HELPING FAMILIES COPE
CMEE’S COVID-19 RESPONSE
Addressing the critical needs of our most vulnerable families

Despite losing almost $750,000 in expected revenue in 2020, the Children’s Museum remains steadfast in its commitment to serving East End families and children by –

PROVIDING NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT
When the Museum was forced to close its doors to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, it began operating a weekly food pantry that now provides thousands of pounds of groceries to over 70 families each week.

PROVIDING EMOTIONAL SUPPORT
Museum staff hosted virtual support groups to help struggling families cope with the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
To combat summer learning loss, the Museum launched a digital Literacy Club and distributed almost 200 books to low-income families. In addition, Museum staff presented dozens of science, ESL, family literacy and sensory-friendly classes via online platforms.

HELPING OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS HELP FAMILIES
The Museum expanded its partnerships with local community organizations including the Bridgehampton Community Food Pantry and other area food banks, the Eleanor Whitmore Early Childhood Center, Hamptons Art Camp and Outreach, Hudson’s Helping Hands, Supplies for Success, and Welcome Baby to deliver programming, groceries and vital supplies to underserved children and families.

SAFEGUARDING THE HEALTH OF OUR CHILDREN
Since reopening to the public, the Children’s Museum staff have limited attendance to less than 20% of capacity and instituted numerous health and safety protocols that go above and beyond CDC guidelines.

CMEE’S COVID-19 RESPONSE: It’s not just a food pantry, an online reading program or a safe place to play; it’s a social connection that offers families emotional support and hope for the future.
After a three-month virtual collaboration with digital artist, Roz Dimon, students in CMEE’s bilingual coding club created a digital collage documenting their lives during the pandemic. The piece was unveiled in August during a special outdoor screening at the Museum.

Despite being closed, CMEE made sure that preschool students in its Head Start program were recognized with a “drive-in” graduation ceremony in the Museum’s parking lot.

Prior to reopening in August, the staff created new opportunities for play that increased the use of CMEE’s outdoor space.

CMEE has received hundreds of “Thank You” notes from children assisted by the Museum during the COVID-19 crisis.
The Children’s Museum is grateful to the following donors for their generous support!

Gifts received October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020

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The Children’s Museum’s mission is to spark imagination and foster learning for children of all backgrounds and abilities and to build strong connections with the East End community by providing playful experiences.
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