



# ACS Provider Bulletin



Cross Divisional

Foster Care

Preventive

Juvenile Justice

Early Care and Education

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

## Dear Provider Community:

### Recognizing National Social Work Month 2015

This March, ACS joins the nation in observing National Social Work Month. We recognize social workers as a strong medium of change in the improvement of the lives of children and families.

As an agency with a workforce made up of thousands of people in the social work profession, our work is a manifestation of the ideals embodied in the theme for the month, "Social Work Paves the Way for Change." These ideals are at the foundation of our mission, they are the reason we come to work every day, despite the difficult challenges.

It is no great surprise that many of our leaders who have paved the way of our country and cities have been social workers. Senator Barbara Mikulski, Dr. Dorothy Height, Dr. Antonia Pantoja, Dr. James Dumpson, and so many others have been instrumental in advancing the profession and being major change agents locally and nationally. The contributions that each of you make as social workers in this agency is as valuable and life-changing as these individuals.

I am proud to say that our social workers are continuing this tradition, and I encourage all of you to take courage in your decisions and know that you make a difference. In my career in the social services, I have seen time and time again, how our social workers go above and beyond their tasks to ensure that the most appropriate services fit that child and family. Staff work tirelessly to find that one home that will help a young child thrive, make the connections to help young people achieve their dreams, and strive to provide parents with the tools they need to keep their children safe.

As Commissioner, I am committed to your continued development as professionals, and to your well-being. I also value you as partners in this incredible work. Know that while we focus on the contributions of social workers during this month, you always have my support, and my gratitude.

Gladys Carrión, Esq.  
Commissioner

## Cross Divisional

### Interdisciplinary ChildStat Report

The Division of Policy, Planning, and Measurement (PPM) has compiled findings and lessons from the first three sessions of Interdisciplinary ChildStat, which covered domestic violence, mental health, and substance use. The report describes ACS data around these safety factors, as well as case themes, lessons learned, and practice recommendations that came out of the conversations. [Read the report.](#)

### New York State Child Welfare Practice Model Released

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services released the following letter about the model:

We are pleased to provide you with the link to the "final" version of our New York State Child Welfare Practice Model. As many of you know, this model was developed with the input of an array of stakeholders over a period of approximately one year. We believe by creating a common understanding of our values and practices in one concise model, we will be in a better position to collectively improve primary prevention, safety, permanency and well-being outcomes for children, adults and families.

We urge you to familiarize yourself with this model. OCFS will be offering a variety of supports to implement this over the coming months as it provides a framework for improving our safety and permanency outcomes. You will notice there are no new requirements, but a clearer roadmap for our work. Of course as we implement and track progress, the content of the model may be modified.

We are committed to the evolution of this work and look forward to our collaborative efforts.  
[http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/prevention/CW\\_Practice\\_Model.pdf](http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/prevention/CW_Practice_Model.pdf)

### Crossover Youth Practice Model Training

Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) training continues to be offered. We encourage you to ensure that your staff are able to participate in this essential training. The CYPM training will provide a better understanding of how to improve the well-being and outcomes of youth that are involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Your agency coordinator should sign up Case Planners, Supervisors, Directors and Agency Trainers in STARS for these half-day trainings. If you have questions, please reach out to:

**Foster Care:** Patricia Bassy (212) 513-0343

**Preventive:** Babette Spain, (212) 341-0985 or Kellian Gould, (212) 227-3497

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS ACS Parent Support & Recruitment

### Foster Parent Recruitment Forum

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Abbott House

5:30pm -7:00pm

1775 Grand Concourse – 7th Floor

Bronx, NY 10458

Directions: D Train to 174-175th Street Station Stop  
Bus: Bx1 or Bx2 to 174th Street (diagonal to Bronx  
Lebanon Hospital)

Pay Parking on Walton Ave .

[Download the flyer](#)

For more information contact ACS/ Parent Support  
and Recruitment Unit, Ronnel Walker- Jackson at  
212-341-3276, or Felicia Leary at 212-341-3342.

