ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Administration on Children, Youth & Families | 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201
www.acf.hhs.gov/acyf

June 12, 2025

Janee Harvey
Director
Division of Family Well-Being and Protection
Department of Health and Human Services
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Director Harvey:

Thank you for submitting Iowa's amendment to the agency's approved title IV-E prevention program five-year plan.

**Plan Amendment Approval**

Iowa submitted an amendment to the agency's approved title IV-E prevention program five-year plan (five-year plan) to the Children's Bureau (CB) to Motivational Interviewing**.** Iowa also submitted a request to waive the evaluation requirement for Motivational Interviewing. We are pleased to notify you that Iowa's five-year plan amendment has been found to be in compliance with applicable federal statutory and regulatory requirements. Iowa's five-year plan amendment is approved as outlined below.

Iowa's five-year plan amendment is effective from January 1, 2025. Please maintain this approval letter as a part of the final, approved plan.

**Approval of Services under the Title IV-E Prevention Program**
Pursuant to Sections 471(e)(1) and 471(e)(5)(B)(iii) of the Act, states may claim reimbursement for services and programs provided in accordance with promising, supported, or well-supported practices as rated by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse. In addition, section 471(e)(5)(B)(iii)(II) of the Act requires the state to describe how each program and service will be evaluated through a well-designed and rigorous evaluation strategy (unless waived for a well-supported practice rated by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse) and continuously monitored. Based on this amendment, CB has approved the following additional allowable programs and services under this program:

**Motivational Interviewing**

Title IV-E prevention program federal financial participation claims must be for allowable costs on behalf of eligible program participants and may be submitted for applicable periods beginning no earlier than the above listed plan effective date. Additionally, all program costs other than payments for provision of prevention services directly to program recipients must be identified in an approved cost allocation plan as per federal regulations at 45 CFR §1356.60(c). This cost allocation plan may have an effective date that is the same or later than the title IV-E prevention program five-year plan, depending on when submitted and the approval granted. For state title IV-E agencies, a public assistance cost allocation plan (PACAP) amendment must be submitted addressing title IV-E prevention program administrative and training costs in accordance with applicable regulations at §95.509(a)(3). We encourage the state to review its previously submitted/approved PACAP to determine if updates are required as a result of this amendment to the IV-E Prevention plan.

**Approval of Request for Waiver of Evaluation Requirements**
Pursuant to section 471(e)(5)(C)(ii) of the Act, the requirement for a well-designed and rigorous evaluation of any well-supported practice rated by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse may be waived if the evidence of effectiveness of the practice is deemed compelling and the continuous monitoring requirements of Section 471(e)(5)(B)(iii)(II) are met. CB approves Iowa's request for waiver of the evaluation requirement for the following approved services:

**Motivational Interviewing**

**Data Collection and Reporting Requirements**
Pursuant to Section 471(e)(4)(E) of the Act, states electing the title IV-E prevention program are required to collect and report on child-specific data to HHS for each child who receives title IV-E prevention services. In the initial five-year plan, Iowa has provided an assurance that the state will collect and submit information and data as the Secretary may require with respect to title IV-E prevention and family services and programs, including information and data necessary to determine the performance measures. Data element details are provided in Revised Technical Bulletin #1. For amendments, agencies must begin reporting data in the period after the agency's title IV-E amendment is approved. Title IV-E Prevention Program Data submission timelines are provided in Technical Bulletin #2.

**Payer of Last Resort**
In approving the title IV-E prevention program five-year plan, we remind states that section 471(e)(10)(C) of the Act requires that title IV-E is the payer of last resort for services allowable under the title IV-E prevention program. This means that if public or private program providers (such as private health insurance or Medicaid) would pay for a service allowable under the title IV-E prevention program, those providers have the responsibility to pay for these services before the title IV-E agency is required to pay.

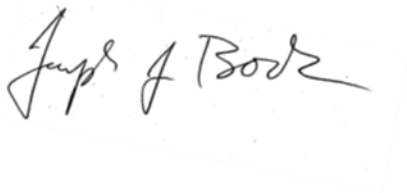
The title IV-E prevention program is part of the Children's Bureau's broader vision of advancing national efforts that strengthen the capacity of families to nurture and provide for the well-being

of their children. We look forward to working together with you to implement the title IV-E prevention program as part of the broader vision, and to meet our shared goal of keeping families healthy, together and strong.

For any question or concerns you may have, please email the Children's Bureau at ivepreventionprogram@acf.hhs.gov

We wish to thank you and your staff for your work and wish you all the best in implementing your important plan.

Sincerely,



Joseph Bock
Acting Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

Enclosures: Plan Submission Certification
Request for Waiver of Evaluation Requirements
Trauma Informed Delivery Assurance

Cc: Title IV-E Prevention Program Resource Mailbox, ivepreventionprogram@acf.hhs.gov
Regional Office Resource Mailbox, cbregion7@acf.hhs.gov
Lori Frick, Child Protective Services Director; IA DHHS; Des Moines, IA
Christina Hazelbaker, Compliance Officer; IA DHHS; Des Moines, IA
Janice Realeza, Director of Family Protection & Resilience Portfolio, ACF Office of Grants Management
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