SUPPORTING FOSTER YOUTH AND FAMILIES THROUGH THE PANDEMIC ACT (DIVISION X): RESOURCES FOR PROFESSIONALS AND YOUTH

Professionals

Law

The text of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act can be found at pages 1228-1236 of the PDF at https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/133/text/enr.

Children's Bureau Memoranda

ACYF-CB-PI-21-04 https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/pi2104.pdf, issued by the Children's Bureau on 3/9/21, outlines three important areas of the youth/young adult provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act: (1) temporary requirements related to suspension of aging out of foster care and permission to reenter foster care, (2) Chafee funding and flexibilities, and (3) Educational Training Vouchers (ETV) additional funding and flexibilities.

ACYF-CB-IM-21-05 https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/pi2104.pdf. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/im-21-05.pdf, issued by the Children's Bureau on 1/13/21, summarizes the child welfare provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act.

National Articles and Summaries

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 Overview: New Pandemic Relief for Older Youth in and from foster care https://www.fosterclub.com/sites/default/files/page-cb_attachments/Pandemic%20Relief%20for%20Older%20Youth%20%2811%29_compressed.pdf issued by FosterClub and the Juvenile Law Center describes the key provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act.

Decision Points that Advocates Can Discuss with Child Welfare Agency Leaders About Implementation of the Older Youth Provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 https://www.fosterclub.com/sites/default/files/docs/blogs/Implementation%20Decision%20Points.docx includes questions related to the planning process, continuation of services, reentry, Chafee provisions, and Education Training Voucher (ETV) provisions.

Federal Guidance on Foster Youth Pandemic Relief: A Breakdown https://imprintnews.org/child-welfare-2/guidance-foster-youth-pandemic-relief-breakdown/52639 written by John Kelly and published by The Imprint on 3/11/21, summarizes the key provisions of ACYF-CB-PI-21-04.

Older Youth Provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act – Supporting Youth and Families Through the Pandemic https://ylc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/UPDATED-Older-Youth-Child-Provision_Detailed-Summary_Jan-12.pdf, issued by FosterClub and The Juvenile Law Center on 1/12/21, provides a summary and details of the youth provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act.

What Lawyers Can Do to Implement the Older Provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act https://naccchildlaw.app.box.com/s/taqa0wrg7trh321ysreja0t1qbk54rk0 issued by KidsVoice and the Juvenile Law Center, explains: how the older youth provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act help young people in and leaving foster care, what lawyers can do to ensure young people get the benefits of the Act's reentry and suspension of aging-out requirements, and what lawyers can do ensure child welfare agencies are using increased Chafee funds to provide direct financial assistance and support to young people. This document also provides links for examples of lawyers taking action to advance implementation of the Act, additional resources, and contacts.

National Webinars

P.L. 116-260 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VOmNpPg9IU, posted by the Children's Bureau on 2/2/2021, summarizes the child welfare provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act.

Older Youth Pandemic Relief: Now What? Tips for Advocates Implementing the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act

https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/7585970936984087053 created by FosterClub and The Juvenile Law Center, originally aired on 1/14/21, and outlines the older youth provisions of the Act and outlines next steps for child/youth attorneys. The slides are available at

https://www.fosterclub.com/sites/default/files/docs/blogs/Now%20What_%20Implementing%20HR7947%20Webinar compressed.pdf

Older Youth Pandemic Relief: Getting Emergency Funds Directly to Young People created by FosterClub and The Juvenile Law Center, originally aired on 2/3/21, and outlines the older youth provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act and provides tips for getting funds directly to youth. The Slides are available at

https://www.fosterclub.com/sites/default/files/docs/blogs/OYPR %20Direct%20Emergency%20Funding -compressed.pdf.

Colorado Resources

A Chafee Program Referral (which has not been updated with the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act) is available at

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mOacsFuJwEXiC-D8h6tk22rZWt0rMckO.

A table outlining financial support available for current and former foster care youth is available at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GbRv-Rm9BvgyhcS3mpsZQLPbYN9iaS6q (but this table does not reflect the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act).

An interactive map with links for local Colorado Chafee Programs is available at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mOacsFuJwEXiC-D8h6tk22rZWt0rMckO.

Colorado's Educational Training Voucher (ETV) Program is provided through Foster Care to Success. https://www.fc2sprograms.org/colorado/ describes Colorado's ETV Program and contains eligibility requirements (which are not updated with the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the

Pandemic Act), a link to an application, and a telephone number/email address for additional information.

Descriptions of Colorado's Chafee and Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) Programs and resources related to both programs are available at https://cdhs.colorado.gov/colorado-chafee-program.

Division X resource https://coloradochildrep.org/attorney-center/litigation-toolkit/ provides a short and sweet explanation of Division X.

Division X resource with citations https://coloradochildrep.org/attorney-center/litigation-toolkit/ is a chart outlining Division X and providing detailed sources.

Foster youth and alumni are eligible for more supports during the pandemic at

https://co4kids.org/community/foster-youth-and-alumni-are-eligible-more-supports-during-pandemic?utm_source=CDHS+Office+of+Children%2C+Youth+and+Families&utm_campaign=f14c3ec96a-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_06_25_04_14_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_2d4d676422-f14c3ec96a-211819245&mc_cid=f14c3ec96a&mc_eid=2ce45a8a67_provides a link Colorado youth can use to determine their eligibility for Division X assistance and programs.

IM-CW-2021-0011 Claiming Title IV-E for Youth 18 Years Old or Over During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Re-Entry into Foster Care https://mcusercontent.com/cd781c9bc8f90270567729e9e/files/18e59f23-afeb-4d59-81f8-286adb7e3b9b/IM CW 2021 0011.pdf is an informational memorandum issued by the Colorado Department of Human Services on 3/16/21 and explaining the procedures for youth in out-of-home placement who have reached the age of 18 during the COVID-19 pandemic and the re-entry into foster care of youth over the age of 18.

IM-CW-2021-0015 https://mcusercontent.com/cd781c9bc8f90270567729e9e/files/1f786df4-53fa-45db-b513-28874a04c68f/IM CW 2021 0015.pdf?mc cid=17785c7b01&mc eid=264f8d3ab0 is an information memo issued by the Colorado Department of Human Services on April 13, 2021, outlining the use of Chafee funds pursuant to Division X.

Resources for Youth

<u>Summaries</u>

DID YOU AGE OUT OF CARE DURING THE PANDEMIC? DO YOU NEED HELP NOW? There's a new law that can help! https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aCsy8R5P_sgXwR21Rlgme-3-ihhPngFb is used by KidsVoice in Allegheny County, PA explains the young adult provisions of the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act.

Division X youth resource https://coloradochildrep.org/attorney-center/litigation-toolkit/ contains information about Division X opportunities and assistance in a youth-friendly format.

Older Youth Pandemic Relief: Helping Older Youth & Young Adults from Foster Care Make it Through the Pandemic https://www.fosterclub.com/OYPR is a youth-friendly website filled with resources for youth.