

Objectives of the Waiver Demonstration and Typical Uses of Waiver Funds

The Department has operated the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project since 1998. The purpose of the state's waiver program has been to find more effective and less costly ways of keeping families intact and reducing the number of children in out-of-home placement, as well as, reducing the length of time children are in foster care. Through the waiver, the state has sought to provide home and community-based alternatives to group and institutional care and to insure children are protected in safer environments with supportive services. Although more than 20 states have been granted approval to operate IV-E-FC waiver projects, Indiana is one of only four states to have implemented a flexible funding demonstration.

The Waiver has provided Department staff with the opportunity to think outside-the-box in regard to identifying non-traditional along with or in place of traditional services to be utilized in attempting to reach the objectives of the Waiver. Typical uses for Waiver dollars during the project have included:

Alternative School	First/ Last month's rent
Energy/utility bills	Septic tanks
Vehicle repairs	Floor replacements
Washer/dryer repair or replacement	Drug screens
Alcohol treatment	Day care
Before/after school care	In-home counseling
Medications	Pest Extermination
Cleaning of home environment	Medical/psychiatric assessments
Door Alarms	Baby Monitors
Children's clothing	Propane (for heating purposes)
Purchase of beds/furniture	Membership to boys club/girls club
Sports camp fees	Educational costs
Respite care for Informal Adjustments and in-home CHINS	
Preservation services normally covered by Title IV-B	
FC per diem – short term basis if reunification expected in short term	

Ancillary costs (but not per diem costs) to unlicensed relatives not receiving a per diem such as entry fees for activities, summer camp, clothing, musical instruments, lessons, etc. Some of these may require going through the appeal process, but because the child is on the waiver, it should be approved.

The decision to assign a client to the Waiver project and the activities to be performed are described in the attached two documents: 1) DCS Protocol of Worker Specific Activities for Waiver Demonstration and 2) Waiver Demonstration Inclusion Decision Making Guide.

Note: All DCS policies must be followed. If you want to make a waiver purchase that falls outside the DCS policies, you must do an appeal.