



To: AVANCE-Houston Parents and Program Participants
From: Luz Flores, Executive Director
CC: Chief Leadership Team
Date: June 18, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 Updates: AVANCE-Houston Reopening Date Extended to August 3, 2020

Dear AVANCE-Houston Parents and Program Participants,

I trust you and your families are well and keeping safe throughout these trying times.

AVANCE-Houston continues to closely monitor the climate and updates around COVID-19, in order to make decisions that we consider safest for our employees, our children and families we serve. As you might be aware, COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Harris County and Texas, and for this reason we have decided to extend the reopening date of our facilities to **Monday, August 3, 2020**. This date is set to have employees return to work and prepare for the new program year 2020-2021. **The actual start date for children will be shared with you as soon as it is available.**

AVANCE-Houston launched a *Return to Work Task Force*, led by Antionette Montgomery, Chief Administrator of Head Start/Early Head Start and Parent-Child Education Program. This task force has been working these last months, developing a plan that includes assessments of work stations and classrooms to ensure measures of social distancing, trainings on safety protocols, phases in which departments will reintegrate back into their work locations, and safety methods to welcome children and program participants back into our centers when it is safe to do so. Prior to starting the new school year, you will receive an orientation about new safety protocols.

Head Start and Early Head Start applications can be completed online for this new program year at www.avancehouston.org/enroll-now/. The First Day of Classes date for your program will be determined soon.

Thank you for being part of our AVANCE-Houston family.

Stay well and be safe,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Luz Flores".

Luz Flores