

## GUIDE FOR SHARED INFORMATION

Ever wonder what information case managers can share with foster parents? Confused over why information is shared at some instances, but not others?

Check out the newly developed FAQs regarding shared information between DSS and Foster Parents about the biological family and their case plan. [Click here to find this document on the SCDSS Current Foster Parents Resource website.](#)

## MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION

A child in foster care is eligible for at least one year of Medicaid coverage if they remain in care. A child in foster care in the month they turn 18 can be approved for Medicaid until age 26 as a former foster child if they are not already eligible in a different category. A child returned home or adopted before turning 18 will require a separate eligibility determination within a year to determine continuing eligibility.

When a child is adopted, a separate decision is required to determine eligibility based on the type of adoption. The decision may require just a copy of the adoption agreement, or an application may also be needed. When the adoption agreement is in effect, the child remains eligible for Medicaid coverage until turning age 18 or age 21 at the discretion of the Department of Social Services. These cases do not require an annual review.

Even though we do not review children eligible for adoption Medicaid annually, there may be instances when a review form including the child is sent. This may occur if there are other Medicaid-eligible individuals in the home. Even though eligibility for the adopted child does not require review, the child may be part of the eligibility decision of another household member. Another reason for a review form is missing information necessary for coverage to continue, such as a Social Security Number.

With the end of the federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, Medicaid agencies are required to review eligibility for all members. Based on the restart of the eligibility review process that has been suspended for the past three years, it is also possible the review was sent in error.

Case-specific information is needed to identify and address why the review was received. Detailed questions about the review can be directed to [annualreviews@scdhhs.gov](mailto:annualreviews@scdhhs.gov), and a team member from Medicaid will be able to research the case and provide direction on what is needed. If the review was sent in error, this can also be addressed to help ensure the child maintains eligibility.

This past week everyone in my house came down with strep, including my husband and myself. Navigating a household of sick is difficult enough, but as a foster parent I also had to make sure the case work team was updated, reschedule all weekly appointments, a visit with the GAL, and then upload all the information from the doctor into CAIP. It was a stark reminder of all the extra we take on as caregivers for a child in foster care.

May is Foster Care Awareness Month and the primary focus is to educate the general public about foster care and the needs of children in our community.

