Latest Updates

Cheryl Treadwell   Chief, Foster Care Audits and Rates Branch
Now I’m ready. Let’s get started.
Level of Care Protocol Implementation

**DETAILED** until August 1, 2018 ... So what does that mean?

- Continue with FFAs new entries, upon request from FFAs, case by case i.e. youth presenting with needs, need to prevent potential placements disruptions, issues emerge in a CFT that indicate a need for a rate adjustment (since March getting LOC’s) (ACL 18-06E)

- FFAs placements made prior to December 1, 2017 – stay on age based rates. No triggering events i.e. moves to another FFA home, NO LOC, STAY ON AGE BASED RATES

- LOC not applying to other family settings – basic rates stay in place AND SCI’s

- Cannot implement LOC without SCI updates, or status reported to State, post plans, etc.
Sigh...but we need time to ..

- Work furiously to help the field of practice by providing more clarity by providing a few scenarios
- Tweak to clarify the definitions/expectations in physical and permanency domains
- Make technical fixes where “and/or” options should be inserted
- Finish a “How To Use the Tool Guide” with scenarios
- Remove access to the manual score sheet SOC 500a = use the digital form only
- THESE CHANGES WILL/should NOT EFFECT THE SCI PLANS..
The Static Factors where created to allow counties to place a young person that might present with risk factors and would need a special placement because of those risks factors/ history - or to determine if those risks are ongoing and will impact placement although not presenting.

Gives county 60-120 days to determine/better assess the supervision and other placement needs that will allow for an appropriate level of care rate determination.

Static was not intended as an automatic pathway to ISFC (current policy exception until ..) it was a way to pay that higher rate for that placement.

You don’t have to go static you can go straight to doing an LOC its one or the other....
Services Only...

- All County Letter posting today or Monday that discusses the establishment of a rate to be used by counties to provide short term supports for successful transitions of youth from higher levels of care, prevent disruptions, provide tangible supports
- Used with FFAs, community-based organizations
- Can supplant but supplements
- Counties can use MOUs, contracts or service agreements
- Principles of wraparound as a model approach of use
OTHER ACLS, CNI ACLS FOR AAP AND OTHER RATES

- FORTHCOMING NEXT WEEK 3.96 % INCREASE TO BASE RATE
- AAP LETTER WILL EXPLAINS APPLICATION OF THE LEVEL OF CARE RATE DETERMINATIONS
- QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO AAP POLICY STAFF
Leveling up policy...scoring 7.

- Three ways to level up most recent was added based on a score of 7 a child could level up to a ISFC rate...
- Temporary policy to allow us to understand if the tool is doing what it was intended to do at this level.
- Must be able to reduce the rate if those supervision supports are no longer required of the RF.
- The score of & alone cannot be the sole indicator needing ISFC, there should be other factors, (CFT, assessment info, RF capability, etc.)
- FFAs should not be doing self-assessments using the tool.
- We will remove this criteria once we determine the if it’s the tool or the metrics before full implementation...
Specialize Care Rates Programs

- County SCI plans are to be submitted. Due now! Plans are reviewed for compliance with federal policy and alignment with Level of Care Rate Structure
- Plans will be posted on web page
- ACL 18-48 discusses SCI
- During delay - keep existing SCI rates and process
- New rates not effective until full implementation of SCI
Intensive Services Foster Care

- ACL 18-25
- ISFC is intended to provide a rate to support the intensives supervision activities that involve the resource parent
- ISFC rates are determined using the LOC
- ISFC rate is used short term for static factor placements (exception in place)
- ISFC agencies amend program statements
- Grow one home at a time...
- Identify potential families as a place to put In services to make that child or youth successful
Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC)

- Looking at scenarios submitted to us and those that have been scored.
- ISFC is not solely an FFA program – but if you are an ISFC program the expectation is that you have the RF that have the ability and capacity to accommodate high needs youth or you are building that capacity one placement or home at a time. Refusals to accept placements...are being reviewed...Why?
- Communicate prior to a placement with the county – should request a CFT or all information.
- What if you have a willing caregiver and you have a ISFC level -- and you have a willing placement, that is not going to provide the supports but willing to take the placement...conduct an LOC based on their level of involvement and you can place there with other supports and give that caregiver time to gain the competency and training and pay a lower rate....do another LOC suggest counties use a placement agreement with clear terms...
Inter rater Reliability Study

- Six counties (LA Riverside, Kern, Santa Clara, Shasta, Orange)
- Total of 80 cases - 53 in the sample
- Findings of 72% reliability
- Recommends more training on the protocol scoring
- More Training on using the Loc for determining domains
- Review Physical, Permanency Domains
Q & A

- Discussion about questions we have received...