

A complimentary publication of The Joint Commission

Issue 27, May 26, 2020

Published for Joint Commission-accredited organizations and interested health care professionals, *R3 Report* provides the rationale and references that The Joint Commission employs in the development of new requirements. While the standards

New and revised standards for child welfare agencies

Effective Sept. 13, 2020, 74 new elements of performance (EPs) and 12 revised EPs will be applicable to Joint Commission-accredited child welfare agencies. These new and revised requirements are designed to improve the quality and safety of care provided to individuals served and their families in settings/domains such as adoption, family preservation, foster care, kinship care, and child protective services. The Joint Commission currently accredits nearly 200 child welfare organizations that provide child welfare and human services. Many of these organizations provide these services in addition to dfc[fUa gigi W. Ug W]Xfybiy fYg]XybiJU. We bers and group homes. These standard additions and revisions incorporate the latest research, best practices, and federal regulations with the primary goal of improving quality and safety in these settings.

The Joint Commission evaluated expert literature to determine what areas of a child welfare program held the most potential to impact key quality and safety issues. The literature review revealed that intake, assessment, reunification, trauma-informed care, and case closing were all areas that could improve quality and safety. This approach was supported by a technical advisory panel assembled by The Joint Commission, resulting in the development of EPs that focus on these areas.

Engagement with stakeholders, customers, and experts

In addition to an extensive literature review, public field review, and pilot surveys, The Joint Commission obtained expert guidance from the following groups:

- <u>Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)</u> of subject matter experts from various health care and academic organizations and professional associations from the child welfare field.
- Standards Review Panel (SRP) comprised of clinicians and administrators who dfcj [XYX'U'Î Vcchg'cb'h\Y' [fci bXÏ'dc]bhcZj [Yk'UbX']bg][\hg']bhc'h\Y'dfUMJWD'Udd`]Whcb'cZh\Y'dfcdcgYX'gHbXUfXg"

The prepublication version of the child welfare standards will be available online until Sept. 12, 2020. After Sept. 13, 2020, please access the new requirements in the E-dition or standards manual.

Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care and Human Services

Requirements	For this project, 86 new or revised standards and elements of performance (EPs) were
	developed. In addition, many current standards and EPs were updated to reflect a more
	humanistic language style in the standards. All new and revised requirements can be
	found on the <u>Prepublication Standards page</u> cZH\Y`;c]bh7ca a]gg]cbNyk YVg]hY"