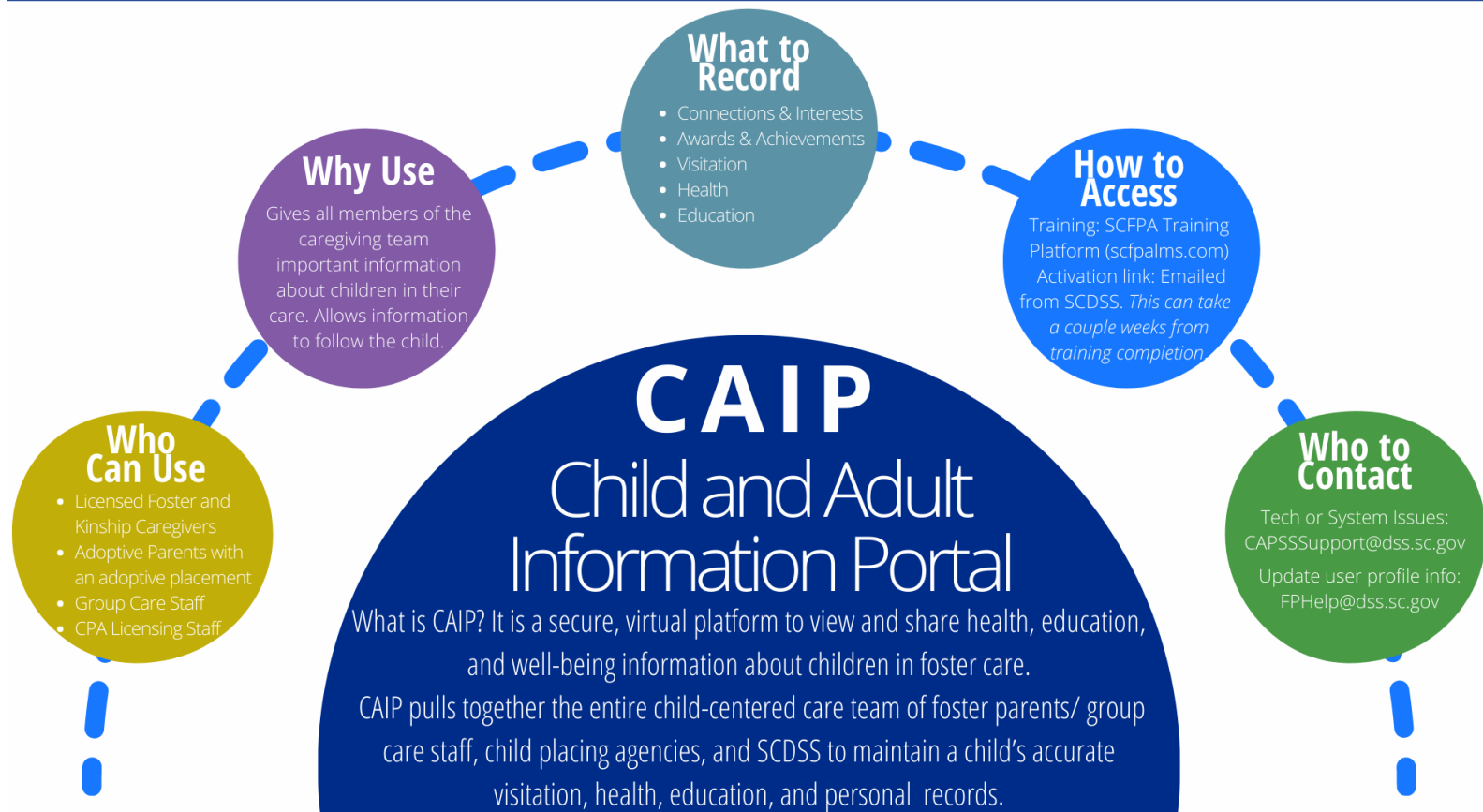
However, it also serves as a time for foster and kinship caregivers to receive recognition for all the "extra" you do for the kids in your home. It is not a simple matter to welcome a child in your home for an unknown amount of time and navigate what will come. Very few people outside of foster and kinship caregivers will understand the absolute heartbreak and joy that can come with a child reunifying. But you all walk through it, and then turn around and say yes to another child who needs a safe place to call home for a while. Thank you from everyone here on the Child Welfare Team for continuing to care for our children in South Carolina.

We could not do this without you!

- BRIANNA KALDENBACH, STATEWIDE FOSTER PARENT LIAISON

*Thank You!*

# Resources



## FOSTER FAMILY HANDBOOK

**Looking for information on everyone's role in DSS, understanding the court process, and expectations of foster parents?**

DSS in partnership with Fostering Great Ideas developed a Handbook resource for Foster Families. This resource covers all aspects of the foster care process. From initial licensing to how to say good-bye, this handbook covers a multitude of topics foster parents experience and seek information on.

View and download the Foster Family Handbook on the DSS website.

[Foster Family Handbook](#)

## SUMMER CHILDCARE AND CAMPS

Summer is almost here and we all know planning for summer starts well before it's arrival.

Below are ideas to get you started!

