



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 3, 2017

Allison Blake, Ph.D.
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Children and Families
50 East State Street, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 717
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0717

Dear Commissioner Blake:

Thank you for submitting New Jersey'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) 2018 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 (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 Independence Program (CFCIP); 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 2018 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 2018 funding under the title IV-B, subpart 1; title IV-B, subpart 2; CAPTA; CFCIP; and ETV programs.

Counter-signed copies of the CFS-101 forms are enclosed for your records. The Children's Bureau may ask for a revised CFS-101, Part I, should the final allotment for any of the approved programs be more than that requested in the Annual Budget Request.

The Administration for Children and Families' Office of Grants Management (OGM) will issue a grant notification award letter with pertinent grant information. Please note that OGM requires grantees to submit additional financial reports, using the form SF-425, at the close of the expenditure period according to the terms and conditions of the award.

Training Plan

This approval for the FY 2018 funding for title IV-B, subpart 1; title IV-B, subpart 2; CAPTA; CFCIP; 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 2017 caseworker visit data must be submitted to the Regional Office by December 15, 2017. 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 Alfonso Nicholas, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager in Region 2 at (212)264-2890 extension 145 or by e-mail at alfonso.nicholas@acf.hhs.gov. You also may contact Evelyn Torres-Ortega, Children and Families Program Specialist, at (212)264-2890 extension 146 or by e-mail at evelyn.torresortega@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Gail E. Collins, for

Jerry Milner
Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

Enclosure(s)

cc: Gail Collins, Director; CB, Division of Program Implementation; Washington, DC
Deborah M. Bell, Financial Management Specialist; ACF, OA, OGM; Washington, DC
Alfonso Nicholas, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager; CB, Region 2; New York, NY
Evelyn Torres-Ortega, Children and Families Program Specialist; CB, Region 2; New York,
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