



2020 Special Committee on Foster Care Oversight

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Services for Crossover Youth

Presented by:

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Testimony of:

Tanya Keys, Deputy Secretary

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Chair Concannon, Vice Chair Baumgardner, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide information on services available to youth and their families and caregivers to impact wellbeing outcomes when they may have contact with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Youth involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems are referred to as “crossover” youth. Generally, a crossover youth is a child age 10 or older in custody of the Secretary of DCF or at risk of entering foster who has had law enforcement calls for behaviors which could result in juvenile offender charges, has an open juvenile justice matter or is experiencing other behaviors that result in negative law enforcement contact.

Services available to youth and their families vary and are based on needs of the youth as defined by the family, youth, formal assessment tools or practice approaches utilized by DCF, Juvenile Intake and Assessment Services and community providers. Other influences in the continuum of available services are schools, municipal and community or neighborhood resources.

Prior to engagement in a service intervention, DCF completes an assessment of the presenting situation including using approaches of Signs of Safety and family meeting models such as Team Decision Making and tools in Family Finding. DCF also integrates any Juvenile Intake and Assessment Service information that might be available for a presenting situation during our assessment.

Based on information gathered from the family, youth and others in their safety or support network, an array of supports or services may be bridged for the family for positive wellbeing outcomes. The crossover workgroup included an assessment of the available array of services to families whose children may experience cross over contact in the DCF and juvenile justice system. The list below captures that listing from the workgroup’s report with greater detail on connection to DCF service referral array.

Workgroup Service Listed	✓ DCF grantee or referral with description
Acute Mental Health – Inpatient	<i>This service in the community is not specific to a DCF referral; however, families served may access it for their children.</i>
Aggression Replacement Therapy	<i>This service in the community is not specific to a DCF referral; however, families served may access it for their children as recommended or appropriate.</i>
Cognitive Behavior Therapy	<i>This service in the community is not specific to a DCF referral; however, families served may access it for their children as recommended or appropriate.</i>
Functional Family Therapy	✓ Cornerstones of Care is the DCF referral provider in the Kansas City Region serving about 150 families annually (Family First grant.) FFT is rated a well-supported evidenced based family intervention program with focus on youth age 11-17 experiencing moderate to severe disruptive behaviors or are externalizing problems related to trauma or substance use.
Moral Reconciliation Therapy	<i>This service in the community is not specific to a DCF referral; however, families served may access it for their children as recommended or appropriate.</i>
Multisystemic Therapy	✓ Community Solutions, Inc. , is the DCF referral provider in 18 counties across the state serving about 160 families annually (Family First grant). MST is rated a well-supported evidenced program with a focus population of Youth age 12 to 17 years old with possible substance abuse issues who are at risk of out-of-home placement due to antisocial or delinquent behaviors and/or youth involved with the juvenile justice system.
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	This community service may be accessed by families without regard to custody status. As of 9/4/2020 there were 84 youth in the custody of the Secretary receiving treatment in a PRTF and 18 children on the waiting list for PRTF.
Community Mental Health Center	<i>This service in the community is not specific to a DCF referral.</i>
Kansas - Parent Management Training-Oregon Model (PMTO)	✓ A 6-month model used by DCF Foster Care and Family Preservation case management agencies that is a behavioral based intervention program that teaches parents and caregivers techniques to manage their child's difficult behaviors across two sessions weekly
Substance Use Disorder	Various programs or interventions exist across the state that are not specific to a DCF referral. St. Francis Ministries is the DCF referral provider for the Seeking Safety approach for families with older youth. The program serves about 100 families annually across 5 counties in the West region and Sedgwick county. grants that support substance use disorder intervention for families with older youth.
Youth Advocate Program	<i>This service in the community is not specific to a DCF referral.</i>

In addition to the service array noted in the Crossover workgroup final report, DCF issued a Request for Proposal through the Department of Administration bid solicitation process for Kansas Family Crisis Response and Support. This service augments the continuum of crisis care for any child in Kansas and adults who are foster care alum up to age 21. The scope of work includes managing a 24/7 crisis call center, triage assessment and mobile response as appropriate for families who have a child experience an emotional crisis. Other related service supports to families whose children may touch both systems are:

DCF Independent Living Program- Based on age and placement eligibility, a collection of supports to youth ages 14-26 served through DCF, KDOC-JS or a Tribal Authority.

Mental Health Intervention Team Program: DCF and our case management partners may refer students. Community Mental Health Centers provide assessment and treatment services in school districts through Department of Education Funding.

The Jobs for America's Graduates – Kansas (JAG-K) program helps students at risk of failing in school to achieve success and enter post-secondary education and/or the workforce. The foster care academy works with foster care youth within the schools to assure high school credit hours are attained. This program is a DCF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) fund grantee.

YouThrive - Supports foster care youth as they transition to adulthood by coordinating community families to the youth through mentoring. This program is a DCF Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) fund grantee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide highlights services that impact outcomes for youth whose service interaction crosses family wellbeing and juvenile justice systems. I am happy to answer any questions the committee may have.