**INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (ILSAC)**

Monday, April 10, 2023, 1:00– 4:00 pm EST

Virtual via Microsoft Teams

***Please note the following agenda is for reference purposes only. To eliminate unnecessary delays for the public and the council, the Chairs at their discretion may deviate from the published agenda.***

AGENDA

1. **Welcome & Member Attendance**

*Regina Watson & Morgan Donovan – Secretary*

1. **Preparation Phase – Establishing a Baseline 13–17-year-old Discussion**

*Ginger Rockey-Johnson – Chair (Presenting) / Regina Watson – Co-Chair (Discussion)*

* 1. Results of Data Collection Form
     + Still missing forms from three CBCs (Circuits 5, 6 and 19).
     + Regina shared an update on Camelot transitioning to Children’s Network.
  2. Impact of lack of 13–17-year-old IL Services on EFC, PESS, & Youth Opting Out
     + Important to note ALL kids in care (regardless of level of care) should be receiving life skills supports. It’s not a specific program.
     + It’s not possible for foster parents taking night-to-night kids to teach the kids life skills.
     + Foster parents and caregivers are not taught a formal way of teaching life skills, while group home staff are required to teach life skills in order to receive funding.
     + Need to recognize there are plenty of natural, informal life skills being taught every day – we just don’t document them or even acknowledge them because we are used to thinking of life skills in a formal way.
       - The emphasis on life skills started off being organic and informal – it was not originally designed to be a formal curriculum. It was meant to develop natural ways for caregivers to model basic skills like laundry, cleaning, money management, etc.
     + Milestones broken down by age are in statue, along with who is responsible for helping the youth reach those milestones.
       - [65C-28.009 : Transition to Adulthood - Florida Administrative Rules, Law, Code, Register - FAC, FAR, eRulemaking (flrules.org)](https://www.flrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?id=65C-28.009)
       - Important to note all of the expectations are meant to be continuous, not a one-time task.
       - All youth, regardless of placement type, should be receiving these services starting at 13.
       - There is a large gap between what is expected to happen and what is actually happening regarding the development of youth in foster care.
       - There is an issue with CBCs waiting until youth are 17 to really start emphasizing life skills – need to prioritize building these skills earlier.
     + Crossover kids from DJJ are often not compliant with EFC requirements – likely because they were not prepared for the programs in the first place. Need to consider WHY we are (or aren’t) getting kids eligible for services.
     + Post-18 youth don’t have the opportunity to fail without consequences – their mistakes can cost them their housing, program eligibility (and monetary support). Need to have more opportunities for youth to learn self-accountability BEFORE 18.
     + ILSAC is responsible for making recommendations related to EFC, PESS, and Aftercare – need to be careful not to make recommendations for services offered under 18 if we want to receive a valid response from DCF.
       - How can we work around this?
         * Cal recommends focusing on gaps in the IL curriculum.
         * Look at gaps in contracts/contractual obligations. Can we have more IL contractual measures added?
  3. Pathways to Success Form
  4. Records & Resources Exchanged
     + Use of this form is inconsistent statewide.
     + The CBC is responsible for using it – not the CMA.
     + The form mirrors what’s on the JR report for 17-year-olds.
  5. Life Skills Progress Documentation Log (from Caregivers)
     + Most members based at CBCs/CMAs have seen this – those outside of CBCs/CMAs have not.
  6. Self-Assessments (One tool, there are many, Casey Life Skills Assessment)
  7. JR Breakdown – A job aid that was to be provided by DCF to CBC’s (1 pager for Attorney’s)

1. **ILSAC Continual Improvement Action Deck Review & Discussion**

*Ginger Rockey-Johnson – Chair*

* 1. 2023 Recommendations so far: 6
     + ILSAC Operations Guide
     + 13–17-year old’s – creation of Preparation Planning of IL (Impact of poor IL skills delivery on EFC-PESS-Aftercare)
       - JR Breakdown
       - Advocacy By Ages
     + GAL remaining on case post-18 – ask at 17 ¾ JR (2018 recommendation)
     + FSFN Payment Guide revision (2018 recommendation)
     + Guidance on EFC Housing Partners
     + EFC Allowance Clarification (Needs vs Discretionary vs Room & Board) Chart
       - Want cell phones to be considered a need.
  2. In Review: 15
  3. No Progress: 2
  4. Completed: 8

1. **2023 Schedule of Activities**

*Ginger Rockey-Johnson – Chair*

1. **Review of Proposed ILSAC Operating Guide (carried over from February 2023)**

*Ginger Rockey-Johnson – Chair*

* 1. Welcome & Vision Setting Presentation
  2. ILSAC Roles & Responsibilities Revision
  3. ILSAC Procedures
  4. Annual Report Template
  5. Proposed Revision to 409.1451

1. **Additional Discussion – How to define EFC Compliance**
   * + The relationship between youth and staff consists of a power dynamic – staff can disqualify youth from their supportive program for lack of compliance, which can be a traumatic experience.
     + Should we consider a case plan for EFC youth like the case plans set for parents working toward reunification?
       - What are the measures of performance for youth and providers that show the “drivers”/leading measures in relation to the outcome/lag measures that are the ultimate goal?
     + Need to remember our 18-year-olds are still kids – need to do more to prepare them for turning 18 and understanding the overnight change to adulthood (especially for those in high school who still feel like kids).
       - Need to prioritize high school diploma obtainment.
     + Have to be careful when building compliance measures – EFC is a great program for those who are struggling to get their diploma and won’t qualify for PESS, and we wouldn’t want to make EFC more difficult to maintain.
     + 2024 Recommendations – consider doing a deep dive into EFC. How did it start, why was it created the way it is, how can we rebuild it?
2. **Adjourn**

*Ginger Rockey-Johnson – Chair*