



FY 2019: SUPPLEMENT TO THE 4TH-ANNUAL PROGRESS AND SERVICE REPORT (APSR)



“Protecting Children and Nurturing Mississippi Families”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

I. TITLE IV-B HEALTH CARE OVERSIGHT AND COORDINATION	1
A. UPDATES TO THE PLAN	1
II. JOHN H. CHAFEE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD	4
A. UPDATES TO THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES	4
III. APSR STATE CONTACT:	8
A. CFSP/APSR COORDINATOR:	8

I. TITLE IV-B HEALTH CARE OVERSIGHT AND COORDINATION

A. UPDATES TO THE PLAN

As reauthorized by the Family First Prevention Service Act (FFPSA) for Title IV-B, subpart 1, MDCPS has revised its Health Care Oversight and Coordination plan to meet this requirement. Listed below are the amended procedures and protocols to ensure that children in foster care are not inappropriately diagnosed with mental illness, other emotional or behavioral disorders, medically fragile conditions, or developmental disabilities, and placed in settings that are not foster family homes because of the inappropriate diagnoses:

- **Collaborate with specialized case management teams within Magnolia Health Plan to ensure the ongoing management of medical, mental, dental and behavioral health needs.**
 - MDCPS representatives will attend bi-monthly meetings with Magnolia Health plan and discuss reports for children with foster care eligibility type.
 - MDCPS Nursing Supervisor will staff this information with Nursing unit and the nurses will contact Regional Area Social Work Supervisor (ASWS) in their assigned areas by email for tracking purposes to notify them of issues that need to be addressed and to offer support.
 - MDCPS has also posted a list of approved EPSDT providers to its internal website for access by county workers to assist workers with scheduling periodic medical examinations and all medically necessary follow up services and treatment for children in foster care. EPSDT is:
 - **Early:** Assessing and identifying problems early
 - **Periodic:** Checking children's health at periodic, age-appropriate intervals
 - **Screening:** Providing physical, mental, developmental, dental, hearing, vision, and other screening tests to detect potential problems
 - **Diagnostic:** Performing diagnostic tests to follow up when a risk is identified, and
 - **Treatment:** Control, correct or reduce health problems found
- **Collaborate with agencies coordinating placement of children identified as medically fragile to allow each child to be seen by an MDCPS nurse.**

FY: 2019-ANNUAL PROGRESS AND SERVICE REPORT (APSR) SUPPLEMENT

- MDCPS nurses will document visits and observation with medically fragile children and confirm to the best of their capabilities that each child is receiving optimum care and receiving medical care as needed. These visits will occur when a request is made by the county of responsibility for the nurse to provide support and it is deemed necessary.
- Forty-Five (45) day follow up should be documented by MDCPS nurse on children identified as medically fragile whom they have visited. This documentation shall include contact with child's worker to ensure that the child is still receiving medical care as necessary and a follow – up visit from an MDCPS nurse when determined to be medically necessary.
- All children in foster care should have access to medical, dental and psychological care to meet their needs. MDCPS Nurses will help connect county workers to providers that provide medical, dental and psychological treatment as needed.
- Data will be maintained by nurse supervisor regarding the number of medically fragile children placed through coordinating agencies that are seen by MDCPS nurses, status and referral needs will be shared with Congregate Care Unit.
- **MDCPS Nursing Unit serve as liaisons between the worker, medical professional (s), court authorities, law enforcement, units within MDCPS and others to coordinate the best care for the child.**
 - The Nursing Unit attend court hearings or submit addendums to court reports as requested or by order to provide medical information to the judge and GAL regarding medical issues of children in foster care and the correlation between permanent plan and placement.
 - The Nursing Unit collaborate with Congregate Care to provide appropriate procedures in medication management to facilities housing children in foster care.
 - The Nursing Unit will accompany the Congregate Care Unit and Performance Based Contracting staff on licensure on-site visits as requested to ensure proper medication administration is observed and that medical access policies are adhered to and align with MDCPS policy and other certifying agencies (this is coordinated through Congregate Care).
- **Collaborate with pediatricians and other community partners to discuss ways to improve medical, dental and psychological services for children in foster care as**

well as ways to ensure a continuum of care once reunification or adoption is achieved.

- Invite pediatricians and community providers to be a part of a workgroup and provide feedback as MDCPS develops the new Healthcare Oversight and Coordination plan due June 30, 2019.
- MDCPS nurses will monitor children entering custody reports monthly and follow up with worker by email until a medical, dental and mental health assessment is documented for each child entering custody.
- In addition to the procedures and protocols that have been put in place for the Nursing Unit, Therapeutic Placement and other MDCPS support staff do the following:
 - Therapeutic Placement unit review psychological reports and documentation submitted with residential applications when support is needed to locate an appropriate therapeutic placement. If concerns are noted in the reports the Therapeutic Placement, nursing unit and other MDCPS staff review the information and contact other state agencies and community providers as needed.
 - Therapeutic Placement unit assist caseworkers in gaining documentation from acute and residential treatment facilities prior to discharge when available to assist with appropriate discharge planning and identifying appropriate placement.

II. JOHN H. CHAFEE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD

A. UPDATES TO THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES

FFPSA also amended section 477 of the ACT by changing the name of the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) and made changes to the program's purpose and population of youth eligible to receive services through the Chafee program and the Educational Training Voucher (ETV) program. Although the FFPSA has granted states the option to extend their Chafee Program services to youth up through their 23rd birthday, MDCPS will not be amending its Chafee Program services to youth up through their 23rd birthday. MDCPS has, however, made the following amendments to its Education Training Voucher (ETV) and Chafee Programs:

1. Amended Eligibility Requirements for the ETV Program

- a) Youth must participate in ETV prior to their 21st birthday to continue receiving funds until their 26th birthday or a maximum of 60 months.
- b) The months do not have to be consecutive, but a month is calculated as thirty (30) calendar days.
- c) Academic failure of class or semester will be counted as use of ETV funds.
- d) Youth who have not participated in the ETV program prior to their 21st birthday will not be eligible for ETV funds.

