

QUALIFIED RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS (QRTP) WEBINAR

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October 13, 2021

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Judicial Officers: .41 credits
 - Attendance will be reported to Office of Judicial Education—no Certificate of Attendance required for live viewing
- Social Workers: 1.25 hours
 - Will be entered into WCWPDS account for you
- Attorneys: 1.5 credits
 - Applied for CLE (GAL minor & GAL family) credits
 - Search under “Live Webcast” for location

OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- FFPSA Purpose and Provisions
 - Title I: Placement Prevention Services
 - Title II: Ensuring Appropriate Placements
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTS)
- WI QRTS Implementation
 - 2021 Wisconsin Act 42



FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT (FFPSA)

WHAT IS FFPSA?

- On a basic level:
 - FFPSA recognizes that, whenever safe and appropriate to do so, children and families are best-served through in-home preventative services, AND
 - If a child must be removed from his/her home, they are placed in the least-restrictive, most family-like and appropriate setting that meets their needs

WHAT IS FFPSA?

- From a legislative perspective:
 - Enacted as part of the federal Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018
 - Major reform to Title IV-E to allow reimbursement for in-home preventative services and *appropriate* placements
 - Effective date: October 1, 2019
 - States allowed to delay for up to two years
 - Wisconsin deferred implementation to October 1, 2021

WHY FFPSA?

- Focus on preserving the family unit as a priority – “family” first
 - Reduction in trauma of removal
 - Short stays (<30 days) – was removal necessary?
 - Incentivizing prevention, rather than removal
- Intervention before removal
 - Trends in drug dependence (especially opioids) leading to child welfare systems involvement
- Economic considerations of funding evidence-based practices—paying for what works

TWO MAIN COMPONENTS OF FFPSA

1. Preventative Services
2. Ensuring Appropriate Placements
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (Q RTP)
 - Court Improvement Program (CIP) funds shall be used to provide training to judges, attorneys, and other legal personnel in child welfare cases on federal child welfare policies and payment limitations with respect to children placed in non-family foster homes

TITLE I: PREVENTION SERVICES

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*Imagine a world where we spend
money to keep families together,
rather than tear them apart*

TITLE I: PREVENTION SERVICES

- Opens up Title IV-E funds for the state to collect for specified services:
 - Mental health
 - Substance abuse prevention and treatment
 - In-home “skill-based programs” (parenting skills training, parent education and individual and family counseling)

TITLE I: PREVENTION SERVICES

- Services can be provided for up to 12 months (per family/per episode) to:
 - A child who is a “candidate for foster care”
 - There exists an immanent risk that the child will enter foster care, but can remain safely in the home as long as services or programs are provided that can maintain the child in-home
 - A child in foster care who is pregnant or parenting
 - A parent or kin caregiver of the child

TITLE I: PREVENTION SERVICES EVIDENCE STANDARD

- Prevention services will need to be trauma-informed and evidence-based for the state to receive payment
 - Interventions are classified based on the level of supporting evidence available
 - Subject to rigorous evaluation

TITLE II: ENSURING APPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS

TITLE II: ENSURING APPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS

- Children in foster care have the right to be placed in the least restrictive setting relative to their needs
- Evidence is overwhelming that children do best in a family-like setting
- When a child cannot be safely placed in a family-like setting, there should be appropriate treatment options available

TITLE II: ENSURING APPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS – APPROVED PLACEMENTS

- Any placement longer than two weeks, Title IV-E funding only allowed for the following placements:
 - Foster Homes (including relatives)
 - Specialized placements for pregnant or parenting youth
 - Specialized placements for victims of sex trafficking
 - Supervised independent living for youth 18+
 - Family-based residential treatment facility for substance abuse
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (Q RTP)

