

Survey B: Children Placed in Residential Treatment Programs

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The purpose of this survey is to help gather information to inform planning for how best to serve children when restrictions on federal IV-E reimbursement of congregate care in the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) take effect on October 1, 2021. After that date, new placements of children in congregate care facilities will generally be eligible for only two weeks of reimbursement unless the facility meets new federal criteria to be a qualified residential treatment facility (QRTP) and specific referral, assessment, and review procedures are followed.

North Carolina is approaching this challenge by asking how to best meet the needs of children who we have previously placed in congregate care in the context of the new funding realities. It is expected that congregate care will still be the best option for some children but many children will be better served by investments in strategies to find and support family-based placements, especially family based placements that will accept teens and sibling groups.

This survey includes questions about children in congregate care facilities, the reasons for their placement in those facilities, and services or supports that might have allowed a family based placement (i.e., kinship home, foster home, or therapeutic home). The survey inquires foster children in the legal custody of your county on November 30, 2020. These are the Foster Children who were placed in residential treatment facilities--congregate care group homes or facilities that receive board payments through the child welfare system but are eligible for primary funding through Medicaid.

We have used administrative data to identify children in your county's legal custody placed in group facilities on November 30, 2020. Please fill out one survey for each child putting the child's survey number on the top of each survey and answer the questions as it relates to that placement. The survey focuses on questions that cannot be answered by administrative data and may require staff's professional judgement.

***Indicates the question must be answered in order to move on.**

Survey ID number:*

November 30, 2020, Placement name:*

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1. Is this child part of a sibling group in foster care?*

-- Please Select -- ▾

1a. How many children are in the sibling group?*

- Two Three Four Five Six or more

1b. How many of this child's siblings were placed together with the child in the same facility or on the same campus when the child was originally placed in the above facility?*

- None One Two or more

2. How far in miles from your county is the facility where the child was placed in November 2020?*

- Inside the county
 Outside the county but within 10 miles of the county's borders
 Between 10 and 50 miles from the county's borders
 Between 50 and 100 miles from the county's borders
 Over 100 miles from the county's borders

3. What services in addition to residential group treatment was the child receiving? Check all that apply.*

- Mental health or substance abuse therapy
 Specialized or enhanced mental health or substance abuse services
 Tutoring
 LINKS services
 Specialized health services
 Mentoring
 Other, please specify

4. Why was the child placed in the residential group treatment facility where the child resided in November 2020?

(choose all that apply)*

- No appropriate kinship, foster family or therapeutic home placement available
 Previous failed kinship or foster home placement or placements
 Previous failed therapeutic home placement or placements

- Step-down from a higher level of residential treatment
- Worker believed group residential treatment was necessary to meet the child's treatment needs
- Other, please specify

The next three questions ask specifically about why the child was placed in the residential treatment facility where the child resided in November 2020 rather than in a kinship placement, foster family, or therapeutic home.

5. Why was the child not placed in a kinship home? (choose the most appropriate answer)*

- We were unable to locate kin
- The kin we located did not have the capacity to provide placement
- The kin we approached declined to provide placement
- Placement with kin was tried previously and was unsuccessful

6. Why was the child not placed in a family foster home? (choose the most appropriate answer)*

- We were unable to find a family placement that would accept the child
- We were unable to find a family based placement accepting the child close to our county
- Family foster placement was tried previously and was unsuccessful
- We did not believe this child could be served appropriately in a family based setting

7. Why was the child not placed in a therapeutic home? (choose the most appropriate answer)*

- We were unable to find a therapeutic home that would accept the child
- We were unable to find a therapeutic home that would accept the child close to our county
- Therapeutic home placement was tried and was unsuccessful
- We did not believe this child could be served appropriately in a therapeutic home

8. What services or supports, if any, might have allowed this child to be successfully placed in a kinship, foster home or therapeutic home instead? (choose up to three)*

Select no more than 3.

- Financial support to a kinship home
- Capacity to provide individualized licensure training to kin in their homes
- Enhanced therapeutic home service with additional supports
- Enhanced capacity to provide respite services
- Capacity to provide an intensive in-home treatment service in a family based placement
- Wrap-around capacity
- None

Other, please specify

