

**Office of Families and Children**  
**M.S. Teams Event**  
**May 12, 2021 - 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**  
**PCSA, Private Agencies and Title IV-E Courts**

**Welcome-Jeffery Van Deusen, Deputy Director**

Good morning and welcome to May's Touch Point call. I hope you are enjoying the slow and inconsistent roll out to Spring!

As a reminder, if you have questions during the call today, feel free to include them in the question section on the screen. The items discussed today, including the questions and answers will be included in the notes we send out later this week. I encourage you to share the notes with all appropriate staff within your agency to ensure they also receive the information.

**Foster Care Month- Jeffery Van Deusen, Deputy Director**

I mentioned in last week's First Friday, May is Foster Care Month. Hopefully you have seen the various social media posts highlighting foster care and the great work of Ohio's foster caregivers. I cannot say enough how much ODJFS appreciates our foster caregivers and acknowledge the tremendous sacrifice, dedication, and commitment they provide. They are the core of this work. Although this month highlights foster care, it is crucial that we elevate our foster caregivers throughout the year.

With all the great foster caregivers throughout the state, we know we need more. ODJFS continues to plan and work on initiatives to address the need for more foster caregivers that are appropriately trained and supported. Christine will be discussing more about the work OFC is doing around standing up tiered foster care.

**Remote Work- Jeffery Van Deusen, Deputy Director**

We have received several questions regarding when ODJFS will return to the office. We have not yet received a final date of returning to the office. As various other agencies begin to return to the office, we have received a few requests for ODJFS to provide an in-person presentation. At this time, we are reviewing each request on a case by case basis.

**Budget- Jeffery Van Deusen, Deputy Director**

I want to provide a quick update on where we are with the budget. Director Damschroder completed testimony and ODJFS continues to answer questions and provide clarification. We are at the home stretch and as areas are finalized, we will keep you informed.

We have another full agenda of useful topics, so I will turn start us off by providing an update on the American Rescue Act regarding children services.

**American Rescue Act Plan Update- Jeffery Van Deusen, Deputy Director**

On March 11, 2021, the President signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Among its provisions, the law included supplemental fiscal year (FY) 2021 funding for two of the grant programs authorized by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). The law included \$250 million in supplemental funding for the CBCAP grant program and \$100 million in supplemental funding for the CAPTA State Grant. The Children's Bureau has released Program Instruction (PI) ACYF-PI-CB-21-07 providing guidance to agencies administering CBCAP and the CAPTA State Grant on this supplemental funding. The PI provides information on the allowable use of the funding and actions states and territories must take to report on planned and actual use of the funds. We are continuing to review how these funds can best be used or allocated to improve outcomes for children and families in Ohio.

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**Children Services Delivery Hubs - Kari Akins, Assistant Deputy Director**

In response to the Children Services Transformation recommendations, we hope to develop and implement regional Children Services Delivery Hubs.

- We're planning to base these hubs on the current Child Care Service Delivery Areas that are in place for child care, with funding from the next biennial budget.
- The goal of the hubs will be to:
  - Ensure that county agencies have strategies to support their workforces and enhance their organizational culture through policy and practice improvements,
  - Assist with addressing the children services workforce and workforce retention issues,
  - Provide assistance to support Family First requirements,
  - Coordinate services,
  - And focus on the unique needs of each region.
- We expect the hubs to maximize communication, innovation, and collaboration; align with state and regional priorities; and meet the needs of children and families.
- We are very excited about the potential for the hubs to enhance Ohio's foster care system. Look for more information soon.

**Imagination Library - Gina Speaks-Eshler, Assistant Deputy Director**

- First Lady Fran DeWine partnered with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to send one book each month to all Ohio children under the age of five at **no cost to the family**.
- To bring this program to all 88 Ohio counties, First Lady Fran DeWine partnered with the state legislature in 2019.
- The books chosen by Dolly's Imagination Library are high quality, age appropriate and come with reading tips for parents on the inside cover.
- Though the program has been in Ohio since 2019, many caregivers are unaware it exists.
- Encourage your caregivers-biological, kinship, and foster caregivers- to enroll children ages birth to five years today!
- We want all Ohio children to receive the benefit of the Imagination Library.
- Caregivers can visit <https://ohioimaginationlibrary.org/> to enroll today! A child's first name and last initial, birth date, and an address are all that is needed to start getting books in the mail. Stay tuned for more information in future First Friday issues.
- We will be having a guest presentation on next month's call.

**FFPSA Updates, Angela Hughes, Bureau Chief**

- OFC has continued to work with pilot counties as they begin working Prevention Services cases. Partnering with the Center of Excellence, we held an Overview Webinar with the experts from Multisystemic Therapy and Functional Family Therapy. The webinar gave pilot counties an overview of each service, the differences between the models, which children and families would be a good fit, and next steps if there are providers in their county interested in starting a team.
- We also held our first Biweekly Pilot County call on April 30. We had representation from each pilot county on the call and heard great feedback from them on how we can use these calls to best support them during implementation. A theme of the call was facilitating peer to peer learning and collaboration, as well as sharing information on evidence-based practices and the Center of Excellence. We also walked through the measures we will be tracking throughout the pilot to get their feedback. Some of the themes we have heard from the pilot and non-pilot counties evidence-based practice service capacity, Payment Processing, and the Center of Excellence.

