

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

July 1, 2023

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF

FROM: DARRELL MISSEY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Levels of Care (Elevated Needs, Medical, and Treatment Foster Care)

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide notice of revisions to the Alternative Care policy and procedures regarding the level of care staffing process and the revision of the Treatment Foster Care (formerly Therapeutic Foster Care) program. The elevated needs, medical, and treatment foster care (TFC) policies have been combined into one section.

The Children's Division has streamlined the referral and approval process for youth requiring a higher level of care (LOC) in a family resource home. There is now only one referral form/packet, [CS-9/CSPI](#) (replacing the elevated needs referral forms CD-136, CD-137 and CD-138) and one LOC staffing (formerly Youth with Elevated Needs staffing). The elevated needs staffing process has been updated to include Treatment Foster Care (TFC) and Relative TFC, therefore, being referred to as the Level of Care (LOC) staffing. TFC no longer requires the additional approval of a RCST. The [CD-137](#) has been revised and is now the LOC staffing determination form for the higher levels of foster care: Level A, Level B, TFC, and Relative TFC (CWM, Section 4, Chapter 2.4.1). Medical Foster Care continues to utilize the CS-10 referral form.

All higher levels of family foster care, Elevated Needs, Medical and TFC policies have been relocated to Section 4, Chapter 2, subsection 4-Levels of Care (Elevated Needs, Medical, and Treatment Foster Care) placements.

The TFC Program expanded to include Relative TFC and Transition TFC services, which are provided by contracted TFC Child Placing agencies.

- Relative TFC is a specialized TFC service that allows the TFC eligible youth to remain or be placed in a relative home setting with the addition of individualized training, support, and resources provided by the TFC agency (CWM, Section 4, Chapter 2.4.5).

- Transition TFC is an individualized therapeutic service designed to help children in TFC successfully transition to permanency from a TFC home to the child’s parent(s), a less intensive relative/foster family, adoptive family, independent living, or other community setting (CWM, Section 4, Chapter 2.4.8)

Effective July 1, 2023, Treatment Foster Care (TFC) now includes the addition of Level 2 TFC and Level 2 Relative TFC. Level 2 TFC is for youth who require multiple services and interventions including therapeutic and community-based services for youth who could not otherwise be served in a community setting without that intensive level of individualized intervention that may include one-on-one supervision by the TFC parent at least 75% of the time (CWM, Section 4, Chapter 2.4.6).

The rules and regulations for TFC including Level 2 TFC have been developed and are now located in the Foster Family Home Licensing Rules and Regulations, 13 CSR 35-60.075. TFC Parents are licensed and contracted for TFC or Relative TFC services through the contracted TFC child placing agencies. The Children’s Division case management or the *FCCM case management is responsible for payment to the TFC agency for the room and board portion of the TFC daily rate. The managed care plan (SMHK) or Mo HealthNet reimburses the TFC agency for the Medicaid rehabilitation portion of the TFC daily rate. The TFC agency is responsible for reimbursing the TFC parent for room and board and the rehabilitative portion of their care of the youth. With the new rate setting and addition of Level 2 TFC, a minimum daily/monthly rate for TFC and Relative TFC homes has been established (CWM, Section 4, Chapter 12, Financial Considerations).

*Children’s Division is currently responsible for the room & board portion of the TFC daily rate, but the payment responsibility will revert back to the FCCM agencies once the updated FCCM contract is in effect.

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 Nakisha Black 573-522-2316 Nakisha.Black@dss.mo.gov	MANAGER CONTACT Sherry Moller, MSW 573-375-2117 Sherry.L.Moller@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS Section 4, Chapter 2, Subsection 4- Levels of Care	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS Level of Care (LOC) Determination Form, CD-137	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES Foster Home Licensing Rules and Regulations, 13 CSR 35-60	
RELATED STATUTE N/A	