

The Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT) does maintain a non-mandated pool of funds. Annual funding for non-mandated services are limited based on allocation from the State General Assembly and Locality matched funding. Access to this pool of funds is on a first come, first serve basis. All Arlington County child serving agencies may utilize this pool of funds provided the youth meets required criteria and funding is available. Arlington County CPMT allows for residential and community-based services to be purchased from the non-mandated pool funds.

#### **7.1.16.1.1 CSA NON-MANDATED OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS**

CSA Non-Mandated Agreements are signed contracts made between an agency designated by the CPMT and a parent or guardian who retains legal custody. CSA Non-Mandated Agreements are utilized when a child is placed outside of the home for behavioral health treatment and a local public agency is providing case management services. A CSA Non-Mandated Agreement ensures that the parent or guardian's intent for services includes reunification to the family's care following treatment.

Below are characteristics of a CSA Non-Mandated Agreement:

- The purpose of the agreement is to provide mental health treatment for a child or youth who has emotional or behavioral problems that:
  - Have persisted over a significant period of time or, though only in evidence for a short period of time, are of such a critical nature that intervention is warranted;
  - Are significant disabling and are present in several community settings, such as at home, in school or with peers; and
  - Require services or resources that are unavailable or inaccessible, or that are beyond the normal agency services or routine collaborative processes across agencies, or require coordinated interventions by at least two agencies
- A signed formal agreement outlining expectations and regulations;
- Only out-of-home treatment placements are clinically recommended for youth's level of need;
- The child is under the age of 18 at the time of placement;
- The intention of the agreement is voluntary and court involvement is not required;
- Either party may terminate the agreement with notice as stated in the agreement;
- All CSA requirements such as screening for Medicaid eligibility, FAPT review, and administration of the uniform assessment instrument and utilization management/utilization review must be met;
- The parent retains legal custody;
- The parent is required to be involved in planning and treatment; and
- The plan is to return the child home as soon as appropriate.

Although the agreement is between an agency designated by the CPMT and the parent(s), the CPMT must also approve and sign the CSA Non-Mandated Agreement as CSA is the funding source. A local public agency may not enter into a Non-Mandated Agreement without the approval of the local CPMT. The following Arlington County CPMT members, or their designee, sign the Non-Mandated Agreement on behalf of the CPMT for youth case managed by their departments:

- Community Services Board Representative
- Director of Juvenile Court Services for court placements
- Arlington Public Schools

Funding authorization approval cannot be communicated to a vendor until the Arlington County CSA office receives the completed Non-Mandated Agreement signed by both parties.

### **Additional Requirements**

If the placement is the result of a court order, the Non-Mandated Agreement will specify that the placement is not a result of parental voluntary placement. The Case Manager is required to complete the FAPT process when a service or placement is court-ordered.

CSA Non-Mandated Agreements are specific to each placement. When youth have multiple placements, a new Non-Mandated Agreement must be signed each time. A child's TOTAL length of stay in all continuous out-of-home placements added together cannot exceed 6 months, unless otherwise approved by a quorum of the CPMT. If a child is coming to FAPT through the Non-Mandated Agreement for placement and has already been placed out of the home for more than 30 days, the Utilization Review Coordinator provides a utilization review for the child at the next CPMT meeting. At this time, CPMT may determine additional items are needed to address the continued request for an out-of-home placement. If a family is seeking a second CSA Non-Mandated Agreement within 3 months of returning to home (except for short-term, 90 days or less, placements due to primary or secondary Substance Use Disorder), a full CPMT review is required to approve an additional out of home placement before a Non-Mandated agreement can go into effect. In extenuating circumstances where a quorum is not able to be established, a full CPMT review must occur within 20 calendar days of placement. CSA Non-Mandated Agreements are required for placements funded by non-mandated monies.

Family cannot leave the locality for an extended period due to the requirement to participate in services with their child. If there is an extenuating circumstance that requires the caregiver to be unable to actively participate in services for more than 2 weeks, full CPMT must approve ahead of the caregiver's absence. If there is no CPMT determination, the full CPMT will determine next-steps around funding of services and status of the CSA Non-Mandated Agreement.

At the 3-month mark of all CSA Non-Mandated Agreements, a treatment team meeting must be held that outlines progress towards treatment goals and closure of the agreement. The Utilization Review Coordinator must attend this meeting. If the family has continued barriers towards reunification that will likely influence placement past the next 3 months that exist within their family (e.g., housing, instability, ambivalence), a Family Partnership Meeting must be held to enhance, explore or expand family options including alternative family placements. Also, a staffing must be held for the Case Manager to present a plan for all youth with long term Intellectual and Development Disability concerns so that a plan for transfer to Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services can be developed.