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- Foster Care Licensing staff continue to work closely with ODJFS certified residential agencies to address QRTP Requirements. As of May 5, 2021, 129 transition act funding applications to support QRTP Readiness have been approved. These applications represent \$1,190,000.
- On April 28, 2021, OFC and OhioMHAS, in partnership with The Buckeye Ranch, hosted a Lunch and Learn Session to discuss the Family Engagement QRTP Requirement. The Buckeye Ranch presented their model of family engagement incorporating families into treatment discussions, educational and community activities, and discharge planning efforts. They also discussed ways to reduce barriers to family involvement.
- On May 5, 2021, our third readiness survey was sent to residential agencies. Agencies were asked to complete eight questions via a Microsoft Forms questionnaire. This survey will provide us with updated data on agency readiness and which requirements may be the biggest challenge. All surveys will be completed and data compiled by June 4.
- Foster Care Licensing and Policy staff are also working closely with the Bureau of Automated Systems to implement the Residential Treatment Information System (RTIS). RTIS is a comprehensive case management system that will assist residential treatment staff in meeting and managing their compliance with the Discharge Planning and Aftercare Support QRTP requirements. RTIS is a sub-system of Ohio SACWIS Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS).
- Initially, we believed that accreditation would be agencies' biggest barrier to becoming QRTP compliant. We are hearing from agencies that accreditation is not their biggest barrier, so the survey will be crucial to providing insight on what is or is not a barrier to compliance. We will use this data to continue offering targeted technical assistance.

**KSP payments and Updates: Cathy Ghering, Bureau Chief**

The Bureau of Automated Systems held a lunch and learn session on May 7, 2021 to assist agency fiscal workers with triaging KSP related questions at the county level prior to the next set of payments being issued through Ohio SACWIS. The interim system solution relies on many behind the scenes processes to occur for generating kinship payments. The full functionality will be implemented during the June 24, 2021 release and a webinar is tentatively planned for June 2nd to walk through the system updates to support the kinship support program.

April payments were processed to kinship families over the weekend from Ohio SACWIS. The System created 3,551 payments for 2,108 providers and 3,124 children. These payments total \$976,486.80 and were sent to OFIS on Sunday. 423 providers will not receive a payment due to either placement being more than 30 days and the provider not having a completed Kinship Assessment or court approval. Completing assessments is critical and TA continues to monitor and provide assistance.

**Webinar Updates:**

**KSP Webinar Q & A Update: Colleen Tucker, Bureau Chief**

- The Question & Answer and recorded webinar from the March 29, 2021 Kinship Support Program Overview have been added to the SACWIS Knowledge Base at: <https://jfskb.com/sacwis/index.php/ofc-policy/1062-an-overview-of-the-kinship-support-program>.
- A lunch & learn was also held on May 7, 2021 for Title IV-E Agency staff. Attendees received a brief walk-through of the SACWIS functionality and then had an opportunity to ask questions

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about Kinship Support Program (KSP) functionality. A Q&A Document will be published based on the questions received during this event.

- Please save the date for our next Kinship Support Program webinar, “Ohio SACWIS Payment Functionality for KSP”, which will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 from 9:00 - 11:00 A.M.

### **Important Surveys**

#### **QRTP Readiness Survey: Colleen Tucker, Bureau Chief**

As Ohio moves forward with Family First Prevention Services Act Implementation, we are actively working with agencies to identify agencies that are meeting Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) compliance and agencies who are experiencing barriers to meeting QRTP compliance. One opportunity to do this is to survey agencies on their level of readiness to determine where we have opportunity to provide statewide and individualized technical assistance. A survey was sent out to all group home and children’s residential center administrators on Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup>.

- The survey can be accessed in the link section of this document.
- There are only 8 questions and then a comments box, which is optional. We ask that only one survey is completed per agency and completed no later than **Friday, May 21, 2021**.

#### **COVID Q and A: Colleen Tucker, Bureau Chief**

We have been informed that the COVID Q&A/TA document developed in 2020, which includes information about flexibility in licensing requirements, was moved to archived on the JFS Webpage. We recognize this has caused confusion for some staff and agencies as the document that is displaying as current is only five pages long.

- The current version addresses only questions received in 2021 and is located here: [JFS-Coronavirus-QA-Local.pdf \(ohio.gov\)](#)
- The older 2020 version is 68 pages and is located here: [JFS-Coronavirus-QA-Local-2020.pdf \(ohio.gov\)](#)

#### **Tiered Foster Care Survey- Christine Dobrovich, Bureau Chief**

- As a part of the Office’s initiative to develop a tiered foster care system in Ohio, our office created a treatment foster care survey to better assess the current state of treatment foster care in Ohio.
- The survey was sent to all public and private agency that recommend licensure of foster homes to gather information and data in the following areas:
  - o Services and supports offered to caregivers
  - o Pre-placement training requirements
  - o Agency treatment models and practices
  - o Data regarding current agency treatment foster care
- Agencies were asked to complete the survey and is has been extended to close of business on May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The office will be compiling our results and will share our findings with stakeholders.