### FAP Resource Fair

#### The ACS Family Assessment Program

Children's Aid Society

New York Foundling – KEYS and

Catholic Guardian Society

Invite You to

#### The First Annual Resource Fair

April 28, 2015

9:30am

Manhattan Family Court

60 Lafayette Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room

New York, NY 10013

Please RSVP by April 20, 2015  
(212) 442-2924 or email [Barbara.Hill@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:Barbara.Hill@acs.nyc.gov)

\*\*\*\*Light Refreshments will be served\*\*\*\*

[Download the event flyer](#)

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## Foster Care

### Draft Policies for Public Comment

#### Children Missing From Foster Care Placement

The *Children Missing from Foster Care Placement* policy dated November 1, 2007 has been revised to reflect changes in ACS' practice concerning any missing child in the legal custody of ACS on a child protective, Person in Need of Supervision (PINS), Termination of Parental Rights (TPR), voluntary placement, or destitute child case. Specifically, the new policy articulates a change in ACS' expectations and practice regarding warrant requests for missing children. The new policy ensures that all appropriate actions are taken to locate a missing child or youth. ACS acknowledges that, in practice, the execution of a warrant can have unintended negative consequences to the child or youth that is absent from care. As such, pursuant to the new policy, ACS will be seeking warrants *only* when specific special factors are present which render a warrant necessary to ensure the safety of the missing child or youth. Additionally, the new policy clarifies the notification procedure regarding missing foster children.

This revised policy is being submitted for a 30-day review period. We value your feedback and welcome your comments via e-mail to [draft.policy.comments@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:draft.policy.comments@acs.nyc.gov) no later than **April 22, 2015**. Following a review of the submitted comments, this policy will be re-issued as final and the case practice expectations and requirements articulated within will become effective. [Read the draft policy](#)

### Apply Now For "Back-To-School Package Program"!

Applications are now open for the New Yorkers for Children "Back-to-School Package Program". Click [here](#) for the application, including eligibility requirements. The application is due **Friday, March 27, 2015**.

### Apply Now For Leadership Development Opportunity!

Applications are now open for the New Yorkers for Children Futures in Motion: Youth CAN! Program. Click [here](#) for the application, including eligibility requirements. The application is due **Friday, April 10, 2015**.

### FREE Fun Events for Children & Families

#### The Spring Fling

Celebrate Spring with an Outdoor Party! Join Asphalt Green in celebration of the first day of Spring for an afternoon of fun and sun. Play on our field: soccer, gaga, baseball, martial arts, draw an art project, free treats... and more!

**When: Saturday, March 21, 2:30 – 4:30 pm**

**Where: 555 East 90th Street (between York and East End Avenues)**

#### The Big Swim

Celebrate the joy of swimming at The Big Swim!, a free swim meet and fundraising benefit that supports Asphalt Green's FIT KIDS FIT CITY campaign. The Big Swim takes place every year in the spring. This year, Asphalt Green's FIT KIDS FIT CITY campaign will transform the lives of 31,000 New York City kids through sports and fitness with programs like Waterproofing. Our Waterproofing program provides free swim instruction and water safety training to NYC public school children.

**When: Saturday, April 25, 2015**

**Time: Doors open at 11am; 11:30am is the Olympic exhibition; 12pm swim meet starts.**

**Where: Asphalt Green's AquaCenter, 1750 York Ave., New York, NY 10128**

Register: [https://www.clubassistant.com/club/meet\\_information.cfm?c=1719&smid=6239](https://www.clubassistant.com/club/meet_information.cfm?c=1719&smid=6239)

### Bridges to Health (B2H) Serious Emotionally Disturbed (SED) Waitlist Closed

At this time the B2H program has reached capacity solely for the Serious Emotionally Disturbed (SED) referrals. The waitlist is full and no more applications for SED waiver will be accepted by ACS at this time. However, there are vacancies in the Developmentally Disabled Waiver (DD) and Medically Fragile (MedF) category of B2H with no waitlist in those categories at all. Closure of the SED waiver wait list is usually temporary, and as soon as there are vacancies, we will let you know. If you have any questions, please email the main B2H mailbox at [b2hacs@acs.nyc.gov](mailto:b2hacs@acs.nyc.gov).

## Preventive Services

There are no Preventive Services announcements in this edition.

## Juvenile Justice

There are no Juvenile Justice announcements in this edition.

## Early Care and Education

### ELNYC Head Start & Dual Funded Directors Meeting

You are invited to the Citywide Directors' Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm (EDT) at ACS Central Office, 150 Williams Street, 19th Floor, Manhattan Room, New York, NY 10038.

We ask you to make every effort to attend this important meeting. Please register on Eventbrite:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/elnyc-head-start-dual-funded-directors-meeting-tickets-16202112956?aff=erelexporg>.

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