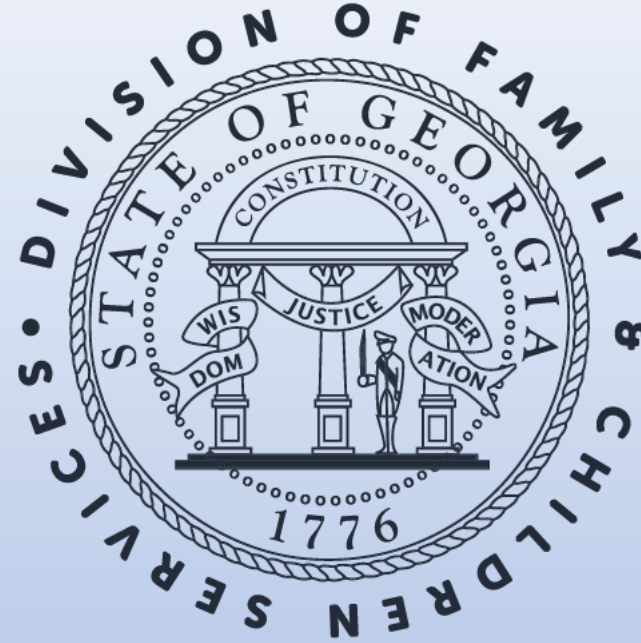




**Candice Broce**

Director



# CPA Monthly Series

OPM Resource Development

# MEET OUR *Team*

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## AGENDA

1. Unapproved Re-Evaluation Data
2. DFCS VS SAFE – SAFE Update Home Requirements
3. Foster Friendly Communities  
Georgia Kids Belong –Presentation
4. Recognition & Reminders



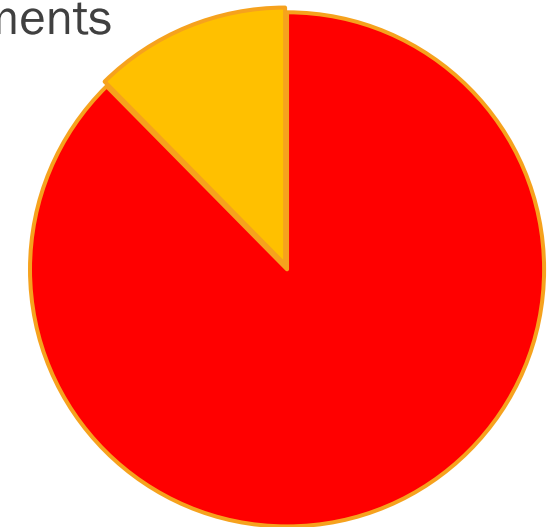
# Unapproved Re-evaluations June 2022 Monthly Series

Unapproved Re-Evaluations

**198** Overdue Re-Evaluations currently and **19** homes have Kenny A Placements

**28** Overdue Re-evaluations are pending OPM review

**\*\*170** Overdue Re-Evaluations remain outstanding



■ Re-Evaluations Overdue ■ Pending OPM





DFCS VS SAFE-SAFE Update  
Assessment Requirement

## 14.13 Family Re-Evaluation

- A comprehensive Re-evaluation should be completed annually using the SAFE Update Assessment.
- All individuals (Assessor, Supervisor and Approving Authority/Designee) must be SAFE Certified.
- Initiate the re-evaluation process at least 90 calendar days prior to the expiration date of the current approval term which allows adequate time to gather all documents.
- Assess the home to ensure compliance with Policy 14.1 Safety and Quality Standards.
- Confirm that the caregivers have met the required hours of continued parent development. As well as current CPR and First Aid Certifications.
- Identify the family's developmental stage and observe their interactions around various tasks associated with their developmental stage.



# SAFE Update Interviews

- \*Interviews must occur in the caregiver's home and each household member must be interviewed.
- Address the relationship between the agency and the caregivers, including the caregiver's ability to accept supervision.
- Discuss the effects of children leaving the home and how the caregivers prepare for departures.
- Discuss the caregiver's protective capacities.
- Review the past year's disciplinary practices and issues.
- Address the caregivers continued parent development.
- Inquire about 911 incidents within the review period.

# SAFE Update Required Forms

## **S.A.F.E Consortium Forms**

SAFE Harvesting Sheet

SAFE Update Questionnaire

SAFE Update PSI

SAFE Update Assessment

SAFE Supervisor Certification

## **Georgia Specific Forms**

- Caregiver Child Safety Agreement (Form 29)
- Financial Statement (Form 44)
- \*CPS History Request Form
- Caregiver Feedback Survey
- Caregiver Placement Preferences Form
- Water Safety Assessment (if applicable)
- Caregiver Home Inspection Safety and Compliance Checklist
- Confidentiality and Privacy Standards Agreement
- Approval Letter

