

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

May 1, 2019

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF

FROM: DAVID KURT, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: OLDER YOUTH PROGRAM CHANGES

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to introduce changes in the Older Youth Program regarding the Chafee contracts, youth eligibility for Chafee and ETV services, and the referral process. These changes are a result of federal legislation, Chafee stakeholders meetings, internal discussions, and the re-bid of the Chafee contract.

The Chafee contract was effective on December 1st with the option of four annual renewals.

Region	Awarded Agency
Northeast Region	Family Facets
Northwest Region	Preferred Family Healthcare
Southeast Region	Preferred Family Healthcare
Southwest Region	Preferred Family Healthcare
St. Louis Region	Epworth Children and Family Services

LINC will continue to serve Jackson, Clay and Platte counties. The Community Partnership will continue to serve the 25th Circuit.

A copy of the contract can be viewed and printed from the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management's "Awarded Bid & Contract Document Search System" located on the Internet at: <http://oa.mo.gov/purchasing-materials-management/>

Please select "**OnBase System Search Enter Here**" and reference the request for proposal number "**RFPS30034901900232**" when searching for this document.

Chafee Contract Changes

- The Chafee provider is to arrange and provide presentations on service provision to Children's Division and Foster Care Case Management staff

in each circuit of the contracted region on an annual basis and as needed or requested.

- Children's Division/FCCM agency and court of jurisdiction permission is required if a Chafee program participant's name or picture is used for public performance or media involvement if the youth is under the age of 18.
- The contact information for the Chafee provider assigned to work with the referred youth will be updated on the referral screen each time a new employee is assigned.
- The Chafee provider will seek assistance from the school in providing academic support.
- The Chafee provider will work to establish Individual Development Accounts (IDA) for youth to encourage financial responsibility and capacity among referred youth.
- The Chafee provider is responsible for recruiting, transporting, and chaperoning youth from the provider's region for participation in the bi-annual Youth and Adult Leadership and Empowerment Conference for youth in foster care.
- Exit packet information shall be provided in a portable format such as a binder or USB flash drive to youth who are age 17.5 and older. The exit packet information may be combined with the portfolio provided to the youth. The portable device shall have information relevant to youth transitioning from care including but not limited to the following resources:
 - MO Healthnet Information Sheet
 - ETV/Missouri Reach/CCE Pamphlet
 - Chafee Aftercare Pamphlet
 - Healthcare Treatment Decisions Information Sheet
 - Re-Entry Pamphlet
 - NYTD Pamphlet
 - "What's It All About? A Youth's Guidebook for Out-of-Home Care
 - Community Resources

The Chafee provider will assist in ensuring the youth has additional documentation such as:

- Medical Records
- Educational Records
- Documentation of Immigration, Citizenship, or Naturalization
- Death Certificates of Parents
- Religious Documents and Information
- List of Known Relatives
- Resume
- Verification Letter
- Original Birth Certificate
- Original Social Security Card
- Driver's License or ID Card
- Lifebook
- Credit Report
- KIDS Account information if applicable

Although additional requirements were added to the Chafee contract to strengthen exit planning, the primary responsibility remains with the Children's Service Worker to ensure the youth is prepared and has received required documentation. Exit planning remains a collaborative effort between the youth, staff and Family Support Team (FST) members to ensure needed services are in place and the youth is aware of how to access services in their community prior to release.

The [Family First Prevention Services Act](#) was signed into law as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act on February 9, 2018. With the passage of the law and contractual agreement changes, the name of the grant was changed to Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (CFCP). CD will continue to refer to the program as Chafee.

Chafee Program Changes

Chafee will be available up to age 23 for youth who remain in care until 21.

Chafee Aftercare services will be available to youth who left care any time after the age of 18. After care services can be provided up to age 23.

Chafee will be available to youth who were adopted or obtained legal guardianship after the age of 16 up to age 23 – these will be considered “full” services.

The age at exit which determines eligibility for aftercare services has been changed from 17.5 years old to age 18.

The purpose of Chafee was revised to assist eligible youth with the following support and services:

- Transition to adulthood through transitional services such as assistance in obtaining a high school diploma and post-secondary education, career exploration, vocational training, job placement and retention, training and opportunities to practice daily living skills, substance abuse prevention and preventive health activities (including smoking avoidance, nutrition education, and pregnancy prevention);
- Achieve meaningful, permanent connections with a caring adult;
- Provide financial, housing, life skills counseling, employment, education and other appropriate support and services to former foster care recipients between eighteen and twenty-three (18-23) years of age;
- Provide information and assist youth in accessing available vouchers for education and training, including post-secondary training, who meet state Educational Training Voucher (ETV) requirements found at <http://www.fc2sprogramms.org/missouri/>; and
- Provide regular, on-going opportunities to engage in “age or developmentally-appropriate” activities, positive youth development, and experiential learning that reflects what their peers in intact families experience.

