

Care 4 Kids Program POLICY TRANSMITTAL

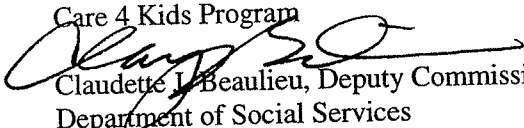


DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES-CHILD CARE TEAM

Transmittal Number: C4K-POL-05-01

Date: February 1, 2005

To: Sherri Sutera, Program Director
Care 4 Kids Program

From: 
Claudette J. Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner of Programs
Department of Social Services

CC: Policy Distribution List

Subject: DCF Subsidized Guardians

Program Issue: Effective January 05, 2005, children who receive subsidized guardian payments from the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) will be treated by Care 4 Kids in the same manner as DCF foster care children. Children receiving subsidized guardian payments will comprise a separate family unit from the guardian and any other household members.

Background: Section 17b-749-03(h) of the Child Care Assistance Program regulations provides for establishing a separate family unit for children receiving foster care payments from Connecticut DCF. The foster parent and other household members are excluded from the family together with their income. The work or training schedules of the foster parent and other responsible adults are considered for the purpose of determining the need for care. As the regulation is currently written, it does not apply to children receiving subsidized guardian payments.

DSS has determined that subsidized guardian payments are comparable to foster care payments. As such, the department has decided to treat subsidized guardian families in the same manner as foster care families in order to provide additional supports to such families. This change in policy was communicated to Care 4 Kids via e-mail on January 5, 2005. Amendments to the existing regulations will be addressed at a later date.

Implementation:

As a result of this change, a separate family unit will be established for children in the household who receive foster care or subsidized guardian payments from Connecticut DCF. The children should be coded in CCMIS as foster care children. The foster parents, guardians and other household members will be excluded from the family together with their income.

This change is effective for all new cases granted on or after January 5, 2005. Eligibility may be retroactive up to 15 days prior to the date of application.

For active families, this change will take effect the next time eligibility is determined on or before the next scheduled case redetermination.

CJB:db

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Connecticut's Lead Agency for Child Care Services