



December 20, 2021

Dear Parent:

We are writing to provide you with important information that will affect you as a parent receiving case management services in Eastern Service Area. As you may be aware, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Saint Francis Ministries (SFM) have mutually agreed to transition Eastern Service Area (ESA) case management services back to the State of Nebraska. SFM will continue providing Child Placing Agency (CPA) services for ESA families. Starting on **January 3, 2022**, families currently receiving case management from SFM in the Eastern Service Area will be transitioned to DHHS over a six-month period.

DHHS expects to hire many of the SFM case managers; the SFM case managers hired will remain assigned to the same families as they begin their work with DHHS. If DHHS does not hire your SFM case manager, we will assign a new case manager immediately. There will be a formal case transfer staffing to ensure all vital and pertinent information is shared with the newly assigned case manager. You will be contacted by your caseworker regarding this and to address any questions you have regarding this change.

Once case management has transferred to DHHS, your case manager will arrange and coordinate all of your services. Our top priority is that case management transitions be as smooth as possible for you and your family and you receive the support needed to be successful. DHHS is working with all service providers to ensure that you continue to receive services with minimal change or disruption.

Your case manager will keep the same phone number so you can contact him/her with your questions and concerns. A special phone number has been created for you to use if you aren't able to reach your case manager and you have immediate questions or need additional information; this phone number is **402-480-8574**. If you have general inquiries or concerns, you may also email the transition team at DHHS.ESASFMContract@nebraska.gov.

DHHS is committed to working with you to ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible.

Sincerely,

Stephanie L. Beasley, Director
Division of Children and Family Services

Dr. Alger Studstill, Jr., Deputy Director
Division of Children and Family Services