



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY

Chapter 11: Older Youth Services

Section 20: Youth Adjudicated as Juvenile Delinquents Accessing Collaborative Care (CC)

Effective Date: September 1, 2023

Version: 4

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POLICY OVERVIEW

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) accepts referrals for Collaborative Care (CC) for older youth with an open Juvenile Delinquency/Juvenile Status (JD/JS) case who are interested in participating in CC. The CC services are provided to assist the older youth in successfully transitioning to adulthood.

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PROCEDURE

DCS accepts referrals for Collaborative Care (CC) from Probation Officers (PO) for older youth with an open Juvenile Delinquency (JD/JS) case who are eligible and interested in participating in CC (see policy 11.18 Eligibility for Collaborative Care). For the CC case to properly open for these older youth, the following items must occur as outlined below:

1. The JD/JS case must close;
2. A Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services must be signed by the older youth and the Older Youth Case Manager (OYCM) the same day as the court's JD/JS case closes (see policy 11.22 Voluntary Collaborative Care [CC] Agreement); and
3. A CC petition must be filed on the same day as the JD/JS case closure.

The 3CM Supervisor will:

1. Identify a 3CM for the older youth;
2. Identify the appropriate DCS Staff Attorney for the older youth's case; and

Note: If the 3CM Supervisor is unsure which DCS Staff Attorney to contact, contact the Chief Counsel for the Region in which the case is open (see the Chief Counsel Map).

3. Assign the 3CM the CC case in the case management system within 48 hours of the case transition meeting.

The 3CM will:

1. Have an informational meeting 90 days prior to the older youth's 18th birthday to determine if the older youth is eligible for and interested in participating in CC. This meeting may take place at the older youth's regularly scheduled Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood meeting held by the PO (see policy 11.06 Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood);

2. Hold a transition meeting if the older youth chooses to participate in CC, including the older youth, PO, 3CM, and the older youth's child representatives, and complete the Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services with the older youth;
3. Work with the DCS Staff Attorney to submit the completed Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services and petition to open a CC case immediately after the JD/JS case is closed (see policy 11.22 Voluntary Collaborative Care [CC] Agreement);
4. Attend the court hearing in which the Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services and the petition to open a CC case is reviewed;
5. Thoroughly review the case file that is provided by the PO;
6. Ensure continuity of services, particularly those services that are related to the older youth's physical and mental health and well-being including, but not limited to:
 - a. Psychiatric treatment/care,
 - b. Treatment/care for a chronic medical condition,
 - c. Establishing health care providers, as applicable (e.g., primary health care provider, dentist, ophthalmologist, gynecologist),
 - d. Therapeutic treatment/care, and
 - e. Continuation of service referrals through DCS.
6. Ensure the older youth does not lose contact with any siblings, family members, or other informal supports due to the case transition.

The DCS Staff Attorney will file the Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services and petition to open the CC case with the court of jurisdiction (see policy 11.22 Voluntary Collaborative Care [CC] Agreement).

Note: The Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services is effective upon the date the last party has signed.

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RELEVANT INFORMATION

Definitions

N/A

Forms and Tools

- [Chief Counsel Map](#)
- [Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood \(SF 55166\)](#)
- [Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services \(SF 55159\)](#)

Related Policies

- [11.06 Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood](#)
- [11.18 Eligibility for Collaborative Care](#)
- [11.22 Voluntary Collaborative Care \(CC\) Agreement](#)

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LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 31-30-2-1: Continuing juvenile court jurisdiction](#)

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PRACTICE GUIDANCE- DCS POLICY 11.20

Practice Guidance is designed to assist DCS staff with thoughtful and practical direction on how to effectively integrate tools and social work practice into daily case management in an effort to achieve positive family and child outcomes. Practice Guidance is separate from Policy.

Collaborative Care Agreement

The Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services form documents an arrangement between the older youth in Collaborative Care (CC) and DCS. The agreement outlines the CC program as well as the older youth's rights and responsibilities while in CC. This agreement must be signed by the older youth. Any representative from the DCS Older Youth Initiatives team may review and sign the Voluntary Collaborative Care Agreement Between Older Youth and the Department of Child Services form with the potential older youth.

Placement Disruption

When a CC case is opened, the placement of the older youth is not expected to be disrupted unless all parties agree that it would be in the best interest of the older youth. When making a decision regarding an older youth's CC placement, the older youth and the older youth's Child and Family Team (CFT) should take into account the older youth's Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood.

Preparing an Older Youth for Collaborative Care (CC)

When the older youth enters CC, ensuring an older youth's safety is given the highest priority. The best way to ensure safety is to maintain consistency with services for the older youth. The older youth will have likely begun to develop a relationship with the older youth's OYCM at Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood meetings that took place prior to the CC case opening. At these meetings, the older youth, 3CM, and the older youth's child representatives may begin to identify formal and informal supports in the new community, if applicable. Immediately after opening the CC case, an older youth may need a higher level of support from the 3CM because the older youth may be adjusting to new surroundings and may not have access to the same services/formal/informal support systems as before.

Transition Meetings

If possible, a transition meeting may take place during the older youth's Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood meeting. The probation officer (PO), 3CM (or a supervisor/designee), and the older youth's child representatives should be present at the transition meeting. Examples of information that should be shared and discussed at the transition meeting include, but are not limited to:

1. The older youth's individual strengths and needs;
2. Needs that may arise in the near future, especially with the opening of the CC case;
3. What supports are currently in place to support those needs;
4. What support will need to be in place after the opening of the CC case;
5. Review/update the older youth's Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood;
6. Clarify expectations of what the next steps are for the case;
7. Formal and informal supports for the older youth that will be utilized after the opening of the CC case;
8. Addressing steps for what could go wrong; and
9. Visitation arrangements, as applicable.

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