 5,000+ diapers in April! Now THAT is worth celebrating!



These donations have been a tremendous help to the Baby Pantry, as families are in need of extra support now more than ever. To help keep our shelves stocked, consider hosting your own virtual diaper drive or visit our Amazon wish list today!

LEARN MORE

Counseling Program Accepting NEW Clients

The CCFI counseling program specializes in working with children up to age 17 to address trauma and behavioral challenges while also providing support and educational services to parents. Now more than ever, these services are desperately needed to nurture mental health and help children find a sense of calm amidst the chaos.



While our office may be closed, we are still offering counseling services virtually and accepting NEW clients. Individual and family therapy sessions will be held virtually via Zoom and will range from 30 minutes to one hour, based on client need. Meetings with parents will also be scheduled, as caregiver involvement is key to a child's success.

To learn more about enrolling your child in counseling services, please click the link below.

LEARN MORE

2020 Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities

Corporate partnerships remain vital to the continued success of our agency and can help transform countless lives throughout our community. We are honored to show appreciation to the following local businesses and organizations, whose support has made it possible for us to provide comprehensive services to heal children, empower youth and strengthen families across Norman and Cleveland County.

Thank you to our Sustainer Sponsor!



Click the link below to learn how you can support our mission through a corporate sponsorship!



"Shop with a Smile" to Help Fulfill Our Wishes

When you make purchases through AmazonSmile, 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases is donated directly to CCFI. To help fulfill our wishes, watch for "Wish for Wednesday" posts on social media or shop our agency wish lists today!



Thank You to Our Recent In-Kind Donors

Amanda Pulis, Barbara O'Brien and Michael Carter, Brandy Koassechony, Caleb's Cause Foundation, Christine Seapy, Colleen Wilhelm, Cynthia Charboneau, Darcus Pearce, Edward Shepherd, Faneros Family, First Baptist Church, Frontline South Community, Helen Duchon, Jennifer Hendrix, Jill LeVan, Kara Morgan, Kate Brandon, Loraine Dunn, Marisol Faro-Suarez, Megan Walker, Melody and Scott Robinson, Network Technology Solutions, Norman Area Quilters' Guild, Paula Smalling, Pumpkin Shell School, Samantha Bunyard, Samantha Haugland, Tammy Didlot, Taylor Aldridge and the West Wind Unitarian Universalist Congregation.













Center for Children and Families, Inc. (CCFI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
210 South Cockrel Avenue, Norman, Oklahoma 73071 | 405-364-1420

