



 **MU Child Development Lab**
University of Missouri

April 1, 2020

Dear CDL Friends, Families, Alumni, and Community Stakeholders,

Since 1920, the University of Missouri Child Development Lab (CDL) in the Department of Human Development and Family Science in the College of Human Environmental Sciences has been delivering high quality teacher education and childcare services to thousands of children and their families in Boone County. Many of you already understand the challenges we face, and have previously given to fundraising efforts in support of the CDL. For that, we are truly grateful! ***Due to recent events, we are once again asking for your help.***

The CDL has been closed since March 18 due to the COVID-19 outbreak. During this closure, we are paying teacher salaries and other operating costs without a source of revenue. **This is not sustainable.**

In previous campaigns, we have asked for a new playground or new gravel for our garden. That is no longer a priority. We do not know when this closure will end – and we need your help to ensure we can reopen when it is over.

Our goal is to raise \$75,000 a month for the next three months, for a total of \$225,000. All donations, big or small, will make a huge difference. Any money raised above our operating costs will be used for improvements of the CDL, once we are safe to open.

To kick off the fundraising, Dr. Brenda Lohman, Chair of Human Development and Family Science, as well as Dr. Sandy Rikoon, Dean of the College of Human Environmental Sciences, will personally contribute \$500 each and will donate another \$500 each when we reach our halfway point of \$112,500.

These are uncertain times for all of us. We sincerely hope this finds you and your family healthy and safe during this difficult time. We are all in this together.

To donate, please go to <https://mizzougivedirect.missouri.edu/MU-CDL>.

Thank you for your support,

Michelle Mathews, PhD
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Brenda Lohman, PhD
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