

APRIL 6, 2020
CONTACT: Michelle Kapreilian
941.365.1477
michelle.kapreilian@fortycarrots.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forty Carrots Puts Children and Families First During COVID-19

SARASOTA, FL: April 6, 2020. Forty Carrots Family Center has implemented unique strategies for giving children and parents the tools and support they need to navigate these challenging times.

Due to COVID-19, and the Sarasota County School closure schedule, the Forty Carrots' facilities will be closed through May 1st. However, by quickly moving services to tech-based communication platforms, our therapists, educators, and staff continue to put children and families first in the midst of this global pandemic.

"First and foremost, we remain committed to the health and safety of our families, donors, staff, and volunteers," said CEO Michelle Kapreilian. "We also understand that while our methods may change during this time, the need for our services has never been greater. Mental health concerns are on the rise, as are domestic violence and substance abuse that directly impacts the risk of child abuse. We remain focused on doing our part to prevent abuse and neglect from happening to our community's children."

Among the many services being offered by Forty Carrots during this time:

- * Mental Health and therapy sessions continue, using telephone and video-conferencing platforms.
- * Individual Parenting Consultations are available to assist parents who suddenly have children home 24/7.
- * Parenting Education groups for parents of newborns and toddlers will move to online, discussion-based groups.
- * Preschool is conducting virtual class time, allowing children and families to stay connected with their teachers and classmates.



While the vast majority of Forty Carrots' formal partners have closed their operations, there is still remote work in mental health and parenting education continuing on with CenterPlace Health, Solve Maternity Homes, and with clients directly, who under normal circumstances are reached through other partnerships.

For more information, visit fortycarrots.org or call **(941) 960-2565**.