2. Amended Requirements for Eligible Youth to receive ETV funds

- a) Youth currently in custody age 17 and older;
- b) Youth who have left custody at the age of 16 years or older, and have not yet reached 21 years of age to adoption or legal guardianship;
- c) Youth who were reunified on or after reaching age 14 and have not yet attained 21 years of age; and
- d) Youth who participated in the ETV program prior to their 21st birthday.
- e) Youth must have a high school diploma, GED, or a certificate of attendance to receive ETV funds.
- f) Youth must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 to continue receiving ETV funds. Youth who are unable to receive Pell Grant or subsidized loans because of GPA will not be eligible for ETV funds.

3. ETV Services by Eligibility

- a) Youth currently in custody/Youth who age out of custody or emancipate: Youth in custody will be eligible to receive up to \$5000 per federal fiscal year. Payment of tuition takes priority over non-tuition post-secondary education cost. Boundaries around how ETV funds can be used after tuition cost include:
- i. \$150 a month as an allowance;
 - ii. \$ 150 a month toward off-campus housing;
 - iii. Temporary housing during holiday, spring, or summer breaks when campus housing is not available.
 - iv. A one-time award of up to \$850 for computer needs; or
 - v. Up to \$1,500 for transportation needs including insurance, repairs and maintenance.
- b) Youth who have left custody at the age of 16 years or older and have not yet reached 21 years of age to adoption or legal guardianship: Youth who exited custody to adoption or legal guardianship at age 16 or older will be eligible to receive up to \$2,500 per federal fiscal year. Supplementing tuition takes priority over non-tuition post-secondary education costs. Boundaries around how ETV funds can be used after supplementing tuition include:
- i. 150 a month as an allowance;
 - ii. A one-time award of up to \$850 for computer needs; or
 - iii. Up to \$1,500 for transportation needs including insurances, repairs and maintenance.
- c) Youth who were reunified on or after reaching age 14 and have not yet attained 21 years of age: Youth who exited custody to reunification at 14 or older will be eligible to receive up to \$2,500 per federal fiscal year. Supplementing tuition takes priority over non-tuition post-secondary education costs. Boundaries around how ETV funds can be used after supplementing tuition include:
- i. 150 a month as an allowance;
 - ii. A one-time award of up to \$850 for computer needs; or
 - iii. Up to \$1,500 for transportation needs including insurances, repairs and maintenance

- d) Youth who participated in the ETV program prior to their 21st birthday will be eligible to continue receiving ETV fund until their 26th birthday or for a maximum of 72 months.

4. Eligibility Criteria for Chafee Program Services

- a) Youth who have attained age 18, meets the requirements of the Youth, and is in the custody or have been in the custody of MDCPS may apply to participate in an Independent Living Placement.
- b) Youth must have or plan to have a Concurrent Permanency Plan of APPLA. Youth may not be assigned a concurrent plan of APPLA until:
 - i. They are sixteen (16) years old;
 - ii. MDCPS has documented a compelling reason why this permanency goal is in the best interest of the youth; and
 - iii. The plan has been ordered by the appropriate youth court.

5. Placement Criteria

- a) Be approved by the YTSS Director prior to submission to the youth court for approval;
- b) Be ordered by the court;
- c) Have a concurrent plan of APPLA;
- d) Comply with all fire, sanitation and safety regulations as determined by MDCPS Licensure Standards as set for Child Placing Agencies;
- e) Be affordable based on the youth's established budget; and
- f) Have an approved transportation plan.
- g) If the youth wishes to live with roommate(s), the roommate(s) must:
 - i. Interviewed by the Transition Navigator; and
 - ii. Approved by the MDCPS YTSS Director.

6. Aftercare Services Eligibility Criteria

- a) Youth who leave MDCPS custody at age 18 and older are eligible and until their 21st birthday.

7. Aftercare Program Services

- a) Financial literacy education and other financial assistance services;
- b) Youth Alumni Board activities;
- c) Post-secondary education financial support and guidance; and
- d) Referral services including but not limited to:
 - e) Education Services;
 - f) Health Services;
 - g) Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting Support;
 - h) Housing;
 - i) Job Training; and
 - j) Mental Health.

8. Funding Source

Up to 30% of Chafee funds will be allocated to support Independent Living Placements for youth ages 18-21. Additional support will be provided by First Place for Youth through program design work, training to Transition Navigator staff and direct financial support to youth (stipends, match).

9. Supplemental Funding Through Partnership

First Place for Youth- Cost of Service Provision to MDCPS July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018	
Salaries and Benefits	\$173,729.31
Staff Travel	\$23,951.74
Direct Support to Youth (stipends, match)	\$8,391.53
Administrative Overhead (Training)	\$8,330.27
Total	\$214,402.85

III. APSR STATE CONTACT:

A. CFSP/APSR COORDINATOR:

Contact Person: Cerissa Eubanks, CFSP/APSR Coordinator

Department: Office of Chief Legal Counsel, Procurement and Federal Reporting

Agency: Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services

Email Address: cerissa.eubanks@mdcps.ms.gov

Telephone Number: 1-601-359-4974

CFSP and APSR- <https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/reports/>

MS Department of Child Protection Services

P.O. Box 346

660 North Street

Jackson, MS 39205

Tel: (601)-359-4368

Email: contactus@www.mdcps.ms.gov

