

Q: Will Adoption Subsidy youth receive the same services as other youth in custody when necessary for safety, such as therapeutic foster home placements?

The Children's Division (CD) is working on updates to the Adoption Subsidy regulation which will allow youth with an adoption subsidy to receive **Treatment Family Care**. In future CD Stakeholder Calls, we will provide updates on where the regulation is in the process and an opportunity for feedback.

Q: What steps is CD taking to address hotline reports for poverty issues? How we are supporting bio-parents rather than demonizing them-throughout all of the CD processes/departments?

The Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline Unit (CANHU) is currently reviewing their Structured Decision-Making tools used to determine what information is sent to the field. The Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline is also working with the Prevention Unit on creating a Prevention Line that will be housed with the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline. This line will be available for individuals to call and request services for families. CANHU will screen the information and send to the Prevention Unit if appropriate criteria are met. This process will also ensure that individuals trained to screen for child abuse and neglect are reviewing the information and sending the reports to the appropriate office for follow-up.

In addition to the new Prevention Line mentioned above, CD is also centralizing the Prevention Unit to ensure consistency in prevention work statewide. This team will be focused on safely supporting all families in the community based on the needs of the children and family, track outcomes to know if prevention efforts are truly preventing families from involvement deeper into the child welfare system and identify resource gaps both locally and statewide. This ability to track outcomes will also assist the Prevention Teams in partnering with child welfare stakeholders to better support all families in the community.

Q: How is CD addressing the disproportionality of black and brown youth in foster care and who remain in foster care and state custody longer than white youth?

As an agency, CD is actively using data to identify disparities. CD is investing in community-based prevention and support through its prevention team and continues to train staff on recognizing and reducing bias in decision-making. It is critical that the voices of youth and families shape the work of CD.

Q: I was wondering about the interest in expanding the Safe Babies Court Team approach that is being used in the Jackson County area. This approach really focused on intentionally using infant and early childhood mental health practices and engaging families at all levels within the foster care process.

CD is certainly interested in working with our Court partners to establish innovative, researched based approaches to improving services to children and families and would support replication of the Safe Babies Court Team approach in other jurisdictions having the capacity to do so.

JOIN US FOR THE JUNE STAKEHOLDER MEETING!

Friday, June 27 | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

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