

CCHSP

Caregivers Criminal History Screening Program

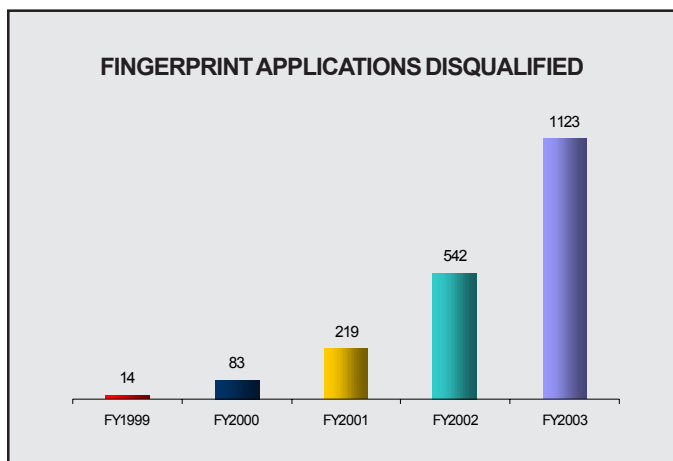
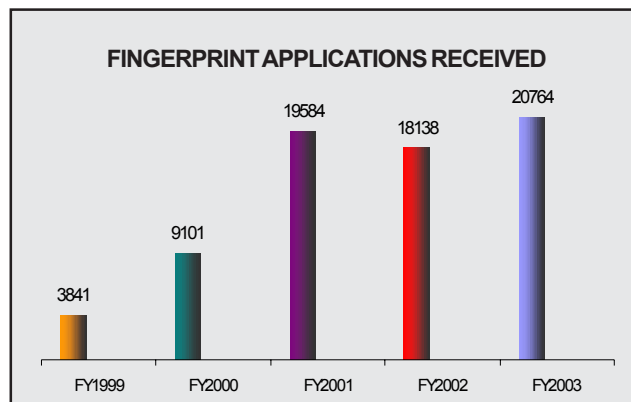
Why Criminal History Screening?

“To ensure to the highest degree possible, the prevention of abuse, neglect and exploitation of care recipients.”

(Section 29-17-3 NMSA 1978).

The Caregivers Criminal History Screening Program (CCHSP) was established by statute in 1998 (Section 29-17-1-5 NMSA 1978). This law requires that caregivers employed in health care services must undergo a federal (FBI) criminal history screening. Persons convicted of certain felony crimes may not work with care recipients. A new guidebook on the screening process can be seen at:

www.health.state.nm.us/dhi/CCHS.htm.



The CCHSP continues to ensure accurate, effective and efficient screening for caregivers through a variety of quality assurance processes. Currently, the CCHSP is able to process a criminal history screening application that has NO criminal record in approximately 14 calendar days.

Application receipts in SFY 2002 were slightly less than SFY 2001. However the number of disqualified applicants was higher. The increase in disqualifications may be due in part to high employee turnover and increased demand on provider agencies to fill needed caregiver positions.

DISQUALIFYING CONVICTIONS

Felony convictions which disqualify an applicant from employment as a caregiver, or terminate employment for current caregivers include:

Homicide; trafficking in controlled substances; kidnapping; false imprisonment; aggravated assault; aggravated battery; rape or other related criminal sexual offenses; crimes involving adult abuse, neglect or financial exploitation; crimes involving child abuse or neglect; crimes involving robbery, larceny, extortion, forgery, embezzlement; credit card fraud or receiving stolen property.

WHO MUST SUBMIT FINGERPRINTS OF CARE GIVER EMPLOYEES?

- Care Providers for the Mentally Retarded
- Long Term Care Providers
- Psychiatric and Rehabilitation Hospitals
- Nursing Homes
- Home Health Agencies

CCHSP may be contacted as follows:

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