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**Prevention Contract Correspondence Transmittal, 24-01**

<b>PCCT Number: 24-01</b>	<b>Date of Issue: 2/8/2024</b>
<b>Issuance: Division of Prevention and Community Well-Being, Jennifer Thornhill, Assistant Director</b>	
<b>Key Words/Phrases: Federal regulation defining foster care and reunification services</b>	

The purpose of this Prevention Contract Correspondence Transmittal (PCCT) is to provide updated guidance to Contracted Providers, Family First Liaisons, and Gatekeepers concerning federal regulations defining foster care as a child under the placement and care of the state title IV-E agency regardless of whether they are placed in a licensed or unlicensed kinship placement and regardless of placement, and reunification services.

**Federal Foster Care Definition**

IVE funds cannot be used for a child in foster care.

- 45 CFR 1355.50 defines foster care as a child under the placement and care of the state Title IV-E agency regardless of whether they are placed in a licensed or unlicensed kinship placement and regardless or payment.
- Family First/IVE funded services are only available if DCBS does not hold custody, regardless of payment, and if the children meet the foster care candidacy definition.
- The only time children are considered candidates when they are in DCBS custody is when they are on a Trial Home Visit (THV) and placed with their parents/caregivers.

**Reunification Services**

**Prevention Programs with IVE and non-IVE funds**

Candidates for foster care receiving Family First Prevention Services are funded with IVE funds.

**FPRS - Family Preservation and Reunification Services**

- Provide reunification service prior to or after a trial home visit.
- Can refer prior to a THV when the child is still in an OOHC placement.

**KSTEP – Kentucky Strengthening Ties and Empowering Parents**

- Requires children to be in the home at referral.
- Will continue serving children who enter OOHC to expedite reunification.

**START – Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Team**

- Serves children in-home or in OOHC.

**Programs with IVE funds only**

- Cannot be in DCBS custody.
- Cannot be referred unless they are on a trial home visit.
  - Intercept for prevention (For OOHC Intercept, please contact your SRCA, OOHC referrals only **do not** enter in TWIST)
  - Multisystemic Therapy

On behalf of the Division of Prevention and Community Well-Being, we want to thank our providers for their support and interventions for the families we are serving. If you have any questions regarding this guidance, please contact Lena Morehead at [lena.morehead@ky.gov](mailto:lena.morehead@ky.gov) or Jennifer Thornhill at [jennifer.thornhill@ky.gov](mailto:jennifer.thornhill@ky.gov).