

# **Partnership development & planning for full implementation of FFPSA: One state's journey w/current & prospective partners**

Title IV-E National Roundtable  
Atlantic City, New Jersey  
May 21-23, 2019

**Arizona Department of Child Safety**  
**Xheni Ndreu, Title IV-E State Plan Administrator**  
[Xheni.Ndreu@azdcs.gov](mailto:Xheni.Ndreu@azdcs.gov)



### Agenda:

1. What does the passage of Family First Preservation & Services Act mean for public child welfare? What does it mean for University Partners?
2. Why are so many states taking a 2 year delay in FFPSA Implementation?
3. What prevention programs are likely to receive partial Title IV-E reimbursement? How are new programs considered?
4. What is your state doing? Participants will hear about how AZ has been engaging with current and prospective Title IV-E partners.



# What does the passage of Family First Preservation & Services Act do?

- The Family First Prevention Services Act redirects federal funds to provide services to keep children safely with their families and out of foster care.
- Provides federal funds under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act for the first time in 30 years for direct services to children and families. Supports evidence-based prevention efforts for: 1) mental health treatment; 2) substance abuse treatment; 3) in-home skill-based services for parents; and kinship navigator services.
- The services may be provided for not more than 12 months for children who are at imminent risk of entering foster care. Services may also be provided to a child's parents and relatives, and pregnant or parenting teens.
- When foster care is needed it allows federal reimbursement for care in family-based settings and certain residential treatment programs for children called Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs).



### What does FFPSA mean by Prevention?

Prevention as referenced by FFPSA is not to be confused with Primary Prevention.

- Primary Prevention activities are directed at the general population and attempt to stop maltreatment before it occurs. All members of the community have access to and may benefit from these services

FFPSA may allow inclusion of Secondary & definitely Tertiary prevention.

- Secondary prevention activities with a high-risk focus are offered to populations that have one or more risk factors associated with child maltreatment, such as poverty, parental substance abuse, young parental age, parental mental health concerns, and parental or child disabilities.
- Tertiary prevention activities focus on families where maltreatment has already occurred and seek to reduce the negative consequences of the maltreatment and to prevent its recurrence.

(<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/overview/framework/>)



### What's up with the 2-year implementation delay?

- FFPSA cuts off federal funding for residential services after 14 days. Most states cannot afford 100% of the costs associated with children placed in non-family settings. FFPSA allowed states a 2 year delay related to this loss of federal funding.
- When states are in a FFPSA delay, they cannot take advantage of the new Prevention Services aspects of the Act. Also, no new federal funds are available for these services.



## What Prevention programs are likely eligible for Title IV-E reimbursement?

The federal Children’s Bureau Prevention Clearinghouse has yet to finalize the assessment of Evidence-Based Services eligible for Title IV-E FFP under FFPSA. Current programs under review with expected results in May 2019 include:

Mental Health Services	Substance Abuse Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent-Child Interaction Therapy</li> <li>• Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy</li> <li>• Functional Family Therapy</li> <li>• Multisystemic Therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motivational Interviewing Families</li> <li>• Facing the Future</li> <li>• Methadone Maintenance Therapy</li> <li>• Multisystemic Therapy</li> </ul>
In-Home Parent Skill-Based Services	Kinship Navigator Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nurse-Family Partnership</li> <li>• Healthy Families America</li> <li>• Parents as Teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s Home Society of NJ Kinship Navigator Model</li> <li>• Children’s Home Inc. Interdisciplinary Navigation Technologically-Advanced Model/KIN-Tech</li> </ul>



### How will other Prevention programs be included?

- The Clearinghouse will continue to consider responses to the 2018 Federal Registry Notice (including those received from state or local government administrators and tribes), federal partners, and other key stakeholders.
- The Clearinghouse will issue a public call for program and service recommendations at least annually.
  1. Particular consideration will be given to programs and services recommended by State or local government administrators and tribes; programs already rated by other clearinghouses (such as CEBC or HomVEE); programs recommended by federal partners; and/or evaluated as part of any grants supported by the Children's Bureau (such as the Title IV-E Child Welfare Demonstrations or Regional Partnership Grants).
  2. Program or service recommendations for potential review may be submitted electronically or mailed directly to the Prevention Services Clearinghouse.



### What can states do during a delay in FFPSA?

Arizona, like many states across the nation, is currently under a 2 year federally approved delay for full implementation of FFPSA requirements. Our delay is approved through September 29, 2021, although we may elect to discontinue this delay at an earlier point in time.

During this delay, Arizona Department of Child Safety is working in earnest across the broad spectrum of FFPSA requirements to ensure the readiness of both the public child welfare system, its service delivery partners, and stakeholders for full implementation of FFPSA.

- Creation of new Title IV-E Agreements with local courts for reimbursement of costs associated with legal representation of parents involved with the public child welfare system.
- Kinship Navigator state allotments for FY18/19. Working with an eye to the models under review by the Clearinghouse & piloting services to unlicensed relative caregivers





### What can states do during a delay in FFPSA?

- DCS is currently surveying its contracted providers for In-Home Services to assess the current use of EBP's under review by the Clearinghouse.
- DCS has released a provider Request for Information concerning the options for semi-independent placements models (outside of congregate care) and ideal business models. DCS is currently reviewing the information received from providers to this RFI.
- In order to best equip Arizona licensed residential vendors who are interested in caring for dependent DCS youth in out-of-home care, DCS issued a state-wide competitive QRTP planning grant. Successful applicants will receive both monetary support as well as technical assistance and peer-cohort learning to aid in vendors meeting QRTP federal criteria (including costs associated with accreditation, on-site nursing staff, development and implementation of trauma-informed treatment models, etc.).



### What are you hearing in your state about FFPSA?

- Is your state under a delay of FFPSA implementation?
- Is there an interest in child welfare assuming a greater role in provision of in-home prevention services (other than Tertiary prevention)?
- Is there an interest in University's with Title IV-E partnerships in aiding with FFPSA implementation?
- Who is championing the new possibilities outside of the public child welfare agency and/or university?
- Other questions for Arizona or other states in the room?

