

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CAPTA, IDEA AND PART C/*tiny-k* EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS REFERRALS DUE TO SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE OR NEGLECT, 0 TO 3

WHY DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CAPTA, IDEA AND PART C/*tiny-k* EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS?

Children with disabilities are at higher risk for maltreatment than children without disabilities (Goldson, 2001). Research shows that children who have experienced abuse or neglect are at high risk for a variety of developmental problems. Children, aged birth to three, have been shown to have the highest rates of victimization (U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2004). Infants are the fastest growing age group of children being removed from their homes and placed in foster care in the United States (ZERO TO THREE Policy Center, 2004).

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) legislation provides federal funding to states in support of prevention, assessment, investigation, prosecution, and treatment activities related to preventing child abuse. In 2003, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act was amended by the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act. These amendments require states that receive CAPTA funds, like Kansas, to develop provisions and procedures referring children who are under the age of three and are involved in a substantiated case of abuse or neglect to Early Intervention Services funded under Part C of IDEA.

Likewise, when Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was amended in 2004, it required that states develop policies and procedures under Part C to refer infants and toddlers who have been abused or neglected for early intervention services. Part C of the IDEA requires that states have a statewide comprehensive coordinated interagency system of services for infants and toddlers with disabilities from birth through age two. *Tiny-k* Early Intervention Programs refer to Part C services in Kansas. Services under Part C are designed and delivered through an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). The IFSP not only outlines services for the infant or toddler, but also services to assist the child's family. A primary purpose of Part C early intervention services is to enhance the capacity of families to support their children's well being, development, learning and full participation in their communities. Services are provided at no cost to families.

WHO WILL MAKE THE REFERRALS TO PART C/*tiny-k* EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN INVOLVED WITH SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

Kansas Department for Children and Families social worker will be responsible for making referrals to Part C/*tiny-k* early intervention programs for all children birth to three with substantiated cases of abuse and neglect.

HOW IS A REFERRAL TO PART C/*tiny-k* PROGRAMS MADE?

Referrals of children identified with substantiated cases of abuse or neglect will be referred to a local Part C/*tiny-k* early intervention program by completing the *Kansas Department for Children and Families Referral to Infant-Toddler Services* form and faxing, mailing or emailing the completed form to the coordinator in the network in which the child resides. A list of the local networks and contact information may be accessed by calling 1-800-332-6262 or by visiting:

http://www.kdheks.gov/its/download/network_brochure.pdf

WHO ACQUIRES THE SIGNATURE FOR CONSENT FOR AN EVALUATION BY A PART C/*tiny-k* PROGRAM?

Child Welfare Community Based providers whom are designated to follow up on substantiated cases of abuse and neglect are asked to acquire a parent signature for permission to evaluate an infant or toddler through Part C/*tiny-k* programs. If there is no follow-up by a contracting agency then local Infant-Toddler Services staff will make every effort to acquire a parent signature. If the contracting agency is able to obtain a parent signature,

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then the completed Part C/*tiny-k* Consent for Evaluation Assessment form should be mailed, faxed or emailed to the coordinator in the network in which the child resides. A list of the local networks and contact information may be accessed by calling 1-800-332-6262 or by visiting: http://www.kdheks.gov/its/download/network_brochure.pdf

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A REFERRAL IS MADE?

Upon receipt of appropriate written consent, Part C/*tiny-k* service providers will begin the Part C screening and/or evaluation process. A determination will be made whether the child is eligible for early intervention services. The infant or toddler must need those services because the child (1) is experiencing significant developmental delays in one or more of the areas of cognitive development, physical development, communication development, social or emotional development, and adaptive development; or (2) has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay. Early intervention services are defined as developmental services that are designed to meet the developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability, as identified by the individualized family service plan team. If a child is not determined eligible for Part C services, then appropriate referrals will be made to other community resources and services.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF A CHILD IS RECEIVING EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES?

Consent of a biological parent is required before early intervention services can be implemented. If parental rights have been severed, then a Child Advocate will need to be appointed to represent the child and advocate for needed services. A referral feedback form will be sent to appropriate parties by the Part C/*tiny-k* program, upon biological parental or Child Advocate consent, documenting eligibility and plan of action.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CAPTA OR LOCAL PART C/*tiny-k* PROGRAMS?

For additional information on CAPTA, you may contact your local DCF office or Cathy Hubbard at CXAH@DCFkansas.org

For additional information regarding Part C/*tiny-k* services, call the Kansas Resource Guide at 1-800-332-6262 or visit <http://www.kdheks.gov/its/>