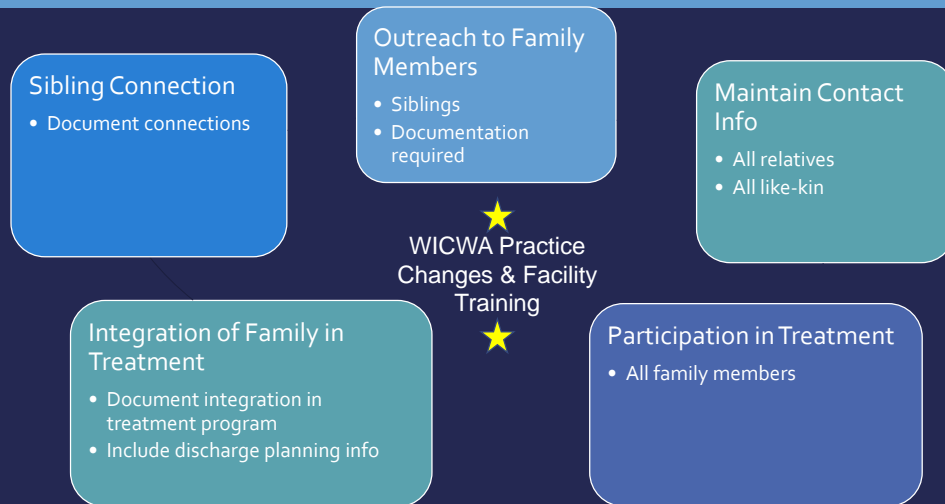
QUALIFIED RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS (QRTP)

- What is a QRTP?
 - Designed for youth with serious mental health or behavioral needs
 - QRTP placements should be utilized only when youth cannot receive the appropriate services in their home of origin or another home-like setting

4 ELEMENTS TO QUALIFY AS A QRTP



QUALIFYING AS A QRTP – FAMILY PARTICIPATION



QRTP – AGENCY’S ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Within **30 days** of placement, a “qualified individual” must conduct a “standardized assessment”
- Assemble a family and permanency team for the child
- Document additional information in the child’s case plan regarding family engagement and the assessment
- Submit evidence at each status review and permanency hearing supporting the placement, treatment needs, and other efforts
- Submit documentation to federal DHHS when child placed in QRTP for more than 12 consecutive/18 non-consecutive months

FAMILY PERMANENCY TEAMS

★ Included in Perm & Case Plan ★

The youth, if age 14 or above

All appropriate family members

Appropriate professionals connected to youth

Others over the age of 14 identified by the youth

Indian custodian and tribal case worker

Indian extended family members and like kin as defined by tribal law or custom

QRTP – COURT'S ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Within **60 days** of placement in a QRTP, the court (or administrative body designated by the court):
 1. Consider the assessment made by an independent, qualifying individual
 2. Determine whether:
 - Needs of the child can be met in foster family home and, if not, whether QRTP provides most effective and appropriate level of care in least restrictive environment
 - Placement in QRTP is consistent with the goals for the child, as specified in the permanency plan
 3. Approve or disapprove the placement

WISCONSIN QRTP IMPLEMENTATION

Strategic Transformation & Prevention

- Data shows children do better when connected with their families.
- ***DCF is transforming our approach by keeping more families and children together.***
- Federal government passing Family First boosted our efforts.



Child Welfare Strategic Transformation

- Current constellation of services support keeping children & families in-home
 - These include but are not limited to:
 - Targeted Safety Support Funds
 - Promoting Safety and Stable Families Grants
 - Parents Supporting Parents
 - Family Foundation Home Visiting Programs
 - Domestic Abuse Services
- Continued efforts to evaluate and support additional in-home services are underway



WISCONSIN QRTP IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

- **2021 WI Act 42**
 - Applies to CHIPS, JIPS, delinquency, and post-TPR placements in congregate care settings certified as QRTP
 - Incorporated into Ch. 48 and Ch. 938 whenever a child/juvenile could be placed (TPC, Disposition, Consent Decree, Change in Placement)
 - Follows existing timeframes wherever possible (e.g., 10-days for Notice of Change in Placement)
- Drafting instructions developed through collaboration between DCF and CCIP as part of QRTP Workgroup
 - Delayed due to COVID-19 and abbreviated 2019-20 legislative session

WISCONSIN QRTP IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

- **2021 WI Act 42**

- Effective dates:
 - May 22nd – DCF rulemaking authority (incl. certification process for QRTPs)
 - September 29th – all other provisions (incl. court approval process)
- QRTP Emergency Rule also went into effect September 29th
 - Facilities were able to start apply to be certified on October 1st
 - DCF anticipates that facilities will begin to be certified approx. November 15th
- NOTE: Awaiting potential guidance from Children's Bureau re: placements after effective date, but prior to certification

WISCONSIN QRTP IMPLEMENTATION – CIRCUIT COURT FORMS

- Circuit court form changes approved and released September 29th
 - Updates to requests, notices, and orders that placing a child/juvenile in a QRTP
- Two new forms:
 - JD-1826 - Request for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement Findings
 - JD-1827 - Findings and Order for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement
- Juvenile Benchbook to be updated

WISCONSIN QRTP IMPLEMENTATION – TRAINING

- Training for judicial officers, attorneys, and other stakeholders:
 - This presentation!
 - Wisconsin Juvenile Court Clerks Association – July 2021
 - Judicial District Meetings – September/October 2021
 - Judicial Engagement Team (JET) Meetings – TBD; as invited
 - 2021 Conference on Child Welfare and the Courts – September 22-24
 - Included a number of sessions related to FFPSA/QRTP for judicial, legal, and child welfare agency stakeholders
 - New e-learning activity on QRTP – Coming Soon!

