

Cathy Cooper

Authorized Signature

Number: SPD-PT-07-005
Issue Date: 3/29/2007

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New Policy
 Policy Change
 Policy Clarification
 Executive Letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual Update
 Other: _____

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): DHS Child Welfare case workers and CDDP service coordinators |

Policy/Rule Title:	Nursing Home Placements for Children with Developmental Disabilities		
Policy/Rule Number(s):	411-088-0010, 411-070-0040-43	Release No:	
Effective Date:	03/01/2007	Expiration:	
References:	411-325-0390 (1) - (E) and 411-335 0330 (1) – (3)		
Web Address:			

Discussion/Interpretation: SPD, Office of Developmental Disabilities and DHS Child Welfare share a common goal: support children in their family homes whenever safe and possible and, when an alternative to the family home is necessary, assure that placement is the least restrictive, most family-like setting to safely meet the child's needs. During the past several years SPD has worked to develop in-home supports and foster care resources throughout the state. A 2005 Legislative Budget Note required SPD to expand our focus and evaluate all service systems for children with developmental disabilities. As a result, SPD is working to enhance services that support children in their family home. This effort, combined with the current Legislative interest in providing alternatives for children who reside in nursing facilities, is bringing about service changes for our most medically involved children. Recent statewide recruitment has also increased the number of medical foster homes available to

provide appropriate community based services as an alternative to nursing home placement. SPD is revising OARs for nursing home admission and review of individuals with developmental disabilities. New OARs, changes in local practice and additional in-home options and placement resources will assure that community alternatives can be considered when contemplating a nursing home placement.

Implementation/Transition Instructions: Beginning immediately, nursing home admissions for children with developmental disabilities will require SPD central office approval. Admissions for respite, rehabilitative care, hospice level of care and short term emergencies will continue. However, all requests for admission will be referred by the nursing home facility or the local SPD/AAA office to the SPD Health Services Unit. In order to meet the needs of children who are referred, admitted or currently living in nursing homes, local and state SPD staff will begin assessment and planning with families and guardians. Alternative medically appropriate long term services will be identified whenever possible. The Office of Developmental Disabilities Services and the local Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP) will have lead responsibility in service planning and funding for alternative in-home or placement services. The local CDDP service coordinators will work directly with families and with DHS Child Welfare caseworkers to identify safe and appropriate options.

Training/Communication Plan: Distribute this transmittal to all service coordinators, caseworkers, stakeholders and interested parties. Provide training to CDDP Program Managers and service coordinators, Regional Crisis Program Managers and staff, and SPD/AAA PAS screeners in February and March 2007.

Local/Branch Action Required: CDDP Service Coordinators and DHS Child Welfare case workers will cooperate to identify children in the custody of DHS Child Welfare who are medically stable and able to benefit from alternative service options such as a less restrictive medically skilled family foster home certified by SPD. CDDP service coordinators will provide information regarding alternative services to Citizen's Review Boards, the child's CASA and attorney and the Juvenile Court judge as requested.

Central Office Action Required: Central SPD Children's Services Program will provide group training and individual technical assistance to local DHS Child Welfare and CDDP offices upon request. Central SPD Health Support Unit will assist in assessments and transition planning for children identified for alternative placement.

Field/Stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

Filing Instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

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