POLICY STATEMENT:

- The Department is committed to ensuring relevant and necessary information is collected by and disseminated to appropriate staff and Florida agencies in a confidential, efficient, and timely manner for each youth who may be a Medicaid benefit recipient.
- While residing in a DJJ residential commitment program, no Medicaid benefits, for which the youth is eligible, may be used to provide the youth with needed medical, pharmaceutical, optometric, dental, or psychiatric care.
- The offices of Research and Data Integrity and Residential Services will work cooperatively with the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Agency of Health Care Administration (AHCA) to ensure a youth’s Medicaid benefits are appropriately suspended and reinstated, as appropriate.
- Each day, the Office of Research and Data Integrity will extract data from the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) and exchange, via secured electronic processes, the agreed upon data set matching AHCA’s electronic data in order to:
  - Identify all youth who entered a residential commitment program on the date of the data extraction; and
Identify all youth who were discharged from a residential commitment program on the date of the data extraction.

Each month, the Office of Research and Data Integrity will extract the same data from JJIS and exchange, via secured electronic processes, the agreed upon data set matching DCF’s electronic data in order to:

- Identify all youth who entered a residential commitment program within the month of the data extraction; and
- Identify all youth who were discharged from a residential commitment program within the month of the data extraction.

Through interagency agreements, it is understood these exchanges of electronic data will result in AHCA and DCF suspending any Medicaid benefits for which the youth was entitled prior to placement in a residential commitment program and such benefits will be reinstated upon the youth’s discharge from the residential commitment program as appropriate and in accordance with each agency’s policies and procedures.

The offices of Probation and Community Intervention, Residential Services, and all DJJ contracted Providers will work cooperatively to:

- Ensure a youth, who previously received Medicaid benefits prior to entering a residential commitment program in the care and custody of DJJ, has those Medicaid benefits reinstated in a timely fashion.
- Include the youth’s Medicaid eligibility status and benefits enrollment status in the youth’s Transition Plan.
- Coordinate the youth’s transitional needs with AHCA, DCF, the family, the home community, the youth’s managed care entity of record, and any other health care provider necessary to ensure the youth’s success in the home community after residential commitment.

The youth’s Juvenile Probation Officer, the appropriate Office of Probation and Community Intervention staff member, or the contracted Provider assigned to the youth’s case shall take the lead to ensure the youth and family have complied with all AHCA and DCF requirements in order to re-establish the youth’s Medicaid coverage upon discharge from a residential commitment placement.

- All DJJ and contracted Provider staff shall assist the primary account holder of the youth’s Medicaid benefits in completing required documents, whether on paper or electronically, making telephone calls, setting up appointments, or getting prescriptions filled so the youth’s transition from residential commitment program to the community is successful.

PROCEDURES/MANUALS:

Procedures for this policy are accessible at the Department Policies internet page.