See: www.wicciptraining.com

WISCONSIN QRTP IMPLEMENTATION – DCF FORMS & eWiSACWIS

- Created and released Permanency Plan Addendum for Placement in a Setting Certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (a/k/a QRTP Addendum)
- FFPSA updates in eWiSACWIS
 - Expecting/parenting youth in out-of-home care
 - QRTP case planning (incl. QRTP addendum)
 - Some programming updates, such as updates to Case Plan, will be made in future releases

WISCONSIN Q RTP IMPLEMENTATION – TRAINING

Save the Date

FFPSA Training for All Child Welfare Professionals

When: October 21, 2021 – 9:00am – 10:30am

Intended Audience: All Child Welfare Professionals

Content of Training: FFPSA, Q RTP Certification, Judicial Findings, Ongoing Standards and Case Practice Changes, eWISACWIS technical assistance, and questions related.

Link: <https://dcfwi.zoom.us/j/7610806559>

Meeting ID: 761 080 6559

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Contact: Dana Johnson DanaL.Johnson@wisconsin.gov



2021 WISCONSIN ACT 42

OVERVIEW

- Congregate care placements remain the same (group home, shelter home, residential care center), BUT: those placements may be *certified* as a QRTP
 - Facilities are not required to become certified and placement in those facilities may still be made
- Additional court findings under FFPSA are required when the child/juvenile is in a placement certified as a QRTP
- Additional information required for permanency plan and dispositional court report when youth is in a placement (or recommending placement) certified as a QRTP

APPLICABILITY

- As of September 29, 2021, whenever a child/juvenile is placed in a *certified* QRTP, the requisite findings will be necessary in order for Wisconsin to claim Title IV-E federal reimbursement for that placement
- Children/juveniles placed in a QRTP setting prior to effective date are exempt from the findings requirement
 - Will apply to any change of placement/subsequent placements in a QRTP
- If a child/juvenile moves from one certified QRTP to another, new findings are required

DEFINITIONS

- **“Qualified Individual”**
 - Performs the Q RTP “Standardized Assessment”
 - Adopts definition in Federal Act – trained individual or clinician
 - WI is requesting waiver to allow this individual to include state or county child welfare staff
- **“Standardized Assessment”**
 - Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Assessment
 - Tool determined by DCF to assess strengths and needs to determine appropriateness of placement in Q RTP
 - Does not apply to relative or foster home placements

ASSESSMENT

- **Standardized Assessment (CANS) contents:**
 - Whether proposed placement is most effective and appropriate level of care in the least restrictive environment
 - How the placement is consistent with the short- and long-term goals for the child, as specified in the permanency plan
 - Reasons why the child's needs can/cannot be met by the child's family or in a foster home.
 - *Shortage/lack of foster homes is not an acceptable reason for determining that the child's needs cannot be met in a foster home*
 - Placement preference of the family permanency team under § 48.38(3m) and, if the recommended placement is not the preference, why that placement is not preferred

Placement Complexity Chart

| Child's Level of Need | Provider's Level of Care | Placement Options | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| | | Foster Home | Group Home | Residential Care Center |
| 1/2 | 1 | Child-Specific | | |
| | 2 | Basic | | |
| 3 | 3 | Moderate Treatment | Group Home | |
| 4 | 4 | Specialized Treatment | | |
| 5 | 5 | Exceptional Treatment | | Residential Care Center |
| 6 | 6 | | | |

Note: A child in foster care can be served by a foster home with a certification lower than the child's level of need if an exception has been granted and documented in the child's electronic case record by the placing agency and the agency shows what services and supports will be provided to meet the child's needs.

Step-down level to be used for transition planning to a less restrictive placement setting.

Placement of children at this level is not appropriate.

