

Bob Taft
Governor



Tom Hayes
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July 31, 2003

TO: Executive Directors, Public Children Services Agencies
Administrators, Private Child Placing Agencies
Administrators, Private Noncustodial Agencies

FROM: Barbara E. Riley, Deputy Director, Office for Children and Families

SUBJECT: STATUS - FOSTER PARENT TRAINING REIMBURSEMENTS

In a correspondence of April 4, 2003, I advised agencies that the Foster Caregiver Resource Education Database (F.R.E.D.), was beginning Phase I on April 7, and Phase II would follow on May 30, 2003. Subsequently, we advised agencies that the implementation of Phase II was delayed until June 30, 2003. I must inform you that due to systems issues, it is necessary to once again delay the implementation of Phase II. While we regret this delay, please be assured that the development of F.R.E.D., continues and full implementation this year remains a reasonable goal. In order to effectively manage this delay, the following steps are being taken:

- T** We are accepting JFS 1350 forms for reimbursement of foster caregiver stipends for the period between April 1, 2003 and September 30, 2003. The attached JFS 1350 form (<http://dynaweb.odjfs.state.oh.us:6336/library/pdf/1350.pdf>) contains instructions for completion and may be duplicated for your use. Please submit completed forms to: Robert Bielecki, Chief, Foster Care Licensing Section, Bureau of Accountability and Regulation, Office for Children and Families, 255 East Main Street, 3rd Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-5222. When submitting the forms calculate stipend payments at the rate of \$10.00 per hour, per caregiver, payable in increments of one-quarter hours as required by Ohio Administrative Code (ORC) rule 5101:2-5-38 (http://dynaweb.odjfs.state.oh.us:6336/dynaweb/family/FCA/@Generic_BookView:cs=default;ts=default). Effective April 1, 2003, all recommending agencies are your reference. We will continue to process JFS 1350 forms until Phase II of F.R.E.D., is operational. Please be aware that the submission of the JFS 1350 form will generate only stipend reimbursements. Training events will still need data entry into F.R.E.D. Phase II to generate agency training allowance payments.
- T** Additional staff have been assigned the responsibility of responding to e-mails sent to the F.R.E.D. system, registering users into the system, and processing JFS 1350s. Please continue to address questions to FRED@odjfs.state.oh.us. Additional ODJFS MIS staff have been assigned to complete the development of the F.R.E.D. system.

I thank you for your patience and support during the development of this valuable instrument. If you have any questions, please contact the Bureau of Accountability and Regulation at (614) 644-1146.

BER:rb

Attachments (3)

c: Crystal Ward Allen, Executive Director, PCSAO
Penny Wyman, Executive Director, OACCA
Galen Bock, Diane Forrest, MIS, Dennis Blazey, Robert Bielecki, OCF

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