




B. J. Walker, Commissioner

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July 28, 2008

SOCIAL SERVICES MANUAL TRANSMITTAL NO. 2008-06

TO: County Departments of Family and Children Services (DFCS)
DFCS Regional Directors
State Staff

FROM: 
Beverly W. Jones
Deputy Director for Policy and Programs

RE: Foster Care Services Manual Revisions:
Section 1006 Assessment and Permanency

PURPOSE

To address the permanency needs of children, who have been in out-of-home care for more than twenty-four months, the Division will implement a waiver process to its existing guardianship program. This program is designed to provide an enhanced service package for a limited group of children where reunification and adoption have been ruled out as permanency goals for the children.

In addition, the child must reside with a caregiver with whom the child has an emotional attachment and who is willing to accept legal responsibility for the child and assume a commitment to a permanent relationship that meets the child's needs over time.

Manual Transmittal 2008-06 introduces the changes in policy and procedures for submitting subsidized guardianship waivers. All policies and procedures delineated in Policy 1006.6 must be followed prior to submission of a waiver request.

IMPLEMENTATION:

This manual material is effective upon receipt.

Questions should be directed to the Field Program Specialist in the region. Regional staff may direct questions to Renee King @ irking@dhr.ga.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR POLICY MANUAL MAINTENANCE:

1. Remove Section 1006 Assessment and Permanency pages 1-15, Print a copy of the Revised (July 2008) Section 1006 Assessment and Permanency pages 1-15 from the Online Directives Information System (ODIS) at:
http://www.odis.dhr.state.ga.us/3000_fam/3060_fostercare/fostercare.htm.
2. Insert the Revised (July 2008) Section 1006 Assessment and Permanency pages 1-15 in the Foster Care Manual.
3. Make the proper notation on the Receipt of Manual Transmittals.