



Questions Regarding Foster Care Request for Proposals

1. According to attachment H, the tiers indicate a rate for the agency per child and then a rate for the foster caregiver per child, is this inferring that CC Kids will provide a rate to the agency in addition to a pre-approved budget with salaries, overhead, admin costs, etc? If not, can you clarify the distinction of rate differences for agencies and caregiver within the tiers?

CCKids compensates both the licensing agency and the foster parent based on the tier designation of the child. The approved budget should reflect the costs associated with providing recruitment, licensing and retention of foster parents while contemplating any additional costs to the agency that may result from additional supports. The rates for all tiers are not based on each individual licensing agency; they are universal across the circuit for all CPAs. Therefore, the rates are not in addition to the costs reflected in the budget, but instead, should cover the costs reflected in the budget.

2. Is the provider expected to teach foster parent pre service Pride or CORE curriculum?

Yes. It is the responsibility of the CPA to provide foundational foster parent curriculum but not necessarily Pride or CORE. Locally, CARE and Pressley Ridge are currently used but, the overall requirement is that the pre-service curriculum is DCF-approved.

3. Will CC Kids assist with access or financially for the needed TBRI and Teen Core trainings at start up and ongoing for the enhanced model?

CCKids has TBRI training available to all foster parents at no cost to them or the CPA. Training is provided periodically and runs a total of 24 hours. To see the current schedule of upcoming trainings, please visit: [TBRI Training](#)

4. Will CC Kids use their own preservice training to assist in licensing staff new hires to become certified?

Yes, new staff can attend CCKids preservice training.

5. What are CC Kids coverage areas biggest hurdles with recruitment within all of the catchment area?

CCKids is responsible for a four-county area. Each county is unique in its demographics (rural vs urban, income disparity, racial composition, age of residents, etc.). This does require individualized recruitment methods for the different counties but also provides a diversity of opportunity. Connecting with residents that may be potential foster parents has historically been a major hurdle for licensing agencies coming into the area without an established presence. Connecting with local



community groups has served to overcome this hurdle, especially in our more rural communities.

6. What are CC Kids barriers with retention of foster homes historically?

We have found that the top reason that foster homes stop fostering is adoption. Other obstacles include moving out of the area and complexity of the children with limited support available from the CPA.

7. Does the catchment area have access to SIPP, STGC, APD homes, and medical foster care quickly when needed?

APD homes, yes. As for SIPP and STGC, there is a limited number of beds statewide and a shortage of local STFC homes. Our Clinical and Placement teams work together with our case managers to expedite higher-level placements as much as possible but they are restricted by the limited availability. While awaiting placement in a more appropriate setting, CCKids does have some support programs that can be utilized by foster parents, such as Certified Behavior Analysts, Community Action Team, and Functional Family Therapy. For medical foster homes, we currently have none in our area which causes CCKids to locate placements outside of our circuit for medically-complex children.

8. Is there a barrier to linking children to in home services such as therapy, ABA, OT, psychiatric, SA counseling and other services outside of 15-30 days linkage within the catchment area?

CCKids has developed a wide network of providers throughout our area. At times, due to staffing limitations and the ebb and flow of referrals, our providers do not have immediate availability but rarely do non-specialty (i.e. neurological evaluations) extend beyond 30 days for a first appointment/visit.

9. Is the CC Kids exhibit form: Related Exhibits • Sample tracking spreadsheet for children created by the CC Kids Placement Department and/or Licensing Progress, page 13, or is this something the provider needs to create?

CCKids provides the "SuperTracker" excel worksheet that captures all needed licensing information. The provider does not need to create their own.

10. How many current CPAs are working in the catchment area for traditional or enhanced style homes?

There are currently three CPAs working in Circuit 19 for both traditional and tiered foster care.

11. When a child steps down within tiers if needs become less, will board rates for caregivers decrease quickly?

Once CCKids determines that a child can change tiers, the rate change is effective immediately. That can be an increase or decrease to the tiered rate, stepping up or down.



- 12.** If a child is stepping down in tiers due to child needs becoming less, is CC Kids looking to move the children to traditional foster care in order to keep enhanced homes available?

Yes, if the child no longer needs tiered care they can be designated as traditional foster care, although it may not necessarily mean a placement change. Circumstances will dictate placement. The priority is to keep siblings together and stabilize the placements of our children. If a child is previously identified as needing the care of a tier but stabilizes to a traditional level, it is our goal to maintain the placement with the family that has helped them get there.

- 13.** Will proposed timelines from providers be expected to allow for licensing staff to become certified, foster parent preservice, DCF/CPA satellite licensure applications, receive enhanced trainings, allow for recruitment efforts, several months after the October timeframe and to build from a home to several over time?

Yes. CCKids understands that a new provider is not likely to start on October 1st with fully licensed and ready homes. We anticipate a start-up period and that the provider's network will grow over time.

- 14.** How many homes in both models are expected?

Our Circuit has an estimated need of approximately 200 homes of all types. We currently have a network under 100. We do not expect a new provider to fill that gap but we do want that gap to close. Generally, our CPA contract performance measures reflect an expectation of new homes/beds based on the projected ability of the individual CPA.

- 15.** Does CC Kids reimburse caregiver mileage?

Mileage expenses are built into the provider budget. Foster parents are not directly reimbursed by CCKids.

- 16.** Will the \$200 daycare stipend be given to all caregivers for children under 5; how long does it take to receive it?

It takes the finance department approximately 30 days from the time of placement notification to process the childcare stipend.

- 17.** Do the CMOs or CC Kids assist with daycare/summer camp/ and other costs in the home not covered by the daily rate?

Foster parents with children who are childcare age will receive the monthly \$200.00 monthly childcare stipend. An Early Learning Coalition referral can be completed to help offset the cost of childcare and summer camp for foster parents as well. Additional funding assistance may be available through the CCKids Caregiver Support Program for special circumstances, but it is not ongoing. The cost of



childcare and/or summer camp is the foster parent's responsibility and should use the board payment to help fund those expenses.

18. Are there barriers to access daycare and summer camps?

Depending on the age of the child and the county in which the child is placed, there are occasionally barriers to finding available space in childcare facilities and summer camps.