



Dear ACC Members,

We find ourselves in a historically significant time. The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted ACC's traditional board meetings, Circle meetings, fund raisers and social gatherings. This feels frustrating and overwhelming, but despite this uncertainty, the agencies that we serve still need us! Our organization originated in 1918, during the Spanish Flu pandemic. Many children were left orphaned. Our founders created adoption and foster care placement facilities then, and we continue to protect children and families today. It is hopeful and encouraging to report that there are some innovative events emerging from our members during this precarious time.

The Fr. Mychal Judge Circle took their annual **Cosmos for a Cause** "*virtual*". It was creative and very successful. Kudos to these women for blazing the trail and adapting to the times so adeptly! The Katie McKay Circle plans to do a virtual Christmas event in lieu of the Tour of Homes this year. The Fr. Thomas Lane and the Marjorie Ryan Circles are teaming up to do their annual poinsettia/wreath sale. There is still great need for layettes and school supplies. Many Circles are meeting via Zoom to creatively plan projects and connect with one another. We need to remember to go easy on ourselves. We are doing great; this new reality is just simply hard.

Speaking of creativity, we have a very exciting event coming up on September 30th. Our annual all-ACC **Celebrate the Children (CTC)** fundraiser is going *virtually* "live". It will run through October 9th. The CTC Committee has been working very hard over the summer to make this happen. Please watch your email for the launch and be ready to forward the new ACC video to anyone you think might be interested in supporting our cause. This is a fabulous opportunity for all of us to work together.

Finally, it is so important that we reach out to one another as we navigate our present circumstance. I am very thankful for the strength, love and support of the ACC Community. I am inspired by your perseverance and dedication to our mission. The children and families that we serve are sincerely grateful for all of our efforts. I look forward to the day that we can all meet again in person. Until then, continue to be creative, compassionate, and safe.

Much peace to all,

Helen Santucci
ACC President
Member of the Katie McKay Circle