CANDICE L. BROCE



BRIAN P. KEMP

Memorandum

To: Child Welfare Staff

From: Mary Havick, Deputy Commissioner

Date: April 14, 2023

Re: Update on Temporary Expansion of Virtual Case Manager Contacts – Expires April 15, 2023.

Based on recent guidance from our federal partners, the use of virtual contacts is not allowed following the expiration of a public health emergency. As a result, the current temporary expansion of virtual contacts, as described below, will expire at the end of <u>April</u> 15, 2023 and will not be extended.

Current Temporary Expansion of Virtual Contacts

When there is a reasonable assumption of no present or impending danger, virtual contacts may continue to be used in place of an in-person contact in the following situations:

Youth in EYSS (18 and older) – *virtual contacts can replace in-person contacts twice per quarter;*

- Children in foster care
 - **CCI placements** virtual contacts can replace in-person contacts twice per quarter;
 - **CPA placements** virtual contacts can replace in-person contacts every other month;
- Family Preservation cases with an in-home service provider virtual contacts can replace in-person contacts every other month and / or replace one in-person contact per month when two monthly contacts are required.
- Foster Care parental cases with service/treatment provider(s) virtual contacts can replace in-person contacts every other month.

It remains critical that collateral contacts are made each month with service providers and other individuals actively involved with the family to assess safety and progress with services/interventions. If there are any safety concerns or impending danger identified, an in-person visit with the family should be made to assess the situation.