Rationale Children who have experienced significant life changes such as adoption, foster care, and other out-of-home placements are more likely to require higher-level services. In addition, these children often are exposed to trauma and other situations that may require extra support. Studies suggest that increased support services improve W(XMMb) behavioral health outcomes and care high require extra support. Studies parents, foster parents, and child welfare workers use a trauma-informed approach to the care, treatment, or services they give has improved outcomes in the children and families they serve. ^{2,3} Some examples of trauma-informed approaches can be found here: California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Child Welfare Information Gateway: Trauma-informed practice Developing a trauma-informed welfare system To facilitate success in adoption, foster care, reunification, and other services, it is critical to create stable relationships. For this reason, it is important that the entire family receive needed support services (such as mental health care and substance abuse courseling) and not just the child/individual served 4 K \Vb KV WUV d'bUB UB 'ig Pi bl2/Whicbz'Pi'B ja deftubhic WebgXYf d'UMpi H, Y WJX jb Ub Ybj jfcba YbhikUhjg gj D'Uftc Vjg c' Vf ZJa jmc2cfj] Ib2UbX jb Ug WcgY dfcl ja jmtug dogglyr Yrc KV ZJa jmtg' original location. ⁵ To facilitate success. For this reason, the proposed new and revised standards flocus on key aspects of this assessment process, which encourage providing support for families sugests that children who are finding new placements as they	546 27, May 20, 2020	r age 2 new and revised standards for child werare agencies
 California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Child Welfare Information Gateway: Trauma-informed practice Developing a trauma-informed welfare system To facilitate success in adoption, foster care, reunification, and other services, it is critical to create stable relationships. For this reason, it is important that the entire family receive needed support services (such as mental health care and substance abuse counseling) and not just the child/individual served. 4 K \Vb h\Y W0gY d'Ubfg U[a `] gYri bl2/Wihc2]htg/a dcftlubhtc WbglXYFd'UWb['h\Y W1X'] b Ub Yb jTcba Ybhh\Uh]g' g]a JUF tc `\g cf \YF ZJa]mcZcff[[bzUbX']b Ug WcgY dfcl [a]mUg dcggl/Y tc 'h\Y ZJa]mtg' original location.⁵ The earlier a child finds a permanent family, the better his or her outcomes.⁶ This suggests that children who are finding new placements as they get older may need increased services. For this reason, the proposed new and revised standards focus on key aspects of the assessment process, which encourage providing support for families UbX W]XYhb' 'hXyg' _YmU/PYUg cZgi ddcfh\Y'd 'tc dfca ch' Wbglgh/b/bmlb hX W]XKg environment. The proposed standards also focus on evidence-based safety practices and incorporate federal requirements related to the Family First Preservation Services Act, which promotes keeping families together and placement in the least-restrictive environment when foster care is needed.⁷ References* Chobhthaigh, S. N., & Duffy, F. (2018). The effectiveness of psychological interventions with adoptive parents on adopted children and adolescents' outcomes: A systematic review. <i>Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 24</i>(1), 691 94. Murray, K. J., Sullivan, K. M., Chaplo, S. D., Tunno, A. M., & Lent, M. C. (2019). Promoting trauma-informed parenting of children in out-of-home	Rationale	and other out-of-home placements are more likely to require higher-level services. ¹ In addition, these children often are exposed to trauma and other situations that may require extra support. Studies suggest that increased support services improve Wk]XfYbf\u00ff behavioral health outcomes and can help foster positive relationships within the family. ¹ Having adoptive parents, foster parents, and child welfare workers use a trauma-informed approach to the care, treatment, or services they give has improved
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 interventions with adoptive parents on adopted children and adolescents' outcomes: A systematic review. <i>Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry</i>, 24(1), 691 94. Murray, K. J., Sullivan, K. M., Chaplo, S. D., Tunno, A. M., & Lent, M. C. (2019). Promoting trauma-informed parenting of children in out-of-home care: An effectiveness study of the resource parent curriculum. <i>Psychological Services</i>, 16(1), 1621 169. 		suggests that children who are finding new placements as they get older may need increased services. For this reason, the proposed new and revised standards focus on key aspects of the assessment process, which encourage providing support for families UbX W]`XfYb" H\YgY_YmUfYUg`cZgi ddcfh\Y`d`rc`dfca chY`Wcbg]gh'bWnjb`h\Y`W]`Xfy environment. The proposed standards also focus on evidence-based safety practices and incorporate federal requirements related to the Family First Preservation Services Act, which promotes keeping families together and placement in the least-restrictive
 Sullivali, K. M., Midray, K. S., & Ake, G. S. (2010). Hadma-informed Cale for Children in the Child Welfare System: An Initial Evaluation of a Trauma-Informed Parenting Workshop. <i>Child Maltreatment</i>, 21(2), 1471 155. Brodzinsky, D., & Smith, S. L. (n.d.). Commentary: Understanding research, policy, and practice issues in adoption instability. <i>Research on Social Work Practice</i>, <i>29</i>(2), 1851 194. Case Planning for Families Involved with Child Welfare Agencies. (2018). Retrieved from <u>https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/caseplanning.pdf</u> Tung, I., Norona, A. N., Lee, S. S., Langley, A. K., & Waterman, J. M. (n.d.). Temperamental sensitivity to early maltreatment and later family cohesion for externalizing behaviors in youth adopted from foster care. <i>Child Abuse and Neglect</i>, <i>76</i>, 1491 159. Family First Prevention Services Act Historic New Reforms for Child Welfare. (2020). Retrieved from <u>https://www.childrensdefense.org/policy/policy-priorities/child- welfare/family-first/</u> 	References*	 Chobhthaigh, S. N., & Duffy, F. (2018). The effectiveness of psychological interventions with adoptive parents on adopted children and adolescents' outcomes: A systematic review. <i>Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry</i>, <i>24</i>(1), 69] 94. Murray, K. J., Sullivan, K. M., Chaplo, S. D., Tunno, A. M., & Lent, M. C. (2019). Promoting trauma-informed parenting of children in out-of-home care: An effectiveness study of the resource parent curriculum. <i>Psychological</i> <i>Services</i>, <i>16</i>(1), 1621 169. Sullivan, K. M., Murray, K. J., & Ake, G. S. (2016). Trauma-Informed Care for Children in the Child Welfare System: An Initial Evaluation of a Trauma-Informed Parenting Workshop. <i>Child Maltreatment</i>, <i>21</i>(2), 1471 155. Brodzinsky, D., & Smith, S. L. (n.d.). Commentary: Understanding research, policy, and practice issues in adoption instability. <i>Research on Social Work Practice</i>, <i>29</i>(2), 1851 194. Case Planning for Families Involved with Child Welfare Agencies. (2018). Retrieved from <u>https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/caseplanning.pdf</u> Tung, I., Norona, A. N., Lee, S. S., Langley, A. K., & Waterman, J. M. (n.d.). Temperamental sensitivity to early maltreatment and later family cohesion for externalizing behaviors in youth adopted from foster care. <i>Child Abuse and</i> <i>Neglect</i>, <i>76</i>, 149] 159. Family First Prevention Services Act Historic New Reforms for Child Welfare. (2020). Retrieved from <u>https://www.childrensdefense.org/policy/policy-priorities/child-</u>

*Not a complete literature review.



Child Welfare Agency Standards

Behavioral Health Care Program

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