What to Expect: A Guide to the First 30 Days

Worker Interaction

CPS will place a foster child in your home, but foster care will quickly take over. After initial placement, the foster care worker must make two face-to-face contacts with the child, one which shall occur in the foster home. One contact must occur in five business days, and the second within the first 30 calendar days of placement. From the 30–60-day time frame, another two face-to-face contacts must occur with the child. After 60 days, face-to-face visits will occur once monthly.

Documents

Items to be furnished prior to or at the time of placement, or those that will be completed with you:

- Placement Outline–Provides information on reasons the child was removed, history of abuse/neglect, physician information, health information, emotional/behavioral factors, and plans for visitation.
- Consent to Treat Card–Card with the Medicaid ID for the child to use at medical appointments or to seek treatment.
- Medical Passport–A listing of the child's medical history.
- Level of Care Assessment- determine what type of care if needed for the child.
- Educational Records
- Early Intervention Assessment-for kids under 3 years old
- Treatment Plan (if the case has already been opened and placement in home is not first placement for the child).
- DOC (Determination of Care)–Done at case on set and every six months to determine supplemental payment amount for the care of the youth.
- Clothing Inventory–Provided by foster parent and returned to worker to access funds for clothing. Seasonal allowances will be issued twice annually following the initial clothing allowance provision.
- Foster Care Bill of Rights–Form provided to explain rights and responsibilities of foster care workers and youth.

Tasks

- A well-child exam shall be completed with the child's primary doctor within 30 days.
- Nurse home visit- for medically fragile children (if needed).
- A dental exam shall be completed within 90 days. *An HLO (Health Liaison) is available to aid in scheduling.
- Trauma screens will be completed to assess the need for mental health services for the youth.

- Forensic Exam- Concern about sexual abuse (if needed)
- Apply through DHHS for daycare assistance.
- Apply through the health department for WIC (if age applicable).
- Request transportation logs for reimbursement to and from parenting visits.
- Attending an FTM (Family Team Meeting). This meeting will be held within the first 30 days and again every 90 days for interaction and collaboration in case planning.
- Ice breaker meeting with Bio parents.
- Initial visit with the child and their bio parents- can be over the phone or in person.
- Formal Visit with bio parents- based on visitation plan and will happen after court.

Court

The child will be assigned an attorney (GAL) who will visit every quarter before court. The court proceedings occur as follows:

- Investigators- can come visit the child determined by age if they can advocate what happened. (Can be triggering)
- Advocate- someone from the attorney's office can meet with the child.
- Pretrial- Opportunity for parent discussion with the court and their attorney on whether they are choosing to take the case to a bench trial, jury trial or plea to the petition that was filed to give the County jurisdiction over the youth. This can take 90 days sometimes.
- Bench trial- DHHS/private agency provides a list of witnesses to prove why the court should take jurisdiction over the child, Judge only hears this case and decides.
- Jury Trial- Same as a bench trial except it is in the jury's hands regarding the decision.
- Disposition- Hearing where the parents are ordered to do services anything before this date- services are voluntary to do.
- Initial Review Hearing - This is a hearing that is held to provide updates regarding the progress and barriers still in place.
- Permanency Planning Hearings - This is where DHHS reviews the permanency goal and can request goal change. If there is a goal change to adoption, DHHS has 28 days to file a termination petition.
- Termination Trial- DHHS and service providers provide testimony regarding what was offered to the parents to rectify the barriers and the lack of progress.
- Post Termination Hearing - These are only for permanent court wards, following termination of parental rights.