



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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OFFICE OF COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES
Administering the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO #14-04

TO: CPMT CHAIRS
CSA COORDINATORS

FROM: SUSAN CUMBIA CLARE

DATE: JULY 14, 2014

SUBJECT: STANDARDIZED LEVELS OF TREATMENT FOSTER CARE

On June 20, 2014, the State Executive Council (SEC) adopted policy supporting the implementation of standardized levels of care for services purchased from private licensed child placing agencies and approved related guidelines. The July 1, 2015 effective date of this policy will enable private providers to make necessary adjustments to services and localities to transition services outlined in the individual family service plans of children.

The policy reflects the culmination of work by the "Standardizing Levels of Care in Treatment Foster Care" workgroup which was established in response to language first included in the 2011 Appropriation Act, Item 274 M, requiring the SEC to authorize guidelines for treatment foster care. The workgroup was comprised of representatives of various stakeholder groups including private providers; local departments of social services; the Virginia Municipal League; local CSA coordinators; the Virginia Department of Social Services, licensing division and family services division; the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services; and the Office of Comprehensive Services. The SEC commended the workgroup members for exemplary collaboration in the development of recommendations and guidelines.

In addition to recommending the policy, the workgroup developed guidelines for implementing standardized levels of care. These guidelines, entitled "Guidelines for Determining Levels of Care for Foster Care Services with Licensed Child Placing Agencies," are attached.

The adopted policy is as follows:

Effective July 1, 2015, when purchasing foster care services through a licensed child placing agency, Community Policy and Management Teams shall ensure that levels of foster care services are appropriately matched to the individual needs of a child or youth in accordance with the SEC approved "Guidelines for Determining Levels of Care for Foster Care Services with Licensed Child Placing Agencies."

The Office of Comprehensive Services will provide information and training on the policy and guidelines in the coming months. Questions regarding the policy or guidelines may be directed to Carol Wilson, 804-662-9817, or to the Office of Comprehensive Services at the following e-mail address: csa.office@csa.virginia.gov.

Attachment

Cc: Margaret Schultze, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Social Services
Charlie Laslie, President, Virginia Coalition of Private Provider Associations