

Statement of Consideration (SOC)

PPTL 24-23 SOP 13.14, and forms. The following comments were received in response to SOP drafts sent for field review. Thanks to those who reviewed and commented. Comments about typographical and grammatical errors are excluded; these errors have been corrected as appropriate.

SOP 13.14 Referral of a Child to the Kentucky Adoption Profile Exchange (KAPE)

1. **Comment:** Does the youth get a say if their picture is on the KAPE website? We talk about adding youth voice into 886s, and asking their permission to share their picture with referrals for placements through CRP, but policy requires us to post their picture on a public facing website without their input? In my opinion, this is the most important forum for youth voice to be reflected and for them to have a say. Additionally, if they choose not to have their picture posted on KAPE, the youth will still have a Child Focused Recruitment Model worker that is diligently searching for adoptive homes for that youth. So not being on KAPE would not stop the efforts towards permanency but allow the youth to have autonomy and voice.

Response: The youth can be enrolled in KAPE without their picture being shared on the website. These concerns can be discussed with the assigned KAPE specialist.

KSAPE Referral Hold Request Template

1. **Comment:** I certainly understand the need for the KAPE specialists to review the hold memo requests quarterly rather than every 6 months. However, my concern is that now in addition to requesting a new hold memo, staff will be required to also submit a statement from a mental health provider justifying the request. I think an alternative could be that documentation from a mental health provider be submitted with the original hold memo and require it again in 6 months if the hold continues. I just feel that it is redundant to request this quarterly if the child's needs have not changed. Perhaps when a child is on hold, KAPE specialists could request to receive an update on the child's placement and progress quarterly, and perhaps in that conversation, it could be determined that a hold request is no longer needed. Again, I do feel that quarterly follow-up from KAPE in these situations is critically important. I just don't feel that submitting a new hold request with mental health documents every 90 days is the way to go about achieving this goal. A more team like approach with effective communication would replace this task.

Response: Currently, SOP requires that KAPE specialists be updated when the child's placement or other significant changes occur; unfortunately, this does not occur. The hold memos will be submitted to the Adoption Services Branch manager for review, not the KAPE specialists. Currently, there are twenty-six (26) youth on hold statewide so this will not be a tremendous workload increase but will allow for better tracking and monitoring as youth placed on hold tend to linger longer in OOHC without identification of an adoptive home.

KAPE Referral Hold Extension Template and DPP-196 KAPE Referral

No comments