

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

MAY 23, 2013

<b><u>What's Inside:</u></b> <b><u>STARS Pre-</u></b> <b><u>service</u></b> <b><u>Training</u></b> <b><u>Revisions</u></b>
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## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND  
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO STARS PRE-SERVICE TRAINING

## DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to introduce revisions to the STARS Pre-service Training Program. As part of the Recruitment and Retention Task Force efforts, revisions to the STARS Pre-service training curriculum will be implemented during the next two months. The STARS curriculum is a copyrighted curriculum purchased by license in cooperation with the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA). Recent revisions made to the curriculum by CWLA have been adapted for use by the Children's Division.

During March and April 2013, each circuit and contract agency provided the number of training supplies needed to accommodate staff who are currently providing local STARS training. Distribution of materials to meet these needs will occur during May and June. Materials will be shipped to the local designee. Local staff will be responsible to distribute the manuals to the agency staff and teaching foster parents they identified. If a foster parent was identified as a co-trainer for CD and a contract agency, the materials will be distributed through the contractor.

The revised curriculum will be implemented within the STARS Train the Trainer sessions provided by the Professional Development and Training Unit with the next session scheduled May 28, 2013. All agency staff, teaching foster parents and contracted providers attending this session will be receiving copies of the new materials for their use in the local training sessions.

Revisions to the curriculum include changes in formatting and enhancements to the content. Examples of formatting and content enhancements:

- Better instructions to activities
- Enhanced visual aids
- More variety in training
- Refinement of format
- Less redundancy
- A more "user friendly" manual

- New information, research, knowledge, or statistics which inform or enhance learning directed toward previously identified competencies
- Material which expands understanding or promotes a higher level of learning such as new resources or an additional activity

Local co-training teams will need to review the revised content and make plans to implement the revised training at the local level. It is expected the revised curriculum will be used by all local training teams to ensure consistent delivery of content and to provide prospective resource families with the most up to date information to perform their job responsibilities upon licensure. **Any previous versions of the STARS Pre-service curriculum should be replaced by the revised curriculum immediately.**

<b>NECESSARY ACTION</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff.</li> <li>2. Staff will discontinue use of any previous versions of the STARS Pre-service materials.</li> <li>3. Upon receipt of the revised materials staff should immediately begin utilizing the 2013 STARS Pre-service revisions.</li> <li>4. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to: The CD Professional Development and Training Unit at 314-416-2781.</li> </ol>	
<b>PDS CONTACT</b> PDS Name PDS Number PDS E-mail	<b>PROGRAM MANAGER</b> Jeff Adams 314-416-2781 <a href="mailto:Jeff.L.Adams@dss.mo.gov">Jeff.L.Adams@dss.mo.gov</a>
<b>CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS</b>	
N/A	
<b>FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
N/A	
<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES</b>	
N/A	
<b>RELATED STATUTE</b>	
<a href="#">210.542</a>	
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE RULE</b>	
<a href="#">Licensing of Foster Family Homes, 13 CSR 35-60.030 Minimum Qualifications of Foster Parent(s) (5)(A)</a>	
<b>COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS</b>	
FC 16.03	
<b>CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)</b>	
N/A	

**PROTECTIVE FACTORS**

Parental Resilience

Social Connections

Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development

Concrete Support in Times of Need

Social and Emotional Competence of Children

**FACES REQUIREMENTS**

N/A