



## Policy: Parental Substance Abuse Screening and Referrals

**ChildNet Number: CN 003.043**

**Original Approved Date: June 26, 2010**

**Policy Revised Date(s): July 9, 2014**

**Policy Sunset Date:**

**COA Standard(s): NET 1.02, 4.01, 4.02, 4.03, 5.02, 6.01, 6.02, 7.01, 7.03, 9.02**

### Statement of Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to fully integrate substance abuse services for parents involved in the child welfare system. It provides standards to ensure that parents are screened and assessed as to their need for substance abuse services which are provided with ease of entry into a system of accessible, individualized services in support of safe and stable reunification with their child(ren). The policy provides for a system of coordinating service provision to ensure timeliness and quality of care and to work toward continuous improvement in service delivery and responsiveness.

**Board Chair's Signature:**

**Date:**

07-29-14



## **Procedure: Parental Substance Abuse Screening and Referrals**

**ChildNet Number: CN 003.043**

**Original Approved Date: June 26, 2010**

**Procedure Revised Date(s): July 9, 2014, April 25, 2018, April 13, 2022**

**Procedure Sunset Date:**

**COA Standard(s): NET 1.02, 4.01, 4.02, 4.03, 5.02, 6.01, 6.02, 7.01, 7.03, 9.02**

### **Definitions (If any):**

*Accessibility of service* - The opportunity for consumers to obtain relevant services, with attention to the location of service, hours of operation, affordable fees, and the elimination of barriers including those that impede entrance or use by people with disabilities.

*Comprehensive Behavioral Health Assessment (CBHA)* - An in-depth, detailed assessment of the child's emotional, social, behavioral, and developmental functioning within the home, school, and community, including direct observation of the child in those settings.

*Department* - Stands for Department of Children and Families (DCF).

*Network Provider* – a provider that has undergone an application and credentialing process with ChildNet to verify expertise, licensure, and/or accreditation in which formal network status has been achieved.

*Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network (serves Palm Beach) and Broward Behavioral Health Coalition* – Managing Entities that the Department contracts with through regional contracts to develop, support, and manage an integrated network of substance abuse and mental health services

*Substance Abuse* - The misuse of a chemical substance in a manner that is detrimental to an individual's physical or mental health.

### **Statement of Procedure:**

#### **Screening, Eligibility, and Referral Process**

1. ChildNet's Service Quality Department processes potential Network Provider applications. The application process results in eligible providers, which includes, but is not limited to, substance abuse assessment and treatment providers, to achieve formal network status.



2. The Service Coordination Department maintains a list of substance abuse Network Providers' current eligibility information in order to minimize administrative barriers to prompt service delivery. The current list of ChildNet approved substance abuse assessment and treatment providers is posted on ChildNet's Resource Link and SharePoint for staff to access at any given time. The Dependency Case Managers (DCMs) review their cases to determine if any of the parents on their caseloads may be eligible for, and in need of substance abuse assessment and/or treatment services. All services are provided in a culturally competent manner. If by chance the parent has private insurance with coverage for substance abuse assessment and ongoing services, the parent is to go through their insurance.
3. Substance abuse assessment and treatment services may be recommended from any number of resources such as shelter hearing petitions, mediation agreements, and Comprehensive Behavioral Health Assessments (CBHA) for children and their families. If substance abuse assessment or treatment services are recommended for a parent or parents in the family, the Behavioral Health Services Specialist (BHSS) is to assist the Dependency Case Manager Child Advocate/DCM with identifying appropriate substance abuse treatment providers.
4. In Palm Beach County, the Managing Entity funds a Substance Abuse Call Center (SACC), 211 #, that parents in the dependency system call, along with the DCM, to schedule a substance abuse assessment.
  - a. The assessment is offered within 5 days of the call and the SACC provides reminder calls and follow-up to the parent if rescheduling needs to occur.
  - b. The assessment providers are subcontracted with the Managing Entity and, if the assessment recommends treatment, can become the treatment provider.
  - c. Services will be provided in the least restrictive and most appropriate manner which meet the parent's needs and preferences. This is achieved through flexible, responsive admissions and utilization management criteria for persons with multiple or chronic needs, such as:
    - i. Substance use disorders;
    - ii. Serious and persistent mental illness or serious emotional disturbance; substantial developmental and physical disability; and
    - iii. Severe, chronic family and individual problems with multiple or interacting causes.

President's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

09-06-22