

NWF Health Network Policy & Procedure

Series:	800: Quality Assurance and Improvement	
Policy Name:	Funeral Arrangements	
Policy Number:	809	
Origination Date:	2/2/2009	Revised: Board Meeting of 04/25/2024
Referenced:	CFOP 170-16 Chapter 7	

Policy

It is the policy of NWF Health Network (NWFHN), to ensure that any child who die under the protective supervision or young adult who expires while in the Extended Foster Care, Postsecondary Education Services and Support or Aftercare programs of NWFHN receives a respectful burial and, in so doing, assists with coordination of burial plans with the Department of Children and Families (DCF), family members, current providers, and caretakers of the deceased child or young adult.

For detailed information, see here:

[CFOP 170-16 Chapter 7 Funeral Arrangements for Children in Foster Care](#)

Procedure

- A. In the event that a child or young adult involved in an open NWFHN services case dies, NWFHN and its CMOs will:
 1. Make proper notification to family members pursuant to CFOP 170-16 Chapter 7;
 2. Encourage the parents to express their preferences regarding the burial service; and
 3. Assist the parents with the child's funeral arrangements pursuant CFOP 170-16 Chapter 7 5c.
- B. The child's parents are responsible for the cost of the child's burial and making decisions regarding the child's burial arrangements. If the parents cannot afford to make the burial arrangements, NWFHN will assist the parents in accessing community and State supports to assure proper burial.
- C. It is the responsibility of the attending physician and the medical examiner assigned to determine the necessity of an autopsy. Should both the attending physician and the medical examiner determine not to perform an autopsy, the supervising agency's assigned case manager must obtain written documentation of this determination in preparation for the DCF Critical Incident Rapid Response Team review.
- D. In the event that alternative storage arrangements for the child's body are required prior to burial, NWFHN will contact/make arrangements for storage in coordination with local resources (local community funeral homes, the Florida Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association (1-800-226-3332) and the local United Way).