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Discussion/Interpretation: These rule sets have been revised to implement the foster care rate redesign beginning July 1. They describe the Department responsibilities in determination of a child’s eligibility for enhanced supervision and the parameters and limitations of enhanced supervision. They also describe the changes in foster care payments, define the limitations of payments for shelter care and enhanced shelter care rates, and include the policy for payment procedures.

The determination of any changes in payment rates for enhanced supervision will transition over the next 2 month period, with the expectation that new rates will be fully implemented by September 1, 2009.

I-E.5.1, Payment for Family Foster Care, Enhanced Supervision and Residential Treatment describes the payment parameters for these services, the eligibility requirements, level of care determinations and the responsibility for regular review. It also describes the right for a contested case hearing. Contested case hearings will be handled through Central Office. Also of note in this revision is the limitation of payment for temporary absence to a maximum of 14 days, which is a federal IV-E requirement.

I-E.4.1 Shelter Care describes the Department’s parameters for the payment of shelter care rates and enhanced shelter care rates, which will become effective September 1, 2009. Please note that both family shelter care and relative shelter care is paid for up to 20 days effective July 1, 2009.

I-E.5.1.1, Payment Procedures describes the data entry required for these policy changes, and outlines the instances where central office will manage data input.

I-E.3.1 Placement Matching describes the Department responsibilities for including the results of the CANS screening results in consideration of appropriate placements for a child needing substitute care.

I-B.1 Monitoring Child Safety describes the Department responsibilities for including consideration of the enhanced supervision and personal care service needs of the child during routine contact.

I-B.3.1 Developing and Managing the Case Plan describes the Department responsibilities for including consideration of a child’s enhanced supervision needs in

case and service planning. This revision also requires that the case plan is developed within 60 days of placement for a child in substitute care, without exception. This is a federal requirement.

I-B.1.6 Enhanced Supervision describes the Department responsibilities for developing and monitoring a child's enhanced supervision needs through a supervision plan, and when a supervision plan is required.

I-A.5.2 Contested Case Hearings describes the Department responsibilities for contested case hearings regarding a substitute care or personal care services payment.

Implementation/Transition Instructions:

A new child coming into care after June 1 whose behaviors indicate the need for a CANS screening should be referred to the Level of Care Unit for the screening using a CF 802.

Children currently in substitute care and receiving a SR/PC payment will be referred for a CANS screening over the next two months. Caseworkers who have not yet completed these referrals, should do so immediately. These referrals are sent to the branch personal care coordinator.

Shelter care is authorized for a maximum of 20 days in the child's first placement in substitute care.

Enhanced shelter care payment will become effective September 1, 2009.

The new Department forms used with these administrative rules will be posted on the forms directory July 1, 2009. Interim Procedures are being sent to field offices through an Action Request.

Training/Communication Plan:

Changes to foster care rate design have been presented throughout the state over the past several months. The Level of Care Unit staff, Assistant Manager of Field Operations, Foster Care Program Manager, Assistant Manager, and Foster Care Program Coordinators can provide additional information if needed.

Local/Branch Action Required:

Review and implement Administrative Rules.

All Special Rate Review Committees will end; no further need to review special rates and personal care services. All reviews will occur at central office.

Any new child who may need enhanced supervision can be referred to central office staff for a CANS screening using the CF 802 referral form.

Any child currently receiving a special rate/personal care services will be screened using the CANS screening, and when a child has a physical or mental impairment, will be assessed by a contract RN during July and August, 2009. Payments will continue through August 31, 2009.

If a payment rate will change on September 1, the foster parent can request a contested case hearing. Forms to request the hearing will be available in branch offices prior to notices being sent. All contested case hearings processes will be handled through central office.

Central Office Action Required: Convene the Rule Advisory Committee and schedule Policy Council Review of administrative rules. Post new forms; obsolete old forms on DHS forms directory. Provide consultation and training as needed and requested.

Field/Stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

Filing Instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

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