### **Extension of Non-Mandated Agreements**

The CPMT may extend the CSA Non-Mandated Agreement up to 3-months at a time, not to exceed 9-months total length of stay. The extension of the 6-month CSA Non-Mandated Agreement term is to address the safety and well-being of the child and family if serious or dangerous behaviors continue to

persist and cases will be reviewed every three months to assess continued need.

#### Eligibility:

The extension of the CSA Non-Mandated Agreement is available for children who are:

- Under the age of 18 who have exceeded the 6-month CSA Non-Mandated Agreement term.
- Need additional support out of the home to address safety and well-being of the child and/or family.
- Need additional treatment to support emotional and behavioral health.
- Have a long-term goal of returning home when appropriate as determined by the treatment team and Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT).
- CPMT may extend a CSA Non-Mandated Agreement when families are making progress towards treatment goals and need additional short-term support to complete treatment goals.

The extension of the CSA Parental Agreement is not available for children who:

- Are within the initial 6-month CSA Non-Mandated Agreement term as no extension is needed at this time.
- Have a long-term goal that is not to return home when appropriate as determined by the treatment team and FAPT.
- Children and families who are not making progress towards treatment goals and additional short-term supports are unlikely to impact the outcome. Foster care placement is considered a last resort option and only considered after the family and treatment team has exhausted all reasonable efforts.

#### Decision-Making Guidelines:

The following decision-making guidelines apply to all children requesting an extension of the 6-month CSA Non-Mandated Agreement term:

- The child or youth has emotional or behavioral problems that:
  - Have persisted over a significant period of time or, though only in evidence for a short period of time, are of such a critical nature that intervention is warranted;
  - Are significant disabling and are present in several community settings, such as at home, in school or with peers; and
  - Require services or resources that are unavailable or inaccessible, or that are beyond the normal agency services or routine collaborative processes across agencies, or require coordinated interventions by at least two agencies.
- The guardian(s) have been actively engaged in provision of services.
- A comprehensive array of community-based services was made available to the child on a consistent basis and as clinically appropriate prior to placement to include:
  - Applied Behavior Analysis
  - Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment
  - Intensive Care Coordination
  - Peer Support Partner
  - Family Support Services
  - Individual Support Services
  - Case Management

- Individual Therapy
  - Family Therapy
  - Intensive In-Home Services
  - Medication Management
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Speech and Language Therapy
  - Supports for Adaptive Equipment
  - Special Education Services
- The goal for the child and family is to return home when appropriate as determined by the treatment team and FAPT.
  - All other funding sources have been explored and proof of denial has been provided to the CSA Coordinator, or designee, and CPMT.

Procedure:

When it appears a youth under the age of 18 is projected to exceed the 6-month CSA Non-Mandated Agreement term the following process will occur:

1. Child's Case Manager alerts CSA Coordinator, or designee, and System of Care Manager 60-days prior to upcoming expiration of child's current CSA Non-Mandated Agreement expiration and a FAPT is scheduled.
2. FAPT will review case to determine continued Non-Mandated eligibility criteria and clinical recommendations. FAPT will provide the following for CPMT for consideration:
  - a. Continued CSA eligibility determination under Non-Mandated
  - b. If criteria are no longer met for Non-Mandated due to heightened acuity, CSA eligibility will be reviewed for CHINS eligibility. Recommendations for continued treatment and services
  - c. Other recommendations as applicable
3. CSA Coordinator will then assist in scheduling a meeting that may include be a separate CPMT Review or CPMT to attend the child's upcoming FAPT review where CPMT will review the potential necessity for extension of CSA Agreement. This CPMT Review must be scheduled prior to the expiration of the current Parental Agreement. In the event CPMT attends the FAPT Review, the CPMT determination will be in close session following the FAPT Review.
4. The child's Case Manager follows the FAPT review process and presents the case to FAPT for review. Presence of Case Manager along with guardian and treatment provider(s) are required for the child's case to be heard. In the event individuals are absent, the CPMT Chair or Co-Chair will decide regarding moving forward with hearing the child's review or rescheduling the review for a later date.
5. Upon review of the child's well-being, current services in place, FAPT recommendations, and utilization report the CPMT will determine if an extension of the CSA Non-Mandated Agreement is appropriate.

The child will then return to FAPT on a regular basis for FAPT to ensure appropriateness of clinical services and address treatment.

If the child can return home prior to the extension end date, the Case Manager will notify the CSA Coordinator and System of Care Manager, or their designees, at least 30 days prior to anticipated discharge date. The CSA Coordinator will schedule the child/youth to be reviewed at an upcoming FAPT