AGENCY PROCEDURES

- Whenever placed (or proposed to be placed) in a QRTP setting, including when subject to TPC Order, Consent Decree, Dispositional Order:
 - Agency to provide assessment and recommendation to parties entitled to receive petition at time of hearing OR if unavailable at that time, no later than **30 days** from date of placement in QRTP

Circuit Court Forms - Notices/Requests

- ☐ 7. The placement/proposed placement is certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.
The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual ☐ are attached ☐ will be
submitted by: . *[No later than 30 days from date of placement]*

AGENCY PROCEDURES

- For notice of change in placement:
 - Agency to provide...at time of notice OR if unavailable at that time, no later than 10 days from date of the notice
 - BUT the agency can request extension up to **30 days** from date of the notice for good cause (with court approval)

Notice of Change in Placement

- ☐ 6. The placement is certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.
- ☐ A. The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual ☐ are attached ☐ will be submitted by: . *[No later than 10 days from date of notice]*
- OR
- ☐ B. There is good cause for submitting the assessment and recommendation more than 10 days from the date of this notice: _____.
- If approved by the court, the assessment and recommendation will be submitted by: _____. *[No later than 30 days from date of placement]*

COURT FINDINGS

- Judge or court commissioner may authorize placement in a Q RTP at:
 - Temporary Physical Custody Hearing
 - Consent Decree
 - Dispositional Hearing
 - Change in Placement (pre- or post-disposition or post-TPR)
- If occurs through Notice of Change in Placement (out-of-home to out-of-home), hearing only required if objection to change in placement, generally
- If assessment is not available at the time the placement order is made, the court shall defer the Q RTP findings for no more than 60 days after the placement is made
 - No hearing required; court may hold hearing on its own motion

COURT FINDINGS

- After receiving the assessment and recommendation, the court must make findings as to:
 - Whether the needs of the child can be met through placement in a foster home
 - Whether placement of the child in a QRTP provides the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment
 - Whether the placement is consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child, as identified in the permanency planning
 - Whether to approve or disapprove the placement

Circuit Court Forms - Orders

- ☐ 4. The placement is certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.
- ☐ a. The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual have been submitted.
1. The needs of the child ☐ can ☐ cannot be met through placement in a foster home.
 2. The placement ☐ does ☐ does not provide the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment.
 3. The placement ☐ is ☐ is not consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child, as identified in the permanency planning.
 4. The placement is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- OR
- ☐ b. The agency primarily responsible for providing services will submit the standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual by: . [no later than 30 days from date of placement]

Change in Placement Orders

- ☐ 6. The placement is certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.
- ☐ a. The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual have been submitted.
1. The needs of the child ☐ can ☐ cannot be met through placement in a foster home.
 2. The placement ☐ does ☐ does not provide the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment.
 3. The placement ☐ is ☐ is not consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child, as identified in the permanency planning.
 4. The placement is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- OR
- ☐ b. There is good cause for filing the assessment and recommendation more than 10 days from the date of the notice of change in placement. The agency primarily responsible for providing services will submit the standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual by: _____. [No later than 30 days from date of placement]

ASSESSMENT/RECOMMENDATION NOT AVAILABLE

- If the standardized assessment and recommendation are not available at the time of the hearing or notice of change in placement, the agency must submit them within the prescribed timeframes along with the Request for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement Findings (JD-1826)
- Subsequently, the court will then issue the findings and approve/disapprove the QRTF placement using the Findings and Order for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement (JD-1827)
 - Hearing not required

