



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**

1115 Washington Street, SE • P.O. Box 40983 • Olympia WA 98504-0983

June 19, 2023

To: Child Welfare Field Operations Staff

From: Darcey Hancock, Director of Field Operations

RE: Diabetes: Caring for Children and Youth in Out-of-Home Care

Note: This document is not a substitute for Medical Care, nor does it provide direction for medical care. All children and youth with diabetes should be under the care of a Diabetic Specialist.

Meeting the needs of children and youth with diabetes in out-of-home care requires careful coordination and planning between the caregiver and their medical specialist since uncontrolled diabetes (including prediabetes) can lead to a variety of serious or life-threatening health problems.

Each child and youth with diabetes needs to be under the care of a diabetic specialist who can monitor and treat their diabetes through an individualized health plan. There are local diabetic or endocrinology clinics throughout the state. If you need assistance finding a local specialty clinic for a child/youth in care, you can request care coordination by contacting:

- Apple Health Core Connection (AHCC) AHCCTeam@coordinatedcarehealth.com *, or
- Fostering Well Being (FWB) for fee-for-service (not AHCC enrolled): FWB@dshs.wa.gov *.

The assigned caseworker should be aware of all diabetes related appointments, diabetic health plans, and general needs of a child/youth with diabetes. These appointments, health plans, and needs should be discussed regularly with the child/youth and caregiver. Monthly health and safety visits are a great opportunity to share the current health plan and discuss any needs for changes and updates.

DCYF has a [Diabetes Care and Action Plan](#) form (13-904) caregivers and caseworkers can use for documenting a child/youth's diabetic medications/insulin and blood sugar monitoring. The local diabetes clinic and/or nutrition specialist may have different or additional forms they ask the caregiver to use, which can replace the generic DCYF form. Any health tracking forms or action plans should be shared with the caseworker, and can be shared with the child's parent.

Even with close monitoring, problems can arise for children and youth with diabetes. The child/youth's personal health action plan should address concerning symptoms to watch for and what action the caregiver should take if those symptoms occur.

If you have questions about a child or youth with diabetes on your caseload, contact your [Regional Medical Consultant \(RMC\)](#) for general consultation, review/interpret medical records or treatment plans, and understanding medical process, procedures, and instructions.

If you have additional questions, contact: Trishia Benshoof, Foster Care Health Program Manager:
trishia.benshoof@dcyf.wa.gov 360-789-0049.

* Be as specific as possible regarding the care coordination needs when emailing AHCC or FWB.
Include the child/youth's name, DOB, and ProviderOne number if known.