



Celia Blue, Interim Director RI Department of Human Services 25 Howard Avenue, Louis Pasteur Building 57 Cranston, RI 02920

Dear Interim Director Blue:

The Office of Child Care has completed its review of the proposed amendments to Rhode Island's approved Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan for 2019-2021, submitted on April 27, 2021.

This letter is to inform you that the following CCDF Plan amendments were approved.

- Section 1.1.1 CCDF Leadership Amended to reflect new Lead Agency Official.
- Section 1.1.2 CCDF Administrator Amended to reflect new CCDF coadministrator.
- Section 5.2.3a Pre-Service or Orientation Training Requirements– Amended to reflect the release of updated pre-service/orientation training modules which are required for staff in licensed programs.

In addition, web links were updated in sections 3.1.3 and 3.4.1 to reflect current sliding fee scale.

The following plan amendments were approved related to COVID-19:

- Section 2.3.7 Post Monitoring and Inspection Reports Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 monitoring and inspection reports have not been posted for all providers. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver effective October 1, 2020. Please note, Rhode Island remains non-compliant for Section 2.3.7 Consumer and Provider Education for your FY 2019-2021 CCDF Plan, and, is therefore still subject to the notice of non-compliance issued on April 12, 2019 until all CCDF requirements are met.
- Section 3.3.2 Option to discontinue assistance Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 families who report a job loss will receive an extended period of continued assistance for six months.

• Section 3.4.4 – Family Contribution to Copayment – Amended to reflect that during the state declared emergency for COVID-19 the state will waive co-payments for all families from February 21, 2021 through August 2021. Approval of this amendment as per the waiver renewal effective March 2, 2021.

The effective dates for these amendments to the Rhode Island CCDF Plan are noted on the amendments log within the ACF-118 electronic submission site.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please feel free to contact Shireen Riley, Child Care Program Manager in our Boston Regional Office at 617-565-1152 or <u>shireen.riley@acf.hhs.gov</u>.

We appreciate your efforts to meet the child care needs of eligible families in Rhode Island and look forward to our continued partnership in the administration of your Child Care and Development Fund Program.

Sincerely,

Ellen C. Wheatley, Ph.D. Deputy Director Office of Child Care

cc: Hannah Hansen, Child Care Administrator, DHHS Nicole Chiello, Child Care Administrator, DHHS Shireen Riley, OCC Regional Program Manager, Region 1 Dawn Ramsburg, Regional Liaison, OCC