



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

November 6, 2020

Jennifer Nichols
Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Children Services
315 Deaderick Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Commissioner Nichols:

Thank you for submitting Tennessee's Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR), including the annual report on the use of funds under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and the CFS-101 forms requesting funding for fiscal year (FY) 2021 to address the following programs:

- Title IV-B, subpart 1 (Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services) of the Social Security Act (the Act);
- Title IV-B, subpart 2 (MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program and Monthly Caseworker Visit Grant) of the Act;
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant;
- Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (Chafee Program); and
- Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) Program.

These programs provide important funding to help state child welfare agencies ensure safety, permanency, and well-being for children, youth and their families. The APSR facilitates continued assessment, development, and implementation of a comprehensive continuum of services for children and families. It provides an opportunity to integrate more fully each state's strategic planning around use of federal funds with its work relating to the Child and Family Services Reviews and continuous program improvement activities.

Approval

The Children's Bureau (CB) has reviewed your APSR for FY 2021 and the annual report on the use of CAPTA funds and finds them to be in compliance with applicable federal statutory and regulatory requirements. Therefore, we approve FY 2021 funding under the title IV-B, subpart 1; title IV-B, subpart 2; CAPTA; Chafee; and ETV programs. For the Chafee program, your state has elected to serve eligible youth up to age 21.

Counter-signed copies of the CFS-101 forms are enclosed for your records.

The Administration for Children and Families' Office of Grants Management (OGM) will issue a grant notification award letter with pertinent grant information, which will be sent to the email address listed on the FY 2021 CFS-101s. Please note that OGM requires grantees to submit additional annual financial reports, using the form SF-425, according to the terms and conditions of the award.

Training Plan

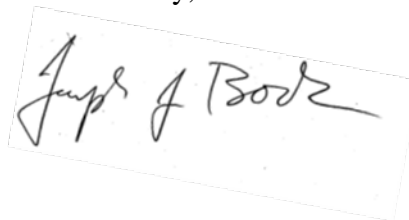
This approval for the FY 2021 funding for title IV-B, subpart 1; title IV-B, subpart 2; CAPTA; Chafee; and ETV programs does not release the state from ensuring that training costs included in the training plan and charged to title IV-E of the Act comply with the requirements at 45 CFR 1356.60(b) and (c) and 45 CFR 235.63 through 235.66(a), including properly allocating costs to all benefiting programs in accordance with the state's approved cost allocation plan.

Additional Information Required

Pursuant to Section 424(f) of the Act, states are required to collect and report on caseworker visits with children in foster care. The FY 2020 caseworker visit data must be submitted to the Regional Office by December 15, 2020. States that wish to use a sampling methodology to obtain the required data must obtain prior approval from the Regional Office.

The CB looks forward to working with you and your staff. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shalonda Cawthon, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager in Region 4, at (404) 562-2242 or by e-mail at shalonda.cawthon@acf.hhs.gov. You also may contact Antonette Rollins, Child and Family Program Specialist, at (404) 562-2833 or by e-mail at antonette.rollins@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Milner", is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jerry Milner
Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

Enclosure(s)

cc: Gail Collins, Director; CB, Division of Program Implementation; Washington, DC
Shalonda Cawthon, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager; CB, Region 4; Atlanta, GA
Antonette Rollins, Child and Family Program Specialist; CB, Region 4; Atlanta, GA