

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 27, 2013

## M E M O R A N D U M

**What's Inside:**Expanded Medicaid  
eligibility for former  
foster care youth

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

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Expanded Medicaid Eligibility for Former Foster Care Youth

## DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff Senate Bill (SB) 127, which extends medical coverage for former foster youth up to age twenty-six (26), was Truly Agreed Upon and Finally Passed this legislative session and will go into effect August 28, 2013.

In 2007, SB577 extended MO HealthNet coverage for *all* former foster care youth who were in the State's custody (Legal Status 1) on their 18th birthday, were released from jurisdiction, and had not reached their 21st birthday.

SB127 expands Section 208.151, RSMo. to include youth "in foster care under the responsibility of the state of Missouri on the date such persons attain the age of eighteen years, or at any time during the thirty-day period preceding their eighteenth birthday, without regard to income or assets, if such persons:

- (a) Are under twenty-six years of age;
- (b) Are not eligible for coverage under another mandatory coverage group; and
- (c) Were covered by Medicaid while they were in foster care."

Youth who are "not eligible under another mandatory coverage group" are those who are disabled, receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or receiving Medicare. Staff should refer these youth to the Family Support Division to complete an application at least 30 days to six months prior to aging out of Children's Division custody.

**FACES UPDATE**

The information gathered in the batch program will continue to be stored in FACES. This transaction, which is accessed from the General Functions Menu in FACES, will capture and maintain the youth's required address information for MO HealthNet's

program eligibility. The link which is currently labeled “**SB577**” under “**Other**” will now be labeled “**Health Care for Former Foster Care Youth**”.

**STAFF ROLE**

Per CD memorandum [CD07-34](#), each county must designate a liaison/contact person(s) for youth who have exited care. This liaison will ensure the youth’s current address is entered on the Healthcare for Former Foster Care screen upon exit from care. The liaison will also be responsible for updating FACES if notified of a change in the youth’s address. If a youth is in need of aftercare services, a referral to the Older Youth Transition (OYT) Specialist should be made.

Children’s Division central office has taken action at the state level to notify former foster care youth and the community of this new legislation. The Children’s Division [website](#), [Mo HealthNet Exit Pamphlet](#), [Mo HealthNet Outreach Poster](#), and [Exit Planning for Older Youth PowerPoint Presentation](#) have been revised. Children’s Division and Foster Care Case Management agencies should display the outreach poster in local offices and community locations visited by youth. The pamphlet should be provided to youth during transitioning planning and upon exit from care. Local offices should share the outreach letters with youth, residential facilities, and resource providers.

The Child Welfare Manual has been updated to reflect the statute’s language.

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| <b>NECESSARY ACTION</b>  |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff.</li> <li>2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.</li> <li>3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:</li> </ol>                |   |
| <b>PDS CONTACT</b><br>Belinda Kay Luke, MSW<br>573-751-8615<br><a href="mailto:Belinda.K.Luke@dss.mo.gov">Belinda.K.Luke@dss.mo.gov</a>  | <b>PROGRAM MANAGER</b><br>Christy Collins<br>573-751-3171<br><a href="mailto:Christy.M.Collins@dss.mo.gov">Christy.M.Collins@dss.mo.gov</a> |
| <b>CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS</b>  |   |
| <a href="#">Section 4 Chapter 21.4.2</a>   |   |
| <b>FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>  |   |
| N/A  |   |
| <b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES</b>   |   |
| <a href="#">CD07-34</a><br><a href="#">CD07-38</a><br><a href="#">Mo HealthNet Exit Pamphlet</a><br><a href="#">Mo HealthNet Outreach Poster</a><br><a href="#">Exit Planning for Older Youth PowerPoint Presentation</a><br><a href="#">Youth Outreach Letter</a><br><a href="#">Agency Outreach Letter</a> |   |
| <b>RELATED STATUTE</b>   |   |
| <a href="#">208.151. (26)</a>  |   |
| <b>ADMINISTRATIVE RULE</b>   |   |
| N/A  |   |

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| <b>COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS</b><br>N/A   |
| <b>CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)</b><br>N/A  |
| <b>PROTECTIVE FACTORS</b> Parental Resilience N/A<br>Social Connections N/A<br>Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development N/A<br>Concrete Support in Times of Need<br><a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/info/cwmanual/philbase.pdf">http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/info/cwmanual/philbase.pdf</a><br>Social and Emotional Competence of Children N/A |
| <b>FACES REQUIREMENTS</b><br>Health Care for Former Foster Youth   |