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**Department for Children and Families**  
**Family Services Division**  
280 State Drive  
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Waterbury, VT 05671-1030

May 8, 2020

Dear Vermont Caregiver,

It is hard to believe that May is upon us! We are now several months into the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order. The Family Services Division has been actively navigating the courts and the legislature to establish agreed upon approaches to safe parent child contact. A significant number of family time activities are occurring virtually. And, as you know, other contacts are occurring face-to-face, supported by you. As we continue to move forward toward a "new normal", we developed guidance for those individuals participating in "in-person" parent child contact.

We anticipate the attached document will be revised over time. It incorporates current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) and contains links to those documents. Parents, Family Services Workers, and our Family Time Support Staff will be receiving this same guidance. We truly hope that it will provide you with the information you need to enhance everyone's safety while supporting family time.

May is National Foster Care Month. On behalf of the Family Services Division, I want to thank each of you for your ongoing commitment to supporting Vermont's most vulnerable children. During these unprecedented times, your nurturing, and the stability you provide has made all the difference for the children in your care.

With Appreciation and Gratitude,

Christine Johnson  
DCF Family Services Division, Deputy Commissioner



