



INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF
CHILD
SERVICES

*Families First Prevention Services Act Information
January 2021*

“Children will live in safe, healthy and supportive families and communities.”



Vision Statements

- **DCS Vision:** Children will live in safe, healthy and supportive families and communities.
- **Family First Vision:** DCS will use the tools in FFPSA to preserve children in their home of origin when it is safe to do so, focus on improving outcomes across the child welfare system, ensure appropriate residential treatment use only when children demonstrate the need for such care, and ensure financial stability in a post-Title IV-E Waiver environment.



What is the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)?

For more information and questions:

www.in.gov/dcs/familyfirstact.htm

dcsfamilyfirst@dcs.in.gov



FFPSA Highlights

- **Requires Proof of Foster Care given to youth aging out of foster care (Summer 2018)**
- **Reauthorizes Chafee and expands it to age 23 for states that elect to extend eligibility for foster care to age 21 and expands use of Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) to age 26**
- **Reauthorizes Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payment Program**
- **National Model Family Foster Home Licensing Standards (Required legislative changes; implemented in July 2019)**
- **New Background Check requirements (Required legislative changes; implemented in July 2019)**





FFPSA Highlights

- **Prevention Framework**
 - **Family Preservation**
 - **Concrete Supports**
- **Reduce Residential Treatment**
 - **Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP)**



Emphasis on prevention

- Must be evidence-based (meaning well-supported, supported or promising as rated by the IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse)
 - No less than 50% of programs provided must be well-supported (delayed as a result of Family First Transition Act)
 - Maximum of 12 months (redetermination available)
 - Must be trauma informed



Emphasis on Prevention

- Expands IV-E federal funding for prevention
- Child must be identified as a candidate for foster care (regardless of whether the child is IV-E eligible), pregnant/parenting foster youth, and parents/kin caregivers of those children and youth
 - Who is a “candidate” for foster care (Section 475(13))?
 - States can define



Prevention Candidate DRAFT

Definition

- Children and Families Served by Providers Outside of DCS (who can remain safely at home and will have an individualized service/prevention plan)
 - Children and families (including relatives and kin) receiving Healthy Families of Indiana services;
 - Children and families (including relatives and kin) receiving Nurse-Family Partnership services;
 - Children who have exited foster care through reunification, guardianship, or adoptions and may be at risk of re-entry into foster care



Prevention Candidate DRAFT

Definition

- Children and Families Served by Providers and DCS who have an open DCS case (who can remain safely at home and will have an individualized case plan identifying the need for prevention services)
 - Pregnant and parenting youth in foster care and their children (regardless of whether the child of the parenting foster youth has an open case);
 - Children and families served through an open DCS' Informal Adjustment case, which offers prevention services to families; and/or
 - Children and families served through an open DCS' In-Home CHINS case, which offers prevention services to families.



Prevention Candidate DRAFT Definition

- Children and Families Served by Providers and the Juvenile Justice System who have an open JJ case (who can remain safely at home and will have an individualized case plan identifying the need for prevention services)
 - Children who can remain safely in the parental, kin or caregiver home with the provision of prevention services that will mitigate the risk of entry to foster care.
 - The youth will have an individualized case plan identifying the need for prevention services.



Emphasis on prevention

- Focus on preventing removals when there are methods to keep the children safe and at home.
 - Family Preservation
 - Concrete Services



Services listed

Prevention Program Categories	Indiana Evidence Based Programs	Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse Rating
Mental Health Treatment	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	Well-Supported
	Multisystemic Therapy (MST)	Well-Supported
	Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)	Well-Supported
	Trauma- Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)	Promising
Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention	Motivational Interviewing (MI)	Well-Supported
	Multisystemic Therapy (MST)	Well-Supported
In-home, Skill-based Parenting Programs	Healthy Families America (HFA)	Well-Supported
	Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP)	Well-Supported
	Parents as Teachers (PAT)	Well-Supported
	Family Centered Treatment (FCT)	Well-Supported (Waiting full designation by PSC, Transitional Payments Checklist Submitted by Arkansas)
	Indiana Family Preservation Services (INFPS)	Not Yet Rated, Evaluation Pending
	Concrete Supports and Services	Transitional Payments Checklist Submitted with a Well-Supported Designation Request





FFPSA Workgroup		
FFPSA Workgroup Coordinator: Heather Kestian		
Name	Representative	Agency
Angela Reid-Brown	Indiana Office of Court Services	Judiciary
Baily Truelove-Cargal	Parent	Member with Lived Experience
Cassandra Kinderman	Home Visiting Program Manager	Indiana Department of Health
Christina Commons	First Steps Director	Family and Social Services Administration
Demetrice Hicks	Lived Experience with Foster Care	Member with Lived Experience
Elena De La Cruz	Prevention Services Provider	Bowen Center
Elisabeth S. Wilson	Evaluation Planning	DCS
Gael Deppert	Magistrate, Marion County (Indianapolis)	Judiciary
Hannah Robinson	Prevention Director	DCS
Harmony Gist	Staff Training and Development	DCS
Jessica Deyoe	Nurse-Family Partnership Administrator	Indiana Department of Health
Karen Hayden-Sturgiss	Kinship Care/Field	DCS
Kara Riley	Office of Data Management	DCS
Kelly Broyles	Field Operations	DCS
Kim Spindler	Legal	DCS
Kyle Horine	Probation Service Consultant	Juvenile Justice
Liz Day	Prevention Services Provider	Lifeline Inc
Matt Gooding	Residential Licensing	DCS
Melissa Norman	Prevention Services Provider	Choices Coordinated Care Inc.
Michelle Madley	Gibault	QRTP Provider
Rachel Fisher	Community Based Provider (service continuum)	Community Mental Health Center
Todd Fandrei	Administrative Services	DCS





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Family First Act in Indiana

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