

# **Transfer of responsibility for the Child in Home of a Relative (CIHR) program**

## **Questions and Answers for Staff**

**Q. Why is responsibility for the CIHR program being transferred to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD)?**

A. *MHSD and MCFD have been working together to enhance the safety and improve the outcomes of children whose parents are not able to care for them. CIHR responsibility has been transferred to MCFD to better align CIHR with other programs in government's continuum of care for children. MCFD has delegated authority to MHSD to continue administering CIHR.*

**Q. When does the transfer of responsibility take effect?**

A. *The transfer of responsibility was effective on August 22, 2008.*

**Q. Will this change service delivery for CIHR clients?**

A. *The transfer of responsibility is intended to be seamless for CIHR clients. There are no changes being made in how CIHR is administered. The CIHR eligibility criteria and process stay the same.*

**Q. Are Health Supplements still available for CIHR clients?**

A. *Health Supplements are still available for CIHR clients.*

**Q. Will the transfer of responsibility result in a reduction of MHSD staff?**

A. *There will be no impact on staffing levels.*

**Q. Does this impact the screening requirement that was introduced December 1, 2007?**

A. *The screening requirement is not impacted and remains part of CIHR eligibility. MCFD will continue to assess relatives and all persons 18 years of age and older living in the home to determine whether there is evidence of risk that compromises the home as an appropriate place for the child.*

**Q. Does this change the reconsideration and appeal process?**

A. *The reconsideration and appeals process will remain the same. MCFD will have responsibility for reconsiderations of CIHR and delegate authority to MHSD for administration. Responsibility for appeals of CIHR will remain with the Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal.*