

## Questions?

Contact the Social Security  
Unit by email at  
[DCSSocialSecurity@dcs.IN.gov](mailto:DCSSocialSecurity@dcs.IN.gov)

## REMINDERS:

- A referral should be submitted by an FCM as soon as it is suspected that a child may have mental or physical deficits that limit them in their daily or school functioning.
- Biological parents can become the payee of a child's Social Security benefits while the child is home on a THV; the parent will have to appear in person at the local SSA office with identification and proof of placement.
- Placement information in MaGIK must be updated correctly and timely so SS Unit can communicate this information with SSA
- If a youth's Collaborative Care placement is a service provider, update the child's address on his/her person page in MaGIK, so the SS Unit knows the child's placement location.

2019

# Social Security Eligibility

## Fact Sheet



## Did You Know?

- ✓ DCS Social Security Unit should be notified as soon as you identify a child is receiving benefits, SSI or RSDI.
- ✓ If a child is in a DCS paid placement, DCS is the payee for the ward's Social Security benefits. Receipt of Social Security benefits and a foster care per diem at the same time can result in an overpayment that SSA will recoup.
- ✓ If a child is not in a paid placement, i.e. unlicensed relative home, the placement can act as a payee for the ward's Social Security benefits.
  - The individual who will act as payee is required to appear in person at the local Social Security Administration (SSA) office with identification and proof of placement of the ward.
  - SSA will determine if the individual meets SSA's criteria for acting as a payee.
- ✓ The referral form can be found on a child's Person Page in MaGIK under 'Forms' and 'All DCS Forms' titled "DCS SSI Referral Form".

## Time Lines

- ❖ The disability process is lengthy (on average 3 to 5 months), so it is important for DCS to process potential applications as soon as possible – this is particularly important for children approaching age 18 or those on the path to adoption.
- ❖ Once a month DCS processes refunds to SSA for individuals or facilities that become a ward's new payee. It then takes SSA and the US Treasury 3 months to refund the new payee.
- ❖ A person must be named and approved as a payee for a child prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to receive the following month's check. Once an individual has been approved as a payee it can take 8-12 weeks for SSA to reassign benefits to a new payee.