

# Family First Prevention Services Act

## PL 115-123

### Stakeholder Informational Meeting Highlights

*The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) was signed into law as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act on February 9, 2018. This act reforms the federal child welfare financing streams, Title IV-E and Title IV-B of the Social Security Act, to provide services to families who are at risk of entering the child welfare system. North Dakota Department of Human Services (NDDHS) is responsible to implement the federal regulations resulting from FFPSA, manage the Title IV-E State Plan, and administer funding to support these efforts. The department will host Stakeholder Informational Meetings the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month during 2019. The purpose of the monthly meetings is to engage with Stakeholders and inform on progress, while soliciting feedback and comments related to FFPSA implementation.*

<b>DATE</b>	October 16, 2019
<b>FACILITATORS</b>	Kelsey Bless - Children and Family Services Division
<b>TOPIC</b>	FFPSA Updates

#### Highlights of FFPSA Call:

Family First Stakeholder calls continue to be scheduled through December 2019; cancelation of meetings will be posted online on the website. Watch for updates on the CFS website  
<https://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childfamily/family-first.html>

November 20	FFPSA - Prevention Plan and Kinship Navigator Updates
December 18	QRTP Process – Ascend

***\*Please refer to the attached workflow of progress\****

- Kelsey reviewed the progress update specific to each section of the law.
- In order for ND to submit and receive approval of an IV-E FFPSA prevention plan, ND needed to be in full compliance with the QRTP requirements. ND went live with QRTP (phase 1) and many other portions of the law on October 1.
- At this time, ND is working on the IV-E Prevention plan in efforts to gain approval to draw down prevention funding (phase 2) where applicable.

#### **STAKEHOLDER Q & A**

*In section 50742 of the law where does a denial into a QRTP come from (Ascend or Courts)?*

**Two parts: Ascend as the Qualified Individual has the authority as the third-party contractor to provide a denial or an approval into the QRTP for placement. Ascend will send the assessment report to the Juvenile Court. Within 60 days of the initial placement, the Juvenile Court has the authority to deny the placement in the QRTP if they feel (based on the history of the case and information provided) that the child could reside in a lower level of care.**