



EARLY LEARNING  
RESOURCE CENTER

 OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING

*Health & Safety Regional Task Force*

*Welcome*

***Early Learning Resource Center  
Region 17***

***Health & Safety Regional Task Force  
January 20, 2021***



Montgomery County  
Department of  
Health and Human Services

In partnership with Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services  
Serving Montgomery County  
P.O. Box 311 | 1430 DeKalb St. | Norristown, PA 19404 | (610) 278-3707 | [montcopa.org/elrc](http://montcopa.org/elrc)

## What is the Health & Safety Regional Task Force?

ELRC Region 17 hopes to act as a connection among support systems and between support systems. We have been tasked with creating a Health & Safety Regional Task Force to bring together professionals in a regional, collaborative effort to provide coordinated, consistent health and safety related supports to ECE providers, identify needs, maximize resources, and leverage local and statewide strengths to address needs and improve services.

The Health & Safety Regional Task Force will be comprised of ELRC Quality Coaches, Program Quality Assessors, Preschool Program Specialists, EI/EITA Consultants, Certification Representatives, and Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Consultants. ELRC 17 will be creating a Task Force informed by an assessment of the needs of providers in their region and available resource partners who can serve on their Task Force. The individual expertise and strengths of each task force member will guide the work and the allocation of effort. Now more than ever, we need to ensure that health and safety is at the forefront of early childhood education. We hope that you will join us as we focus on this critical matter.

**Objectives of the Health & Safety Regional Task Force should include:**

- Meet regularly to discuss activities, requests, findings, challenges, and needs
- Identify areas of expertise and create a phone/contact list
- Determine regional needs, approaches to meeting the needs, and the system to support programs within the region
- Set up systems for communication
- Create resource connections for programs without duplicating services
- Share findings with their ELRC Local Leadership Councils on a regular basis
- Report recent work and developments to the Pennsylvania Key Senior Health Manager as requested

## **Key commitment statements for Task Force members:**

- Our work is relationship-based with the goal of supporting cross-sector partnerships and collaborative responsiveness to health and safety concerns.
- We acknowledge that conversations and information shared are to be privileged and confidential.
- We work collaboratively to support regional dialogue, sharing resources and supporting the implementation of best practices around health & safety in ECE environments.
- Our commitment to best practice extends to engaging Certification Representatives when any program is observed to be out of compliance or expresses a need for additional clarification about Pennsylvania child care regulations and/or implementation of regulatory guidance.
- We will continually review Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and government Guidance on best practice and Pennsylvania regulatory compliance based on the evolving nature of the pandemic and emerging evidence.

**ELRCs should ensure that their Health & Safety Regional Task Force develops long term goals to guide the team’s work even after the COVID-19 pandemic subsides. The following list can serve as examples of long-term goals for the Regional Task Force:**

- Keeping the systems intact which are being created by this effort
- Maintaining these coordinated efforts for the future
- Creating a multidisciplinary group
- Creating sustainable community resources to support community wellbeing

## **Winter Coats: ELRC 17 has winter coats available!**

Different sizes & colors are available

Supplies are limited (first come, first served)

One coat per child or adult

For more information about pick up date and time, please contact:

**Raquel Graham**

**Phone: 610-278-3707 | 610-278-5261**

**Email: [RGraham@montcopa.org](mailto:RGraham@montcopa.org)**

## **Books, Books, Books!**

**“A child who reads will be an adult who thinks.”**

ELRC has children’s books available. We can offer a package of books to programs and/or families upon request.

Please contact:

**Raquel Graham**

**Phone: 610-278-3707 | 610-278-5261**

**Email: [RGraham@montcopa.org](mailto:RGraham@montcopa.org)**

## **Personal Protective Equipment: ELRC 17 – Pre-Packaged PPE Kits:**

- 3-Ply Medical Face Mask w. Ear Loops
  - Disposable Face Shield
  - Non-Surgical Isolation Gowns
  - Nitrile Gloves-various sizes
  - Hand Sanitizer, 8 oz, with flip top
  - Hand Sanitizer, 16 oz, hand pump
  - Wipes, 50 count
  - Shoe Covers
  - Infrared Thermometer
  - Aprons w/front pockets
- **Contact your Keystone STARS Quality Coach if you would like to request a PPE kit**



## **Personal Protective Equipment:**

Partnership with ELRC 17 & Office of Public Health

Pre-Packaged PPE Kits will be delivered by carrier when the first positive COVID case is reported.