#### **State Fiscal Year (SFY) Cutoff Dates: Cathy Ghering, Bureau Chief**

The State Fiscal Year (SFY) Cutoff for processing of SACWIS Auxiliary Payments is midnight on Monday, June 21, 2021. Adoption subsidy or KPIP payments generated after the SFY cutoff will be processed through OAKS and will not be paid until July 8th. Those payments that are non-EFT will

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likely arrive in the middle of the month due to this delay. All warrant cancellations and stop payment requests that were not received by June 15, 2020 will not be processed this fiscal year. These requests will need to be resubmitted on July 1st or the earliest date OAKS is available for processing.

**Questions and Answers**

- 1) Mary Wachtel: Can you provide an update on the federal lawsuit re: Ohio's compliance with the D.O. v. Glisson decision?  
[This is being handled by our Legal Office and OFC does not have current updates. ODJFS is unable to comment on active litigation.](#)
  
- 2) Anonymous: My facility has submitted our QRTP readiness info to our licensing agent. Unfortunately, we were told that our review will be on hold until further notice as ODJFS can come to a consensus regarding what will be deemed appropriate documentation. Can you provide an update or any info on this please?  
[Please reach out to Colleen Tucker for assistance at: \[colleen.tucker@jfs.ohio.gov\]\(mailto:colleen.tucker@jfs.ohio.gov\)](mailto:colleen.tucker@jfs.ohio.gov)
  
- 3) Is there any data regarding how many kinship providers have applied/been approved to be foster parents?  
[During the period of December 29, 2020 through April 30, 2021, twelve approved kinship caregivers were certified as foster caregivers.](#)

**Registration Links**

Imagination Library: <https://ohioimaginationlibrary.org/>

KSP March 29th Webinar:

<https://jfskb.com/sacwis/index.php/ofc-policy/1062-an-overview-of-the-kinship-support-program>

Lunch & Learn Webinar | Ohio Children's Trust Fund, May 19, 2021:

<https://octf.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/octf/resources-for-professionals/events/lunch-and-learn-webinar-20210519>

The QRTP Agency Readiness Survey link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xPz4UNiUB0-E6zbtV8fIooeQTEXVypZIo6wrhNrAK4BUMEFDUUIPVjZPRzdYMTRBND40EhVVEYwQi4u>

The Agency Treatment Foster Care Assessment - The Tiered Foster Care Survey is below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xPz4UNiUB0-E6zbtV8fIooepeCj4urxLi0VmOuAKry1UQVY4WDVCWktZRVpGQIVUV0JNNE9OTEFWOSQIQCN0PWcu>

**Future Touchpoint Meetings: Please SAVE the DATE and add the below LINKS to your calendar.**

Additional information for other training events can also be found on our OFC Training Event Calendar.

[OCF Training Calendar \(state.oh.us\)](#)

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**June 9, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_Zjg0ZWQ3ZDQ0YThlMi00ZjM2LWE4ODUtMDIiNDc2M2U0Nzk3%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Zjg0ZWQ3ZDQ0YThlMi00ZjM2LWE4ODUtMDIiNDc2M2U0Nzk3%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)

**July 14, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_OTM2NDVkMTYtM2FkZi00NjgyLWFiMGUtY2M5OGM2N2RmZjRI%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OTM2NDVkMTYtM2FkZi00NjgyLWFiMGUtY2M5OGM2N2RmZjRI%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)

**August 11, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_YzY4YTQ0N2YtNDAxNS00ODhLTg3ZTEtNmNhODk3ODQ5YzUz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzY4YTQ0N2YtNDAxNS00ODhLTg3ZTEtNmNhODk3ODQ5YzUz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)

**September 22, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NzFmMDkzYzYtOGJmYy00ZjMxLWE4ODctNTc3MTRkYTkxOWU1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NzFmMDkzYzYtOGJmYy00ZjMxLWE4ODctNTc3MTRkYTkxOWU1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)

**October 27, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MmU4ZDI3MmYtMTdmOC00M2U3LWJlNTYtOGI2YzE5MjU0YmU4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MmU4ZDI3MmYtMTdmOC00M2U3LWJlNTYtOGI2YzE5MjU0YmU4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)

**November 24, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_OTg0ODM3NDAtNjFjNy00YjMwLTkyNzktMjI5ZDc2ZGFkZThj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OTg0ODM3NDAtNjFjNy00YjMwLTkyNzktMjI5ZDc2ZGFkZThj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)

**December 22, 2021 from 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 PM:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NTIjOWEzNjktNmRlZC00M2VmLWEyZjktYTYxOTg2NDU3OTcw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTIjOWEzNjktNmRlZC00M2VmLWEyZjktYTYxOTg2NDU3OTcw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2250f8fcc4-94d8-4f07-84eb-36ed57c7c8a2%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b1d80b31-feef-4856-a7c8-5d3110ea89ae%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atru%7d)