Pennsylvania ELECT funders recognize the impact of COVID-19 and potential risks to families, schools and home visitors associated with this public health crisis. In an effort to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, ELECT programming shifted to a virtual and telephonic service delivery model as of March 16, 2020.

The School District of Philadelphia, in partnership with ELECT implementation partner agencies and service providers, transitioned quickly into a robust remote service delivery operation serving students in more than 100 education programs.

Service Overview

Students will continue to be offered at minimum, 4 hours of ELECT service, remotely.

- Up to 1 hour telephonic case management consultation
- At least 1 hour video chat case management consultation
- 2 hours virtual group education (workshops)
- Virtual quarterly home visits
Program Features

WHAT WE OFFER

While the way we do our work has changed, our commitment to supporting expectant and parenting students has not. Here are some of the ways we continue to engage and support young families from a "social distance".

Open Enrollment
We have capacity to serve more young parents and we maintain an open enrollment process, despite the school building closures. Intakes are completed over the phone or virtually with the ELECT Teen Outreach Coordinator. Interested students and families can contact us through email, phone, or text.

Resource and Referral
Students are connected to a vast array of local resources to address emergency or crisis needs in addition to resources that will support progress towards goals: personal, academic, and post-secondary education/employment. We cultivated and maintain a resource bank covering 9 categories of tools students can use as empowered advocates for their personal needs and goals.

Virtual Group Education
Virtual workshops are offered almost daily, spanning a range of content areas: goal setting, life skills, college/career, parenting education, child development, relationship skills, mental health and wellness.

Peer Engagement "Separate but Connected"
Social connection is a key component of the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework and we achieve this while separated by hosting workshops with interactive components and students are invited to join on camera. Scheduled activities include a Virtual Book Club, Cooking/Meal Prep and Crafting with Kids.

Fatherhood Initiative
The ELECT Fatherhood Initiative provides dedicated virtual groups just for dads; Fatherhood Fridays (weekly) and a Saturday Series (monthly). Dads may be experiencing greater stress if they are living apart from the child and co-parent. ELECT Fatherhood leaders create a space for all dads to connect and get support through a virtual convening.

Cribs for Kids At Home
Through an innovative response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Cribs for Kids launched a virtual safe sleep education program with direct ship-to-home portable cribs. We launched our ELECT Cribs for Kids at Home series on April 22, 2020.

Incentives
Students continue to earn Baby Bucks for participation and achievements that can be spent as soon as it's safe to reopen the ELECT Baby Boutique. A special, temporary incentive program includes opportunities to earn gift cards or tickets to area attractions that we hope to see open and welcoming families in the upcoming months.

Academic and Remote Learning Supports
Students and families are adapting to a changing educational landscape and we're here to help. Our team is trained to support families with navigating online learning platforms like Google Classroom. ELECT Case Managers continue to assist students with understanding assignments, managing deadlines and building study skills. We support pregnant and parenting students to ensure they have full access to their education programs by addressing needs and accommodations.