Rule 51: Friend to the Teenage Juvenile Aging Out

THOUGHTS ON PUTTING RULE 51 INTO PRACTICE

BOB NOONE, ESQ.
NOONE LEGAL SERVICES

WHY MY LAST IRS AUDIT COMPELS ME TO SHARE THIS SLIDE....

Aging Out – Out of State

Logan International (WV)

RULE 51 (a) – Life Skills Curriculum

Applies to clients ages 14 to 18 years

- If in DHHR or DJS Custody
- As part of MDT Process
- Element of INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICE PLAN (ISP)
- Includes food & financial management
- Nutritional planning, housekeeping, job skills
- Educational / Vocational Instruction
- Community Services
- MDT MONITOR and
- The Juvenile SHALL participate in her own plan!

RULE 51 (b) – TRANSITION PLAN

Develop plan – NO LATER than 6 months before turning 18

- Individualized at the direction of Juvenile …
- Specific OPTIONS ("Options" imply some choice?)
- HOUSING
- HEALTH
- EDUCATION
- Local MENTORS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SYSTEM
- WORKFORCE & EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT
- START EARLY in asking Court for Transition Plan!

RULE 51 (c) – SERVICES

Juvenile who meets eligibility criteria for Transitional Plan Services SHALL receive … additional SERVICES beyond Life Skills in (a)

- Case Worker/Manager to Monitor
- Report to Court at Judicial Reviews
- As Long as Juvenile Under Court Jurisdiction …
- BUT HOW DO YOU INSURE SERVICES?
  - INSIST ON THOSE SERVICES BEING IN ORDER
  - REVIEW AT MDT – Hand out the "To Do" List
  - And the Part (d) REPORTS …

RULE 51 (d) – THE REPORTS

CASE WORKER / MANAGER SHALL REPORT @ Judicial Reviews

- Efforts to obtain appropriate transitional services
- Attempts at voluntary placement agreement
- ETVs (Education Training Vouchers) & Chafee
- Identify FUNDING SOURCES
- Driver's License – (Driving often = Employability)
- Looking at long term Mental Health/Physical Health
- Offered GED if High School Education is not part of the plan.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Help obtain Identification Cards from the State.
- Does Juvenile have copies of:
  - Social Security Card
  - Birth Certificate
  - Medical Card
- Help with Graduation Invitations, Gowns / Suit
- Transportation for Family if Out of State
- Consideration of the FC-18
- Obtain Free Credit Report - Kids with BAD Credit
- Sample ORDERS

BUDGET BOB'S KID LAW EMPORIUM AND PLAN REPAIR SHOP …

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Transition Plan

The 6-Year To Do List for Youth in Foster Care

- Alicia McIntire
- Alicia.R.McIntire@wv.gov
- 304-356-4576

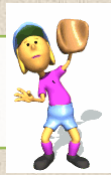
14 & 15

- Life Skills Assessment
- Learning Plan to Teach Life Skills

The Assessment will indicate areas of deficit, and those Domains will be listed on the Learning Plan in FACTS. This process is done every year.

16

- Life Skills Assessment
- Transition Plan
- Credit Report



A Credit Report must be pulled for youth at age 16 & every year thereafter.
The Transition Plan should be developed beginning at age 16 and revised every three months.

17

- Life Skills Assessment
- Transition Plan
- Credit Report
- NYTD
- Advance Directives
- SSI Application
- Adult Services
- Chafee

At 17 an NYTD Survey must be administered.
Before youth turn 18 we must discuss Advance Directives and, if they will qualify for SSI Disability, the Application must be filed for this benefit.
Invite Adult Services to one MDT.
Invite Chafee to one MDT.

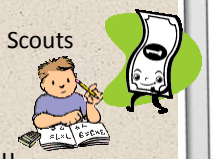
17 1/2

- High School Diploma / GED
- Post-secondary Education
- Complete Health Check

A referral to Chafee should still be made at least 6 months prior to a youth graduating from high school or leaving care. Chafee is not a placement. Plan for where the youth will live: Foster Home, Dorm, Apartment.

Tools

- Casey: DJS or DHHR!
- Learning Plan 14 – 18
- Community Mental Health Care
- Eye Glasses / Dental
- Health Care: Girls!!!
- Division of Rehab Svcs
- Services
  - Boy / Girl Scouts
  - Camps
  - Band
  - Sports
  - Tutoring!!!
  - GED Prep
- Transition Plan= Individualized Service Plan



MDT Process

Monitor
Adjudicated Juvenile Rehabilitation Review Commission
WV Supreme Court of Appeals

- Cindy Largent-Hill
- Cindy.Hill@courtswv.gov
- 304-558-6847

Multidisciplinary Teams

Are defined in each:

- Article 5D of WV State Code
- WV Judiciary – Rules of Juvenile Procedure (No.35 & No. 36)
- SB 2780

Today's focus is on: Youths aging out of care – out of the system

These teens have a wide variety of needs:

- Social
- Emotional
- Mental Health
- Education
- Behavior
- And Substance Abuse

Working with teens is complex

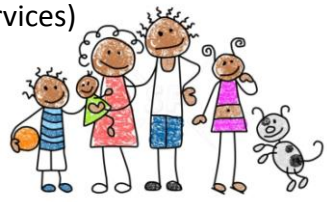
"Two heads are better than one."

MDT Involves Stakeholders

- **Multiple Specialties – various areas of expertise.**
- **Key strength is the combined expertise of a range of professionals.**
- **All Stakeholders possess some basic knowledge of the situation: Encourages communication and collaboration; Discourages re-doing evaluations or retrying unsuccessful interventions.**

So Who are the Stakeholders?

- Teen
- Family Members
- Support System
- DHHR Worker
- Juvenile Probation Officer
- Attorney
- Prosecutor
- Community Provider
- Case Manager (from recent services)



A coordinated, informed meeting…

Can produce a comprehensive coordination of services.

✓ Note: Key word is MEETING!

……Not a brief conversation.

INVOLVE/INCLUDE

The juvenile and family/support system

Barriers:

- Scheduling
- Territorial issues
- Job Responsibilities

But…..

Change can happen with commitment!

Points of Advocacy

Being an Advocate for Youth Clients

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