Chafee Referral Process Changes

The time frame for when a referral must be made for a youth has changed. The referral must be completed within 60 days of the youth coming into care after the age of 14 or turning 14. This new 60 day time frame includes completion of the Adolescent FST Guide (CD-94) and Individualized Action Plan Goals (CD-94).

For youth no longer in care, the Chafee Aftercare referral process will be used to continue Chafee services. Systems Change Requests have been submitted to accommodate the new ages but in the interim, if a youth is older than 21, Older Youth Transition Specialists will work with Chafee providers to assist youth in receiving services until the FACES system can accommodate. These youth will be tracked externally by the Older Youth Transition Specialists. If Children's Service Workers' are aware of a youth in need of services older than 21, an email with the referral matrix information shall be sent to the OYTS.

Educational Training Voucher Program Changes

In Missouri, Educational Training Voucher (ETV) will be available to youth who left care any time after the age of 18 as well as those youth who have obtained guardianship or adoption after the age of 16. Youth participating in the voucher program will now remain eligible until they attain 26 years of age with the new law, as long as they are enrolled in a post-secondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program. Foster youth in care, custody and control of the Children's Division that are not yet age 18, may also be eligible for the voucher program while still in custody if additional requirements are met. Participation, regardless of eligibility, will be limited to 5 years.

Please share the extended eligibility for Chafee and ETV with any youth you may know who are no longer in care who would meet the new eligibility requirements but exited care under the old requirements and could benefit from the services.

NECESSARY ACTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff. 2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below. 3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to: 	
PDS CONTACT Sally A.Gaines 660-882-5311 Sally.A.Gaines@dss.mo.gov	MANAGER CONTACT Ivy Doxley 573-526-1422 Ivy.C.Doxley@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS	
Section 4 Chapter 5.1 Placement in a Resource Family Section 4 Chapter 7.3.7 Administrative Activities Section 4 Chapter 9.2 Administrative Review Process/Permanency Planning Review (PPR) Section 4 Chapter 9.2.2 Case plan Section 4 Chapter 21.1 Mandates and Rationale Section 4 Chapter 21.3.1 Program Goals Section 4 Chapter 21.3.2 Eligibility Section 4 Chapter 21.3.2.2 Re-entry Section 4 Chapter 21.3.3 Referral Process	

[Section 4 Chapter 21.3.4 Youth Assessment](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.3.7.1 Education and Training Vouchers Program](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.3.7.3 Missouri Reach Credential Completion and Employment Program](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.4 Aftercare Program](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.4.1 Referral and Assessment](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.4.5 Timeframes and Exceptions](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.9 Outcomes](#)
[Section 7 Glossary “A”](#)
[Section 7 Glossary “C”](#)
[Section 7 Glossary “O”](#)
[Section 7 Glossary “T”](#)

Deleted Section Changes:

[Section 4 Chapter 4 Index](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 4.4.13 Independent Living Arrangement](#) – Deleted
[Section 4 Chapter 4.14 Therapeutic Foster Care](#) – Renumbered to 4.4.13
[Section 4 Chapter 9 Index](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 9.4.6 Emancipation or Independent Living](#) – Deleted
[Section 4 Chapter 9.4.7 Release from Division Custody](#) – Renumbered to 9.4.6

Sections with Chafee Name Change Only:

[Section 4 Chapter 7.2.1 Composition of the Family Support Team](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 8.1 Services for Family-Centered Out-Of-Home Care](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 9.2.3 Decisions Addressed During Administrative Reviews](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 9.4.2 Guardianship](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 9.5 Tasks to Support Plan](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.3 Older Youth Program](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.3.6 Youth with Special Needs](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.6.1.4 Characteristics of the Youth](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.6.3 Transitional Living Program Single/Scattered Site Apartments \(TLS\)](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 21.6.2 Transitional Living Program Group Home \(TLG\)](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 23.2 Case Study Examples of APPLAs](#)
[Section 4 Chapter 31.3 Post Secondary Visit](#)

FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

Adolescent Family Support Team Guide (CD-94) and Individualized Action Plan Goals (CD-94) Instructions
Alternative Care Client Form (SS-61) Instructions
Individual Life Skills Progress Form (CD-95) Instructions
Life Skills Strengths/Needs Reporting Form (CD-97) Instructions

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

Aftercare Program
Older Youth by Revised Exit Status
Older Youth Program Flow Chart
Older Youth Program Reference Guide
Chafee Program Requirements
Older Youth Service Tasks by Age

RELATED STATUTE

[Family First Prevention Services Act of 2017](#)

