## OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS

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## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY TO REMAIN IN PHASE 2 REOPENING

Child Care Provider Recovery Program Begins Accepting Applications on September 9, 2020

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks and Health Officer Dr. Ernest Carter announced today that Prince George's County will remain in Phase 2 reopening ahead of the Labor Day weekend. While overall the County's positivity rate is 4.1% according to County COVID-19 data, there are still 13 zip codes above the 5% positivity rate goal.

"We are pleased to see that our case numbers have slowly decreased over the last several weeks, showing that Prince Georgians are still doing their part to slow the spread," said Alsobrooks. "However, after discussions with our health experts, and factoring in the spike we saw after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, we believe it's prudent to stay the course right now."

The County is also seeing 11.4 new cases per 100,000 people daily, which is above the State's daily new case rate of 8.7 per 100,000 people.

"Data continues to drive our decision making, and right now, the numbers tell us it is not yet safe for our County to move to a Phase 3 reopening," said Dr. Carter. "The County has yet to recover from the uptick in cases we saw in early July. We want to avoid a repeat this Labor Day weekend, so we ask everyone to remain vigilant."

The County Executive and Health Officer urge Prince Georgians to refrain from large gatherings and family gatherings this weekend. They also remind residents that physical distancing, facial coverings, and hand hygiene are key to a continued downward trend in COVID-19 spread in the community. County Executive Alsobrooks will continue to monitor data and work in concert

with Dr. Carter and the Prince George's County Health Department to determine when it is safe to begin a modified Phase 3 reopening.

The County Executive also announced details of the County's Child Care Provider Recovery Program, which provides grants to child care centers that had to close their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Child care providers may receive a grant up to \$20,000 for licensed child care centers and up to \$3,000 for registered family child care homes to support reopening costs, including personal protective equipment (PPE), payroll, supplies, rent, fixed debt payments and other operating costs.

The County will accept applications from September 9, 2020 through October 2, 2020. To be eligible, child care providers must be in "good standing" with the State of Maryland, must not be in bankruptcy or litigation, and must have incurred financial losses caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency, among other requirements. The County has allocated \$2 million for this program and grant awards will be announced October 9, 2020. For more information and a complete list of eligibility requirements, or to access the application starting September 9, visit: https://www.pgcedc.com/covid-child-care-recovery

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