# SAFE Assessment Update

- General Information
- Safety (Criminal/CPS Record Checks)
- Home and Community
- Family Lifestyle & Interaction Patterns
- Psychosocial History/Personal Characteristics
- Marriage/Partner Relationship
- Children/Others Residing or Frequently In The Home
- Extended Family Relationships
- Physical Environment
- General Parenting/ Caregiver Protective Capacity
- Specialized Parenting
- Adoption/Foster Care Issues
- Children Placed in the Home
- Conclusion and Placement Considerations
- Recommendations
- Required Signatures and Caregiver's Review of Re-Evaluation Report
- Psychosocial Inventory Results

# Supplemental Verifications

- Copy of Driver's License
- Copy of Automobile Insurance
- Verification of Income
- Proof of current utility payment
- Pet Vaccination Record
- Immunization Records
- Training Certificates and CPR & First Aid
- CPS Screening Results
- Online Safety Screening Results
- Driver's Safety Screening Results
- Marriage Certificate/Divorce Decrees
- Death Certificate
- Water/Sewer Bill/Environmental Statement
- Verification of Mortgage or Lease Agreement
- TB Test Results
- Proof of Citizenship or Permanent Resident if applicable



# Putting Policy into Practice

- Mr. and Mrs. McPeterson are in their first year of approval with XYZ agency. Mr. and Mrs. McPeterson met with their case worker for their annual re-evaluation and marked no changes on their SAFE update questionnaires. Mr. and Mrs. McPeterson have been through several placements over the past 12 months that only seem to last a few weeks at a time due to the family disrupting as soon as they encounter behavioral issues that are overwhelming. There were 2 CPS screen outs in the past year, related to allegations that the family tried to manage trauma behaviors through physical restraint. During their interview, the family said things like “these children don’t know how to act, and because we are restricted in the discipline practices there isn’t anything we can do” and “we know how to parent children, we have successful adult children, its just these kids aren’t willing to receive correction because they know we have no power.” In annual trainings, the family seem to be resistant to specialized parenting ideas and instruction. Furthermore, on their feedback survey, the couple expressed frustration and disappointment with the communication they have received from DFCS regarding the placements. Although they have experienced these issues, they are still open to taking more placements, but want the agency to only call for the “right” kids. Although the couple report their extended family are emotionally supportive, they have had a hard time finding substitute caregivers, which has also contributed to the high number of disruptions in their first year of approval.





## Putting Policy into Practice

Considering the information obtained during Mr. and Mrs. McPeterson's home visit, will the XYZ Worker be able to successfully complete Mr. and Mrs. McPeterson's assessment according to Re-Evaluation Policy and SAFE Update guidelines?

What additional information would need to be gathered?

How might PSI ratings change based off the new information gathered?



## Putting Policy into Practice

What sections of the SAFE Update Report for Mr. and Mrs. McPeterson should be re-assessed?

General Information

Criminal/CPS Records Check

Home and Community

Family Lifestyle and Interaction Patterns

Psychosocial Evaluation

Marriage/Domestic Partnership

Children/Others Residing or Frequently in the Home

Extended Family Relationship

Physical/Social Environment

General Parenting

Specialized Parenting

Adoption/Foster Care Issues

Children Placed in the Home

Conclusion and Placement Considerations

Recommendation/Signatures

Psychosocial Inventory Results

# Foster Parent Survey Information



GEORGIA DIVISION OF FAMILY & CHILDREN SERVICES

## Primary Caregiver Feedback Survey

Primary Caregiver Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

*Foster Homes are re-evaluated annually or more should circumstances warrant. This form is used to give caregivers an opportunity to formally review their experience working with the Division/ and/or CPA, and to share their view on the fostering experience*

1. Considering the children currently placed in your home, and your ability to parent them, how well-matched would you say you are?

- Not matched well - I am overwhelmed    
  Matched well but have had some minor adjustments    
  Matched according to my initial preferences

2. Considering the children currently placed in your home, How well were you informed about their needs at the time of placement.

- Less than expected    
  As expected    
  More than expected    
  Consistently more

3. Did you receive your reimbursements timely?

- Reimbursements are consistently late    
  Reimbursements are seldom late    
  Reimbursements are always received timely    
  N/A

4. During the last 30 days, have you had a need to contact DFCS/CPA?

If yes, have been able to contact us when needed? *If no, skip to next question.*

- Less than expected    
  As expected    
  More than expected    
  Consistently More

5. Think about the support you receive from DFCS/CPA in caring for the children placed in **your** home. How well are we supporting your family?

- Less than expected    
  As expected    
  More than expected    
  Consistently more

- Please obtain and thoroughly review the Caregiver Feedback Survey.
- Both the Primary and Secondary Caregiver should complete the three-page form in its entirety.
- The form should be signed and dated by the caregiver.





## SAFE Assessment Update Requirements

# SAFE UPDATE Reminders

- Revise the template in the various sections of the assessment and refrain from utilizing the prepopulated response of “Since the last evaluation nothing has been reported, detected or observed that resulted in the revision of any of the most current determinations for this section”.
- Visit SAFE Consortium Website for detailed instructions on completing the SAFE Update Process at [www.SAFEHomeStudy.org](http://www.SAFEHomeStudy.org)
- Review all prior family assessments and supporting documents prior to conducting the family visit.
- Utilize the Harvesting Sheet to gather points that should be addressed during the home visit.
- Once PSI ratings are assigned, final SAFE Desk Guide Ratings never change unless a factor worsens, or a new event is identified.
- The mitigation ratings can change.





