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COMPONENT: CHILD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: DETERMINING CHILD HEALTH STATUS

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE: To ensure that the agency works in collaboration with the parents as quickly as possible, to determine the health status of each child. Health and dental status will include the determination as to whether or not each child has an ongoing source of continuous health care, up-to-date preventative and primary health and dental care, up-to-date immunizations, and medical insurance.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

The Family Advocate will assess and identify if the family has an ongoing source of medical and dental care and determine the overall health status of the child during the application process.

If the family does NOT have a medical and/or dental home, the Family Advocate will provide information about community resources and provide assistance to the family in order to find a medical and/or dental home. The Family Advocate will create a goal within a Family Partnership Agreement to establish a medical and dental home. Goals, plans, and follow-up will be documented by the Family Advocate in ChildPlus and placed in the child's permanent file.

Family Advocates will work collaboratively with parents/guardians as well as health and dental care providers in an effort to gather documentation from providers that indicates whether the child's overall health and dental status is up-to-date and on schedule for preventative care, as quickly as possible. Before entry, all children must have on file an up-to-date immunization record on the Tennessee State Form. Exclusions apply to children considered homeless, however, but may not exceed 60 days.

Family Advocates will discuss the importance of prevention, early intervention, and well child care. Family Advocates will encourage, assist, offer guidance and follow-up with parent/guardians to ensure necessary appointments are arranged and kept with providers. The Family Advocate will assist in arranging for transportation to and from appointments, as well as locating child care if needed, provide other support as necessary to ensure appointments are kept and ensure that parents understand their child's eligibility for services under Medicaid programs and how to advocate for their child in a variety of health delivery systems.

Up-to-Date:

If the child is up-to-date with health and dental care, as indicated on the child's record provided by a health and/or dental care provider, the Family Advocate will enter the documentation in ChildPlus and place the documentation in the child's permanent file.

Not up-to-date:

If the child is NOT up-to-date with health and/or dental care, as indicated on the child's records provided by a health and/or dental care provider, the Family Advocate will work collaboratively with the parent/guardian and providers to make arrangements for children to receive needed care. All efforts, communications, and follow-ups will be documented in ChildPlus.

Family Advocates will work with families to ensure that children receive further diagnostic testing and/or treatment for any identified health or developmental problem. If necessary, the Family Advocate will develop and implement a follow up action to ensure treatment of any identified condition. All efforts, communications, and follow-ups will be documented in ChildPlus.

Family Advocates will monitor and track health/dental events and failed/expired event follow up actions ensuring all documents are in ChildPlus. The Family Service Manager and Health Services Manager will monitor all health/dental events, failed/expired event follow up actions, to ensure all items are in compliance.