

Established Rates for Family Foster Care, including Level of Care Payments

Please forward to local foster providers, staff, partners, e-mail listservs, etc.

Spanish-language version coming ASAP

As you are aware, Oregon's state budget has been approved, and DHS has now established the new rates for family foster care. On September 1, 2009 new base rates and the rates for levels of care will take effect for all foster parents and relative care givers. This also includes new daily rates for family shelter care, enhanced shelter care and housing subsidies for youth in transition to independence. Reimbursement checks for foster parents and relative care givers received on or around October 1st will reflect the base rate changes.

As has been previously discussed, the change may mean that rates for some children in care will increase while for others will be a decrease. We understand that a decrease in payments may create challenges and will not be welcome news, but the changes are required in order for the state to meet new federal guidelines. DHS is committed to have a continuing conversation about the adequacy of payments to our foster providers. We value you and the important service you provide to children every day, *and it is important to remember that your exact payment level will not be known until a CANS or PCSA has been completed.*

The new rates are shown below, effective September 1, 2009

Base Rate: the established rate, based on the age of the child or young adult, is intended to assist in the cost of providing food, clothing, housing, daily supervision, personal incidentals, and basic transportation.

Monthly Payment Rates - Base Level

Ages 0-5 \$639

Ages 6-12 \$728

Ages 13-20 \$823

Enhanced Supervision: an additional payment for the enhanced supervision responsibilities of an eligible child or young adult. The Level of Care based on the child's special needs, as determined through the CANS assessment tool. Until a CANS is completed for a child, the specific level of care payment cannot be determined.

Monthly Payment Rates - Enhanced Supervision

Level one: \$212

Level two: \$414

Level three: \$850

Note: *Enhanced Supervision payments are in addition to the Base Rate (example: 10 year old child at level two per CANS assessment would receive \$728 + \$414 = \$1142 total)*

Personal Care Services Program: an additional payment to a qualified provider of Personal Care Services based on an assessment by a licensed Registered Nurse for a Level of Care and through a personal care services plan. Personal Care Services is

only for foster children with medical needs requiring intervention.

Monthly Payment Rates - Personal Care Services

Level one: \$207

Level two: \$413

Level three: \$620

Level four: \$620 + additional services may be authorized.

Note: Personal Care Services payments are in addition to the Base Rate (example: 10 year old child at level three per PCSA would receive \$728 + \$620 = \$1348 total)

Shelter Care: care provided to a child or young adult during the first 20 days of placement in substitute care.

Daily Payment Rates - Shelter Care

Ages 0-5 \$24.60

Ages 6-12 \$28.00

Ages 13-20 \$31.60

Enhanced Shelter Care: care provided to a child or young adult when placement in Behavior Rehabilitation Services is no longer needed. Eligibility is up to 20 days.

Daily Payment Rates - Enhanced Shelter Care

Ages 0-5 \$29.40

Ages 6-12 \$33.50

Ages 13-20 \$37.90

Housing subsidy: Youth in Transition to independence may be eligible for housing subsidies.

The monthly subsidy is rate is limited to a maximum of \$600 per month, based on need.

There is also much more information and detail available on the web at

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/fostercare/rates/> -- click on Project Updates.