

# DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES UPDATE

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OFFICE OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION TRAINING | 8.22.2023

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MANAGER ANDREA WARNKE

# FOSTER CARE BUNDLE – HB2024



## CHILD ABUSE REVIEW EVALUATION EXAM

- KDHE and DCF have continued to facilitate and expand the CARE program statewide by training staff on referral processes.

## NEWBORN SAFETY DEVICES

- The agency has posted required materials to be provided on the public website and provided notice of the link with materials to municipalities and Association of Fire Chiefs, including:
  - Rights of Birth Parents
  - Notice stating 60 days after surrender Parental Right Termination proceedings will commence.
  - A questionnaire regarding birth parent and infant medical or background information including any tribal status information.
  - Brochures and information on postpartum health; grief, pregnancy, adoption or placement counseling services.

### Quick Links

[Youth Recovery Report](#)

[Report Abuse](#)

[Report Fraud](#)

[Hotline Numbers](#)

[Family Crisis Response Helpline](#)

[Family First](#)

[Newborn Infant Protection](#)

# POLL QUESTIONS

1. Child Abuse Review Evaluation referrals are **mandatory** for children age \_\_\_ and under alleged to be victims of physical abuse or neglect?
  - a. Age 5
  - b. Age 6
  - c. Age 7
  - d. Age 10
  
2. Thanks to the Legislature, youth in the Independent Living program are now eligible to receive a **maximum** IL Subsidy of \_\_\_?
  - a. \$800 per month
  - b. \$900 per month
  - c. \$1,000 per month
  - d. \$1,100 per month

# FOSTER CARE BUNDLE - HB2024 CONT.

## FOSTER CARE BILL OF RIGHTS

DCF has published the Foster Care Bill of Rights on our public facing website in the top banner:



Additionally, the agency is planning to integrate written Foster Care Bill of Rights materials into both the Foster Parent and Foster Child entry process.

The Bill of Rights will be available in multiple languages and the Foster Child/Youth materials will include age-appropriate language to convey their rights.

# CROSS OVER YOUTH - HB 2021 (+2033)

By October 1, DCF is to identify an evidence-based risk and needs assessment to administer to children identified as exhibiting behavior that could lead to juvenile offender charges during a child in need of care (CINC) case; ensure collaboration with KDOC and the Judicial Branch so that CINC and Juvenile Code children receive and participate in services funded by the Evidence-based Programs Account.

- **DCF has selected an assessment to utilize for children displaying such behaviors and is revising current practices and policies that may be affected by the assessment tool and referrals.**
- **DCF will train agency and CMP staff how to utilize the assessment tool for implementation on October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

House Bill 2033 was added to this bill in conference committee, which replaces the term ‘Mental health’ with ‘Behavioral Health’ for admittance to a Juvenile Crisis Intervention Center. DCF testified in support of this original legislation.

# NOTIFICATION OF QRTP PLACEMENT - HOUSE BILL 2240



- HB 2240 clarifies and requires the clerk of the district court to provide stated parties with written notice when a child is placed in a qualified residential treatment program (QRTP), after receipt of such written notice from the Secretary for Children and Families.
- Parties who must be notified per statute the petitioner; the attorney for the parents, if any; each parent at the last known address; the child, if 12 years of age or older; the child's guardian ad litem; any other party or interested party; and the child's court-appointed special advocate.

# FOSTER YOUTH BANK ACCOUNTS – HOUSE BILL 2247



DCF requested introduction of House Bill 2247, with the intent to provide youth in foster care, ages 16 or older, the ability to open a bank account without a cosigner by amending the State Banking Code.

The Kansas Banking Association has vetted and offered amendments to this bill of which DCF fully supported.

The amended bill passed the house floor and is waiting in the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee until the 2024 session.

# FOSTER CARE BUDGET ENHANCEMENTS



## **\$5M AF to Increase to Relative & Kin Placement Rates in Foster Care**

- Increases rate from 46%-68% of licensed foster home rates, depending on the placement level, to 70%.

## **\$417,109 SGF for Independent Living Subsidy increase.**

- Maximum IL subsidy has been increased from \$700 to \$1,100 per month (approx. 100% of the poverty level).
- Amount of actual subsidy paid is the difference between the youth's living expenses and other income such as wages and other assistance.



# FOSTER CARE BUDGET ENHANCEMENTS



## **\$1.25M SGF for WeKanDrive for Independent Living Youth expansion**

- Expands DCF program helping Youth obtain a Driver's License statewide.

## **\$2M AF for Evidence Based Juvenile Services for Delinquent Youth**

- Ensure youth who enter FC receive evidence-based services like Functional Family Therapy

## **\$6M AF for recruitment, retention, and training of Therapeutic Foster Homes.**

## **\$1M SGF for Prevention Services for I/DD Youth.**

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