

Northstar Care for Children Update

SSIS Worker Mentor Meeting
May 2014

MAPCY Extraordinary Levels

- ▶ Extraordinary levels are designed for the highest needs children, particularly in the areas of mental health, physical health and developmental needs, where the caregiver is providing intensive supervision and parenting care to fill a gap that is not covered by other services.
- ▶ In addition to local agency approval of the MAPCY, state approval for extraordinary levels will also be required.
- ▶ The approval process will be within SSIS.

New Placement Setting: Kinship

- ▶ As part of Northstar Care for Children, Minnesota will implement Northstar Kinship Assistance.
- ▶ To obtain Title IV–E funding for this, we must follow the federal Title IV–E Guardianship Assistance Program rules.
- ▶ A new placement setting like pre–adoptive home, will be used for kinship placements.

Placement Setting vs. Permanency Commitment

- ▶ Policy staff are developing a Kinship Placement Agreement, a document similar to an Adoption Placement Agreement.
- ▶ Sometimes, a caregiver intends to be an adoptive parent or a permanent relative custodian of a child, even though the child is not physically residing with the planned permanency resource.
- ▶ SSIS is working on clarifying and tracking these differences within the system.

Eligibility Determinations: Northstar Kinship Assistance and Northstar Adoption Assistance

- ▶ Eligibility for Northstar Kinship Assistance and Northstar Adoption Assistance is largely based on federal Title IV–E requirements.
- ▶ Eligibility determinations will be completed within SSIS, rather than using a paper process.

Other Miscellaneous Changes

- ▶ Documents
- ▶ SSIS at DHS

Questions?

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