- Daycare/ childcare center (DSS Childcare scholarships accepted at many)
- YMCA Camps
- Recreation Center Camps
- Church camps
- Royal Kids Camp (Lowcountry)
- Community theaters
- Technical colleges
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Sports Camps
- Three Rivers
- [Greenville Area Camps](#)
- [Lowcountry Area Camps](#)
- [Myrtle Beach Area Camps](#)
- [Columbia Area Camps](#)

## Kinship

### SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

<https://www.kinshipsc.org/>

Midlands:

- [Kindred Hearts](#)  
803-553-7277

Pee Dee:

- [Federation of Families](#)  
803-553-1099

Lowcountry:

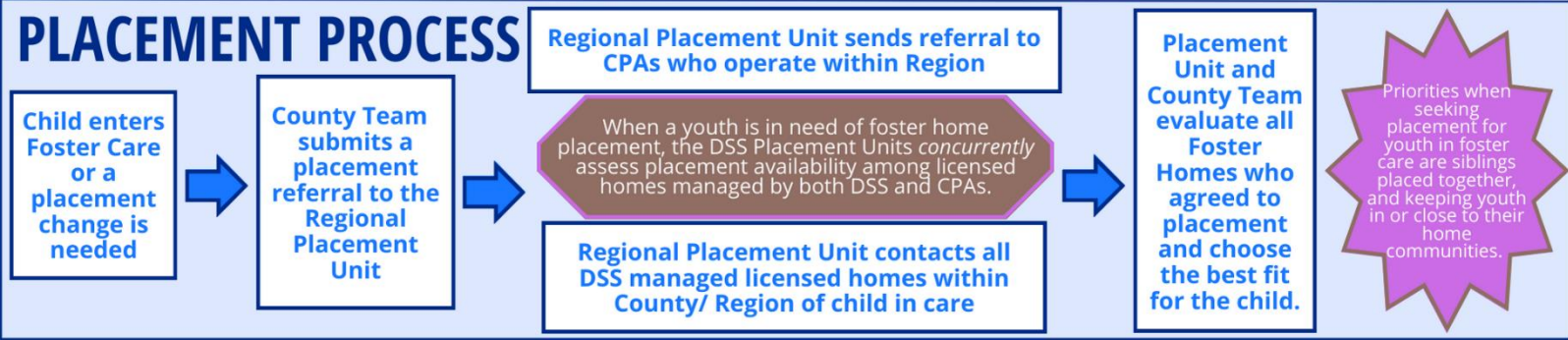
- [Halos](#)  
(854) 444-3716

Upstate:

- [Pendleton Place](#)  
kinship@PendletonPlace.org

# Foster Parent Facts

Spring 2023



# Updates

## AFTER HOURS PLACEMENT FOR DSS MANAGED HOMES

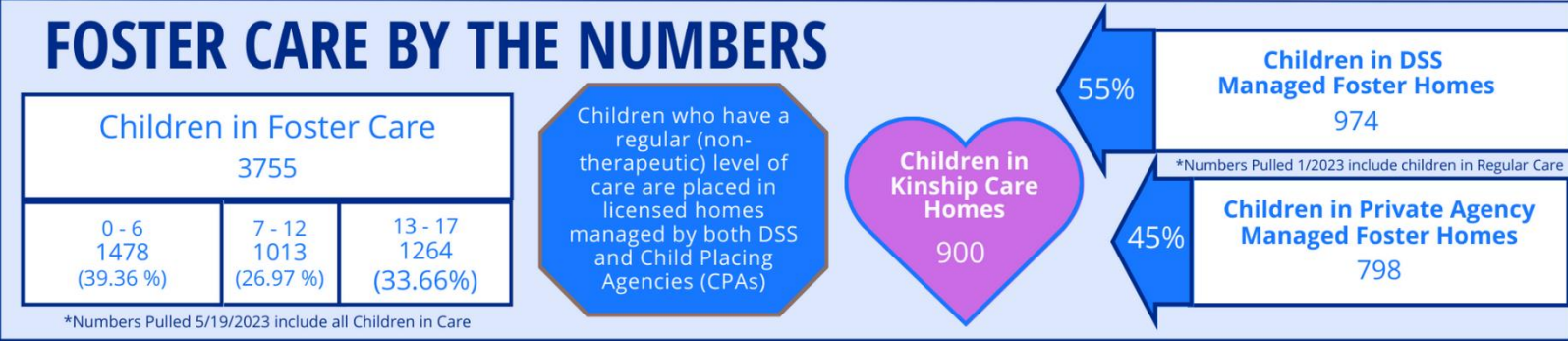
Effective January 1, the DSS Regional Placement Units began a new process for managing placement needs that occur outside of standard business hours. On-call placement work is now managed through a state-wide rotation of Placement Coordinators from the 4 Regions.

