



State of Florida
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott
Governor

Mike Carroll
Secretary

INFORMATIONAL MEMO

DATE: September 25, 2015

TO: Regional Managing Directors, Community-Based Care CEOs

THROUGH: ~~David L. Fairbanks, Deputy Secretary~~
~~Wickl Abrams, Assistant Secretary of Operations~~

FROM: Janice Thomas, Assistant Secretary for Child Welfare *JW for Traci Leavine*
Traci Leavine, Director of Child Welfare Practice

SUBJECT: Family Foster Home and Group Home Implementation of the Reasonable and Prudent Parenting Standard: Updated Requirements

PURPOSE: On September 29, 2014, Public Law 113-183, The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, was signed into law and includes amendments to the Social Security Act regarding the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard. The provisions below are effective September 29, 2015. This memorandum is to inform Community-Based Care Lead Agencies (CBCs), Child Placing Agencies (CPAs), and Child Caring Agencies (CCAs) of the new provisions, specifically related to the Reasonable and Prudent Parenting Standard.

BACKGROUND: Section 111 of Public Law 113-183 amended Title IV-E of the Social Security Act and added requirements relating to implementation of the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard. In addition, section 409.145, Florida Statutes, provides a definition of the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard which is consistent with the federal definition.

ACTION NEEDED: The new federal provisions require the following:

CBCs will ensure that foster parents are prepared to make reasonable and prudent parenting decisions through inclusion of this topic in parent preparation pre-service training. Foster parents who did not receive pre-service instruction on the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard should be offered instruction individually or through an in-service training.

All licensed Child Caring Agencies shall designate one (1) staff member to serve as the agency's expert on how to apply the reasonable and prudent parent standard in the same manner as foster parents.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Should you have questions about this communication, please contact Xiomara Turner, Office of Child Welfare, Statewide Licensing Specialist, at 850-717-4659 or via e-mail at Xiomara.Turner@myflfamilies.com.

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Mission: Work in Partnership with Local Communities to Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency