

The office will be closed on 1/21/19

Tax Time Is Coming! Here is a brief list of the main things you need to know about your resource parent pay and your taxes;

1. Most resource parents will not receive a 1099 form because resource parent pay is generally exempt from federal income tax. Some types of respite may be the exception to this rule. By the end of this month, we will send you a 1099 form if required.
2. You will not receive a difficulty of care letter because difficulty of care certification is no longer needed to support the federal income tax exemption.
3. Foster parent pay is not taxable when paid by a qualified foster care placement agency for the care of qualified foster individuals. Family Care Services is a qualified placement agency and most of the clients we serve are qualified foster individuals; therefore, the income paid to resource parents is generally not taxable for federal income tax and should not be included in your federal return.
4. You may qualify for tax exemptions or credits because of your foster children. Please consult with a tax professional to determine if you qualify for any of these exemptions or credits.
5. We do not report resource parent pay to state or local tax authorities.
6. If you have questions about your resource parent income, please call Charlie at extension 122.

Financial Aid: Do you have clients who will be graduating from high school this year? It's time to really dig in to preparations for post-high school education! "Free" money is available to youth who have been in foster care or adopted, so don't miss out. The first step toward obtaining financial assistance is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The application can be completed at the PA Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) website, www.pheaa.org. The PHEAA website also has many other helpful resources and timelines for educational planning, so check it out!

Room and Board: There was a 2.8% cost-of-living increase in social security rates effective January 2019; therefore room and board rates will increase for clients in Residential Habilitation (Community Homes) and Life Sharing (Family Living). The rate is \$18.77 per day, except when the client is on leave the rate is \$10.43.

Reimbursement Claim Form: This form must be approved by your client supervisor because they need to review each item and verify it with the receipt. Your client supervisor cannot accept pictures to validate the purchase. Pam cannot approve the form and it should not be turned in to her without a client supervisor signature. Doing so will only slow down the reimbursement process. Items need witnessed in-person to approve the reimbursement.

Fundraiser: We plan to hold two fundraisers this spring to benefit our Adoption Program: a yard sale and a paint night. The yard sale will be held at our office on Saturday, April 27, 2019 which is the same weekend as the Twin Bridges Tractor Show. We will offer a spot for a table to participants for a donation of \$10.00. We have some tables available to loan and will give them to participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. We hope to have many participants. Updates will be provided in future newsletters. A date and location has not yet been set for the paint night. We had a paint night last year in our training room. We could use a bigger space. If anyone knows of a space that could be donated for an evening, please let us know. This event is being coordinated by Pauline Ruthrauff. Feel free to call her for updates at 717-658-1742.

Resource Parent Training: The 2019 Training Plan is included with this newsletter. Please review with your client supervisor during the next home visit. The DD Program scheduled mandatory training in January to discuss some important changes. Your client supervisor should have already contacted you to attend one of the classes. FCS has a policy that you cannot stay for a class if you are more than 15 minutes late so please plan to arrive at or before the scheduled time.

Free Training: The HCQU continues to provide monthly training opportunities at the Franklin County Annex Building. Caregiver training is available from 10 am-12 pm and consumer training is available from 1 pm-2pm. Caregivers are welcome to attend both topics but you are required to register for the classes. Upcoming caregiver training: 2/8/19 Depression and 3/8/19 Observing, Reporting, and Documenting. Upcoming consumer training: 2/8/19 Preventing Major Illness and 3/8/19 Stress Management. A wide selection of HCQU topics are available online that can be completed at your convenience and you can print the training certificate from home. Talk with your client supervisor for training details.

\$100 Bonus!

Do you have friends or family that may be interested in being a resource family, caregiver, or adoptive parent? Let us know! When they provide care for 30 days, YOU get \$100! Invite them to contact our recruiting team leader Andrea Adams, ext. 209, aadams@familycareservices.org.

Are you on Facebook? "Like" our FCS page for helpful articles and blogs, links to community and online trainings and events, and encouragement! Find us at www.facebook.com/FamilyCareServices



FCS Contact List

Name	Ext.	E-mail address	Name	Ext.	E-mail address
Andrea Adams	209	aadams@familycareservices.org	Kara Shipp	210	kshipp@familycareservices.org
Angela Ciccarelli	163	aciccarelli@familycareservices.org	Kelly Kline	134	kkline@familycareservices.org
Charlie Ruthrauff	122	cruthrauff@familycareservices.org	Kristen Fisher	211	kfisher@familycareservices.org
Emilee Little	137	elittle@familycareservices.org	Nathan Sullivan	203	nsullivan@familycareservices.org
Kristina Weaver	213	kweaver@familycareservices.org	Pam Dice	124	pdice@familycareservices.org
Iratze Garrity	215	igarrity@familycareservices.org	Pauline Ruthrauff	123	pruthrauff@familycareservices.org
Jessica Briggs	129	jbriggs@familycareservices.org	Tabitha Millsaps	206	tmillsaps@familycareservices.org
Jessica Coons	132	jcoons@familycareservices.org	Rebekah Mowen	139	rmowen@familycareservices.org
John Fisher	111	jfisher@familycareservices.org	Ashley Bale	145	abale@familycareservices.org
Lydia Keplinger	143	lkeplinger@familycareservices.org	Tony Fisher	200	tfisher@familycareservices.org
Sierra Loski	141	sloski@familycareservices.org	Melvina Knight	205	mknight@familycareservices.org

The FCS office will be closed on the following holidays:

Martin Luther King Day – Monday, 1/21/19
 President’s Day – Monday, 2/18/19
 Good Friday– Friday, 4/19/19
 Memorial Day – Monday, 5/27/19
 Independence Day – Thursday, 7/4/19
 Labor Day – Monday, 9/2/19
 Columbus Day – Monday, 10/14/19
 Veterans Day – Monday, 11/11/19
 Thanksgiving Holiday – Thursday, 11/28/19
 Thanksgiving Holiday – Friday, 11/29/19
 Christmas Holiday – Wednesday, 12/25/19
 Christmas Holiday – Thursday, 12/26/19
 New Year’s Day –Wednesday, 1/1/2020

FCS Web Site! Calendar of events, Resource Family Manual, current forms, 12 months of this newsletter, resources, staff listing and phone numbers are all on:

<http://www.familycareservices.org>



Kathleen is a 13-year-old girl who needs a forever family!

Kathleen is a very sweet and kind young lady. When first meeting her, she can be shy and reserved, but will open up to show her silly and social side. She loves to sing and do crafts of all types. Kathleen loves all animals, especially cats. She has stated that if she had \$1,000,000.00, one of things she would do is buy lots of cats and give them a good, loving home! Kathleen is very musically inclined and loves to sing. She has taken singing lessons in the past and enjoyed them very much. She can often be found with head phones in her ears and singing and dancing to her favorite music. Kathleen loves listening to music and enjoys all genres with the exception of Country. Kathleen also enjoys trying new make-up techniques and hairs styles. She is very talented with her makeup application and practices often. She also enjoys shopping, especially for shoes! She loves to wear sandals and sneaker specifically, and is not shy about showing them off! Kathleen does very well in school and receives average to above average grades in all of her classes. Kathleen is a very intelligent and sweet young lady in need of a supportive, understanding, loving home. For more information about Kathleen, call Andrea Adams at extension 209.