



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
1500 Jefferson Street, SE • P.O. Box 40970 • Olympia WA 98504-0970

March 22, 2024

HVSA Local Implementing Agencies:

We appreciate your patience with the length of time between communications. DCYF has been enthusiastically engaged in finalizing the rate model to align rates paid with the cost of doing business. We're excited for the stability and predictability of services to clients the rebuilt system will support and recognize we couldn't have progressed this far without your collaboration. While we're making steady progress toward implementation, we have also encountered a few challenges that we're optimistic of overcoming. In the spirit of transparency, we wanted to share how implementation timelines will be impacted and what our next steps are.

Funding Source and Budget Considerations:

- **MIECHV:** During discussions with our federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) funders at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), we learned that a significant review and approval process will be required to move from our current budgeting/payment processes to a rates-based approach for MIECHV funded contracts. We initiated this process and understand it may take several months (or more) to negotiate before approval and implementation can occur. This creates complications in how DCYF can allocate funding.
- **TANF:** DCYF is also aware that Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) home visiting funding, as currently structured, may be revised. Continued conversations with the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) as the rate models are finalized will provide clarity into the specific revisions that may be needed.
- **Budget Considerations:** The initial estimates produced from the rate modeling work conducted this year in partnership with LIAs illustrated additional funding is likely required to sustainably fund our HVSA Programs. DCYF will continue to closely monitor the budget as the rates are finalized to determine the next steps.

Implementation Timelines:

DCYF's goal of implementing rates to support the sustainability for all programs will occur in phases over the coming year. While not all Home Visiting (HV) models will transition to rates by July 2024, we are assessing options to support budget increases for all models effective July 1, 2024.

State Funded only Models *Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), Family Spirit, Outreach Doula, and ParentChild+ (PC+):*

- DCYF will be implementing the rates-based methodology with CPP, Family Spirit, Outreach Doula, and PC+ LIAs effective July 1, 2024 (SFY25 contracts).
- Work is currently underway to revise the contract statement of work and develop invoicing and reporting expectations arising from rates payments, and
- Engagements will continue with these models to finalize the rate models and revise contracts before July 1, 2024.

MIECHV and State funded Models *Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) and Parents As Teachers (PAT):*

- DCYF will be implementing budget increases for NFP and PAT contracts effective July 1, 2024 (SFY25).

- DCYF will continue to work with HRSA for approval on the rate model for MIECHV funding while exploring options for transitioning both state and federally funded slots to a rates-based methodology.
- DCYF will meet with NFP and PAT providers in April-May to discuss budget increases for SFY25.
- DCYF will meet with NFP and PAT providers to review the rate model after July 1, 2024.

Rates Exempt Models *Early Head Start-Home Based (EHS-HB), Early Steps to Schools Success (ESSS), Steps to Effective and Enjoyable Parenting (STEEP)*

- DCYF will be implementing budget increases for EHS-HB, ESSS, and STEEP contracts effective July 1, 2024 (SFY25).
- DCYF will meet with EHS-HB, ESSS, and STEEP providers in April-May to discuss budget increases.

DCYF's Overall Timeline:

- April 2024— budget modeling and contract terms to be completed including reporting and monitoring requirements drafted.
- May 2024— drafting and negotiating contracts will begin for all contracts.
- June-August 2024— DCYF will provide guidance on any changes to reporting and monitoring expectations. Ongoing support will be provided throughout the following months.

Upcoming Engagements:

- Engagement #1: April-May *Rates and Budget Overview*
 - SFY25 Rate model overview– CPP, Family Spirit, PC+ and Outreach Doula
 - SFY25 Budget change overview: NFP/PAT
 - SFY25 Budget change overview: EHS-HB, ESSS, STEEP
- Engagement #2: May-June *SFY25 Contract Changes Overview*
 - Rates implementing models – CPP, Family Spirit, PC+ and Outreach Doula
 - All other models: EHS-HB, ESSS, NFP, PAT, and STEEP

DCYF is working hard to align contract expectations and reporting requirements across all models with the understanding that there will be some variation based on a rates or a budget approach. We are aware of the significant change all of this presents to you and continue to value our partnership as we move forward into the next phases of implementation. Thank you for your patience during this time. We value and encourage two-way communication and encourage you to submit questions to the HV inbox, directly to your contract specialist, during engagement sessions or via other connection opportunities with DCYF.

Thank you for your partnership and participation.

Sincerely,

Vickie Ybarra

Vickie Ybarra, PhD, MPH, RN
Assistant Secretary
Partnerships, Prevention, and Services

Rene Newkirk

Rene Newkirk
Chief Financial Officer
Financial and Business Services

By email