Request for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement Findings (JD-1826)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|----------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|--|------------|----------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, _____ COUNTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IN THE INTEREST OF Name _____ Date of Birth _____ | Request for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement Findings Case No. _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>1. The child's/juvenile's placement/proposed placement is certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual were not available at the time the placement was made or hearing was held authorizing the placement. OR <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>3. The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual have now been submitted to the court and provided to all interested parties.</p> <p>I REQUEST THE COURT consider the standardized assessment and recommendation of the qualified individual and make all findings as to the appropriateness of the Qualified Residential Treatment Program placement no later than _____ (60 days from date of placement)</p> <p>DISTRIBUTION:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">1. Court</td> <td style="width: 40%;">_____ Signature</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Child/Juvenile's Attorney/Guardian ad Litem</td> <td>_____ Name Printed or Typed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Parents/Guardian/Indian Custodian</td> <td>_____ Address</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Legal and/or Physical Custodian/Attorney</td> <td>_____ Email Address</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Case Worker</td> <td>_____ Telephone Number</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. District Attorney/Corporation Counsel</td> <td>_____ Date</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Tribe</td> <td>_____ State Bar No. (if any)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Other: _____</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | | 1. Court | _____ Signature | 2. Child/Juvenile's Attorney/Guardian ad Litem | _____ Name Printed or Typed | 3. Parents/Guardian/Indian Custodian | _____ Address | 4. Legal and/or Physical Custodian/Attorney | _____ Email Address | 5. Case Worker | _____ Telephone Number | 6. District Attorney/Corporation Counsel | _____ Date | 7. Tribe | _____ State Bar No. (if any) | 8. Other: _____ | |
| 1. Court | _____ Signature | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Child/Juvenile's Attorney/Guardian ad Litem | _____ Name Printed or Typed | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Parents/Guardian/Indian Custodian | _____ Address | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Legal and/or Physical Custodian/Attorney | _____ Email Address | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Case Worker | _____ Telephone Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. District Attorney/Corporation Counsel | _____ Date | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7. Tribe | _____ State Bar No. (if any) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8. Other: _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Findings and Order for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement (JD-1827)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|----------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|--|------------|----------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, _____ COUNTY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IN THE INTEREST OF Name _____ Date of Birth _____ | Findings and Order for Qualified Residential Treatment Program Placement Case No. _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>The child's/juvenile's placement/proposed placement is certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program.</p> <p>The standardized assessment and recommendation by a qualified individual have been submitted to the court.</p> <p>THE COURT FINDS:</p> <p>1. The needs of the child/juvenile <input type="checkbox"/> can <input type="checkbox"/> cannot be met through placement in a foster home.</p> <p>2. The placement <input type="checkbox"/> does <input type="checkbox"/> does not provide the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child/juvenile in the least restrictive environment.</p> <p>3. The placement <input type="checkbox"/> is <input type="checkbox"/> is not consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child/juvenile, as identified in the permanency plan.</p> <p>THE COURT ORDERS:</p> <p>The placement in a certified Qualified Residential Treatment Program is</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. DISAPPROVED. <input type="checkbox"/> The department or agency shall file a request to change placement with the court by (Date) _____.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. APPROVED.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other: _____</p> <p>THIS IS A FINAL ORDER FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPEAL IF SIGNED BY A CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE.</p> <p>DISTRIBUTION:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">1. Court</td> <td style="width: 40%;">_____ Signature</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Child/Juvenile's Attorney/Guardian ad Litem</td> <td>_____ Name Printed or Typed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Parents/Guardian/Indian Custodian</td> <td>_____ Address</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Legal and/or Physical Custodian/Attorney</td> <td>_____ Email Address</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Case Worker</td> <td>_____ Telephone Number</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. District Attorney/Corporation Counsel</td> <td>_____ Date</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Tribe</td> <td>_____ State Bar No. (if any)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Other: _____</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | | 1. Court | _____ Signature | 2. Child/Juvenile's Attorney/Guardian ad Litem | _____ Name Printed or Typed | 3. Parents/Guardian/Indian Custodian | _____ Address | 4. Legal and/or Physical Custodian/Attorney | _____ Email Address | 5. Case Worker | _____ Telephone Number | 6. District Attorney/Corporation Counsel | _____ Date | 7. Tribe | _____ State Bar No. (if any) | 8. Other: _____ | |
| 1. Court | _____ Signature | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Child/Juvenile's Attorney/Guardian ad Litem | _____ Name Printed or Typed | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Parents/Guardian/Indian Custodian | _____ Address | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Legal and/or Physical Custodian/Attorney | _____ Email Address | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Case Worker | _____ Telephone Number | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. District Attorney/Corporation Counsel | _____ Date | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7. Tribe | _____ State Bar No. (if any) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8. Other: _____ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TIMEFRAME OVERVIEW



*10 days for Notice of Change in Placement, unless court finds good cause

COURT REPORTS

- Court report is required to include a statement whether placement is in QRTP, as well as the results of the standardized assessment and recommendation of the qualified individual

PERMANENCY PLANNING

- Permanency plan must include information on the continued necessity of QRTP placement:
 - *Ongoing* assessment supports that needs cannot be met in foster care setting, the specific QRTP is least restrictive and most effective level of care, consistent with long and short term care needs in the permanency plan
 - Specific service and treatment needs to be provided in the QRTP and how long the child is expected to require those services and treatment
 - Efforts to prepare child for return home, placement with fit and willing relative, guardian, adoptive parent, or foster home
- Additional court findings not required, BUT must consider the above in determining the safety, necessity, and appropriateness of the continued placement