### What changed:

- Placement is now its own department. Previously, DSS on-call placement work was also facilitated by staff from our Initial Licensing and Foster Family Support programs.
  - This new system will ensure that the placement needs of our children and youth are coordinated by our team of Placement professionals.
- DSS managed homes may see an after-hours call from an area code and speak with a DSS Placement Coordinator from a different Region other than the one in which the foster family resides, but the placement will be within the family’s Region.
  - The on-call worker will have access to the availability of foster families in the child or youth’s county and Region of origin, to ensure that placements located for children and youth remain as close to their home county as possible.

**Private Agency Licensed homes:** Agencies will still reach out to their managed homes with any after-hours placement needs.

If you have questions related to this or any other of our placement processes, please feel free to reach out to the DSS Placement Services Director, Jocelyn Gibson at 864-358-3578 or [Jocelyn.Gibson@dss.sc.gov](mailto:Jocelyn.Gibson@dss.sc.gov).



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Direct Deposit

- Complete the [form for direct deposit to receive your monthly Board Payment](#).
- Email the form and a voided check to [DSS-EPAY@dss.sc.gov](mailto:DSS-EPAY@dss.sc.gov). Be sure to include the word ENCRYPT in the subject line of the email to protect your information.



### Child and Adult Information Portal (CAIP)

What is CAIP? It is a secure, virtual platform to view and share health, education, and well-being information about children in foster care.

To Gain Access:

1. Complete Training on the [SCFPA Training Platform](#).
2. After successfully completing training, receive a username and password from SCDSS to access CAIP. *This can take a few weeks from training completion. If you do not receive login information after that time, please reach out to [FPHelp@dss.sc.gov](mailto:FPHelp@dss.sc.gov)*
3. Log into CAIP within 24 hours of receiving email.
4. Access CAIP using a smartphone, tablet, desktop or laptop computer.
5. View and update important information about the children and youth in your care.



### SC Child Care Scholarship Program

- At time of placement, Foster Families need to let Licensing and Placement staff know if child care is needed.
- Parents choose an approved provider who will care for their child and DSS pays the provider directly.
- Licensing and Placement staff forward Foster Parent contact information and name of child care provider.
- Scholarship Program staff contact Foster Parent to request any additional information to process request.
- Visit the official [SC Child Care](#) website for more information.
- Email questions to: [fosterchildcare@dss.sc.gov](mailto:fosterchildcare@dss.sc.gov)

## CONTINUED TRAINING

SCFPA offers courses and trainings in two convenient formats:

### Live Webinars \*You will need to download Zoom to your device

1. Go to [SC Foster Parents Training & Resources \(scfpa.com\)](#)
2. Click on "Open Training Calendar."
3. Search by event type or just scroll down to the bottom and select the blue link that says, "Click for more details."
4. Register directly with the trainer.
5. Receive an invite via email from **Let's Talk Video** [notifications@letstalk.video](mailto:notifications@letstalk.video).
6. RSVP to confirm (if you do not receive an email invitation be sure to **check your junk mail.**)

### Recorded Trainings

SCFPALMS has many recorded trainings that you can access anytime, day or night! Just go to [www.scfpalms.com](http://www.scfpalms.com) and create a FREE account.

**Subscribe to the SCFPA Email List** for a weekly email with training opportunities.

Visit [www.scfpalms.com](http://www.scfpalms.com) and select "Click Here to Join the SCFPA Email List" and add your e-mail address.