



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Medicaid and Title IV-E Overview for DCF Deputies

April 25, 2022

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

WEBINAR

Program Summary

This program will provide a broad overview of Medicaid eligibility and benefits, programs for children in care, and behavioral health services offered through CSOC and PerformCare. The presenters will discuss Title IV-E eligibility and Aid to Family with Dependent Children (AFDC) requirements. The presenters will also provide an overview of Social Security benefits and the process for obtaining and managing Social Security benefits for children in out-of-home placement.

Eligibility

This program is only open to Deputy and Assistant Attorneys General in the Division of Law's DCF practice group and DCF agency attorneys invited to attend. Registrants will receive the course materials prior to the program date.

Faculty

Andrea Arnold is the Manager of the Office of Client Eligibility Determination and Assessments at the Department of Children and Families. She oversees the operations of the Title IV-E Unit and the Contribution to Care Unit. The Title IV-E unit ensures full compliance with State and federal guidelines to maximize Title IV-E and Adoption Assistance federal funding. Ms. Arnold was previously the Title IV-E Supervisor in DCF's Southern Region. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology with honors from Seton Hall University.

DAG Lisa Cerasia is an Assistant Section Chief in the DCF Essex Section of the Division of Law (DOL), supervising DAsG in the Newark South and Essex North local offices. Before joining DOL, DAG Cerasia was in-house counsel at UBS Financial Services and Shearson Lehman Brothers. She was also a commercial litigator at Shea & Gould. DAG Cerasia graduated Summa Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Hunter College, and from Fordham University School of Law, where she was a member of the law review.

Amanda Connor is the program lead for Medicaid and the Rutgers School of Nursing Child Health Program for DCP&P within CSOC, Office of Integrated Health & Wellness at the Department of Children and Families. She manages CP&P Medicaid programs and supervises staff who support statewide Medicaid work within the department. Ms. Connor holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from Rutgers University and is a New Jersey licensed social worker.

Nicole Rodriguez the Manager of the Office of Revenue and Financial Reporting at the Department of Children and Families. She manages the Department's Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan and Title IV-E claims encompassing foster care, adoption assistance and kinship legal guardianship. She also oversees the fiscal units responsible for managing various revenue streams including Social Security benefits and child support for children in care, federal grants and mandatory reporting. Ms. Rodriguez previously served in other fiscal roles within DCF's Offices of Accounting, Contract Administration, Central Business and Revenue and Financial Reporting. She holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from LaSalle University.

Michele Schwartz is the Administrator of Medicaid Programs for the Department of Children and Families. She oversees all Medicaid programs within the Children's System of Care and the Division of Child Protection & Permanency. Ms. Schwartz has held a number of positions within DCF, CP&P and most currently CSOC. She holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from Rutgers University and is a New Jersey licensed social worker.

CLE Credit

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.5 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Registration

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.