PERMANENCY PLAN ADDENDUM

- “Permanency Plan Addendum for Placement in a Setting Certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)” developed by DCF to standardize delivery of QRTP information:
 - At permanency reviews and hearings
 - As attachment to the dispositional court report
 - To provide the result of the standardized assessment (CANS) and recommendation of the qualified individual, generally

**Permanency Plan Addendum for Placement in a Setting
Certified as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (Q RTP)**

Personal information you provide may be used for secondary purposes [Privacy Law, s. 15.04(1)(m), Wisconsin Statutes].

| | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Court File Number | Branch Number | Name – Judge |
| Child's Name – (Last, First Middle) | | Child's Birth Date |
| Placement/Proposed Placement Provider Name | | Level of Care (LOC) |
| Date – Form Filled Out | Placement Start Date | Placement Recommended By |
| NAME – PARENT 1 | | NAME – PARENT 2 |
| Name – Attorney: | | Name – Attorney: |
| NAME – LEGAL GUARDIAN | | |
| NAME – INDIAN CUSTODIAN | | |
| CASE INFORMATION | | |
| Name – Agency | | |
| Name – Worker | | Name – Supervisor |
| Name – District Attorney / Corporation Counsel | | |

FAMILY PERMANENCY TEAM

| Member Name(s) | Relationship | Contact Information – Phone Number and/or E-mail Address |
|----------------|--------------|--|
|----------------|--------------|--|

Describe the reasonable and good faith efforts to identify and include all required individuals of the child's Family Permanency Team.

- ☐ Yes ☐ No The Family Permanency Team meetings were held at a time and place convenient for the team.
Describe
- ☐ Yes ☐ No The parent or guardian from whom the child was removed provided input on the members of the Family and Permanency Team.
Describe
- ☐ Yes ☐ No The child's Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment was completed in consultation with the Family Permanency Team.
Describe

PREFERRED PLACEMENT OF FAMILY PERMANENCY TEAM

- ☐ Yes ☐ No Placement preferences of the Family Permanency Team and of the child are the same placement setting recommended by the caseworker who completed the child's Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS).

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Preferred placement of the Family Permanency Team | Provider Name |
|---|---------------|

- If No Describe the reasons why the placement preferences of the Family Permanency Team, and of the child, were not recommended.

| CHILD'S LEVEL OF NEED | |
|--|--|
| Date of Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) | Child's Assessed Level of Need (LON) |
| QUALITY RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | The needs of the child can be met through placement with a relative or in a licensed foster home. A shortage or lack of licensed foster homes is not an acceptable reason for determining that the needs of the child cannot be met in a licensed foster home. Describe |
| If No | Describe the reasons why the needs of the child cannot be met by the child's family or in a licensed foster home. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Placement in a qualified residential treatment program (Q RTP) is the setting that will provide the most effective and appropriate level of care in the least restrictive environment. Describe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Placement in a qualified residential treatment program (Q RTP) is consistent with the child's short- and long-term goals. Describe |

COURT FINDINGS: CONSEQUENCES

- Failure to make Q RTP findings within 60 days of placement results in loss of ability to claim Title IV-E reimbursement for that placement episode
- Could, potentially, result in an unnecessary change in placement!

COURT FINDINGS: CONSEQUENCES

- Whether findings are made in the affirmative does not impact whether the placement can be made
 - Court may order the agency to change placement, but it is not required
 - If findings are not made in affirmative and/or the placement is disapproved, disqualification for Title IV-E reimbursement for the placement episode is the consequence

ICWA/WICWA CONSIDERATIONS

- Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)/Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act (WICWA) requirements not altered by FFPSA or 2021 WI Act 42
 - All requirements and findings for ICWA/WICWA must be followed *in addition to* any QRTP analysis
 - Consequence for ICWA/WICWA violation: invalidation!
- Additional family permanency team requirements for Indian children
 - NOTE: Placement proposal from the team does NOT supersede the placement preferences of the tribe under ICWA/WICWA

QUESTIONS?



FAQ's

- There are several FAQ documents available to answer questions related to the QRTP's and Family First. They are located here: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/family-first/qrtf/faq>
- Any further questions may be directed to: FamilyFirst@wisconsin.gov



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