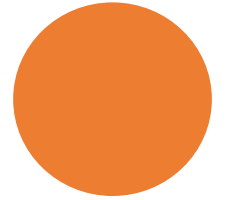
Foster Friendly Communities  
Georgia Kids Belong



Monthly Recognition

# You're Simply the Best!

- **Care4All:Melondy Washington**
- **Choices for Life**
- **May 2022 Foster Care Month  
MAAC4Kids, Look Out  
Mountain/ TREK, NECCO,  
Care4All and Childkind!**





# Reminders

# Safety Standard Reminders

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## Water Safety Assessment



## Capacity Addendum or Capacity Waivers?

Is the home approved, what is the current home's approved capacity range in GA SCORE and are immunizations current?  
Are there Dekalb or Fulton County youth placed in the home?  
Are there youth placed in the home with a specialty program designation?



## Pet Inoculations, Pet Statements and Safety Plans





# Immunization Waiver Requests

- All formal immunization waiver requests should be submitted on your agency letterhead, signed and dated by your agency approving authority or designee to [opm.leadership@dhs.ga.gov](mailto:opm.leadership@dhs.ga.gov)
- The waiver should list the family name, health of all household members, impacted foster youth health if applicable, how long the family has fostered and the family's compliance status with the agency if applicable.
- Barrier to obtaining the caregiver immunization, date of last immunization if applicable for all household members.
- Supplemental Verification: Concurrences from impacted youth county leadership team, medical documentation if applicable from the impacted youth's physician with regards to youth remaining in the home of an unvaccinated caregiver/s and if applicable medical documentation from the caregiver's physician.

# Remember...

- Prospective caregivers who have submitted all required onboarding forms, all supplemental verification, home visits and initial trainings should be submitted to OPM RD for review within 30 days of completion.
- Remember your agency is the final approving authority.
- The onus is on your agency to ensure the home meets all SAFE and policy guidelines.

# Foster Home Roster-Application in Process

Rachel's Place (Test Only)

• [Foster Care Program \(5108\)](#) - [Child Placing Agency \(ACTIVE\)](#)

[Select Foster Home](#)

- ▼ PROFILE
- ▼ MONITORING
- ▼ SERVICES
- ▼ ROSTERS
- ▼ REPORTS
- ▼ RISK MANAGEMENT

## Foster Home Roster

- [⊕ Add New Foster Home](#)
- [⊕ Search All Foster Homes](#)
- [⊕ CY 2018 Training Hours](#)

### Application in Process - No Placements Allowed

Show  entries Filter:

FH ID	Primary/Secondary Caregiver	Inquiry Date	Most Recent Submission	OPM Response
10099	<a href="#">Mike Ditka</a>	07/12/2012	12/11/2013	<a href="#">IA Rejected: 12/11/2013</a>
10100	<a href="#">Erin Matthews</a>	03/12/2012	06/27/2013	<a href="#">IA Rejected: 11/2/2021</a>
9425	<a href="#">Dianne Yearby</a>	12/01/2013	06/07/2019	<i>pending (1)</i>

Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries

Previous  Next

# Routinely Check Open Foster Home Status

## Open Foster Homes (in SHINES)

Show  entries

Filter:

FH ID	Primary/Secondary Caregiver	Initial Approval Date	Annual ReEvaluation	Current Status	Placements Allowed
10101	<a href="#">Cindy (Test) Holmwood (test)</a>	06/15/2016	Overdue: due 5/31/2021	Unapproved <i>On Hold</i>	No
9590	<a href="#">Sylvia Horne (TEST) and Ben Horne (TEST)</a>	09/04/2011	Due 8/31/2022	Approved	Yes
16604	<a href="#">Ronald McDonald</a>	01/05/2021	Due 12/31/2021	Approved	Yes
9589	<a href="#">Sarah Palmer (TEST) and Leland Palmer (TEST)</a>	11/15/2012	Overdue: due 4/30/2021	Unapproved	No
27524	<a href="#">Dawn Reed and Kevin Ummmm</a>	01/01/2020	Due 1/31/2022	Approved	Yes
8790	<a href="#">Poppy Sockavich (Test Only) and Jennie Sockavich (Test Only)</a>	07/01/2007	Overdue: due 7/31/2021	Unapproved	No
13398	<a href="#">Linda Wahlig and Barry Wahlig</a>	01/15/2021	Due 12/31/2021	Approved	Yes

Showing 1 to 7 of 7 entries

Previous

1

Next



# Questions

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# Suggestions

OPM RD TEAM would love your feedback and suggestions. Please send information to [opm.leadership@dhs.ga.gov](mailto:opm.leadership@dhs.ga.gov)

