



Cross Divisional

Program, Leadership Changes at ACS

The Office of Placement Services, led by Assistant Commissioner Trevor John, and comprised of Pre-placement Services, Placement Administration and Placement Stability Operations will be moved from the Division of Child Protection (DCP) to the Division of Family Permanency Services (FPS). This realignment will vest one division at Children's Services with the oversight and responsibility for a child's time in foster care, from their initial placement to their transition out of foster care.

In addition, there have been leadership changes in several divisions at ACS including the Divisions of Child Protection, Early Care and Education and Communications and Community Affairs. [Click here to read more about these changes.](#)

Free ESOL Classes and Legal Assistance for Citizenship Application

The New York University Law Immigrant Rights Project and Atlas:DIY are offering free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes and legal assistance to complete the new application for United States citizenship. Please click on the links below for more information:

Citizenship Flyer: [English](#), [Spanish](#).

ESOL Flyer: [English](#), [Spanish](#)

Foster Care

Medicaid Coverage Extended to Age 26 for Former Foster Care Youth

The passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) on March 23, 2010 has allowed for the expansion of Medicaid coverage for former foster care children through the age of 26.

This is a reminder to all providers that effective January 1, 2014, individuals who were in foster care at age 18, and in receipt of Medicaid are now eligible for Medicaid coverage up to the age of 26 without an income or resource test. This applies to all foster care young adults who meet the criteria and were discharged on or after January 1, 2007.

[Please click here for the General Information System \(GIS\) memo](#) outlining this new provision. If you have questions, please contact Michline Farag, Assistant Commissioner of Health Policy and Revenue Maximization at Michline.Farag@dfa.state.ny.us.

Webinars on Health Coverage for Foster Care Youth

Registration is now open for two webinars presented by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Anchor to Independence Project. We encourage you to make an effort to attend both webinars to learn about this new population of foster care youth who will have full health coverage after leaving care as a result of changes from both the state and federal health care reform initiatives.

The webinars will be held:

Friday, March 7, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

What Foster Care Workers and Agency Staff Need to Know About Medical Homes for Youth Transitioning Out of Care

Friday, March 21, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

What Physicians Need to Know About Young People Leaving Foster Care

[Click here for more details and registration information.](#)

Training Webinars on Trauma and Sexually Exploited Youth

The Coalition for Homeless is offering the following Youth Professional Development Training Webinars on Trauma and sexually exploited youth (CSEC) :

- Trauma Informed Care - February 27
- The Internet, Social Media, Trafficking and the Current Impact on Homeless Youth - March 12

For information on these upcoming webinars AND a library of past training webinars that you and your staff can download on topics like "Trauma-Informed Care", "Creating an Affirming Environment for Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) Youth and Staff in RHY Programs", and "Sex Trafficking & Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children", visit <http://www.empirestatecoalition.org/main/pages/training.html>

Preventive Services

Resources for Children With Special Needs Bronx Fair

The Bronx Division of Child Protection and the Office of Community Partnerships, Division of Family Support Services

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The NYC Association of Homeless and Street-Involved Youth Organizations

Association OPEN Non-Member Meeting

Monday, February 24
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

FedCap - 211 West 14th Street
1st Fl. Board Room (between. 7th and 8th Aves)

[Click here for more information](#)

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presents a Resource Fair which will focus on "Resources for Children with Special Needs" to benefit families who care for children with various special physical and mental health needs:

When: February 26, 2014, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Where: The Rotunda of the Bronx Supreme Court, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451.

Download the event flyer in [Spanish](#) and [English](#). RSVP to Child Protective Manager Kimkecha Caldwell at Kimkecha.Caldwell@dfa.state.ny.us, or Osman Boakye at osman.boakye@dfa.state.ny.us.

Juvenile Justice

There are no Juvenile Justice announcements in this edition.

Early Care and Education

Kindergarten Admissions 2014 – **Deadline Extended!**

For students that are born in 2009, the process for admission to Kindergarten begins now for the 2014-2015 school year. The kindergarten application period has been extended to February 20, 2013. The ACS Office of Education Support and Policy Planning has compiled kindergarten admissions information for 2014 to help providers understand the admission process and assist parents with ensuring all students who are turning five are enrolled in school. [Click here to read Kindergarten Admissions Information 2014.](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail the Office at education.unit@dfa.state.ny.us.

Ready, Set, Kindergarten Programs- Parent/Caregiver Workshops @ Select Brooklyn Public Libraries

The popular Ready, Set, Kindergarten! programs return in March at Brooklyn Public Libraries. These programs are fun mash-ups of story time programs for children 3-5 years and engaging parent or caregivers workshops! Better yet, most of their programs are offered on weekends or evenings which are perfect for working families. For more info, on where and when these Parent Workshops will take place, please visit their website, by clicking on the link: [Parent Workshops](#).

Tax Information for Parents and Staff

Take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Child and Dependent Care Credit. Click on this link to learn more: <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Parents>

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