DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

January 1, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: CHILDREN'S DIVISION AND CONTRACTED STAFF

FROM: DARRELL MISSEY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: OUT-OF-STATE LICENSED RESOURCE PROVIDER & RELATIVE TFC

FOSTER CARE MAINTENANCE PAYMENT RATE INCREASES

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memo is to inform staff of policy changes that will increase the monthly foster care maintenance payment rates for Missouri foster children placed in a licensed out-of-state resource provider home through the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC), and Relative Treatment Foster Care.

Effective January 1, 2024, out-of-state resource providers licensed by another state will receive the same monthly foster care maintenance rate as Missouri licensed resource providers. This change includes the Elevated Needs Maintenance rates for a Missouri foster child approved for Medical, Level A, and Level B. Licensed out-of-state resource providers are required to meet the same competencies and completed equivalent trainings as required for Missouri resource providers in order to be approved for Elevated Needs services.

All out-of-state resource providers will need to sign the Professional Parenting (PP) contract (CM-14) in order for this rate change to take effect. Effective January 1, 2024, the AC Foster Care Services Contract (CM-3) used specifically for out-of-state/ICPC resource providers will be discontinued and no longer available in E-Forms.

A notification letter was sent out in December to all out-of-state licensed resource providers informing them of this upcoming increase in the monthly foster care maintenance rates and to expect a new contract, CM-14 from their assigned licensing worker. The CM-14 may be emailed and signed electronically to expedite this process.

Effective January 1, 2024, all licensed and approved Relative Treatment Foster Care (TFC) homes will receive the equivalent monthly foster care maintenance payment as unrelated Treatment Foster Care (TFC) homes.

These policy changes are a result of Missouri's compliance with new federal regulations that recommend all states adopt the new separate Kin-Specific Licensing Regulations. In order for states to adopt this separate licensing regulation that lessens the licensing requirements for relative/kinship providers, each state must periodically review the amount of foster care maintenance payments to ensure that licensed relative foster families receive the same amount as the non-related licensed foster family homes.

NECESSARY ACTION

- 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:

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CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS

Section 4, Chapter 2 (Placements), Subsection 4-Levels of Care (Elevated Needs, Medical, and Treatment Foster Care) Placement

Section 4, Chapter 2 (Placements), Subsection 11-ICPC

Section 4, Chapter 12 (Financial Considerations), Subsection 8-Payments for Children

Section 6, Resource Development, Chapter 18 (Resource Providers Approved to Provide Elevated Needs Foster Care Services), Subsection 2 Elevated Needs Level A, Sub-subsection 1-Definition

FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

N/A

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

Out-of-State/ICPC Resource Family Notification Letter-Action Required

RELATED STATUTE

Section 471(a)(11) of the Social Security Act: 45 CFR 1355.20; 45 CFR 1356.21(m)