





NC Department of Health and Human Services

Benchmarks Presentation

Presenter:
North Carolina Division of Social Services

May 11, 2023

Agenda

- **FFPSA Innovation Zone Update – Lisa Cauley**
- **Federal IV-E Review – Beth Riley**
- **Visitation and Supervision Requirements – Kimaree Sanders**

IV-E Review Update

Beth Riley, Title IV-E Coordinator

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Social Services | Child Welfare Section

Overview of IV-E Review

Audit is based on Maintenance (Board) Payments

80 cases will be reviewed (100 pulled, 20 oversample)

Allowed to have 4 errors and still “pass”

More than 4 errors lead to a second review involving essentially double the sample size with the same error rate

Not passing that 2nd review will lead to a statewide penalty for all counties.

NC will then be placed on a “ PIP” Program Improvement Plan and will be reviewed again next year.



Timeline for Review and Preparedness Activities

- The Period Under review is April 1, 2023-September 30, 2023.
- NC is scheduled to be reviewed in the second quarter of the Federal Fiscal year, between January and March 2024.
- Asking counties to complete 100% review by October 31, 2023.
- Asking counties to submit payment adjustments by August 15, 2023.

How Does This Affect Private Agencies?

- If a private agency has an eligible IV-E child in placement, the private agency is receiving reimbursement for the child's care through some IV-E funding.
- As a part of Federal requirements, any agency that receives reimbursement of Title IV-E must provide criminal checks on all providers, foster parents and group home staff.
- Under Title IV-E a home must be fully licensed with appropriate criminal checks completed before reimbursement can be claimed.
- If a home is not fully licensed, including all appropriate checks completed, this will result in a case being found in error and can lead to penalties.
- DSS agencies will be reaching out to private agencies requesting criminal checks including RILs, SBI clearance letters and the facility licenses.
- It is important for partner agencies to respond quickly to the requests of DSS and provide the needed records.

Visitation and Supervision Requirements

Kimaree Sanders

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
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Compliance Visit Requirements

10A NCAC 70E .1113:

- Licensing social workers of supervising agencies shall visit with the foster family on at least a quarterly basis.
- Two of the quarterly visits each year shall take place in the foster home.
- The licensing social worker may require the remaining visits to occur at a location of the licensing social worker's preference.
- These visits must occur face to face, not virtually.

Purpose:

- To continuously assess licensing requirements to ensure the foster home stays in compliance with rules and policy.

What Needs to Occur During Compliance Visits*:

- Assess strengths and needs of each foster parent.
- Concerns and progress with caring for children placed in the home.
- Observe all sleeping spaces.
- Ensure fire safety and environmental standards are being met.
- Determine if home has any new household members.
- Discuss continued interest in providing foster care services.

*This is not an exhaustive list.

Supervision

Family Foster:

- At a minimum of once a month when the foster parent is caring for a foster child.

Therapeutic:

- Weekly when the foster parent is caring for a foster child.
- At least 2 visits every month must be in the home.

Purpose:

- Assess the safety and well-being of the child in the home.
- Discuss any needs in the home.
- Review medication logs.
- Ensure rules and policies are being followed.

* These visits should be conducted with the child's social worker whenever possible.