

Dear OSU faculty and staff,

The start of this unprecedented academic year will undoubtedly present challenges and needs for all employees, and certainly for those with young children and school-aged children. In response, the following child and youth care programs and resources may be of assistance to you.

**OSU Child Care Centers on the Corvallis Campus:**

Both Corvallis campus children's centers have re-opened. Please contact our child care providers, [Bright Horizons](#) and [KinderCare](#), regarding any possible openings. The centers typically carry a waitlist. However, due to some families foregoing group care at this time, enrollment openings may have occurred. Child care oversight at the centers is provided through our state Early Learning Division (ELD). Both child care providers at our two Corvallis campus centers continue to follow all ELD and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) COVID-19 guidelines. Please contact the [Family Resource Center](#) for information on service levels, safety precautions and other details.

The OSU Child Development Center will be re-opening its preschool programs beginning fall term. For more information, please contact <https://health.oregonstate.edu/child-development-center>.

**OSU-Cascades** is working to launch Little Beavs Child Care, a temporary, short-term childcare service. More information will be available on the OSU-Cascades website and via email. Please reach out to [childcare@osucascades.edu](mailto:childcare@osucascades.edu) with questions.

**Additional Child Care Options:**

**NEW Family Network:** OSU's Family Resource Center will offer a new resource to facilitate connections between OSU parents at all OSU locations. This program will offer parent-to-parent networking, collaborating on child care solutions and sharing tips, resources and solutions. Stay tuned for the rollout of this resource.

**NEW Our Little Village (OLV)** short-term childcare program in Corvallis, administered through the Family Resource Center, will be expanding and re-opening in the coming month. The university has allocated additional funding to expand the program to serve faculty and staff within a new location, OLV|Milne, designed to serve children ages 5 months to 12 years. Short-term reservable child care will be provided in the Milne Computer Lab and Dixon Recreation Center. The program is cohort-based and informed by the applicable Early Learning Division COVID-19 guidelines. Two- and three-day morning and afternoon sessions will be available. Be on the lookout for additional program and registration information in the coming weeks or visit <https://familyresources.oregonstate.edu/OLV>

**NEW KidSpirit** has modified the ACES (no-school camps) to KidSpirit Base Camps (Belonging, Art, Sport and Enrichment). We anticipate these in-person camps will start Sept. 26, 2020. Groups will consist of 10 youngsters in grades K-12, and will meet for 2 hours, 1 to 3 days per week, for 4-week or 8-week sessions in Langton Hall on the Corvallis campus. KidSpirit recreation gymnastics will be offered for two hours per week, along with movement and dance activities. KidSpirit will continue to offer virtual camps. Register [online](#). For more information, contact [kidspirit@oregonstate.edu](mailto:kidspirit@oregonstate.edu) or 541-737-KIDS (5437). Scholarships are available.

**Additional Resources:**

**Care.com:**

All OSU employees have free access to [Care.com](#), a third-party service that provides free and helpful childcare-provider referrals. Care.com has created a [back-to-school resource guide](#), on how to navigate complicated child care scenarios that COVID-19 has created. Employees can access child care and distance learning resources including resources for tutors, nanny shares, pod teachers, pod shares, babysitters and more. Employees can post jobs on Care.com to meet their needs, such as a job for a tutor to help their children manage their Zoom schedule and schoolwork.

Care.com will offer several upcoming webinars that address the challenges of providing distance learning and care for children and teens during COVID-19. Employees can find information about these webinars [online](#).

**Financial Assistance:**

The FriendRaisers Child Care Assistance program for employees will accept applications at the start of fall term. The fund assists several employee families a year with the cost of child care. Applications will be available at <https://familyresources.oregonstate.edu/employee-financial-resources> on the first day of fall term. Please contact Amy Luhn at [amy.luhn@oregonstate.edu](mailto:amy.luhn@oregonstate.edu) regarding child care assistance or donating to this fund.

**Beyond Benefits Employee Assistance Program:**

Beyond Benefits (EAP) is OSU's new employee assistance program. Areas of focus include family needs, financial needs, mental and emotional support needs, and legal needs. Find more information on the Office of Human Resources website: <https://hr.oregonstate.edu/benefits/current-employees/health-wellness-work-life/employee-assistance-program>.

**Protected Leave:**

Resources are available to OSU employees, including expanded federal (FMLA) and state (OFLA) protected leave programs related to caring for children at home due to school and child care center closures. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act provides a paid family leave option for eligible employees, including intermittent use of leave to care for children related to COVID-19 school and child care center closures.

To assist OSU community members, learn more about protected leave and COVID-19 benefits, UHR will host two workshops:

- Monday Oct. 5, 2020, at 10 a.m., regarding protected leave for supervisors  
<https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/97453533367>
- Tuesday Oct. 6, 2020, at 2 p.m., regarding protected leave for employees  
<https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/91097281552>

We wish you well as we embark on this academic year.

Sincerely,

Dan Larson  
Vice Provost for Student Affairs

Cathy Hasenpflug  
Chief Human Resources Officer