

## BUTLER COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

POLICY NO.: 4.32	SUBJECT: <b>PLACEMENT SERVICES FOR INFANTS OF INCARCERATED MOTHERS</b>
OAC: 5101:2-42-60	EFFECTIVE DATE: 8/16
	REVISION DATE:

**PURPOSE:** To ensure that babies born to incarcerated women are placed in a safe environment.

### POLICY:

Butler County Children Services shall be responsible for service and/or placement coordination with correctional facilities and hospitals on behalf of infants born to women who are incarcerated in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code 5101:02-42-60.

### PROCEDURE:

1. BCCS homestudy specialist are responsible for the home assessment for identified caregiver, and reporting the findings and recommendations to the correctional facility in a timely manner to ensure an appropriate plan is in place at the time of discharge of the newborn.
2. If a woman is not an Ohio or Butler County resident, but is charged or sentenced in Butler BCCS initiates the home assessment. If the named caregiver is a resident of another county, the Kinship supervisor will contact the county in which the caregiver resides and request a courtesy home assessment.
3. BCCS will seek custody of the infant if:
  - (a) the infant is not remaining with the mother as part of a prison nursery program
  - (b) the incarcerated woman does not recommend a caregiver
  - (c) if the assigned homestudy specialist does not recommend the caregiver as a result of the home assessment and no other viable caregivers are available.
4. BCCS screeners will obtain the following documentation and information in writing from the Referent:
  - A signed release of information form the mother allowing information;
  - Demographic information, previous address
  - Demographic information, previous address on the alleged father
  - Current and historical information regarding mental health, substance abuse, or

domestic violence

- If possible, a minimum of two (2) identified individuals for a placement resource
- Any available information about the infant
- Information on the mother's incarceration such as date of incarceration, charges, sentence, and release date
- If incarcerated at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, does the mother qualify for the ABC Nursery Program.

6. A FINS: Home Evaluation intake will be assigned to the Kinship Unit for a parent assessment Or a relative/non relative home assessment to be completed pursuant to OAC 5101:2-42-18.
7. A letter with the recommendation for approval or non-approval only will be provided to the correctional facility.
8. If the mother gives birth during the study process, a referral will be made to the appropriate PCSA.

8-8-16

Approval Date:



Director, William Morrison