## **Personal Protective Equipment: ELRC 17 – Open Purchase Order**

- Limit \$1,000.00 per location to start
- First come, first served
- Delivered directly to the location; delivery address must match PELICAN

## **Pennsylvania COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts**

The Department of Health (DOH) is coordinating the statewide COVID-19 vaccination efforts and communications. For current information please utilize the DOH's COVID-19 Vaccine page. Please refer to this page frequently for updates to the vaccination efforts.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/Vaccine.aspx>

OCDEL encourages staff to receive the vaccine when eligible (take the vaccine eligibility quiz) unless otherwise recommended by a doctor. Staff are encouraged to continue mitigation efforts such as wearing face coverings, washing hands, and social distancing.

<https://www.pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/#Step1ChecktoSeeifYoureEligible>

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is not yet approved for children under the age of 16. The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is not yet approved for children under the age of 18. More research is needed to make sure any COVID-19 vaccine will be safe and effective for infants, children and teens.

## **OCDEL's Frequently Asked Questions**

### **When will I know if I am eligible to receive the vaccine?**

ECE professionals are included in Phase 1B and not eligible statewide for vaccinations now unless they are 65 years of age or older or have an underlying medical condition that qualifies them for Phase 1A.

View the “Getting the Vaccine” page on the DOH website.

<https://www.pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/>

### **Will OCDEL register staff/coordinate locations for staff to receive the vaccine?**

No. Please visit DOH's webpage on vaccines, linked to above, where you will find a statewide map showing vaccine provider locations. Use the map to identify a provider and coordinate with them directly.

## **OCDEL's Frequently Asked Questions**

**Will OCDEL make the vaccine mandatory for either staff or children?**

No.

**Can I make it mandatory for my staff to get the vaccine?**

Deciding to require staff to be vaccinated should be discussed with your Human Resources and legal team.

**Can I make it mandatory for the children in my care or their families get the vaccine?**

Children were not included in the clinical trials for any of the current vaccines and therefore these vaccines are not available to anyone under the age of 16 at this time. Only the Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine is approved for individuals ages 16 and 17.

## **Presentation:** Montgomery County, Office of Public Health

Updates on COVID-19 vaccine

Phases for vaccination (priority groups)

Current testing sites

Hours of operation

Procedure for scheduling a test

Statistics (positivity rates, number of people tested, etc.)

Other information relevant to child care providers & community partners



*Health & Safety Regional Task Force*

## **Introduction:** Dr. Francis Jeyaraj

Dr. Jeyaraj is a board-certified pediatrician with over 50 years of experience. He has served the Lansdale community for over 40 years. He graduated from U Bombay Medical School in 1969. He completed a residency at Norwalk Hospital – Yale School of Medicine. He has served on many boards and has won several awards.



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*Health & Safety Regional Task Force*

## **Introduction:** Dr. Francis Jeyaraj (Boards & Awards)

Board Of Directors – Pearl S. Buck International

Board Of Directors – United Way

Board Of Directors – Montgomery County Health Department

Advisory Council – Passi - Pan Asian Senior Center

Board Of Directors Arconet

Founder - Indo-American Club

Co- Founder International Spring Festival

Diversity Council Montgomery County Community College



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## **Introduction:** Dr. Francis Jeyaraj (Boards & Awards)

Person Of The Year Award, 1995 B'nai Brith

Community Service Award, 1998, North Penn Chamber Of Commerce

Community Service Award, Lansdale Jaycees 2000

Community Service Award, 1993, Indian American Political Affairs Committee

Community Service Award, Indo-american Club 1999

Community Service Award, Indo-american Club 2002, Lansdale Borough

Community Service Award International Spring Festival Committee 2007

Pennsylvania Human Relations Service Award



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## **Welcome, Dr. Jeyaraj!**

We are honored to have your time today.

We will benefit greatly from your perspective and expertise.



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## **Open Discussion & Support Forum:**

Questions & Answers?

Concerns & Suggestions?

Unmet needs?

Supportive processes & systems?

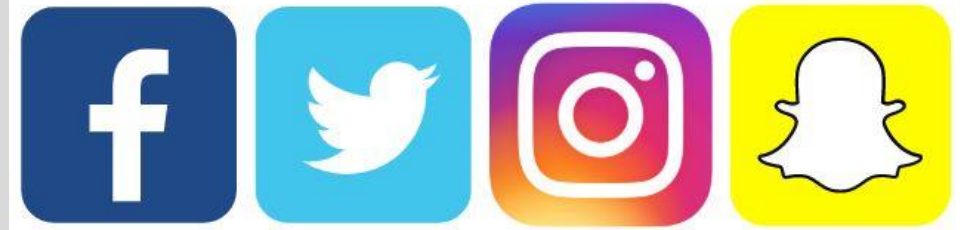


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## Next meeting:

Wednesday 3/3/21  
1 pm - 3pm (Zoom)

**Follow us on Social Media @HHSMontcoPA**



Email us at [ELRCRegion17@pa.gov](mailto:ELRCRegion17@pa.gov)



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**Thank you for  
joining us today!**

