

Eric J. Holcomb, Governor Terry J. Stigdon, MSN, RN, Director

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Date:October 1, 2021To:Older Youth Services Providers and DCS Field StaffFrom:Director Terry StigdonSubject:Continuation of Collaborative Care Services for Youth Over 21 Years of Age<br/>DCS-21-15

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) recognizes the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, P.L. 116-260, which made continuing appropriations for Title IV-E state agencies and provided temporary flexibilities and assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency – including placing a moratorium on youth aging out of foster care – expired on Sept. 30, 2021. Indiana House Enrolled Act 1536 (HEA 1536), which was signed by Governor Holcomb into law on April 29, 2021, amended IC 31-28-5.8-5 to authorize the Director of the Department of Child Services to continue Collaborative Care services for youth who would have otherwise aged out of Collaborative Care if a state of disaster emergency has been declared by the governor under IC 10-14-3-12. Indiana continues to be under a Gov. Holcomb-declared Public Health Emergency, and thus Director Stigdon has hereby, in accordance with IC 31-28-5.8-5(e), authorized the continuation of Collaborative Care (extended foster care) services for youth who wish to remain in the program. Affected youth may continue to remain in Collaborative Care and receive needed support if they wish until there is no longer a declared state-wide disaster emergency or until this authorization is revoked in writing by the Director of the Department of Child Services.

Sincerely,

Terry J. Stigdon, MSN, RN, Director



Protecting our children, families and future