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Press Release

To: Intermediate School District Superintendents From: Dr. William Miller, Executive Director Date: March 24, 2020 RE: Michigan Intermediate School Districts Help Expand Child Care Capacity for Essential Workforce

Lansing, MI—On March 18, 2020, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer requested that Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) across the state help expand the capacity for child care services for members of the essential workforce during the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.

Through <u>Executive Order 2020-16</u>, the Governor asked ISDs to help mobilize and coordinate disaster relief child care centers in partnership with the Early Childhood Investment Corporation, Michigan 2-1-1, local education agencies, employers, early childhood educators, private or community-based child care centers, and licensed in-home providers.

"As COVID-19 continues to spread across our state, ISDs are supporting this vital need of our communities," said Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators (MAISA) Executive Director Dr. William Miller.

The Executive Order allows both public and nonpublic school facilities to be used for disaster relief child care centers focused on providing services for members of the essential workforce. According to Miller, child care locations and offerings may be different depending on the needs in each community.

Those in the essential workforce provide critical infrastructure to Michiganders including: health care workers, home health workers, direct care workers, emergency medical service providers, first responders, law enforcement personnel, sanitation workers, child care workers, personnel providing correctional services, postal workers, public health employees, key government employees and court personnel.

Through MAISA, ISDs are continuing to work with the Governor's Office, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Michigan Department of Education and other statewide partners on this much-needed effort.

For more information visit <u>www.gomaisa.org</u>.

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